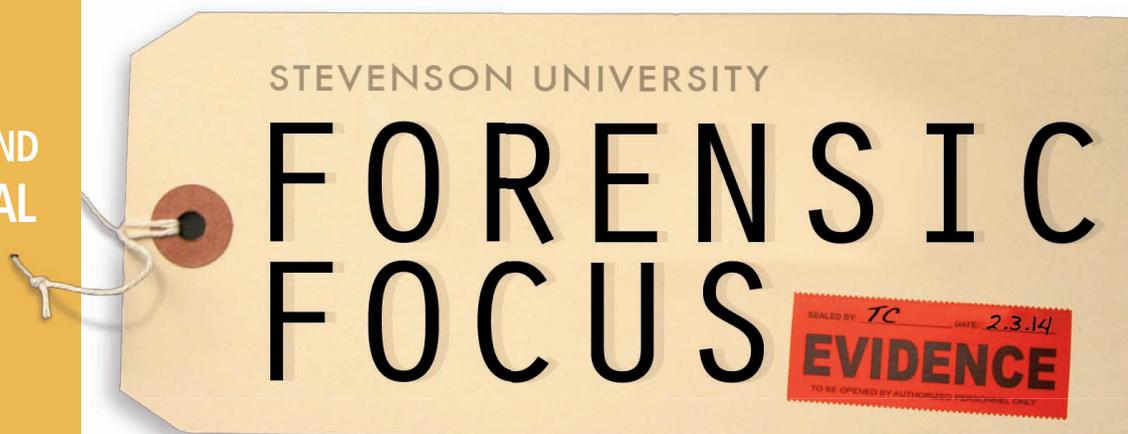


SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES



How to “Organize” Your Career Planning

Where do you go for career guidance? If forensics is a completely new field for you, how do you find a job? If you already work in the forensics profession, how do you find better job opportunities? At Stevenson University, students get advice from experts in our Office of Career Services as well as from faculty members and alumni with real-world experience. We asked three different experts about their advice for career planning—and all of them agreed that students should “organize” their career planning by joining organizations and professional associations.

Barry Dunkin, our Career Services specialist who specifically works with our School of Graduate and Professional Studies (GPS) students and develops contacts with employers that hire GPS students, thinks that joining a professional association is a great idea for students who are new to the field. Dunkin says doing so is “a great way to get involved in your profession.” He points out that most associations have student or young professional memberships at reduced rates and student chapters that are mentored by seasoned professionals and that some offer scholarships. There also are numerous benefits for students already working in forensics who join professional organizations, perhaps the most important being the ability to network. “Expanding your network gives the opportunity to access the ‘hidden job market,’ or those jobs that don’t get advertised or posted,” Dunkin advises.

Stevenson University adjunct faculty member John Grimes, who is President of the Maryland Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), agrees that students who are trying to enter the forensics profession should join associations. “Joining a professional organiza-

tion allows the student or recent graduate to immerse themselves in their selected field and pave the way to a successful career,” Grimes says. “Professional associations, such as the ACFE, offer training opportunities; resources, including industry magazines, white papers, chat room discussions and blogs; networking opportunities where student members get to know working professionals; career mentoring and resources; scholarships; student chapters; no-cost or reduced fee membership; and professional certifications.”

Stevenson University graduate Philippa “Pipps” Nash also supports student involvement in professional associations. Nash, who received her Master of Science Degree in Forensic Studies in July 2012, was an active member of the Stevenson University Student Chapter of the ACFE as well as the Maryland ACFE Chapter. She received the Maryland Chapter’s \$2,500 scholarship award and, upon graduation, was hired by HSBC Bank as an Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Investigations Officer. She was subsequently promoted several times to her current position as AML Senior Investigations Officer of Special Investigations. Nash gives credit to her involvement with the ACFE as a student and now as a working professional for her career success.

There are many other reasons for students to consider membership to a professional organization including:

- **Taking advantage of association career resources.** Associations often have job postings only available to their members. Some association websites allow you to post your resume if you are looking for a position. This is a great way to find targeted job postings for your area of interest.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Thomas Coogan
Chair, Forensic Studies
443-352-4075
tcoogan@stevenson.edu

Angela Scagliola Reynolds
Director, School of Graduate
and Professional Studies
Recruiting & Admissions
443-352-4414
ascagliola@stevenson.edu

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You can receive a list of associations by calling 1-877-531-7118 or emailing Angela Scagliola Reynolds at <ascagliola@stevenson.edu>.

How to “Organize” Your Career Planning continued

Additionally, many associations have career resources available such as tips on effective resumes or cover letters, job searching strategies, and negotiating techniques.

- **Developing professional expertise.** A student’s university degree should be just the start of lifelong learning that includes continuing professional education. Most organizations hold training programs and conferences and offer professional resources such as periodicals, articles, white papers, specialized texts, as well as chat rooms and discussion groups.

- **Listing your association membership on your resume.** Professional membership shows personal initiative and professional interest and can impress current or future employers.

At Stevenson University, students are encouraged to join professional associations to help them find jobs or advance in their career. There are many professional associations that cater to forensic science, cyber forensics, and forensic studies students. You can receive a list of associations by calling 1-877-531-7118 or emailing Angela Scagliola Reynolds at <ascagliola@stevenson.edu>.



SU’s Survey of Forensics MOOC

On September 30, 2013, Stevenson University debuted its first MOOC, or massive open online course, A Survey of Forensics, which ran through December 8. This free, non-credit online educational course was open to students of all ages to learn about forensics. The Stevenson Forensic MOOC included three modules: cyber forensics, forensic science, and forensic studies. Its goal was to educate the general public about forensics and recruit students into one of the University’s forensics programs. More than 700 registrants representing more than 41 countries participated.

Students in the MOOC who answered a follow-up survey indicated that they most enjoyed the video lectures. Subjects included malware, crime scenes, and tax fraud. When asked to describe one thing that they learned from the course that surprised them, one participant said, “I did not know it was that easy to steal someone’s information off of their cell phone. I thought you could only steal information off of their computer.” Another said, “I’ve always heard of chain of custody but I didn’t realize the steps it took to maintain the chain. Very interesting!”

The University hopes to offer the MOOC again at a future start date.

Thomas Coogan, Chair and Professor, Forensic Studies, was named a 2013 Innovator of the Year by The Daily Record for his team’s work on the course.

Learn more about Stevenson’s master’s degree programs in forensics at the next Saturday Information Session, March 15.

For more information or to register visit stevenson.edu.



200 YEARS AGO IN 1814...

England, 1814. Napoleon Bonaparte had been on a rampage against the British for years. One day a military officer appeared in the English port of Dover across from Napoleon's France. He had news that must be reported: the great Napoleon had been slain by Cossack soldiers. A heavy mist kept the message from being transmitted by flag signals, so the officer rode off to London with the good news.

When the officer arrived in London, so did a group of others reporting that Napoleon was dead. People rejoiced, and nowhere was the news more welcome than at the London Stock Exchange. Hopes and expectations that Napoleon was dead drove up the price of government stock. Then bad news arrived from official government sources: Napoleon was still alive. The report of his death was a hoax. Stock prices sank.

The false rumor led the Stock Exchange to investigate. The investigation found three people who accounted for large sales of stock at very high prices just before the rumor was reported. The suspects included two Members of Parliament (MP), one of whom was a Lord and naval hero, and one of their financial advisors. There was evidence that on the day of his arrival in London, the military officer went to one of the suspect's homes and on the ride from Dover to London paid bills using notes from another suspect's account.

The suspects were tried and convicted but Lord Cochrane, naval hero, and MP, claimed the investigation and prosecution had ulterior political motives. As a result, after he was officially expelled from Parliament, his constituents re-elected him. As time passed, many began to question whether Cochrane was really guilty or whether he had been framed by his political enemies. After all, there was no evidence that Cochrane had profited from the stock market's rise. In 1831, the King of England pardoned him of any involvement in the stock market hoax. Historians now agree that Cochrane was probably not behind the scheme to defraud investors, but the real perpetrator of the hoax remains unknown.

Would that be the case today in 2014? Learn more about how forensics can help solve fraud by learning more about our programs.

Source: Paul Johnson, *Making the Market: Victorian Origins of Corporate Capital*.



Carolyn Hess Johnson

Home: Baldwin, Md.

Profession: Attorney/Full Professor

Hobbies: Running, Reading

Last Book Read: "As They See 'Em: A Fan's Travels in The Land of Umpires," by Bruce Weber

Last Accomplishment: My relay team placed 18th in the Women's Division of the Baltimore Running Festival.

Quote: "We learned more from a three-minute record than we ever learned in school." (From "No Surrender" by Bruce Springsteen)

Profile: Attorney, professor, mom, wife, runner, animal lover, baseball fan, Springsteen groupie.

Courses Taught: Criminal Justice, Evidence, Forensic Journal Research and Review, Forensic Studies Honors



Join Stevenson University's School of Graduate and Professional Studies for a
Saturday Information Session
 March 15, 2014 • 9 a.m.-noon • Rockland Center • Owings Mills Campus

Meet with faculty, program coordinators, and other working professionals. Learn more about Stevenson's diverse forensic programs and how forensics plays a key role in solving crimes.

For more information or to register call Angela Scagliola Reynolds at **443-352-4414**, email ascagliola@stevenson.edu, or visit stevenson.edu.

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STEVENSON

100 Campus Circle
 Owings Mills, MD 21117
 443-352-4399
 1-877-531-7118
 stevenson.edu

