

Improving Lives by Volunteering Theirs

It's not your daily nine-to-five. They're educators. They're peacemakers. They're friends. They are among more than 190,000 Peace Corps Volunteers that have been stationed around the world.

For more than 48 years, Peace Corps Volunteers have impacted the lives of countless individuals who want to build a better life for themselves, their families, and their communities.

You've likely heard of the Peace Corps, but what do they actually do? Today, the nationwide volunteer program boasts more than 8,000 Volunteers serving in 74 countries. Since its origin in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy, the Peace Corps has been invited to nearly 140 host countries. In addition to performing essential day-to-day activities – such as bringing clean water to communities and teaching children – Volunteers work to increase awareness of HIV and aids, advance the use of technology and promote business development. Volunteers will continue to address global needs as they arise.



O'Donnell (top right), with his students in Bahkvi, Georgia

The Peace Corps initiates its service by announcing its availability to foreign governments. These governments determine areas in which the organization can be involved. Upon approval, the
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Top Employers Plan to Hire More Than 46,000 in 2008

CollegeGrad.com, the self-proclaimed No. 1 entry-level job site on the Web, has compiled an inventory of the Top 200 Intern Employers in the nation based on new results from an entry-level employer survey. Accordingly, these employers plan to hire more than 46,000 interns in the coming year, collectively.

The List, available at collegegrad.com/press/topinternemployers.shtml, details the 2008 job and internship hiring plans for 200 employers nationwide. Each individual employer page also details projections for entry- and masters-

level hiring for the upcoming year. Among the employers listed, 53 percent anticipate hiring more interns in 2008 than in 2007, 22 percent will hire the same number, and 25 percent plan to hire fewer.

At the head of the list, Walgreens plans to hire 7,350 interns in 2008. Also topping the list are General Electric, Target, Microsoft, Merrill Lynch & Co. and Macy's, respectively. Other employers predict hiring as many as 2,500 and as few as 5 interns in 2008. Across the board, these employers
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Peace Corps

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Peace Corps matches the desired responsibilities to its pool of applicants and sends Volunteers with the appropriate skills to the countries that made specific requests. Volunteers undergo a training period in their assigned country of service; however, Volunteer training used to be conducted on regional university campuses, and according to Joshua O'Donnell, Ohio University Peace Corps Representative, OU used to be one of them! According to the program's Web site, Volunteers have three main goals:

- Meet the needs of those they are serving
- Set a positive example for those they are serving on behalf of Americans
- Promote a better understanding of their service and countries to Americans

More than 700 Ohio University graduates have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in more than 20 countries, including: Azerbaijan, Belize, Bulgaria, Dominican Republic, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Panama, Philippines, Thailand, Ukraine, Vanuatu and Zambia. Bobcat alumnae have served as Peace Corps Volunteers "pretty much throughout the world," said O'Donnell.

Currently, there are 37 Bobcat Volunteers stationed around the world. "I know of Ohio University Volunteers in Micronesia, Zambia, Benin, Mali, Bolivia, Ecuador and Honduras, but there are lots more too," said O'Donnell.

As the university's program representative, O'Donnell meets with students and community members who are interested in learning more about the Peace Corps. O'Donnell hosts informational meetings highlighting several volunteers in the field, talking about the application process, and discussing the benefits of service (all majors welcome). The next informational sessions are on April 9 and May 7, at 6 p.m. in the Friends of the Libraries room at Alden library.

Serving as a Volunteer means 27 months of hard work, dedicating your time, motivation and effort to improve the lives of the less fortunate. It means giving and it means receiving. Volunteers have the opportunity to learn a new language, experience another culture, and develop career and leadership skills. The Peace Corps experience can also enhance long-term career prospects, especially if you plan to attend graduate school; or work for a corporation, nonprofit organization or government agency. The rewards offered to an individual whose dedicated services makes a difference is truly intangible. As stated on the program's Web site, it is often said that "the Peace Corps isn't simply something great; it's the beginning of something great."

Like what you hear? Check out the Peace Corps on Facebook. For more information, or to inquire about how you can become a future Volunteer, contact Joshua O'Donnell at peacecorps@ohio.edu.

Life is calling. How far will you go? •

Top Employers

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point to their internship and entry-level training programs as critical to the future success in their recruiting and business efforts.

With more than 46,000 internship opportunities found on the Top Intern Employers list, Brian Krueger, president and founder of CollegeGrad.com, recommends that college students take full advantage of these opportunities by applying for internships to launch themselves into post-graduation employment.

"The experience gained in an internship or co-op can be the key differentiator for many new college grads," says Krueger. "A successful internship can be the ticket to locking down a job offer, or several job offers, early in your final year."

In addition to offering the latest in nationwide hiring opportunities, CollegeGrad.com offers students career advice, salary negotiation tips and tricks, virtual career fairs and the opportunity to post their résumés. Encourage your students and peers to visit CollegeGrad.com to make the most of this career advancing opportunity! •

SAVE THE DATE

Noteworthy events occurring in the coming months...

April 11, 2008: Teacher Recruitment Consortium
Baker Center, 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

April 22, 2008: Last day for undergraduates to register for spring quarter graduation

April 25 - May 1, 2008: 35th Annual Athens International Film and Video Festival

May 9-11, 2008: Spring Literary Festival

May 26, 2008: Labor Day (no classes)

June 6, 2008: Senior Farewell Ceremony
College Gate, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

June 9, 2008: Spring quarter final examinations begin

June 13, 2008: Graduate Commencement Ceremony
Convocation Center, 9:30 a.m.

June 14, 2008: Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony
Convocation Center, 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Throwback Threads

Students and staffers alike: if we've learned one thing in our time spent here at Ohio University, it's that change is inevitable. As Ohio University has changed over years past, so has its logos. Since its origin in 1804, our University has been home to numerous emblems. However, there are five logos that remain momentous to the hometown of Athens.

As previously reported in Ohio Today by junior Jessica Alfey, Ohio University Athletics has authorized the use of five historic university symbols through a heritage line of clothing and other items in an effort to reach out to former Bobcats and to introduce students and staff to these blasts from the past.

The line includes symbols that date as far back as the early 1900's, such as the interlocking letters of OU; the block-lettering logo worn by the 1940's and '50s basketball teams, and the full-body Bobcat of the '60s and the '70s (below).



Of 100 individuals polled, an overwhelming majority (more than 75 percent) favored the Bobcat paw print as their all-time favorite logo. Ohio University's current Bobcat logo and block-lettering emblem were among student-favorites as well. However, each mark has its own significance within the university's history. The heritage version of the "Attack Cat," for example (above right), was the original center-court logo at the Convocation Center.

Introduced in August 2007, the line will be available for purchase at local retailers, college bookstores and at online stores for the remainder of the year. In addition, the Ohio University Alumni Association (OUAA) has each historic emblem available for purchase online at www.ohioalumni.org/store.

Get your throwback threads today. These classic marks are available to you for a limited time only! •



Staff & Students

LESLIE DELERME

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Office position: Assistant Director

Position description: Counsel and advise students on career-related issues, plan the TRC, supervise one GA, the CareerCATS team, and three PACE students, and serve as liaison to colleges of Education, Arts & Sciences, and Honors Tutorial College.

Career advice to students: Start planning early! Never sell yourself short, you can achieve any goal you set with hard work and perseverance.

Outside the office: I enjoy relaxing and spending time with friends and family. I love to travel; Las Vegas is a prime destination!

Something unique about Leslie: I was more than halfway through my Master's program before I could legally have alcohol

Favorite quote: "Mama exhorted her children at every opportunity to 'jump at de sun.' We might not land on the sun, but at least we would get off the ground" (Zora Neale Hurston). This quote inspires me to always push myself and to persevere no matter what.



SARAH MEADOWS

Status: Senior

Hometown: Dresden, OH

Office position: PACE Special Events Coordinator

Position description: I construct employer packets and anticipate the logistical issues for any upcoming events. Ultimately, I am responsible for the planning, preparation and organization of the career fairs, Teacher's Recruitment Consortium and other Office events.

Major: Organizational communication and french

Career goals: To be happy and continue learning and expanding within the field of communications

Outside of the Office: I love to run, hang out with my friends and family, and experience all that Athens (read: Court Street) has to offer.

Something unique about Sarah: My favorite time of year is Buckeye football season!

Favorite quote: "Mother knows best." It's always true!



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