



What is next for the class of 2010?

Upcoming graduates face uncertain futures due to the competitive job market

RACHEL HORGAN, MAGGIE KLOS & CRYSTAL PETERSON
STAFF WRITER, FEATURE EDITOR & STAFF WRITER

As graduation looms closer for many seniors, the realization that opportunities are not pouring in is made clearer. Graduation is becoming less thrilling and more nerve wracking as seniors must enter into an unknown future. The economy is a legitimate concern for grads, and it is important to know the state of the economy as seniors step forward in the real world.

With any great challenge, it is important to know your competitor upon entering the field. Currently, the economy is graduates' biggest competition. Graduates might be equipped with a high GPA, plenty of awards and years of experience earned through internships, but still there are

only so many jobs to be given to a pool of talented graduates.

According to data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national unemployment rate as of March 2010 is 9.7%. In 2008, the national unemployment was at 5.8%, thus 2010 graduates are entering into a more difficult workplace than 2008 graduates.

Even President Obama recognizes the challenges young graduates will face when they walk off of their campuses. When giving a speech at the University of Michigan he told students, "When you leave here today, you will search for work in an economy that is still emerging from the worst crisis since the Great Depression."

USD Career Services is prepared to help students with the transition from school to work. Career Services is catering to students by providing materi-

als online and one on one meetings to assist in the job search. Career Services is even helping underclassmen and students who have graduated. Once seniors walk away from campus, they can continue to use Career Services by making appointments, or by phone or e-mail.

Director of Career Services Linda Scales has helped students pave the way for their futures by

According to Scales, "customizing a resume is important." Students often create one standard resume, but need to tailor the resume to specific jobs. Instead of simply putting what you are proud of it is important to recognize what stands out to a potential employer.

Associate Director of Career Services, Alan Farber has also help set up various tools online

sume or prepare for an interview.

Another suggestion Career Services gives is to define what job you are looking for in a certain field. Moving away from San Diego might be another way to find a wider variety of .

"San Diego is not easy to find entry level jobs because it is such a desirable place to live," Scales said. Moving to a city like Los Angeles, where more corporations have entry level job openings, may be a better choice.

After the cap and gown is put away in a closet, graduates must stay positive and not let the economy get them down. Although the economy is not getting any better than it was last year, now is the time for bright and shiny optimism to bring us success.

The graduating class has chosen to approach the troubling job market in a variety of ways. After graduation, seniors

are taking different paths as they find their place in the competitive job market.

Many seniors plan on serving the greater community after graduation through organizations such as the Jesuit Volunteer Core (JVC) and Teach for America.

"I wanted to join JVC because I didn't want to settle with a job just yet and want to get some experience," said senior Kelsey Johnson, a sociology major. "I think that there's a lot of service that needs to be done for the community."

Some use this opportunity as a break from school before continuing their education or pursuing a career. "Teach for America seemed like a logical step before grad school and I've heard great things about it," said senior Alex Owen, a political science major. "I think not wanting to go to grad school was my main motiva-

tion. Law school right after USD would've driven me insane."

Graduating students are apprehensive about whether they will find a career based on their

fied or more qualified than you go for the same job."

However, seniors manage to stay positive and productive for the future. "I'm look-

“It's hard to see others that are as qualified or more qualified than you go for the same job.”

-Ashley Bovey

“Once seniors walk away from campus, they can continue to use Career Services by making appointments, or phone or e-mail.”

assisting with the job hunt this year. "Students seem to be aware of the job market and are looking at it realistically," Scales said. "Students are pretty motivated."

which can help both seniors and underclassmen who are looking to plan ahead. Resources include from Torerolink, various job sites and tips about how to develop a re-

SENIOR ADVICE

"Carpool when possible. It's more fun and you get a carpool pass. If The Comber line is too long, The Coaster has \$2 you-call-it's too."

Michelle Cunanne

"Arrive at Beachcomber before 8:30 p.m. on Thursday nights."

Ryan Tucker

"Don't get a meal plan."

Katie Brenske

"Explore. This is one of the times in your life where you have months off at a time to travel and go places. Make the most of it."

Jessica Kahl

"Always make friends with people in your classes."

Godfrey Smith

"Living on the beach is way better than living on campus."

Justin Harkness

"Use your professor because you never know how they can accommodate you. Use office hours! Take the hardest classes first."

Josh Cohen

"Stay connected to a couple professors that could possibly write letters of recommendation"

Stella Nguyen

"Don't let the accounting majors freak you out because they have a job all lined up before thanksgiving. Not everyone has it figured out. Take a deep breath and just let God guide you where you are supposed to be."

Katie Weesner

