

Volunteer experience is an excellent way to learn or apply soft skills and can look very impressive on a resume. It can actually help you land a good job! Brainstorming some of the benefits of volunteering, may encourage you to give back to your community this *Holiday Season*.

As business leaders become increasingly concerned about competing in an intensely, competitive global environment, they strongly recommend that students acquire soft skills and apply them to complex problems in real-world settings. Examples stated were: individual student's problem-solving, writing, accomplishments in key skill areas and analytical thinking skills. The diagram above shows additional soft skills an individual can gain from Internships or Volunteer Work. The following items are some interesting statistics

about volunteering.

- 81% of employers agree that Volunteer Work qualifies as relevant experience
- 28% of employers consider managing activities for clubs or leadership associations on campus as relevant experience
- 19% of employers suggest that involvement in sports activities qualify as relevant experience

People volunteer for a wide variety of reasons, especially wanting to help others. However, it's also OK to want some benefits for yourself from volunteering.

IN	THIS ISSUE
P. 1:	The Benefits of Volunteering
P. 2- 3	S: Career EXPO 2008,
	Celebrating 30 years at Grossmont College
P.4 :	Job Offers Made Despite Current Slump
	EMPLOYMENT Available

































Job Offers Made — Despite Current Slump

A panel of the National Bureau of Economic Research says the U.S. economy has been in a recession since December 2007. Many economists believe the current downturn will last until the middle of 2009 and is in the most severe slump since the recession in the early eighties or perhaps the Great Depression.

However, companies have still been making job offers all year long. Managers who have job

openings budgeted for Fiscal 2008 need to fill those jobs. "Use it or lose it" not only applies to office-supplies budgets, marketing budgets but also is relevant for recruitment.

Organizations also hire people when they have problems to solve. Do employers have problems to solve right now? You bet they do. Job candidates who can solve those problems are very valuable!



INTERNSHIPS and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

City of San Diego Intern Engineer Super Warehouse Unpaid interns for Marketing, Accounting, IT, Content, HR and Product Management

IOBS

City of San Diego Professional/administrative, safety services, technical, skilled trades, clerical and recreation **County of San Diego** Accounting, Agriculture, Art & Design, Biology, Business, Communications, Computer Science & IT, Engineering, Environmental Services, Legal, Law Enforcement, Medical & Public Health and Social Services Matrix Direct Professional/administrative, clerical, and entry level sales **NAVY Regional Southwest** Childcare, administrative, laborers, recreation, dining services and housing Sammy's Woodfired Pizza Line cooks, management positions and hourly positions **UCSD** Medical Center RN, OTA, Orthopedic Tech, EKG Tech, Respiratory Therapist, Clerical, Nutrition, EVS, IT and Finance positions **U.S.** Census Bureau Recruiting Assistant, Office Clerk, Crew Leader, Crew Leader Assistant, and Enumerator/Lister **YMCA** Youth and Family Services Mentor Volunteers

For more details, visit the Career Center Room 627, the Student Employment Services Room 626 or visit our website at www.grossmont.edu/jobplacement

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