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If you haven't already registered, this is the last week to RSVP for the:

## The 4th Annual College & Career Leadership Conference

Saturday, July 31st  
Hall/Founders Park  
8:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>  
Taper Hall  
8:30am - 5:00pm

University of Southern California, 3551 Trousdale Parkway, Los Angeles, CA 90089-4014

South Central Scholars is hosting its fourth annual summer conference and annual picnic at the University of Southern California campus in Los Angeles, CA. We invite our graduates, current and incoming students to share this fun and educational weekend with us!

In addition to an opportunity to meet and network with students, faculty and industry professionals, the weekend will provide workshops and seminars on several important issues and topics. The program will include:

*Career Planning Strategies*

*Interviewing Skills and Resume Writing*

*How to be Successful in College*

*Strategies for Job Placement*

*Public Speaking & Presentations*

*Leadership & Ethics*

To **RSVP**, send an email to [admin@southcentralscholars.org](mailto:admin@southcentralscholars.org) for a link to the registration form! It is no longer available online!

You can also RSVP by phone at  
(310) 833-1670

For more information about the conference, go to  
[http://www.southcentralscholars.org/2010\\_summer\\_conferences](http://www.southcentralscholars.org/2010_summer_conferences)

We look forward to seeing you there!

## A Word from a Mentor: For a Moment

By Mark Choate

For a moment . . . totally clear your mind.

Picture three objects.

One is a **tennis ball**.

The next one, a **baseball**.

Third is the **Earth**.



As you see them, pay special interest to their relative sizes.

The tennis ball is your knowledge. It stands for everything you know, everything you've learned.

The big one, the Earth? It represents everything you don't know. In reality it's even much, much larger than that.

At this time in your life journey, that tennis ball can be seductive. It's quite tempting to be impressed with your little ball. Walking across campus at Columbia University with a solid GPA in your pocket is something to be proud of. It's pretty heady stuff. Try this one on, though: Your knowledge is nothing, but a terrific tool for better dealing with that huge ball, the unknown. Yes, your education and mind are pretty nice aids for working with everyday tasks of life, for getting by. The big stuff in your life, however, the giant stuff, the major tragedies and the life victories will come from the unknown. So, the huge ball, that which must remain unlearned, it's the one to be impressed by, the one to respect the most. In fact, the greatest worth of your education is that it can make you better at handling and having respect for the unknown.

I almost forgot! The second ball, the baseball. What's that? That's Albert Einstein. The point here is that if you become brilliant, your ball will still be tiny, virtually nothing compared to what you *don't* know.

Learn all you can. That's wonderful. Enjoy the process, but don't get too stressed about it. Even if you become the next Einstein, you'll only end up with the baseball. But remember that what you know is only a tool for dealing with something much larger than you. If you become impressed with yourself, it will consume you.

If, instead, you are in awe of the unknown, and listen to it . . . *that* is where miracles come from.

**If you are not yet paired with a mentor, but would like to be, please email Meredith at [meredith@southcentralscholars.org](mailto:meredith@southcentralscholars.org) to be paired with one of our fabulous volunteers!**

### Scholarly Insight: How to Choose a Major 101

By Sahlit Bahiru, USC 2012



To me, choosing a major was harder than it should have been. That is because I didn't know some of the key things I learned along the way ahead of time. Sure, I might have heard people say things like "follow your heart", but when it comes to being the one having to make the decision, those types of statements might appear like clichés. Until I had to personally experience what I did, I learned the hard way that following the heart is the best way to choosing the right path, but not always the easiest.

For you incoming freshman and undergrad students who're having trouble choosing a major, first I would like to assure you that its ok to take your time if it means it will lead you to the right path.

From my experience, students may have difficulty in choosing a major for different reasons. For some it's because they have many and often times polar interests like myself whose dilemma was in choosing between a humanity field and an engineering field. To those students, I say talk to your advisor the minute you walk on campus so you can plan ahead and finish in time with a double major of some sort. Other students may have trouble choosing because they don't have a particular taste in any field so they end up doubting themselves. To those folks, it's ok to not know your passions from the get go. It comes earlier to some people and it doesn't to others.

Take classes in different fields and see where that leads you. If you still don't feel the connection with any field, then pick the one you're most good at and can relatively tolerate. That will insure that you will succeed as an undergrad and that will pave the way for further studies in graduate school, giving you more time to explore and pursuit your interests. To others it's because they want the field with the most prestige and or the one that guarantees a high pay. That is not a problem if the student is the type that has neutral interests and that is capable of succeeding and tolerating any field they enter. Other wise, if a student is rather abandoning a major they truly like for the one that makes the most money and or if they enter a field they passionately dread just for the money, then it's a disaster waiting to happen.

To those students, I can tell you that you will end up wasting your time because sooner or later you'll be forced to get out of it. If you stubbornly stay in it, you will only make your undergrad experience a miserable one instead of a memorable one! Most of all, my sympathy goes out to those students who already know which major they love, but who are being forced to choose another by family members.

The best solution is to sit with your parents/guardians and explain to them that there are many opportunities out there, although it might not glaringly appear so for some fields. But tell them it will be worth it because it will make you happy and that is what matters. In the end, I say take your time and don't let others' decisions influence you unnecessarily. Also, I can tell you now that you may not find the one that you think is one hundred percent perfect, that is because there hardly is such a thing in life.

So enjoy the ride and make sure you're happy while going through it. After all, we come to college for self discovery, and choosing a major is part of that package.

P.S. I have finally declared civil engineering with the possibility of adding a minor in economics ☺

**The deadline for the full completed renewal application, journal entries, and additional attachments is**

**THIS Friday, July 16, 2010 at 11:59PM.**

**To apply, go to:**

**[www.southcentralscholars.org/scholar\\_center-renewal\\_2010](http://www.southcentralscholars.org/scholar_center-renewal_2010).**

JOBS

*The Accelerated School (TAS), K-6 Elementary Teachers-* The individual will be responsible for providing a caring and constructivist learning environment, serving as a positive role model and collaborating with staff and parents. Requirements include: a California Teaching Credential, a minimum of one year full time teaching experience and Interest/background in Charter School Education and School Reform. Bi-lingual speaker preferred. Salary range 40-70k/year. Benefits Included. To apply visit: [www.edjoin.org](http://www.edjoin.org) to complete the application and attach a résumé or contact [prodriguez@accelerated.org](mailto:prodriguez@accelerated.org) or 323-234-1246.

*The Accelerated School (TAS), Bilingual 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher-*The successful candidate will provide a caring and constructivist learning environment for inner city students that enables students to master the California Content Standards, serving as a positive role model and collaborating with staff and parents. The individual is required to be bi-literate in Spanish and English, have a California Teaching Credential, minimum of one year full time teaching experience, and familiarity and interest/background in Charter School Education. Salary range 40-70k/year. Benefits Included. BCLAD is preferred. To apply visit: [www.edjoin.org](http://www.edjoin.org), to complete the application and attach résumé or contact [prodriguez@accelerated.org](mailto:prodriguez@accelerated.org) or 323/234-1246

*STEM-Up<sup>TM</sup> Elementary School, Coordinator* Under the supervision of the STEM-Up<sup>TM</sup> Project Manager, the chosen applicant will co-plan, deliver and manage programming for students, parents, teachers, and administrators for the elementary school cluster of the STEM-Up<sup>TM</sup> Boyle Heights Initiative. Requirements include: a minimum of 3 years of experience in delivering or coordinating education or youth development programs in community or school settings and a Bachelor's degree in a relevant field is desired. Salary DOE. To apply for the position, please submit a resume and a cover letter outlining interest in the position via email to: [lmalvarado@greatmindsinstem.org](mailto:lmalvarado@greatmindsinstem.org)

*APCO Worldwide, Junior/Entry Level Communications Pros.* The knowledgeable individual will support our Sacramento office through research, media monitoring, writing (press releases & more). Responsibilities include project and client account support; research, coordination, preparation and distribution of client materials (press releases, fact sheets, talking points, etc); media monitoring and documenting and tracking of account activity. Bachelor's Degree and prior internships/experience in public affairs, political campaigns, and public relations is required. Salary DOE. For more information and to apply please visit: [http://apcoworldwide.com/content/careers/job\\_opportunities\\_americas.aspx#sac-entry](http://apcoworldwide.com/content/careers/job_opportunities_americas.aspx#sac-entry)

*Planned Parenthood, Grassroots Manager.* The chosen contender will engage PPSD's activists and volunteers by spearheading exciting grassroots activities and will strengthen and enhance PPSD's existing grassroots capacity and infrastructure. Minimum two years of relevant work experience in political or issue-oriented campaigns, such as candidate or ballot initiative campaigns; or non-profit experience with an emphasis on grassroots/community capacity building. Bachelor's Degree required. Salary DOE. E-mail, fax, or mail cover letter, resume, three professional references: 2185 Pacheco Street, Concord, CA 94520 Fax: 925-887-5348 or [careers@ppshastadiablo.org](mailto:careers@ppshastadiablo.org).

*The Gualco Group Inc., Government Relations Advisor.* The elected candidate will support the Firm's work in air quality/environmental policymaking, regulation. Duties include: conducting research, attending workshops/hearings, preparation comments on proposed regulations, and advocate client positions. Competitive salary. Submit cover letter, resume, and salary requirements: [resumes@cearecruiting.com](mailto:resumes@cearecruiting.com).

*California Forward, Research Director.* The chosen individual must have an understanding of public policies and passion for developing compelling information to guide public deliberations on improving state governance. They will manage the development and compilation of data and analysis on a broad range of public policies and services. Salary \$80-\$102K DOE. For more information visit: <http://www.caforward.org/index.cfm/about/employment/research-director/>

*Community Coalition in South LA, Bilingual Community Organizer.* The ideal applicant will develop and implement outreach strategies to recruit, sustain and actively involve South Los Angeles residents in Community Coalition campaigns and programs while, establishing and maintaining a collaborative working relationships with community residents and others. We require at least 3 years of experience organizing residents and bilingual English/Spanish. Salary: 30-40k. You can find more detailed information by visiting: <http://cocosouthla.org/about/jobs>

For more Employment Opportunities, please visit our Career Center at:

[http://southcentralscholars.org/scholar\\_center-career\\_center](http://southcentralscholars.org/scholar_center-career_center)

FINANCIAL AID EVENTS & DEADLINES

South Central Scholars Renewal Application **DEADLINE IS THIS FRIDAY!!!!**

Read the first page to get the details. **The deadline to apply is July 16, 2010.** Visit the Renewal 2010 page on our website at [http://www.southcentralscholars.org/scholar\\_center](http://www.southcentralscholars.org/scholar_center).

To stay IN THE LOOP, go to

[www.southcentralscholars.org/scholar\\_center](http://www.southcentralscholars.org/scholar_center)

JULY 2010

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16 2010 Renewal Application Closes	17
19 Deadline to register for 2010 Summer Conferences!	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31 First day of 2010 Summer Conference

Other events TBA:

AUGUST 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Second day of 2010 Summer Conference	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31			

Other events TBA:

To stay IN THE LOOP about upcoming events in the following months, go to [www.southcentralscholars.org/Get Involved-Calendar of Events!!](http://www.southcentralscholars.org/Get_Involved-Calendar_of_Events!!)