

# Career Chronicles

A Career Services Student Publication

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## Preparing for the Interview: The Importance of Research

Every semester employers comment on the fine caliber of Saint Louis University students they interview. Year after year, on-campus recruiters remark on the scholastic ability of SLU students, their confidence during interviews, and their strong leadership in and out of the classroom. While employers are quick to point out SLU students' strengths, they also note one important area for improvement: organization research. According to employers, job seeking SLU students too often know little about the organization with which they are interviewing because they simply have not done their homework.

In any interviewing situation, it is vital that interviewees research the company or organization with whom they are interviewing. Familiarity with the company demonstrates initiative, which in turn tells the interviewer that the candidate is both proactive and thorough. Knowing the company background is also important for making a

solid impression on the interviewer, who interprets company knowledge as interest. Recruiters in turn look for individuals who are interested in the company mission and culture because candidates who uphold these values tend to fit in later as employees.

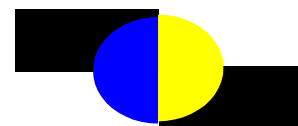
Career Services has a multitude of resources available to assist students in their company research initiatives. Reference U.S.A . allows students, through the Career Services website, access information including a company's size, net profits, and other background information. Career Services can also provide students with company website addresses and contacts to jump start their research. No matter what your means of gathering information is, it is vital that you investigate the company mission, company culture, past accreditations or recognitions, company history, and information regarding the company's industry.

### Did you know?

- Body language, is the ultimate first impression maker — or breaker — in a job interview. Before you even open your mouth, you've made your first impression.
- Between 2000 and 2010, the following occupations are projected to grow: food preparers, customer service representatives, retail salespeople, computer support specialists, cashiers, office clerks, security guards, computer software engineers, and waiters.
- Proper business etiquette calls for you to introduce your superiors first. For instance, if the CEO is named Bill Smith and the administrative assistant is named Jane Doe, you would say: "Mr. Smith, I'd like you to meet Jane Doe."

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**Our Mission:**  
**To help students and alumni find their path by discovering their passion and purpose**

Saint Louis University  
**Career Services**

..... your path to success

**CAREER SERVICES... BRINGING THE YEAR TO A CLOSE**

**Backpack to Briefcase**  
Saturday, April 3  
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Busch Student Center

**Saint Louis University  
Career Services**

**Academic Resources Center  
Lindell Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63108**

**Phone: 977.2828  
Fax: 977.3486  
E-mail: [careers@slu.edu](mailto:careers@slu.edu)**

*Still unsure about a major?  
Need one more credit to add  
to your schedule?*

*We have an answer for you:  
Career Decision Making,  
Psychology 194, offered twice  
every spring and fall.*

**Interested in  
submitting an  
article? Contact  
Michelle Putman at  
[putmanmk@slu.edu](mailto:putmanmk@slu.edu)**

**Check us out on the  
web: [careers.slu.edu](http://careers.slu.edu)**

## Career Resources: The Internet

Explore the [Career Services Job Search Links page](#) for Internet research information and the [Employer Links page](#) for a list of companies that recruit at SLU.

[Reference USA](#) is a database housed under the employer section of eRecruiting. [Reference USA](#) enables you to research companies within an industry in different geographical locations.

To access the Business and Company Resource Center go to the Pius XII Memorial Library's website, [www.slu.edu/libraries/pius/](http://www.slu.edu/libraries/pius/). Click on "Search Databases by Subject", then click on "Business and Company Resource Center" followed by "Connect to Database". Search companies by name, industry code, and geographic area. Once you've found a business you want to learn more about, there are tabs to search for newspaper articles about that same business.

Pius XII also has online national newspapers, many international

newspapers, and many major business journals. Databases such as Academic Universe and ABI/Inform Global can be used in addition to Business and Company Resource Center to get you the information you need. If you are an international student, be sure to ask the reference librarian how to research industries, companies, current trends, and occupations in your home country. Students can also explore the "Job Hunting" section of the Pius XII Memorial Library web site.

The [www.bizjournals.com](http://www.bizjournals.com) site will give you access to over 40 weekly business journals across the nations including St. Louis. There's a search feature where you can type in a key phrase or the name of the business you are researching. Then you can download articles about the industry or company.

Use search engines: [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) and [www.business.com](http://www.business.com).

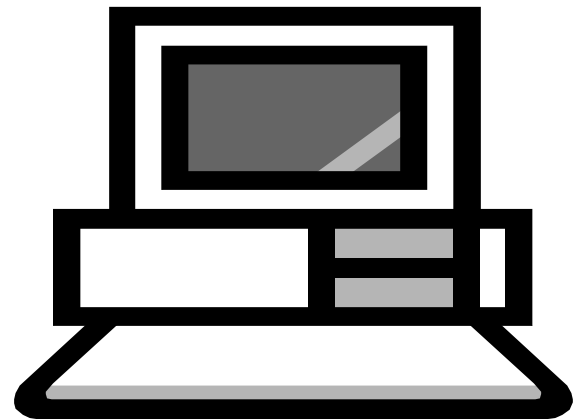
## Get Up-to-Date on What's Going on at Career Services!

### What is eRecruiting?

Formerly called Career Connections, eRecruiting is our new online employer student database that facilitates On-Campus Recruiting, Off-Campus Recruiting, Web Resume Books, and Job/Internship Postings.

### How Do I Register?

To register and request your username and password, call Career Services at 314.977.2828, or email us at [careers@slu.edu](mailto:careers@slu.edu). For more information, check out the Career Services website, at [careers.slu.edu](http://careers.slu.edu).



### Make a Difference at Career Services!

Students interested in joining the Student Advisory Committee may contact Kathy Day by phone (977-2321) or by email ([dayka@slu.edu](mailto:dayka@slu.edu)) for more information. Come join our monthly meetings and get involved on campus!