

# Practice your skills: Free interview help

By CHRISTINE CONRON  
Staff writer

Imagine sitting down to a job interview without any preparation for the questions which you will be asked. Not only are you unprepared, but you are also wearing your pajamas and you don't have a resume. And did I mention that you are being videotaped?

Then, at the end you will sit down with your interviewer to watch and critique the interview. Through the process, you can learn what to expect from a real interview, as well as how you can improve the way that you present yourself.

That's exactly what I experienced when I was given a mock interview, only as a reporter I wasn't expecting to be getting asked the questions.

However, the experience helped me to realize how the mock interview program can provide the practice needed to become more confident, more organized, and more aware of what types of questions you will be asked, and how to highlight your strengths so that you stand out among the competition.

"The Mock Interview Program is one of the tools that Career Services uses to help our students to prepare themselves for the transition into the workplace, by providing them with the skills they need to be competitive in the job hiring process," stated Thomas Seifried of Career Services.

A strength of the service, is that in order to maintain an experience as close to reality as possible, many of the program's interviewers are PSU Delco graduates who are currently working as Human Resources interviewers.

According to Seifried, these interviewers, from organizations such as The Vanguard Group, the Delaware County Government internship program, Contemporary Staffing Solutions, and Riddle Hospital, have offered jobs to the participants on more than one occasion.

Another strength is that participants are given the opportunity to see themselves react and respond to the interviewer by watching the videotape following the interview.

Along with the suggestions provided by the interviewer, participants can criticize themselves on

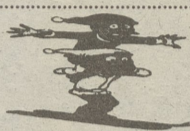
what didn't work for them, or what they need to improve on because they are seeing what an interviewer would see.

Each fall and spring, the program designates a week that coincides with a time when students are trying to find jobs or internships to hold practice interviews. Typically, during each of these weeks, 20 to 25 students participate.

Students trying to obtain competitive internships, who would like to go through the process can also make an appointment for an interview in the career center which is located in the Commons Building.

The program will help students to create an effective resume as well as how to effectively sell themselves to a prospective interviewer.

Practice interviews can also supplement various "capstone" classes, which are classes generally taken during senior year as a culmination of all of the isolated classes for a major. These classes, for Urban Education, HDFS, Business, and IST majors, often incorporate the program into instruction to aid students' in finding jobs after graduation.



This way to the Holiday pages...

## Final exam schedule

Classes meet for final examinations in regularly assigned classrooms at times based upon the regular class time.

Examinations for evening classes, beginning at 5 p.m. or later, are conducted on what would have been the next regular class day and at the usual class time.

Students with two or more examinations at the same time, three examinations in one day, or three consecutive examinations may consider this a conflict. The student should speak immediately with the instructors involved to make arrangements for resolving any conflict. An updated schedule will be provided after requests for common exams are processed.

### COMMON EXAMS

#### Monday, December 10, 2001

12:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.

|               |               |           |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| MATH 21.1,3   | 103 Classroom | Lombard   |
| MATH 21.2,4,5 | 101 Main      | Alexander |
| MATH 21.6     | 207 Main      | Dyckman   |
| MATH 140.1    | 305 Main      | Helou     |
| MATH 140A.1   | 305 Main      | Helou     |

#### Tuesday, December 11, 2001

10:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.

|            |               |               |
|------------|---------------|---------------|
| ECON 2.3,4 | 101 Main      | Baffoe-Bonnie |
| MATH 4.1,3 | 103 Classroom | Lombard       |
| MATH 4.2,4 | 305 Main      | Riley         |

#### Wednesday, December 12, 2001

10:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.

|                 |               |        |
|-----------------|---------------|--------|
| ECON 2.1,2      | 101 Main      | Golden |
| ENGL 4.13,14,15 | 103 Classroom | Gordon |

2:30 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.

|              |          |       |
|--------------|----------|-------|
| ENGL 4.18,19 | 206 Main | Talis |
|--------------|----------|-------|

#### Thursday, December 13, 2001

12:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.

|              |          |           |
|--------------|----------|-----------|
| NUTR 251.1,2 | 101 Main | Di Matteo |
|--------------|----------|-----------|

### Final Examinations

| CLASS BEGINS   | FINAL EXAM   | EXAM TIME              |
|----------------|--------------|------------------------|
| MWF 8:30 a.m.  | Mon Dec 10   | 8:30 a.m. -10:20 a.m.  |
| MWF 9:30 a.m.  | Tues Dec 11  | 8:30 a.m. -10:20 a.m.  |
| MWF 10:30 a.m. | Tues Dec 11  | 12:30 p.m. -2:20 p.m.  |
| MWF 11:30 a.m. | Mon Dec 10   | 10:30 a.m. -12:20 p.m. |
| MWF 1:30 p.m.  | Wed Dec 12   | 12:30 p.m. -2:20 p.m.  |
| MWF 2:30 p.m.  | Thurs Dec 13 | 2:30 p.m. -4:20 p.m.   |
| M 2:30 p.m.    |              |                        |
| M 3:00 p.m.    |              |                        |
| MWF 3:30 p.m.  | Fri Dec 14   | 12:30 p.m. -2:20 p.m.  |
| MWF 4:30 p.m.  | Wed Dec 12   | 4:30 p.m. -6:20 p.m.   |
| W 2:30 p.m.    |              |                        |
| W 3:00 p.m.    |              |                        |
| TR 8:30 a.m.   | Wed Dec 12   | 8:30 a.m. -10:20 a.m.  |
| TR 10:00 a.m.  | Thurs Dec 13 | 10:30 a.m. -12:20 p.m. |
| TR 1:00 p.m.   | Fri Dec 14   | 10:30 a.m. -12:20 p.m. |
| TR 2:30 p.m.   | Mon Dec 10   | 2:30 p.m. -4:20 p.m.   |
| R 3:00 p.m.    |              |                        |
| TR 4:00 p.m.   | Tues Dec 11  | 2:30 p.m. -4:20 p.m.   |
| T 3:00 p.m.    |              |                        |

## Protect our computers

### SGA fights to get students free anti-virus protection

By DAN ZACHER  
Assistant editor

What can one person actually accomplish? How can one person really make a difference in the lives of the majority of Penn State students? Signing a petition may be the best way for an individual to have their voice heard in both a safe and effective manner.

This past semester, there have been many computer viruses that had either infected or attacked the Penn State computer system due to one weak spot in the system. These viruses quickly spread to almost every computer on the Delaware County campus, including the main computer for the Lion's Eye.

Nearly seven-eighths of the campus computers have been attacked by some sort of virus this semester. This includes every computer in the Library, most in 214 Main, and some in 105 Classroom.

"There are a lot of severe viruses," said Donnell Tilery II, former Penn State student and current employee of the campus. "Our campus wasn't exploited like some others. [One such virus] affected the IIS server and there is only one on our campus. This server was not infected, but was under attack."

This particular virus only slowed down the Delco computer system because other campuses in the Penn State system were unknowingly sending the viruses back to Delco.

A second virus that was present in the system, once activated, sent e-mails with attachments of itself to every person on the users contact list or address

book. If even one virus was left in the system it could potentially, within a matter of minutes, spread itself back to every computer on campus.

With the knowledge of the problem Student Government Senate, in its October meeting, forged an idea to have a petition circulated and sent to University Park that states: "In the best interest of Pennsylvania State University, its administration, its staff, its faculty, and its students, we, the following members of the student body, request free anti-virus protection for its student's personal computers."

The senate said that some students have some sort of virus protection on their personal computers, but for the majority of the students those packages are outdated or non-existent.

Even though Norton Antivirus 2002 for Windows is only \$37.39 off of <http://www.moc.cac.psu.edu>, the senate believes even with the reduced costs will still not entice students to go out and get it; the students will have to have it presented for them to take advantage of this.

Tilery believes that the attempt by the student government is not necessarily a great thing, because students many not come to get the free software and the info-tech fee may go up for no reason.

The student body already had free anti-virus protection software included with CACPAC 3.0, the third version of the software that is given to every student at orientation and no one took advantage of it.

Some viruses, including many of the early ones, were just a joke. These viruses would move the window around the screen, keeping it away from the mouse, or changing the background color every 30 seconds.

Now viruses are usually a lot more hazardous. They can steal your passwords, delete all your Word documents, or even delete your Basic In-Out System (BIOS), which dubs your entire machine useless.

It is recommended that if you have virus protection that you update your anti-virus software at least one a month and check your system after you update.

The virus that infected the Delaware County computer system may have been sent to you by another student or a professor by accident and it may be live on your system right now.

Most commercial packages should have their information updated by now so you can download their update and rid your system of this potential threat.

"Taking care of a computer is like taking care of your car," Tilery said. "When you get your oil changed it is like you updating your virus protection. When you go over 3000 miles in your car, it is like going an extra amount of time before updating your virus protection. You are just asking for trouble."

If you are interested in signing the petition to receive either a free or discounted Anti-virus package, please see the Student Government Association in the Lion's Den to sign the petition and to have your voice heard.