

First Impressions

Interview Attire Key to Landing Professional Positions

You studied hard. You earned your degree. Now it's time to take on the world and make a name for yourself.

Every great career begins with a job interview. And, a big part of securing that first job (or any job, really), is by making a good first impression on your potential future employer.

Therefore, your appearance is critical to making the first step into the door at any company.

"Recruiters tell us time and time again that what you wear to a job interview and your overall personal appearance can make or break their decision regarding whether or not to hire you," said Betsy White, vice president for student services at Baker College of Port Huron.

The Goodwill of St. Clair County will conduct a fashion show titled, "First Impressions Matter Most" on the Baker campus featuring interviewing and professional attire for both men and women at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 2 in the Student Lounge.

It is understandable that the cost of acquiring a professional wardrobe is costly, especially to students or recent graduates. But students do not need to spend a lot of money in order to put together professional interviewing attire that can then transition into a working environment once they get a job.

"The local thrift stores have a great selection of business suits for both men and women," said White. "For men, there is always a wide assortment of ties on hand, and women often like to accessorize with scarves and jewelry and all can be found at rock bottom prices locally at stores such as Goodwill, the Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul.

A women's business suit can be found for as little as \$5 on most days at Goodwill, and even less on special sale days. The Salvation Army regularly has 99 cent sale days for clothing items. Just think: a suit for 99 cents!

When shopping thrift stores for interviewing clothing, keep the following in mind:

- A suit is still considered the most appropriate attire for most interview situations, even if the position does not call for wearing a suit.
- Inspect the items carefully to make sure there are no



Navy blue women's suit purchased at Goodwill: \$4.99!

stains, worn cuffs, rips, or missing buttons.

- Look for a dark, conservative suit. Those in the creative fields can sometimes get away with a riskier color, but it is better to "express yourself" with a colorful scarf or tie.
- Many items can be found with the original tags still on them. Some stores charge a little more for these new and never worn items, but they are still a terrific bargain.
- Don't purchase an item that does not fit just because you like it. A good fit – and nothing too tight – is very important when interviewing for a job.

Baker

Be a Bookworm

Baker College of Port Huron Library: A Vast Resource for Students, Faculty & Staff

What does the library have you? Oh so very much! It is a great place to learn; a great place to study; and a place full of services available to students!

First, visit the library if you are looking for a book, you need to conduct research on the library databases, or you need some quick and helpful information about how to write that APA citation. A good starting point is always the library information link:

<http://guides.baker.edu/phlib>

The library also shelves new books to help with your subject of study, as well as for casual reading:

The Highly Engaged Classroom; To Die in Mexico; Master the Dental Hygienist Exam; The Carb Lovers Diet; 77 Shadow Street; Death Comes to Pemberly; Credit Repair; Principles of Information Security; and Computers in the Medical Office.

Many new titles are being added throughout term, so visit the library and check out the growing collection!

There is also a faculty section on the library home page where faculty can: request a library instruction visit for their classes; request AV equipment; place items for course reserves; and offer library collection suggestions. The Library Resources for Faculty link will also provide other links for starting points on various subjects to assist in the use of library resources for instructional purposes. Please visit: <http://guides.baker.edu/phlib> for more information.

The first-ever online book club for faculty and staff will soon be coming to our campus! Look for more information to come via our website as well as in your campus email.

Remember, if you have library fines from the previous term please pay them so that you can start fresh in the New Year! Zero fines will allow you to check-out items for the current term. See any of the library staff at the circulation desk in the library to pay your fines.

Most of all, just visit the library!

I Heard it on the Radio

Inclement Weather May Cause Cancellations

Check these television and radio stations if you believe classes may be cancelled due to inclement weather:

AM Stations

- 769 WJR
- 1110 CKTY
- 1340 WLEW
- 1380 WPHM
- 1450 WHLS
- 1070 CHOK

FM Stations

- 96.9 WBTI
- 97.7 WMIC
- 99.9 CFGX (Fox)
- 102.3 WGRT
- 107.1 WSAQ

TV Stations

- 4 WDIV
- 7 WXYZ

Additionally, information is available by calling and listening to the recorded message on the Baker Weather Line:

(810) 989-2328



Baker

Personal Finance 101

Financial Literacy Tools Available
to Baker College Students Free of Charge

It is no secret that college students across the country face difficult financial situations.

No one will argue that deciding to get an education in order to better yourself and your professional abilities is a wise decision, but it comes with a cost.

No matter if you are a non-traditional student who is returning to school after many years, or a student fresh out of high school, you are not alone in that almost all Baker College of Port Huron students face making tough financial decisions every day.

During the month of January, Baker College of Port Huron hosted a seminar on financial literacy aimed at helping students take control of their past, present and future financial situation.

And, to further help all Baker students enhance their personal financial knowledge, the Baker College system has entered into a partnership with USA Funds, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping families pay for a college education.

This partnership will provide all Baker College students with free access to a wealth of information about personal financial literacy, including learning modules that can be taken to help students learning about budgeting, credit and debt and saving.

"Understanding financial issues is becoming a huge issue on college campuses across the entire country," said Jeremy Jones, financial aid officer on the Port Huron campus. "On our campus, student knowledge varies so much. We have some students of an older generation who have been budgeting for years and we have students right out of high school who have never had to budget before."

At the seminar presented in January, Jones provided students with a packet of useful information that included: a household budget spreadsheet and a list of helpful resources available on the internet. Also

Great Personal Finance Websites

Financial Literacy Section

www.baker.edu/loans

Budget Spreadsheet

www.spreadsheet123.com/ExcelTemplates/excel-household-monthly-budget-spreadsheet.html

Request a FREE Credit Report

www.annualcreditreport.com

Ideas for Saving

www.alwaysfrugal.com

www.americasaves.org

Financial Calculators and Articles

www.bankrate.com

Student Loan Repayment Calculator

www.finaid.org

discussed were issues concerning the management of personal credit and debt and saving money. The USA Funds website also has additional information about each of those topics.

Copies of the informational packet are available at the financial aid office, said Jones, for those who could not attend the seminar.

Students are also encouraged to visit the USA Funds website and set up their free account so they can access additional budgeting, saving and managing credit and debt information. "They even have budgeting games you can play," said Jones.

Graduation Packets Due March 15 for Upcoming Graduates

Students planning to graduate during the first half of calendar year 2012 must submit their graduation packet online by March 15, 2012. The online packets can be found at: www.baker.edu/graduation.

This includes any student planning to graduate at the completion of the following quarters: Winter 2012; Spring 2012; and Summer 2012.

If anyone has any questions, please contact the Administration Office.

Visit the Library for Pleasure

Have you visited the library at Baker College of Port Huron recently?

If not, it's time you checked out all of the awesome offerings!

Features of the library include:

- Bright classrooms available to students and instructors
- An improved computer area with more table room for students
- The opportunity to relax with a good book in our new casual reading section!

The casual reading section in the campus library offers:

- Mysteries
- Thrillers
- Crime
- Romance

Editor

Betsy White

Vice President of Student Services

Writing and Design

Patti Samar

The Write Company

The Baker Beacon is published to inform the students, faculty and staff at Baker College of Port Huron of news, events and activities.



3403 Lapeer Road
Port Huron MI 48060
(810)985-7000
Toll-Free: (888)262-2442

Calendar of Events

Dates of Importance

Spring Classes Begin

Monday, April 2, 2012

Commencement

Friday, June 8, 2012

McMorran Place

Summer Classes Begin

June 25, 2012

Business News

Hours of Business

Administration Office

Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Regular Bookstore Hours

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Learning Center

Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Library

Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.