

Career Opportunities for MS

Vasanthi Holtcamp, Microsoft

Rebecca Schultz, Google

Vasanthi's Background

- Group Program Manager in TV Services division of MSN at Microsoft
- Master's degree in Mathematics
- Second Master's degree in Computer Science at the University of Illinois at Chicago
- Teaching assistant while in graduate school
- Stint as research associate at Argonne National Labs in Chicago.
- 18 years of experience in the software industry writing software code and later managing development organizations.
- Management positions at: PriceWaterhouse, Informix, Macromedia, Microsoft
- Mother of 2 children – 15 & 11

Rebecca's Background

- BS Computer Engineering from Brown University, '02
- MS Electrical Engineering from Stanford University, '04
- Spent one additional year at Stanford researching supercomputer architectures and contemplating a PhD
- Joined Google in September of '05

Work Experience: Rebecca

- Performance Engineer in Google's Platforms Group
- 5 internships
 - Lucent
 - Microsoft (twice)
 - Network Appliance
 - NVIDIA

Women in Engineering – Career Ops

- Test Engineer
- Dev. Engineer
 - UI engineer
- User Interface designer
- Product Manager
- Program Manager
- Development Manager
- Researcher

Breaking the mold

- Breaking not technically passionate stereotype
- Asking about number of women at a company and in management rolls
- Evaluate the feel of the corporate culture
- Don't be afraid to ask questions, you are evaluating the company too

What to do now

- Find a Mentor
 - Provide useful perspective
- Get an internship
 - Try out a corporate culture, job type, industry
- Complete a project
 - Will make you a more interesting candidate

Find a Mentor

- Look for a person you feel comfortable with
- Internship mentor, manager
- Friend or relative in a hiring position at a company of choice.
- Use mentoring organization (CRA-W, Mentornet, etc)

Get an Internship

- Use university recruiting, job fairs
- Start looking early, some companies will take sophomores
- Take a summer or campus job doing related work for a small, local company

Internship Experiences

- Try out a corporate culture, job role, company size, industry, manager, group...
- Find potential mentors or networking contacts

Complete a project

- Interviewers will look for completed projects
- Work with local non-profit or such to get a project
- Sign-up with advisor for project
- Do research and write a white paper on a subject of interest
- Get a website with your projects, credentials and blog about what you are passionate about.

Finding Industry Jobs

- Plug into university on campus recruiting
- Make contact with HR departments within companies of choice and get your resume into the right hands
- Network with friends, colleagues in industry
- Early startups with high risk are good avenues to get larger areas of responsibility
- Interview skills are very important.
- Demonstrate good communication skills in addition to technical savvy



Would you have invested?



Microsoft Corporation, 1978