Greetings from Erin...

Howdy Ags!

Happy December! The fall semester is drawing to a close and final exams begin in just a few short days. Soon you will be packing up your gear and leaving Aggieland for a month of well-deserved time off. Make the most of the break by spending quality time with your friends and family, giving back to your community through volunteer efforts, and paying forward any good will that comes your way. The Regents’ Scholars staff wishes you the best of luck with finals. Please be safe in your journeys and have a wonderful holiday season.

Thanks and Gig ‘em!

Erin Fisk
Regents’ Scholars Assistant Coordinator

RSO Dates to Remember!

12/1 Nursing Home
12/3 RSO 4th General Meeting
TBA Extreme board meeting

Words of Wisdom

“Work to become, not to acquire.”

~ Elbert Hubbard

FAFSA/ TASFA Renewal Workshops

In order to continue receiving financial aid, including the Regents’ Scholarship, during the 2013-2014 academic year, students must complete the Renewal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA becomes available on January 1, 2013. The Scholarships & Financial Aid Office encourages students to submit the FAFSA form by March 1, 2013 to receive priority in awarding. To expedite the process, students are encouraged to file their tax returns as early as possible.

In order to complete the FAFSA, students will need:
- Student and parent social security numbers
- W-2 Forms & any other records of money earned for both the student and parents
- Student’s 2012 federal income tax return
- Parents’ 2012 federal income tax return
- If filing electronically, PIN for both the student and the parents

In order to expedite this process for the student, Scholarships & Financial Aid will be hosting several Renewal FAFSA/TASFA workshops for Regents’ Scholars during the spring semester. Students are encouraged to attend these workshops if they need assistance filing their FAFSA. These events are scheduled for:

- February 18th 3:00-4:00pm Pavilion 236
- February 19th 1:30-2:30pm Pavilion 236
- February 20th 9:30-10:30am Pavilion 236 2:30-3:30pm Pavilion 236
- February 22nd 11:00am-12:00pm Pavilion 236

Registration is required. To register, students should visit http://financialaid.tamu.edu/workshops.


Continuing Student Scholarship Application is Up!

https://scholarships.tamu.edu

Below is a listing of all the dept/colleges that participate with our one application:

- Scholarships & Financial Aid
- College of Agriculture & Life Sciences  
  - Department of Agricultural Economics
  - Department of Entomology
  - Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences
  - Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
  - Department of Horticultural Sciences
- College of Education & Human Development
- College of Engineering  
  - Department of Aerospace Engineering
  - Department of Chemical Engineering
  - Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
  - Department of Engineering Technology & Industrial Distribution
  - Department of Mechanical Engineering
- Engineering Study Abroad
- College of Geosciences
- College of Science  
  - Department of Chemistry
  - Mays Business School
  - Department of Information & Operations Management
- Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Department of English
- International Student Services
- Study Abroad Programs Office
- Texas A&M Foundation
Externships provide an opportunity for freshmen through graduate students to visit a company in their field of study for a day. These are opportunities for students to learn more about their fields in a low-stress environment. Students may explore specific careers, make professional connections, and gather first-hand experience from professionals.

Benefits:
- See firsthand about day-to-day work activities from professionals in your chosen field
- Visit as many as 6 companies
- Meet and network with professionals
- Observe a company's culture and operations
- Explore your interest and work expectations within a company
- Learn about new technologies and products
- Discover a company's hiring process and what the company looks for when selecting new employees
- Investigate career paths for people with your major

Dates: January 8, 9, 10, and 11, 2013

Requirements:
- Students must be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in a major that the Employer wants to host.
- You should live within close proximity to or be willing to travel on your own to Austin, Bryan/College Station, Dallas, Ft. Worth, Houston, or San Antonio.
- You are encouraged to attend an AggiExternship Information Session. If you are unable to attend this information session, please contact 979.845.7725.
- Students are responsible for all of their own expenses including travel, meals, accommodations, etc.
- Students sign-up for a specific company on a first come, first served basis until the maximum number of Students for that Company is reached.
- Students can visit as many as 6 AggiExternship Host Companies.
- If you fail to show-up at a Host Company that you have committed to
  - you can be blocked from the Career Center services
  - your Department Head will be notified
  - you must write a letter of apology to the Host Company Representative

Additional Information: http://careercenter.tamu.edu/guides/externship

Contact Advisor: David McMahon
Associate Director, Career Center
979.845.7725
davidm@careercenter.tamu.edu

Retrieved and adapted from the Texas A&M Career Center website: http://careercenter.tamu.edu
Alas, winter break is around the corner and your plans for the month long hiatus from school are etched in stone: sleep, party, relax, shop, sleep, party, watch TV…. But while you’re planning to catch up on the hundred hours of lost sleep due to shin-digs and last-minute English papers, there’s an early bird catching a worm that should be yours. In between decompressing from the fall semester, make sure to take this time for a little personal development. Here are five things you can do this winter break to boost your resume and set you apart from the competition.

1. **Take a class at a community college.** While most of your peers may be on the five-year plan, getting through college in four years can save you time, money, and many headaches. Cut expenses and catch up (or get ahead) of your graduation requirements by taking classes at a community college. Coordinate with your academic advisor to see which credits will transfer over and fulfill your degree plan requirements.

2. **Set up an informational interview.** It’s time to dust off those business cards you’ve collected this past semester and start reaching out to your contacts. Take this time to setup informational interviews with prospective employers or leaders in your field that you admire. Don’t be afraid to cold call a few companies to setup in-person meet and greets as well. Expect a few “no’s” and fully take advantage of getting to know everyone who says yes. Remember, you’re not looking for a job – at the moment – the goal of an informational interview is to learn more about that professional, the industry and the company, as well as put yourself on that person and company’s radar.

3. **Start an internship/externship.** While you may only be out of school for a month and a half, it is still enough time to gain on-the-job experience with an externship or internship. If you need a jumping off point, reach out to professors, mentors, and your network to spread the word that you are looking to work over the break. Additionally, read your local newspaper to find out which companies are laying off workers – they will be hard pressed to turn down free labor.

4. **Start a business.** One of the greatest and most irreplaceable resources is time. Take the time that you would have spent going to class, writing papers, and studying for exams to finally get a start on that amazing business idea you have. Figure out which legal structure works best for what you’re trying to do and begin building that business plan or setting your e-Commerce site.

5. **Go abroad.** Spending four months in a foreign country away from family, friends, and everything that is familiar to you can be a terrifying thought. For those unwilling to brave a fall or spring semester away from home, a winter study abroad experience can give you a taste of what the world has to offer, but in a shorter period of time.

Retrieved and adapted from http://www.blackenterprise.com/lifestyle/5-winter-break-career-development-tips-for-college-students/

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### Career Center Workshops - December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/3-12/4</td>
<td>Teach for America</td>
<td>8am-5pm</td>
<td>MSC 1402</td>
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<td>12/5</td>
<td>Co-Op Work Skills</td>
<td>4pm-5pm</td>
<td>Koldus 209</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/6</td>
<td>Co-Op Work Skills</td>
<td>2pm-3pm</td>
<td>Koldus 209</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/7</td>
<td>Maximize Your Job Search through Branding Strategies</td>
<td>10:00am-11:30am</td>
<td>Wehner 190</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choral Activities Holiday Concert</td>
<td>Redefined day, students attend their Thursday classes</td>
<td>Redefined day, students attend their Friday classes</td>
<td>Reading days, no classes.</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women's Basketball vs. TCU</td>
<td>Fall semester final examinations for all students.</td>
<td>Fall semester final examinations for all students.</td>
<td>Fall semester final examinations for all students.</td>
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<td>Fall Transit Service</td>
<td>Fall Transit Service</td>
<td>Student Senate Meeting</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>Final grades for all students due.</td>
<td>Men's Basketball vs. A&amp;M Corpus</td>
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<td>Faculty and Staff holiday.</td>
<td>Faculty and Staff holiday. Christmas - Christian</td>
<td>Faculty and Staff holiday.</td>
<td>Faculty and Staff holiday.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty and Staff holiday.</td>
<td>Faculty and Staff holiday. New Year’s Eve</td>
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