

UWT-CTC Industry Panel  
February 19, 2010

Speakers:

- Jeremy Kayne, Web Developer
- Robert Oesch, IT Director, Law Enforcement Support Agency (LESA)
- Ronald Kim, Technical Sales Specialist for Visual Studio and Team Foundation Server Products, Microsoft
- Mary, IT Director, U. S. District Courts

Job skills:

- Companies are cutting cost through outsourcing and crowd sourcing (e.g. Amazon's Mechanical Turk)
- Focus on thinking, creativity, problem solving and management rather than implementation
- Jack Welch, Winning: Focus on integrity, energy, creativity, innovation
- Start building networks and relationships
- Communication and teamwork skills are critical; be able to work on diverse teams
- Demonstrate leadership
- Be able to understand and interpret requirements to meet technical needs
- Presentation skills
- Be able to communicate with non-techies
- Project management
- Willingness to ask for help when stuck
- Willingness to take a risk, try new things, make mistakes
- Ability to follow through on commitments, and communicate when you can't; control scope creep
- Be responsive to company needs and client needs; test-driven development; good is good enough!
- Parkinson's law – don't allow too much time
- Customer focus is essential
- Don't mess up your long term opportunities
- Keep emotions under control. Don't get upset when someone disagrees with you
- Understand usability
- Technical skills can be learned
- Be a life long learner
- Find a mentor
- Concentrate on interest area
- Learn a cutting edge technology
- Be adaptable. Specs *always* change.
- Be willing to serve your time
- Integration

Resume:

- Needs to spark interest; talk about specific projects, even school projects!
- Send a thank you note or email
- Include a cover letter

- Communicate personal interests
- Include *all* work experience; industry values diverse skill sets and interests
- Make it clear that you meet minimum qualifications; HR screens resumes

Interview:

- Be courteous to *everyone*
- Physical appearance matters
- Customize to each company, know the organization; Why do you want to work for *us*?
- Confidence
- Ask questions

**Tina Ostrander**

CSCI/CIS Instructor

Highline Community College

206.878.3710 x6040