

Ready...Set...Go!

coaching you toward your best future

Strategies for a Slow Economy



George Fox University
Career Services

Career Services: Vocation & Calling Fitness

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- “A lot of the usual job market signposts point toward a strong employment outlook for new college graduates.” NACE research 2005



1. Understanding the Economy

- Hiring stronger in some sectors; industry situations vary
- New job growth is happening-population growth areas
- Replacement hiring may be competitive
- Watch for recovery...moderate growth in Oregon despite a recent slowdown

Labor Market Information (LMI)

- “Labor market information is systematized data, produced on a regular basis, about people, jobs and employers. LMI includes information related to economic conditions and labor force characteristics (e.g., population, education, income, occupational descriptions, employment conditions).” Oregon Labor Trends

Use of LMI

- Learn what skills employers want
- Discover where the jobs are
- Determine how much employers are paying
- Acquire knowledge of the recruiting strategies of employers
- Ascertain if an employer is solvent
- Discern if an employer is internationally connected
- Find out what employers have entry level jobs
- Define what a recession and recovery mean
- Identify what industries are vibrant and expect growth

LMI uses continued...

- ❑ Discover what occupations are viable into the future
- ❑ Learn about Oregon's economic future
- ❑ Identify what economic regions are strongest
- ❑ Locate opportunities you wouldn't otherwise find
- ❑ Find new job titles you hadn't thought about
- ❑ Prepare for your job interview
- ❑ Decipher where the competition is
- ❑ Understand how work is changing and how it is defined
- ❑ Plan your own career future

2. Spiritual & Psychological Preparation

- Time to rely on faith
- Keep attitudes positive and realistic
- Avoid a focus on negative generalizations
- Keep your calling/purpose in mind
- Use support network
- Take good care of yourself

3. Temporary Shift in Career Goals

- Adjust to fit the market
- Be differently employed
- Be temporarily underemployed
- Go back to school
- Use creative, career problem-solving



4. Continue Talking with Employers

- ❑ Determine their response to the slowdown and/or recovery
- ❑ Look for alternative work experiences
- ❑ Keep moving through the marketplace
- ❑ Prepare for unexpected encounters with employers



5. Outmaneuver the Competition



- ❑ Be smart about your search
- ❑ Plan carefully; know what you want
- ❑ Be prepared to present yourself
- ❑ Look for the hidden market

6. Adjust Your Time Frame

- ❑ Start earlier than anticipated
- ❑ Respond quickly to employers
- ❑ Move on; don't linger over a loss or rejection
- ❑ Be prepared for a longer search



7. Research Diligently & Carefully

- Know what you are getting into
- Sell yourself based on your research
- Be prepared for targeted employer contact
- Work the information to your benefit
- Look at the less-than-obvious opportunities an employer offers

8. Explore Other Industries & Employers

- Others may be more viable
 - Health Services
 - Financial Services
 - Real Estate
 - Insurance
 - Helping Professions
 - Security Services
 - Government
- Try other locations
- Try the unknown
- Try small business

www.qualityinfo.org

<http://stats.bls.gov>

9. Use Your Resources

- Visit the career office
- Visit other employment services
- Attend a professional conference
- Browse the web for jobs and information
- Talk to your network...to those who know about jobs, to those who know others who know about jobs...

Ready to Merge onto the Market?

1. Understand the economy	2. Rely on spiritual and psychological support	3. Shift your goal temporarily
4. Continue talking to employers	5. Out-maneuver the competition	6. Adjust the timeframe
7. Research with diligence & care	8. Look at other employers	9. Use your resources

A Reason for Hope...

- "Taking a long-term view, Oregon continues to be a vibrant, healthy, diverse, growing state. A wide range of industries have located, developed, and expanded here during the 1990's. The State is expected to return to a growth rate faster than that of the US in 2003 and on into the future."

-Oregon Labor Trends, Summer 2002

Oregon's Big Picture...

- Oregon's economy turned the corner in the summer of 2003. Since then, employment levels have risen by 2.9%, making us one of the fastest growing states in the nation. Most major industries have added jobs, led by professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and manufacturing."

Oregon Labor Trends, Dec. 2004

Contact Us

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