

CAREER COMMUNICATIONS ARCHITECTURE

getting the job

making it work for you

journey

focusing in on major

(junior year, senior year - first semester)

nearing/post graduation

(senior year - 2nd semester, and summer)

starting the new job

(first 6 months)

getting bored for the first time

(1 - 1.5 years - hopefully)

looking for something new

(1 - ? years)

role for communications

Get visible: No matter what you want to do, there is probably an existing community around it. Become a part of it, and your name will ring a bell when you send resumes out.

Make connections: reach out to people in your chosen industry to get a lay of the land (but don't be pushy).

Prove you are an asset: within the job description and otherwise.

Don't visibly check out! Explore other options but don't slack on your current role/responsibilities.

Position your ambitions: show others where you want to be in the not-so-near future, and seek advice on how to get there

channels

personal sites/ blog
writing opportunities
(campus pubs, interviews)

personal sites/blogs
social networks
articles in web pubs
talks & conferences

actions speak louder than words!

private (one-to-one) channels: as in don't post this on your blog.

contacts in other departments/ companies/ industries

resume/portfolio
personal Site/Blog
social networks
contacts/recruiter

what to do

- use free tools like typepad, tumblr, wordpress, flickr, and blogger to get out there!

- comment on blogs
- comment on articles they've written
- post stuff they've written on your site
- see if you can attend conferences for free if you volunteer to help

- get involved in everything
- never say no

- Seek out other opportunities internally on top of your current role
- Consider side projects of interest that make you a more qualified/interesting candidate for your next job

- present yourself and the the work you've done so far in a simple, clear way

other opportunities at this stage

If you know what career you want, look into some of the less academic, technical skills that would be helpful. Take a course/training program on these.

INTERN, INTERN, INTERN! Even if you have to work for the summer, try to find a local internship for the school year.

Try to have as many informal interviews as possible, even if only to hone your interviewing skills.

If you're taking the summer off, focus on experiences that will make you a more interesting candidate.

Find a mentor asap - keep in mind it might not (and probably shouldn't be) your boss

Start talking to others in the industry to figure out what else is out there before acting rashly.

Figure out what you can get out of your current job (maybe there is something new within your current workplace that is interesting)

Dont be blinded by salary increases or titles. Figure out what you want long term and focus on helpful next steps to get you there.