EVENT RECAP:
Cisco Infosession
By: Nicole Parker

Last Friday, two Cisco recruiters and a recent Berkeley grad who works for Cisco visited to talk to students in the Woz. As I snacked on my Chipotle burrito and raspberry lemonade, I enjoyed speaking with and hearing from their representatives about what sets Cisco apart from other tech companies, particularly in terms of how enjoyable it is to work there. Apart from resume critiques, they shared lots of information on what to expect working or interning for Cisco. What intrigues me is that the company allows you to explore disciplines during your time there, and ‘change careers’ if you want to, all within the company. As you gain experience, you move up ‘Levels’ in the company - If I remember correctly there are thirteen. Cisco also emphasizes the importance of its employees talking directly with clients, through dealing with conflict resolution and answering questions over the phone. Working there sounded somewhat ‘college-y’ (in a good way.) There are tons of opportunities to get involved in community service, participate in social recreational activities, and attend cool events, such as a conference for women in engineering. If you didn't get the chance to go, check them out online to find out about the opportunities they offer!

EVENT RECAP:
Professional Development Week Day 1: How to Talk to Recruiters
By: Cindy Liu

Professional Development Week started off with a presentation by General Motors about how to tackle career fairs. Participants learned how to talk to recruiters as well as several tips on what to expect at a career fair. Some suggestions include researching the employers that you are interested in beforehand and knowing their main products, doing a “dry run” with a low priority company to warm up, and to talk about experiences outside of school such as fun side projects. After the presentation, participants practiced their elevator pitches and received feedback from SWE officers as well as the GM representative and then proceeded to indulge in delicious Chipotle burritos.
Thank you so much to everyone that attended Professional Development Week 2015! To recap, Monday General Motors lead a workshop on “How to Talk to Recruiters.” On Tuesday we had a resume and cover letter critique. On Wednesday we had an exciting alumni panel with some former SWE stars who now work at Genentech, Google, Tesla, the Anita Borg Institute, and one who even founded her own two companies. At this panel we heard their unique perspectives on “How to Find the Best Fit Company/Career.” Thursday we concluded the week with a presentation by PwC on “Acing the Interview.”

This was our first annual Professional Development Week and by all metrics it was a great success! My favorite part was working with students individually to help them improve their professional development skills. I love learning about people’s different professional hopes and aspirations and advising if possible on how to get closer to those goals.

If you have lingering or follow-up questions regarding anything Professional Development related please feel free to email me at heatherhughes@berkeley.edu. Thanks for making PDW wonderful!

-Heather Hughes
Professional Development Week Officer

Snap some festive pics at GM and tag them on Instagram @ucb_swe to be featured on our page! Or email them to ucb.swe.pr@gmail.com.

FOLLOW US at ucb_swe!
Jessica Sun - Vice President
Mechanical Engineering
Austin, Texas
Favorite place to explore in the Bay Area:
North of the Golden Gate in Sausalito/Marin area, Santa Cruz mountains/Capitola
Favorite thing about engineering: I love being trained to problem solve. In the real world, a lot of technical things are new and learned on the job, but with a solid problem solving background many things are easy to break down and understand. Ultimately as engineers we find solutions and continue to improve on them.
Summer plans: I’ll be continuing to work at Apple in Cupertino, specializing in Engineering Project Management!

Joanna Wu - VP Outreach
Mechanical Engineering
Atwater Village, Los Angeles
Favorite outdoor activity in Berkeley: Watching the sunrise/sunset from the Campanile.
Favorite thing about engineering: The people that you meet! I am always so humbled by everyone.
Summer plans: A trip to Asia with old friends!

Shir Nehama - VP Corporate Relations
IEOR
Saratoga, CA/Tel Aviv, Israel
Favorite place in Berkeley: Lake Anza is a wonderful getaway just 10 min away
Favorite thing about engineering: Being surrounded by smart, creative, and innovative people who strive to learn!
Summer plans: I will be completing my engineering masters at UC Berkeley next Fall so I will be doing an internship this summer.

Lesley Chiang - Treasurer
EECS
San Mateo, CA
Favorite study spot in Berkeley: East Asian Library in one of the personal cubbies
Favorite thing about engineering: I like solving tough problems, especially interdisciplinary ones
Summer plans: Internship, but also go to explore San Francisco more often

Leslie Stoyanova - Secretary
EECS
Varna, Bulgaria
Favorite food in Berkeley: Japanese food from Kiraku
Favorite thing about engineering: Creating things that can help everyone in the world
Summer plans: I’ll be a Software Engineering Intern at Microsoft in Seattle.

Get to know our Exec team!
ENGINEERING JOKE OF THE WEEK!
One afternoon, an engineering student was riding across campus on a shiny new bike. He ran into a friend of his, also an engineering student, who said, “Wow! That sure is a great bike. Where did you get it?”

“The darndest thing happened,” said the first engineering student. “A girl came riding up to me and got off the bike, threw off all her clothes, and said that I could have anything that I wanted.”

“Wow” remarked his friend. “That’s great. Good move. Her clothes probably wouldn’t have fit you anyway.”

got feedback? a funny joke? ideas of something you would like to see in the newsletters? email me at nicoleparker@berkeley.edu!