

Job opportunities, our own call – By Nino Angkawijaya



Finding a job requires more than just sitting in front of a computer terminal. Instead it is up to ourselves to be more 'proactive' in applying for a job. "Technology has allowed us to do things more quickly, so we can increase our work capacity," says careers counsellor Karen Pisk, *The Sydney Morning Herald* Wed June 18, 2003 Globalisation and better communications make us aware of more possibilities." However, little of these job possibilities will ever come to graduates if we don't look for them and know how to actively apply our skills.

A range of skills will be expected by employers. Imagine describing the skills used when snorkelling on a remote coral reef or some work experience such as setting up displays for an exhibition or you might be the person who knows how to fix problematic photocopy machines. Though it would not have been specified in applying for jobs, you may bring the skills gained from these hobbies, tasks and abilities not just from work but also from life experiences. Therefore, before making a resume consider the challenges and opportunities which you have been involved in and identify all of your skills, from your life and work to further your career in the future.

Beat your fear of failing to find a graduate job. Some people deal with unforeseen challenges better than others. People who are open minded about their life as well as their work will often find themselves with many open doors which will lead to opportunities. Enthusiasm and generally being positive is a better solution than giving up.

Our next challenge in getting a graduate job can be daunting, however graduates need to be very logical and disciplined at figuring out the next steps in graduate recruitment. If you are worried about your confidence what is the worst possible consequence in, for example attending a job interview?. Usually, circumstances that we find dreadful are only generated by our own imagination. What you find is everyone is still breathing and the world is still turning. Useful coping techniques include good forward planning, being well prepared, flexibility, accepting support when it's offered. You are not alone, when you need help go to MONSEACS, they can advise and offer strategies to help you with the graduate recruitment process. Be prepared to take calculated risks rather than making rash decisions and embracing rather than blocking new experiences, increases the chances of finding suitable jobs in the future.

If something unexpected does occur, there is always a positive in every situation, so run with that and learn from it. Do not give up as you'll be better prepared for the next surprise. Responsibility for finding a job is yours. Take advantage of every opportunity that comes as you never know who you will meet and what doors may open for you.