



Profiles of Physicists



Kimberly Wiefling

**Manufacturing Engineering Project Manager
Hewlett Packard Company
Santa Clara Division**

Education:

B.S. -- Physics and Chemistry (double major); Wright State University
M.S. -- Experimental Physics; Case Western Reserve University

Job Description:

Manufacturing Engineering Project Manager, responsible for supporting the product introduction of a new mass spectrometer.

Advice to Students:

"Go out there and get some real experience. Network. Collect people's names and phone numbers and business cards and keep your electronic Rolodex up-to-date and call on those contacts."

Comments:

"I think the single most valuable thing that I did during my education was to get some real world experience. It's very difficult to differentiate yourself from the many other resumes and qualified candidates on paper, just on education alone."

Video Transcript 1:

"Right now I'm responsible for supporting the product introduction of our new matrix assisted laser desorption ionization tunnel flight mass spectrometer. We just call it Malditoff Mass spectrometer -- and this is a new product that we purchased from a company that developed it in Reno. Most recently my responsibilities have been to facilitate the transition of non-HP product into our organization and give day-to-day support of the production line and prepare this product for on-going routine in factoring here. So that involves a lot of different things. One thing it involves is that we have to know how to make the product routinely. So we have to get proper documentation and capture the recipe. Because this was developed by an outside company and the engineers are no longer with us, the people who first built them are no longer with us, that's very critical."

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Video Transcript 2:

I think the single most valuable thing that I did during my education was to get some real world experience. It's very difficult to differentiate yourself from the many other resumes and qualified candidates on paper, just on education alone. If you have internships, or summer hire job opportunities, that's the kind of thing that we look for when we're looking at candidates. We would like to find somebody that has some practical, real world experience or some skill that could be immediately applied to our business. I worked. I volunteered my time in undergraduate to work in some laboratories. I did some self-study that eventually led me to paid work, both in the university and then with Monsanto in the summers. We routinely hire summer students, even in the worst of business conditions, just as a way to recruit qualified candidates and review their qualifications while they're working for us before we make a permanent commitment. So I'd say the single biggest piece of advice I could give is to go out there and get some real experience. Network. Collect people's names and phone numbers and business cards and keep your electronic Rolodex up-to-date and call on those contacts.

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