

MOVING ON

“NJIT HAS OPENED
MANY DOORS FOR ME.”

—Christopher Early, Class of 2012



PHOTO: LARRY LEVANTI

It’s well-known that NJIT graduates have the edge in knowledge, and one look at the hiring outcomes for the Class of 2012 reveals that they also have the edge in a lukewarm and highly competitive job market. Nearly 50 percent received job offers upon graduation, which is twice the national average for all college graduates this year, as reported by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). NJIT graduates are beginning their careers at companies that include AT&T, ExxonMobil, Merck, Forbes, Deloitte & Touche, Boeing, Skanska, Samsung, Verizon Wireless, Lockheed Martin and BASF.

“We fully expected these positive outcomes,” says Greg Mass, executive director of Career Development Services (CDS) at NJIT. “We have seen a significant increase in the number of employers recruiting our students this past year. Organizations participating in our career fairs and on-campus recruitment programs increased by thirty percent to 485 employers during the 2012 academic year. The number of technological job postings increased by twenty-one percent to over 3,200 during this same period. These numbers are strong signals that by the time we conclude our first employment survey 2012 will be the strongest employment outcomes year for our graduates since 2008.”

The CDS employment, salary and graduate school report for the graduating class is compiled from multiple sources. These include the NJIT graduating-student satisfaction survey, and hiring-results information submitted by students and employers who have used the

university’s career center. A follow-up report provides information about employment outcomes for graduates six months out.

THEY’RE IN DEMAND

“Companies are eager to hire NJIT graduates because they possess advanced technological knowledge and skills,” Mass says. “Moreover, employers state that NJIT graduates possess a keen ability to apply their know-how to real workplace challenges.”

Students earning degrees in majors such as computer and information science and engineering had the best chances of landing jobs after graduation, according to a 2012 job outlook report published by NACE. Scholar-athletes Daisy Gallegos and Christopher Early are two examples of this trend.

Gallegos, who received her master’s degree in computer science in May 2012, excelled both in the classroom and as co-captain of the NJIT women’s cross-country team. While

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working toward her bachelor's degree in information technology, Gallegos completed two internships. At AT&T in Middletown, New Jersey, she was a project manager in the Information Technology Department, and one summer worked at the Vanguard Group in Malvern, Pennsylvania, as a security operations analyst. She spent a second summer at Vanguard as a mobile application developer. Now, master's in hand, Gallegos will be working as a consultant at Deloitte & Touche.

A varsity swimmer, Early received a bachelor's in computer engineering at NJIT's 2012 commencement ceremony. He completed internships at McGraw-Hill and Credit Suisse, where he landed a position as an IT business analyst.

"NJIT has opened many doors for me with internship opportunities and involvement in a wide array of organizations," Early says. "This exposure improved my interpersonal skills and prepared me for life after college."

As an undergraduate, Daisy Gallegos served as president of the NJIT student chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and



Daisy Gallegos will be working as a consultant at Deloitte & Touche.



PHOTO: JED MEDINA

Christopher Early was hired by Credit Suisse as an IT business analyst.

was a member of Phi Eta Sigma, the freshman honor society, as well as Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership society. In 2011 Gallegos received NJIT's Presidential Leadership Award, which honors student leaders who have enhanced campus life. Christopher Early chaired the Albert Dorman Honors College recruitment committee, arranging tours and special events for high school students considering NJIT.

TAKING THE LEAD

As president of the student chapter of Engineers Without Borders at NJIT, Paul Rodriguez joined more than a dozen civil and mechanical engineering students, faculty, and staff volunteers who helped the residents of Milot, Haiti, to improve their water supply. Rodriguez, a Ronald E. McNair scholar who added a master's in environmental engineering to the bachelor's in mechanical engineering he earned from NJIT, will be working as an

engineer at Hatch Mott MacDonald.

Rodriguez, Gallegos and Early are in the ranks of NJIT students who have added leadership experience to their already-long rosters of achievements. In addition to assisting students in gaining experience related to their major at private-sector companies, CDS helps to match students seeking to volunteer their talents with nonprofit organizations and social service agencies in direct need of technological help. "The students contribute their knowledge and skills toward improving communities, and in return they enhance their own lives and add value to their resumes by getting experience in their field," says Mass.

A FAIR ADVANTAGE

Students seeking full-time, part-time, and summer positions can connect with numerous employers at NJIT's twice-yearly career fairs. "The number of employers attending this year's spring fair was the largest ever," says

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Perhaps even more important was the diverse representation of employer industries, Mass says. “We work very hard to ensure that we recruit organizations seeking students from all NJIT majors.”

Some 20 percent of NJIT’s May 2011 graduates reported finding jobs through the career fairs. “Survey results thus far for our May 2012 graduates indicate that this trend will continue,” says Mass.

In all, some 1700 students attended each fair, which was expanded to both the campus gym and the Naimoli Family Athletic and Recreational Facility to accommodate the significant increase in employers and students. “Our students were very pleased with the career fairs this year,” Mass says. “They told us that they greatly appreciated the event being held on campus and felt that the employers with whom they met appeared to be serious about hiring.”

Along with career fairs, CDS offers on-campus recruitment, which gives employers an opportunity to interview graduating students and recent alumni. Employers can register online, post jobs for students and alumni to view, and select students for on-campus recruitment.

While the majority of new degree holders pursue full-time employment upon graduation, this year sixteen percent of bachelor’s degree and four percent of master’s degree recipients indicated that they will enroll in full-time graduate or professional schools for the fall 2012 term.

In addition to affording a decided edge in today’s job market, NJIT degrees are excellent credentials for further education. This year NJIT graduates have been accepted to prestigious graduate programs at schools that include Carnegie Mellon, Columbia, Cornell, Georgetown, MIT, New York University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. ■

Author: Christina Crovetto is assistant editor of NJIT Magazine.

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Paul Rodriguez, a McNair Scholar who received a master’s in environmental engineering, has joined Hatch Mott MacDonald.



There were 175 recruiters at the spring 2012 career fair.

PHOTOS: JED MEDINA