SAC Presentation

Developing a Career in Early Childhood Education

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Your focus: Degree

- Liberal Arts
- Child Development / Early Childhood Education
- Adolescent and Youth Development
- Intervention and Special Needs

What will you do with your degree?

Your focus

- Career
- Job

Which do you want?

Developing Your Resume

- Education
- Practical Experience
- Research Experience
- Affiliations
- Awards & Scholarships

You have to be an active learner too!

Education

- Do you plan to attend community college?
  - Certificates
  - Associate Degree
- What else?
  - B.A. in Child Development
  - Teaching Credential / CA Permit
  - Graduate/other degree
  - Specialized training
  - Ongoing professional development

Have you taken the time to

- meet with your faculty?
- explore your future options?
- visit your department's website?
- take a tour of a local university?
- speak with experienced students?
- attend a presentation (YES!)?

Don't wait until it's too late…
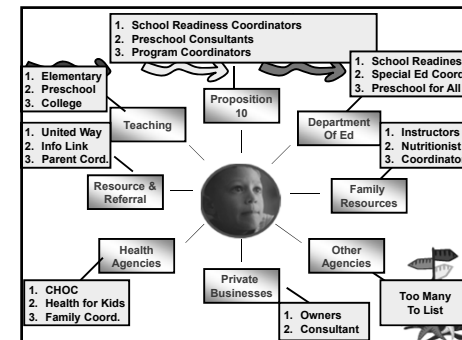
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- Research Experience
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Practical Experience

- Types:
  - Fieldwork
  - Paid, low-level employment
  - Internships (e.g., canfit.org)
  - Community Service
- Things to Consider:
  - Money
  - Specific depth or breadth
  - Skills and/or resume

Developing Your Resume

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- Practical Experience
- (Research Experience)
- Affiliations
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- Practical Experience
- Research Experience
- (Affiliations)
- Awards & Scholarships

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Affiliations

- On-Campus
  - Faculty references
  - Student leadership
- Off-campus
  - Networking
  - Professional development
  - Job opportunities

Professional Organizations

- **State and National Level Organizations**
  - California Association for the Education of Young Children (www.caeyc.org)
  - California Teacher's Association (www.cta.org)
  - National Youth Development Information Center (www.nydic.org)
- **Local Level Organizations**
  - Orange County Association for the Education of Young Children (www.ocaeyc.org)
  - School Districts
  - Student Organizations (CASSA!)

Extracurricular Guidelines

- Check for match
  - Values
  - Goals
  - Needs
- Do not over commit yourself
- Network, network, network

Networking

- Work with a variety of professionals
- Don't make a good impression; MAKE A GREAT IMPRESSION
- Give back
- Stay connected
- Get written references

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Awards & Grants

- Types:
  - SAC Awards and Scholarships!
  - CSUF Awards Scholarships and Awards (100's)
  - Association Scholarships
  - Professional Organization
- Why should I try?
  - Money, money, money
  - Can't hurt (except time)
  - Puts your name out there
  - Funds trips / school
  - Not enough people apply
  - Great for your resume!

General Dos and Don'ts

- **Do the following:**
  - Save everything
  - Do your homework
  - Dress for success
  - Communicate
  - Be grateful
- **Do not do the following:**
  - Show up unprepared
  - Leave without communicating
  - Burn bridges