

# GOING PLACES

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, SANTA FE CAREER SERVICES NEWSLETTER

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## ◆ CAREER SERVICES NEWS

### Are You a Graduating Senior?

Amongst everything else you have to do, don't forget these two important tasks!:

1) Do your senior exit interview ASAP with the Career Services Office! Stop by today! We're in Weigle Hall in the basement, room 13. It will take about 15 minutes; it's easy, breezy and interesting. You can also call 984.6066 to make an appointment. Exit interviews MUST be completed by May 14<sup>th</sup> in order to receive your cap and gown.

2) Join the Alumni Association's Online Community! When you register online you'll have access to the alumni job board, be able to network with other alums, maintain a personal page and much more. By getting involved with the Alumni Association you'll be able to keep your Johnnie connection alive and well no matter where you go. Visit the website today for more info: [www.stjohnscollege.edu/alumni](http://www.stjohnscollege.edu/alumni).

**Finding a Job After St. John's:** Are you graduating in May but still haven't secured a job? Start preparing right away. Look at employment websites for the city in which you will be living. These days, Craigslist is a great resource for job postings. You also want to locate and peruse the website for your state's Department of Labor. For example, in New Mexico, it's called the Department of Workforce Solutions, and their

website has a wide variety of job postings. In addition, check out the online or hard copy version of the local newspaper's classified section. Lastly, check out the Career Services' website at

<http://www.stjohnscollege.edu/admin/SF/career.shtml> to find other useful links for job and internship possibilities.

You also want to network with your family and friends! Tell everyone you know that you are looking for a job. Ideally, you will be moving to a city where you know people and, at least, will have a couch to stay on. Many just-out-of-college jobs are secured through connections and networking. If you know the city you will be moving to, the Career Services Office can also help put you in touch with fellow Johnnies who live there. And don't forget the above exhortation to join the Alumni Association's Online Community!

Finally, you need to have a resume in good shape and ready to go. Come by the Career Services Office to pick up a copy of our Resume Worksheet. You can also make an appointment with one of our staff members to review your resume draft. We also have handouts on cover letters and interviewing tips that can help you out!

**Career Things to Consider this Summer:** It is hard for anyone to be paying attention to doing well in the Program and at the same time considering future options and goals. That's why we recommend spending time during the summer thinking

about careers, internships, and graduate school.

A liberal arts degree from St. John's is an excellent foundation for just about anything you want to do. In some cases you can go directly into an entry-level job that will lead to a particular career, but more often having internship experience or a graduate degree will be necessary. It is a bit late to be getting an internship for this summer, but this is the ideal time to be thinking about either creating or finding an internship for the summer of 2011. Through the Ariel Internship program the college awards approximately 25 stipends each year to enable students to explore a particular career field, without having to worry about a summer job. Contact Barbara Lucero Sand, Internship Coordinator, for details about the Ariel competition for 2010-2011 or for assistance in finding paid internships. Her email is [blucerosand@sjcsf.edu](mailto:blucerosand@sjcsf.edu); phone, 984-6132. Her office is in the basement of Weigle Hall and she works M-Th, 11-5.

If you think graduate school is in your future, summer is an excellent time to begin researching graduate schools, and possibly visiting some campuses. To get started, take a look at Career Services' guide to "Plotting Graduate School":

[http://www.stjohnscollege.edu/resources/Graduate\\_School.pdf](http://www.stjohnscollege.edu/resources/Graduate_School.pdf). In addition, the staff is happy to speak with you either in the office or via email about things you can do over the summer to get this process started. Rising seniors are

encouraged to study for and take the necessary entrance exams (GRE, LSAT, GMAT) during the summer, rather than trying to fit that in during the fall semester.

Summer is a great time for identifying scholarships and fellowships, either to help pay for St. John's or for post-graduate study and travel. For an overview of major funding sources, go to the Career Services web site:

<http://www.stjohnscollege.edu/admin/SF/career.shtml#fellowships>. Anyone planning of applying for one of these competitive awards should also meet with Margaret Odell, the Director of Career Services before the end of the spring semester. Ms. Odell can be reached at 984-6067 or [modell@sjcsf.edu](mailto:modell@sjcsf.edu). She can give you tips on what is essential for a top-notch application and help you develop and time-line for collecting and submitting all of the necessary materials.

The Career Services staff will be available all summer if you have specific questions or are beginning to feel some urgency about planning for your future. Stop by to see us, send us an email ([careerservices@sjcsf.edu](mailto:careerservices@sjcsf.edu)) or give us a call (984-6066). We want to help you get the most career information out of your remaining time at St. John's College. Let us help you set some realistic goals and develop strategies for reaching them.

**New Catalogue of Volunteer Opportunities in the Career Services Library:** The Career Services Library now has *Invest Yourself: A Guide to Action*, published by the Commission on Voluntary Service and Action. This catalogue provides descriptive text about numerous volunteer opportunities in the United States and around the world. It gives information about each organization

and their volunteer opportunities along with their contact information so that you can talk with them directly about their needs, arrangements for volunteers and application process. Check it out today!

### CAREER EXPLORATION

Are you trying to figure out what you want to be when you grow up? One terrific resource for identifying potential career interests is the **Occupational Outlook Handbook**. This publication from the U.S. Department of Labor lists hundreds of different kinds of jobs. In addition, for each job, it tells you: 1. the training and education needed, 2. earnings, 3. expected job prospects for the current year, 4. what workers do on the job, and 5. working conditions. The handbook also gives you job search tips and links to information about the job market in each state. **The Occupational Outlook Handbook** is a nationally recognized source of career information, designed to provide valuable assistance to individuals making decisions about their future work lives. The handbook is revised every two years. It is available on the web at <http://bls.gov/oco/home.htm>. Check it out today!!!

### CARETAKER GAZETTE

Not sure what to do with yourself for a few months or a year after you graduate? Looking for a way to spend the summer? *The Caretaker Gazette*, a bi-monthly publication, lists dozens of caretaking opportunities in the United States and worldwide. Many positions have free room and board in exchange for work, caretaking, or cooking. Some positions have large

salaries attached. This publication is available on the job board located in the basement of Weigle Hall.

### GRADUATE SCHOOL

**New Master of Arts Degree in Trauma and Violence Transdisciplinary Studies at New York University:** NYU has just introduced a new Master of Arts degree in Trauma and Violence Transdisciplinary Studies. This program is devoted to inquiry into every aspect of the theoretical, critical, and clinical dimensions of the analysis and treatment of trauma and violence and their aftermath. It brings together faculty members from diverse disciplines and schools at NYU. After a four-course curriculum which provides a broad foundation, students then pursue an individualized course of study based on their particular research interests, leading up to the writing of a thesis. Students from any major are welcome to apply. Possible areas of study include but are not limited to: war, torture, genocide, PTSD, school violence, illness, natural disasters, memory and memorialization, and cultural representations of violence and trauma. This program offers unique preparation and further training for careers in the non-profit world or for doctoral study in a number of areas.

For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.nyu.edu/fas/tvts/discover](http://www.nyu.edu/fas/tvts/discover).

### LAW SCHOOL

**Planning on applying to law school? Register with the Law School Admission Council Today!** LSAC.org is your one-stop online resource for admission to law school. LSAC works directly with law

schools to provide applicants with all of the tools they need to assemble law school applications. After you set up your secure account, you can: 1. prepare for the LSAT with free samples of the test, 2. easily research law schools and their admission requirements and deadlines, 3. find a prelaw advisor and arrange a visit, 4. sign up for law school forums, 5. register for the LSAT, 6. sign up for LSAC's Credential Assembly Service to easily meet law school requirements for transcripts, recommendations, and applications, 8. register with the Candidate Referral Service so law schools can recruit you, 9. use your LSAC account to apply electronically to as many law schools as you like, and 10. keep track of everything related to your law school admission with just a few clicks.

If you are applying for law school, register at [LSAC.org](http://LSAC.org) today!

**The Degrees of the Americas Program at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law:** The Degrees of the Americas is a globally enriched legal education program with opportunities to earn multiple law degrees from law schools in the United States, Mexico, and Canada. The program is an integrated partnership among three distinguished law schools: the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in Detroit, Michigan; the University of Windsor Faculty of Law in Windsor, Ontario, Canada; and the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. Focused on understanding the intersection of legal systems in today's global marketplace, the Degrees of the Americas program offers options to earn joint or multiple degrees from these three countries. This program allows students to understand the concepts

of globalization, multicultural awareness, free trade, and diversity that are necessary for conducting business in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.law.udmercy.edu](http://www.law.udmercy.edu).

**The University of Massachusetts School of Law-Dartmouth:** The School of Law at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth is characterized by small classes, individual association with distinguished faculty and fellow students, and hands-on applied experience. The public law program provides students with access to excellence which also is distinguished by its affordability. Tuition rates are relatively low, both for in-state and out-of-state students, and the Law School offers a range of financial aid possibilities.

For more information or to apply, please visit their website at [www.umassd.edu/law](http://www.umassd.edu/law).



#### SUMMER PROGRAMS

##### **Interested in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages?:**

The School for International Training offers a TESOL Certificate course **here in Santa Fe** for people interested in teaching English in the USA and abroad. They've been offering the course for 10 years here and have enrolled a number of St. John's students and graduates.

This certificate can help you find an entry-level position in a language institution or an adult education program in the United States or overseas.

The course dates are July 5-July 31, 2010. The deadline to apply is May 5, 2010. There is a non-refundable tuition deposit of \$500 that is due

with the application. The cost of the course is \$2,300 and includes all materials.

For more information and to apply, please contact John Kongsvik, Director SIT TESOL-Santa Fe, at 505.204.4361 or by email at [info@tesoltrainers.com](mailto:info@tesoltrainers.com).

##### **TESL Summer Camp in China:**

The US-China Education and Culture Exchange Center in Bridgeport, CT sponsors a Teaching English as a Second Language Summer Camp in which American college students travel to China to teach English to Chinese elementary, middle, and high school students for several weeks during the summer. Included in the program is the chance to tour places such as Shanghai, Beijing, and other major cities. Each participant also takes part in a Chinese Language and Culture class. The cost of the program is \$890 which includes international airfare, domestic travel in China, room and board, and tours. The dates of the program are from early July to August, 2010.

For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.uschinaedu.org](http://www.uschinaedu.org).

##### **Volunteers for Peace International Voluntary Service:**

Volunteers for Peace offers over 3000 projects in over 100 countries in the United States, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Types of volunteer work include construction of low-income housing, renovation of community buildings, environment work such as trail building and tree planting, and sustainable agriculture, among others. These projects intend to promote international goodwill through intercultural learning, friendship and community service. The cost for participating in these projects is \$300 which includes food and accommodations. Transportation to

and from the project location is arranged and paid for by the volunteer. Projects range in duration from 2-3 weeks to 6 months or a year. For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.nfp.org](http://www.nfp.org).

#### ◆ STUDY ABROAD

##### **Study Abroad with CET**

**Academic Programs:** CET Academic Programs is a private study abroad organization based in Washington, DC that has been designing and administering educational programs abroad since 1982. They offer programs in China, Vietnam, Japan, Syria, the Czech Republic, Italy, and Spain. Courses range from intensive language study to cultural studies to film production and photography. They offer programs year round, including summer programs. For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.cetacademicprograms.com](http://www.cetacademicprograms.com).

##### **Study Spanish in Cuernavaca,**

**Mexico:** The Center for Linguistic and Multicultural Studies at the Universidad Internacional in Cuernavaca, Mexico offers intensive semester programs in the Spanish language. Programs are held during fall and spring semesters. For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.uninter.edu.mx](http://www.uninter.edu.mx).

#### ◆ ETIQUETTE CORNER

Too many people think an interview or sales call begins when you meet the interviewer or client. Your interview begins with the security guards when you enter the building. Kill with kindness any security personnel, receptionists or administrative professionals you meet along the way. They are all part of your interview process. Be upbeat,

pleasant and make eye contact with everyone you meet on your way in and out.

*The Etiquette Tip of the week comes from the **Culture and Manners Institute** at [www.cultureandmanners.com](http://www.cultureandmanners.com).*

#### ◆ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**WWOOF-USA:** WWOOF-USA facilitates worldwide volunteer opportunities on organic farms. The program is available to anyone over 18 years of age: urbanites, professionals, students, families, farmers, gardeners, or people who have never touched soil in their lives. Volunteers generally work for a half-day, participating in farm work and projects as needed. In exchange, farmers provide volunteers with meals and accommodation. There are more than 300 host farms in the WWOOF-USA Directory of Organic Farms, located throughout the US, including Hawaii and the US Virgin Islands. Membership (\$20) is required in order to access the database. For more information, please visit their website at [www.wwoofusa.org](http://www.wwoofusa.org).

#### ◆ EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

##### **Summer Nannies Needed:**

Thousands of full-time, part-time, temporary, summer, and short-term positions available throughout the United States and Canada. Register now at [www.nannies4hire.com](http://www.nannies4hire.com) to find available families in your areas. Registration is free.

##### **Teach Abroad Through the Council on International Educational Exchange:**

For those of you looking to explore the world and improve your resumes while earning money, CIEE Teach Abroad programs provide a blend of career building, cultural exposure, service

learning, and travel opportunities. CIEE offers comprehensive teaching abroad opportunities in Chile, China, the Dominican Republic, South Korea, Spain, and Thailand. All programs offer an academic year teaching assignment, a local stipend or salary, temporary housing, visa advice, medical insurance, and 24-hour support services. Eligibility requirements include a bachelor's degree in any discipline, native English fluency, and an interest in sharing experiences in a different culture. Teaching in Chile, the Dominican Republic, and Spain all require upper intermediate to advanced Spanish skills.

For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.ciee.org/teach](http://www.ciee.org/teach).

##### **Apply Now for Public School Positions in South Korea:**

The English Program in Korea is one of the biggest employers of teachers in Korea. They hire for almost all of the public schools in Korea. The start date of the program is August 18, 2010, and the contract duration is one year. The salary is approximately \$1718-\$2319 US dollars per month. Teachers work 21-25 teaching hours per week, although they are expected to remain at the school for the full school day. They teach elementary through high school students. To apply, you must have a bachelor's degree, be a native English speaker, and have no criminal background. Housing is provided as well as some airfare reimbursement. You also receive four weeks paid vacation.

For more information and to apply, please visit their website at [www.footprintsrecruiting.com](http://www.footprintsrecruiting.com).

#### ◆ INTERNSHIPS

**Intern this Summer with Equal Visibility Everywhere in**

**Washington, DC:** EVE seeks passionate and motivated undergraduate and graduate students with an interest in feminism, public policy, marketing, and non-profit work, specifically in areas involving gender relations, human rights and social development. Interns must demonstrate a strong academic background, ability to work independently, and interest in the cause of increasing gender parity.

The internships are available in Washington, DC on either a full or part-time basis during Summer 2010 beginning June 2 and ending August 13. Full-time interns will work 35-40 hours, while part-time interns must commit to at least 20 hours per week. Interns will work on the following projects: parade planning, canvassing for membership, research, and outreach for the organization and its campaigns.

This internship offers no monetary compensation. To apply, please email your resume and cover letter to [drlynettelong@gmail.com](mailto:drlynettelong@gmail.com). Interns will be accepted on a rolling basis. If you have further questions, please contact Dr. Lynette Long at the above email address.



## FEATURED ARTICLE

### “Teach to Travel”

Teaching English is a great way to see the world—and get paid for it. Here's a common dilemma: itchy feet and an empty wallet. Sound familiar? If you're finding yourself in this situation, you have a few travel options.

You could:

- Forget about it and go back to bed.

- Turn on the Discovery Channel, watch a few travel programmes and buy a lottery ticket.
- Look for a way to help fund your travels.

Teaching English abroad can offer some incredible opportunities if you want to help finance your travels and immerse yourself in another culture. English has become the international language of business, science, politics, technology—and your ability to speak it can be much sought after. In many ways, teaching English is *the* portable career.

Do you want to teach English for pocket money or as a career? A good starting point is to decide why you want to teach overseas. Are you simply looking for a way to pick up some temporary work while you are backpacking? Or is it the prospect of teaching itself and the depth of cultural experience it can bring that interests you?

Many people start out in the former situation and soon realize that teaching is something they wish to continue and turn into a career.

Colette Neville works for the Nova Group, a well-established organization that operates English schools throughout Japan. She began teaching for Nova with the intent of staying in Japan for a year. "I enjoyed teaching, living in Japan and being able to travel there so much, that I ended up staying on for two more years." She adds, "The income was a good incentive too—there's the potential to make a pretty good living teaching English in Japan."

**What you need to teach English:  
The paper or the practice—or  
both?**

Being able to speak English does not necessarily mean that you can teach it. In many places, your ability to speak the language may be enough to land you a job. But if you don't know what you're doing, there is a good chance that neither you nor your students will enjoy your lessons much.

If you're serious about teaching English, it's not a bad idea to gain some training and experience before heading off into a new country and standing up in front of a group of people who speak another language. Not only will it improve your job prospects and options, it will also to improve your confidence and your abilities.

There are a huge number of organizations and companies that offer teacher training for people wishing to teach English as a second language—and a veritable alphabet soup of different certifications and certifying bodies.

All certification courses are not the same and standards are not necessarily—well—standardized. A TESL (Teach English as a Second Language) programme could be taught on-line in as few as 40 hours, or it could involve over one hundred hours of class time plus a practicum of 20 or more hours.

Which one do you choose? That depends.

Clearly, the longer, more involved courses tend to be more expensive. If you are planning on teaching English overseas for at least a year or two—and you would like to have the option of teaching English as a second language (ESL) in the United States or Canada as well—then opt for the longer, more involved course.

There are a couple of advantages to this type of course. Many employers,

especially the better paying ones, recognize and require this sort of certification. Also, because these courses tend to be fairly intensive and demanding, and usually involve a practicum where you actually teach new English speakers (and get feedback from instructors), you are generally much better prepared at the end of the day.

If, on the other hand, you are pursuing the pay-for-your-backpacking route, then a shorter, less expensive course may be an option. Understandably, you may leave feeling less prepared than you might with a longer course involving practical experience. But if you are flexible, motivated, and willing to gain your first bit of practical experience on the fly, this may work for you.

Don Christie is a coordinator with the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) programme, a long-running cultural exchange programme operated by the Japanese Government. Although applicants are not officially required to have teaching certificates in order to participate in the JET programme, Christie strongly recommends taking a TEFL course from a reputable provider and gaining as much experience teaching ESL as you can.

A great way to gain experience is to contact your school's international student centre or a community centre in your area, and volunteer to teach conversational English to recent newcomers. Not only is this experience looked upon favourably by prospective employers, it will go a long way to giving you a sense about whether or not teaching ESL is something that you would like to pursue.

### **Landing a job**

At the moment, hot-spots for English teachers include Japan, China, Thailand, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey and Eastern Europe. To a certain extent, your experience and qualifications (or lack thereof) will help to determine your options.

An increasing number of employers now require an undergraduate degree as the basic qualification for a teaching position. This may also be necessary in some countries in order to obtain a visa to work. In addition, many of the better, more reputable employers now require applicants to hold a certification to teach English.

If you're a little shy on qualifications and experience, Thailand, Taiwan, Korea and Hong Kong still offer many possibilities. Demand for English teachers is high and official certification is not always required. Be willing to accept the fact that you'll probably be paid less than someone with greater qualifications. Also, you may find yourself having to adapt to a less than ideal teaching environment.

"It's easy to find a job," says David Hughes, Director of Language Studies International - Canada, "The question is, 'What happens next?'"

In general, you will find yourself working in a school, or freelancing, offering private lessons to individuals.

Working for an established school tends to offer some advantages: benefits (and payroll deductions), a regular salary, vacation, health insurance. Some employers may also arrange, or help you to arrange, work permits, visas and sometimes even your flights.

Remember though, you are signing a contract that you will be held to. Be sure that you know exactly what it

entails. Hughes recommends doing a bit of research about the school's reputation and the working conditions you might expect there before you sign on the dotted line. There are a variety of online forums where you can read about other teachers' experiences in a particular country or at a particular school.

As you research teaching English overseas, you'll discover that teaching English as a second language isn't just a way to pay for time spent in another culture. It is a sub-culture unto itself. Many people who've tried it say they wouldn't trade the experience for the world. Many of those same people have a lot of valid warnings and advice. There are dozens, maybe even hundreds of resources online for prospective teachers looking to find work overseas—be sure to do your research.

*This article comes from **Verge Magazine** which can be found at [www.vergemagazine.com](http://www.vergemagazine.com). For more information about teaching English overseas, also check out opportunities available through **Footprints Recruiting** ([www.footprintsrecruiting.com](http://www.footprintsrecruiting.com)) and **Davidson Recruiting Services** ([www.iandrs.com](http://www.iandrs.com)). They are both very reputable agencies that have placed St. John's alumni in the past.*

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### **Disclaimer:**

*The St. John's College Career Services Office produces **Going Places** as a service to St. John's College students and community members for their career development and educational and life planning. Any jobs or other opportunities listed herein do not indicate an endorsement or recommendation from St. John's College or the Career Services Office. Students and individuals from the St. John's College community are responsible for all necessary precautions when*

*interviewing for or accepting these positions or awards. They are also responsible for checking the credentials and integrity of all employers or organizations. St. John's College and the Career Services Office assume no liability for acts or omissions by third parties or for material supplied by them. The St. John's College Career Services Office is not responsible for anything that happens at a given job site. The presence of*

*an employment listing in Going Places does not guarantee any given employer's compliance with legal behavior. If a student or individual experiences discrimination or sexual harassment on the job or in a job interview, he or she is encouraged to call the Department of Fair Employment in the state in which the violation occurred.*

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Additional information and/or printed materials on all opportunities and programs listed in *Going Places* are kept in the Career Services Office. The office is staffed Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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*Going Places* contact info: 984-6066 or [stbel@sjcsf.edu](mailto:stbel@sjcsf.edu)