SAGA Institute 2009-2010

The SAGA Institute provides career guidance to highly motivated students of lesser means who do not have access to the same professional, career-oriented benefits as students from higher socio-economic backgrounds. Through workshops, events and alumni guidance, these students will actively participate in discussions and presentations aimed at strengthening their professional skills. Alumni mentors help prepare students to apply in the spring for SAGA corporate sponsored summer internships with scholarships of $4,000. Other non-SAGA internships and opportunities will also be available to students participating in the Institute.

Eligible Students

The SAGA Institute provides professional development for UC San Diego sophomores and juniors with various majors and career interests. Many participants are the first in the family to attend college. Each student is currently employed and maintaining a GPA of at least 3.0 to participate in the program.

Outcomes

As a result of the program, SAGA Institute participants will be able to:

- Complete professional skills inventory and demonstrate personal development
- Identify effective oral communication skills for a wide variety of professional settings and audiences
- Recognize effective interpersonal skills in a team environment
- Demonstrate professional written communication in email correspondence, cover letters and resumes
- Express career/personal development and future goals after completion of Institute and/or summer experiences in a 5-7 minute presentation
- Recognize effective time management and prioritization skills
- Describe how to conduct an informational interview

Professional Development Subjects and Timeline

The professional development workshop schedule includes the following topics:

Fall Quarter 2009
- November 30, 2009: Orientation

Winter Quarter 2010
- January 2010: Alumni Mentoring Begins
- February 1-5, 2010: Career Exploration Week

Spring Quarter 2010: Institute participants apply for corporate sponsored internship and other opportunities
- April 16, 2010: Student resumes due in Alumni Association for first round of intern selection
- April 21, 2010: A pool of 5-7 resumes are forwarded to sponsors and employers
- May 14, 2010: Interns selection deadline
- May 20, 2010: End-of-the-year luncheon and presentation of 2010 interns