

Truth about resumes

Part one of a two-part column

Most college students utter an audible grunt the first time resume reality hits them. "Ugh. I gotta do that resume thing." The tendency is to wait until the last minute, then crank out the basics just so you can go on to the next step.

But if you properly understand what the resume is and where it fits into the entry level hiring process, you will see that it requires a great deal more thought and preparation than just "cranking it out."

Many hiring managers will contend that they take as little as three seconds to review a resume. What that means is the minimum amount of time is three seconds. Successful resumes will be reviewed much longer. The key is to capture and hold an audience long enough to accomplish your specific purpose, which is to get to the next step in the process. The interview.

Don't ever believe that the resume alone will score the interview or the job. The truth about resumes is they are very limited. It will not find the interview for you; it will not find the job for you. The resume is not your job search, but it can provide you with a starting point. If you can't sell yourself on paper, you probably won't be able to do so in



person.

From the perspective of the hiring company, the resume is your initial marketing brochure. Period. Nothing more and nothing less. Once you start looking from this perspective, you will be on your way to a more effective resume.

It can't make the sale any more than a marketing brochure can sell you a car. There still has to be the test drive, a look under the hood and a chance to kick the tires. But if it is effective, you have already been pre-sold on the car before reaching the showroom. Same for resumes.

The resume is a professional reflection of you as a potential product. Professional resume, professional product. Sloppy resume, sloppy product. Take the time to develop one as the very best reflection on you.

Most resume books tell you that as the first step, you should "take a piece of

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PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN
Roberta Williams (l.), biology professor, and lab assistant Scotty Keiser show student Lisa Loss results of lab work done during a recent assignment for Human Biology 100.

A sojourn through the beginnings of life

BY RICK APPIN
COPY EDITOR

Registration is just around the corner, and science-phobic students are poring over the Spring class schedule with trepidation, searching for the least-painful class to fulfill the science-with-a-lab graduation requirement.

Eyes glaze over at the thought of spending 15 weeks studying terms and concepts that seem to have little relevance to their lives.

For those who find themselves in this predicament, and for those who want to combine

education and fun, why not venture into the auditorium at White Hall and watch Roberta Williams strut back and forth exuding a fascination for her subject: human biology?

Williams lets go her trademark laugh the first day of class, and tells her students, "I realize that most of you are in this class because you have to be, but I want to teach you about your body in a fun way."

Williams' students are guaranteed a 15-week trip through the beginnings of life, from learning to trace the site of sperm production out of the penis, to the path of an ovum

being fertilized and implanted in the uterine wall, to birth. At the end of the journey, students understand what makes their body do what it does.

Williams came to UNLV 11 years ago from the Community College of Southern Nevada, where she taught chemistry. She received her undergraduate chemistry degree from Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia, Penna., in chemistry and worked for many years for the Bristol-Meyers company.

She finished a master's de-

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University scientist receives contract to study star formation

BY DAVID DRUDGE
STAFF WRITER

Donna Weistrop has her head in the clouds.

Weistrop, an associate professor of physics at UNLV, has been awarded a \$1 million contract by NASA for her work on a project related to the Hubble Space Telescope.

A member of a team of scientists building a spectrograph—designed to study the development of stars in galaxies—Weistrop is providing scientific input into the design and building of the apparatus. Later, she will be involved in analyzing data transmitted back to Earth.

"We are interested in knowing if stars develop the same way in other galaxies as they do in our own, and what happens when galaxies interact with each other," said Weistrop.



Donna Weistrop

"We're looking at how that disturbance may affect how stars form."

A spectrograph measures the light from a source which

is spread out into its different visual wavelengths, from red to blue, known as its spectrum.

The spectra of stars which exhibit bright and dark lines are caused by the different elements emitting or absorbing light as specific wavelengths.

Because of this phenomenon, much information about the composition of stars can be determined. Information gained by earlier methods of analyzing spectrum show that the average star's atmosphere consists mostly of hydrogen and helium, an element which was first discovered in 1868 in experiments looking at our own Sun's spectrum.

Weistrop says information provided by the spectrograph will be an invaluable tool for scientific research.

"Through the information

gained, we can tell the kind of stars within a galaxy. We can tell how hot they are, what their chemical composition is, and using computer analysis, we can figure out how old the stars are," said Weistrop. "All this data enables us to test our theories about how stars develop in different environments."

The spectrograph Weistrop is working on will not only analyze light forms in galaxies with a high level of star formation, but it also will study active galaxies suspected to have black holes in their centers.

During her work at NASA from 1978 to 1985, Weistrop studied the universe and gained the background experience that eventually led to the financing of her current study. She began putting together the spectrograph team,

and was involved on the periphery with the development of the Hubble Space Telescope.

Hubble was launched by NASA in 1990, and orbits above the earth's atmosphere where it enables scientists to see astronomical objects in greater detail than can be seen from earth's surface, and at wavelengths that do not penetrate our atmosphere.

The telescope was designed so that the original spectrograph could be replaced with modern ones. The spectrograph Weistrop is working on should be installed in the Hubble telescope in February 1997.

The \$1 million awarded Weistrop pays for the time she spends on the project, and provides money for a graduate and a post-doctoral assistant and necessary computer equipment.

Fabulous Sputnik Man

BY NICK TIMINSKAS

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SPUTNIK
episode 3

