



Q: If you could go back in time and give yourself one piece of advice, what would it be?

A: Certainly, there are a lot of "big ticket" items that my program covers in relation to that question. But for me, the biggest tip I wished I could have given myself was to stay organized and keep track of every person I came in contact with since college. Professionally speaking, there are a countless number of times I could have used someone's help from networking. From a personal standpoint, I have met so many people whom I found interesting or just simply enjoyed their company. Yet today, I wouldn't even know how to contact them. I would just like to hear from them and see how they are doing. Sometimes, it's truly depressing! Time and people pass by so fast in life, and I don't think college students realize that.

Q: What are your feelings about the job outlook?

A: Of course, that always depends on what industry and what major we're discussing. I always keep a close eye on current job outlook, but frankly it's often cyclical and patterns with the economy. It's more fascinating for me stay in touch with trends and projections on specific industries and positions, and what the demand for those positions will be... say... 10 years from now. College graduates need to see the big picture. For instance, jobs such as computer programming, scientific research, and even accounting functions have already begun to go overseas. I don't see that trend reversing anytime soon. There is also a debate in the medical community on whether we will have a great shortage of doctors over the next 20 years. I wish college students kept better tabs on this type of information, even when they are originally deciding their major!

Q: What is your advice for students who are considering Graduate school?

A: Everyone should at least consider graduate school. What does consider mean? It means research the facts, and identify the pros and cons of the decision. Is the investment of your time, effort, and money worth it to your career? Depending on the field, it may or may not be. They should seek out those who already have a masters or doctorate degree. They should get input from HR managers and vice presidents of divisions and companies they want to work for. Ask these people how important earning a post-graduate degree is when they decide to hire and promote. They will get entirely different responses based on your industry and the degree. This is critical! Of course, many companies now offer some sort of tuition reimbursement program. If so, this is like "free money," and an open opportunity to help advance your career. I took advantage of it... not just once, but twice!

Q: What do you remember most about being in college?

A: I had a BLAST in college! Can I go back and start over again? I'm a big believer in the saying "You get out of it what you put into it." I was very involved in student government, fraternity life, campus events, intramural sports... you name it. I realize even today that the social and leadership skills I gained from college life will last me a lifetime. I'm very grateful for that, and I always try to encourage younger students to GET INVOLVED. They will grow in ways they may never know.

Q: What do you want to achieve personally through your book and your program?

A: I want to make an impact on people's lives. I want to make them think. I want them to undertake a strategic plan for themselves and their future, based on what they value and what they enjoy in life. Where exactly do they want to be by age 25, age 30, or age 40, and how exactly are they going to get there? I truly believe in the message I have in both my book and my program, and it's tremendously rewarding.