Guide to Getting Experience

For students in Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences

Rachel Wobrak | Sarah Kurtz

go.umd.edu/cmnsuniv2018
What are some options?

2017 grads:

- 55% full-time job
- 31% grad school
- start own company, service, military, ...
**When should I start?**

- decide which careers to look up
- map out applications for internships, research
- develop missing skills
- get resume, cover letter ready
- decide how to build contacts in target field

**Evaluate**

- your interests, values, preferences
- career options with your major
- each career choice
- fit of internship
- your skills, suitability for a job

**Plan**

- apply for internships, research opportunities
- complete internship, research, class project
- attend career panels, fairs, workshops
- conduct informational interviews

**DO**
Where are you?

- Not sure: need to look into options and evaluate them
- Professional school: medicine, dentistry, physician assistant, nursing; law
- Full-time job: technician, analyst, teacher, policy expert, patent examiner, software developer...
- Graduate school: e.g., master’s, MBA
● Which of these steps have you completed?
● Which of these steps would it make sense to take, considering the group’s goals?
**WHY** get an internship?

- Test career choices
- Get transferable skills
- Bridge classroom studies with real world experience
- Job-specific training
- Build contacts, letters of recommendation, get referrals
How do I find one?

Clinical, research, industry, service, or education?

- University Career Center careers.umd.edu
  Careers4Terps (includes part-time, shadowing)
- Search database of on-campus research openings ugresearch.umd.edu
- Federal government usajobs.gov/studentsandgrads
- College internship resources for science majors go.umd.edu/cmns-experience (includes for-credit)
- Terrapin Teachers tt.umd.edu
- Pay attention to listserv for opportunities
WHY network?

- Find out about career options
- Learn what skills you will need and how to get and demonstrate them
- See if you would enjoy a career path
- Get specialized advice about applying, state of field
WHO can help me?

- Friends, family, family friends
- Professors, TAs, advisers
- Campus job fairs, employer meetups, panels, colleagues at current internship or lab
How can I start?

Career panels and networking events: careers.umd.edu/events-calendar

- Careers in Data Science & Data Analytics
  October 3rd, 4:30-5:30pm
- CMNS Alumni Days
  October 9th (Bio, Chem, Geol, Envir.), 12-2pm
  October 11th (AOSC, Astr, CS, Math, Physics), 12-2pm
- Careers in Bioscience
  November 13th, 11am-12pm and 12:30-1:30pm

Terrapins Connect: terrapinsconnect.umd.edu: informational interviews, targeted tips on resumes

LinkedIn: search by major, area, organization and/or connect
Goals

Is your goal specific? time-bound? relevant? achievable? measurable?
Rachel Wobrak
Program Director
University Career Center @ CMNS
1320 Symons Hall
rwobrak@umd.edu

Sarah Kurtz
Career Advisor
University Career Center @ CMNS
2321 Symons Hall
smkurtz@umd.edu

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WHERE are you?

- Not sure: need to look into options and evaluate them
- Full-time job in computer science: cyber security
- Full-time job in computer science: software development
- Graduate school: e.g., master’s, MBA