Forum EPFL 2019
Grab the opportunity!

- 71 company presentations
- 176 exhibitors
- 85 start-ups
- 7 employer workshops
- 2 contact-lunches
Don’t waste a minute!

- **Company presentations (Oct. 7\textsuperscript{th} – Oct. 9\textsuperscript{th})**
  - 71 presentations over 3 days (51 on Oct. 9\textsuperscript{th} alone)
  - Even if you attend 5 presentations a day (total 15), you will still miss almost 80% of them

- **Start-up Day (Oct. 8\textsuperscript{th}, 2019)**
  - 85 startups in 6 hrs. \(\Rightarrow\) \(~4\) min. / stand

- **Stand Days (Oct. 10\textsuperscript{th} -11\textsuperscript{th})**
  - 176 exhibitors over 2 days \(\Rightarrow\) \(~4.5\) min. / stand
  - If you visit 8 stands per day, or 16 in total, you will still have missed 90% of them
To make the most out of your participation

- Attend ~15 company presentations
- Visit ~ 16 stands
- Participate in contact-luncheons
Planning tools

- «Livre des entreprises» (Employer’s book)
- EPFL Campus app
Before the Stand Days

- **Plan ahead**
  - Not all companies have stands on both days

- **Prepare your meetings**
  - Practice your Self-Introduction Formula
  - Be ready to talk about your **interests**, your **objectives** and your **aspirations**
  - Learn about the companies you are going to meet. **Prepare questions**
  - Practice typical interview questions

- **Prepare your docs**
  - Up-to-date CV (FR/EN), business cards, any relevant document
During the Stand Days

- **What to wear**
  - Dressing properly shows that you care
  - Formal business attire (suits, ties) is not mandatory, but business casual (slacks + buttoned shirts, skirts + blouses) is always appreciated.

- **Personal grooming**
  - Haircut, shave, nails and overall cleanliness
  - More important than your attire
How to make contact with employers

- The self-introduction formula

Sums up who you are, what you are looking for, and why you are here

“Hello, my name is Albert Einstein, and I am completing my Master's Degree in Physics next Spring, after which I'd like to work in the Energy sector. I attended your corporate presentation last Wednesday and I really got hooked on your technology. I was wondering if you could tell me a bit more about what you are doing as a company”
How to make contact with employers

- The self-introduction formula

Sums up who you are, what you are looking for, and why you are here

“Hello, I am Marie Curie and I will be completing my PhD in 4 months. Moving forward, I'd like to work in R&D in industry. While on your website, I found your company really interesting and I was wondering what kind of profiles you might be looking for. Can we talk about it?”
What purpose do job interviews serve?

Recruiters look for answers to the following questions:
1. Can he/she do the job?
2. Does he/she want to do the job?
3. Does he/she have potential to do more?
4. Is he/she a better fit than other candidates?

To get their answers, they want to know about
- Your skills
- Your experiences
- Your personality
- Your motivation for the position or the company
The 8 looked-for personality traits

- Ability to analyze
- Ability to develop solutions
- Sense of responsibility
- Maturity
  For recent graduates, translates into "business awareness"
- Motivation
- Positive and collaborative attitude
- Adaptability
- Good interpersonal skills

During the first interview, most questions aim at searching for such qualities. Feel free to reassure the recruiter that you have them before he asks!
Typical interview questions

1. Questions about the position and the company

These questions help seeing how well you prepared, which is an indication of your motivation. They are the easiest to prepare for.

• What do you know about your company?
• What are your reasons to work for us?
• What makes us different from our competition?
• What kind of challenges is our industry currently facing?
• What kind of tasks and responsibilities does this position incur?
• What relevant skills do you have for the job?
• Do you have any questions?
Typical interview questions

2. So-called "personality" questions

These questions help determining what kind of individual you are, and how well could you will fit in the existing work culture.

- Tell me about yourself
- What is your career objective?
- Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?
- Would you rather work alone or in a team?
- Describe your ideal work environment
- What do you expect from your boss?
- What are your main strengths and weaknesses?
Typical interview questions

3. Behavioral questions

These questions are based on the fact that the past behavior of a candidate is a good predictor of his future behavior. Concrete examples are expected

- Give me an example of a bad decision you took
- Tell me about a conflict in which you were involved
- Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?
- Give me an example of a time when you did more than what could reasonably be expected from you
Typical interview questions

4. Situational questions

The poor-man’s assessment center. You are put in a (more or less) realistic situation and are asked what you would do. They help validate your knowledge and how you build a response.

- Et votre français ? Parlez-moi un peu de vos dernières vacances ?
- What would you do in this particular situation (a typical situation that you could actually confront in the position)?
- If you were the president of EPFL, what would you change?

Such questions are popular with recruiters, as they are difficult to anticipate and prepare for.
Typical interview questions

5. Unsettling questions

Some recruiters enjoy asking unexpected questions in order to test the candidate's reaction.

- Try and solve this little quiz...
- A dozen friends show up at your door at dinner time without warning. What do you cook?
- How frequently do you buy shoes?

Others will suddenly become aggressive towards the candidate in order to unsettle them.

- … I don't see why you can't solve such a simple quiz. My 10-years old daughter did it at the first try!
- While listening to you, I developed the impression that the only thing that matters to you is to climb the corporate ladder as fast as you can.
- Do you really hope to land a job with such a poor command of German?

The only way to confront the situation: Keep calm and don't try to argue!
YOU HAVEN'T PREPARED FOR YOUR INTERVIEW?

I TOO LIKE TO LIVE DANGEROUSLY
Next Career Center Events

Filtrer votre recherche

Filtrer par période
Une année

Filtrer par catégorie
Catégorie

Rechercher un événement

Conference: Be successful at Forum
24.09.2019 - 17:30 - 18:00
Intervenant : Philippe Ory
Lieu et salle : MED B118
Catégorie : Conférences - Séminaires

Conférence-atelier: Réseauter pour chercher du travail
24.09.2019 - 17:30 - 18:30
Intervenant : Stephen Fischer et Aurélie Secrétan, Centre de carrière
Lieu et salle : MED 21022
Catégorie : Conférences - Séminaires

Workshop: Data Analytics @ Pictet
25.09.2019 - 17:15 - 19:00
Lieu et salle : BC 410
Catégorie : Conférences - Séminaires

Conférence: Réussir son Forum
26.09.2019 - 17:15 - 19:00
Intervenant : Philippe Ory, Centre de carrière
Lieu et salle : SG 021b
Catégorie : Conférences - Séminaires

Conference & Workshop: Get your Net working
26.09.2019 - 17:15 - 19:15
Intervenant : Stephen Fisher and Aurélie Secrétan, Career Center
Lieu et salle : SG 021a
Catégorie : Conférences - Séminaires

Présentation « Cyber sécurité – les différents rôles de l'Administration fédérale »
02.10.2019 - 12:10 - 14:00
Lieu et salle : BC 420
Catégorie : Conférences - Séminaires