

Username	Message
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Hello! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat. We've got students and Dr. Clark from Career Services with us today. What questions would you like us to answer?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hello Sagnik-2010! Welcome to chatting!
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: hello Stacey and Jingwen. Thank you for hosting this nice event. I have a lot of questions.
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Thank you, I have just applied to Smeal and was waiting to interact with you
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Sagnik_2010, We are happy to have you here. Let us know the questions you have.
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Trevor, thank you. We will be happy to take your questions.
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Does Smeal have a lot of strong relationships with fortune 500 companies for recruiting?
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Trevor: Yes, we do. Our strongest partner programs have been with companies such as: Dell, DuPont, Johnson and Johnson and others.
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Has recruiting remained strong despite economic downturns?
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Hello Ravi, I have applied for February 1st deadline. When can I expect to hear from Smeal?
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Sagnik_2010, The admissions team is currently in the process of reviewing the applications. They hope to get initial response out in 2 weeks.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Trevor, no doubt the recession has impacted our recruiting numbers. This is certainly the case with all MBA programs. However, in 2009 75% percent of the class had received offers within 3 months after graduation
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: That's really impressive!
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: I saw something on the first year schedule called "career immersion?" Could you tell me a little bit about what that is, Dr. Clark?

ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Trevor, Career Immersion is a week long experience where first year students are "immersed" into career related activities. The activities (e.g. networking skills, letter writing, advanced resume writing) are intended to get you ready to aggressively pursue your job search. We strategically place the immersion between first and second modules so that you can focus on career readiness.
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: One of my biggest weaknesses is being able to nail the interview. Does Career Immersion include interview skills?
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Yes, we try to focus on interviewing skills in a number of the career immersion segments, however the real interviewing practice occurs one on one with the career coaches and with our alumni
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: I have read that the students have the opportunity to meet the global leaders. How does this happen?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Trevor from Minneapolis: Yes, you will gain a rich amount of interview skills, we not only have mock interviews with alumni, but also have interview workshops, during which you can make improvement together with your classmates.
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Trevor, some part in Career immersion. But beyond that, there are simulated interview process from MBA alums, mock interviews from 2nd years. There is lot of support available .
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Alumni? Are the Smeal MBA alumni actively involved in helping the program? My undergrad institution wasn't like that at all.
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Sagnik_2010, There are many opportunities. One of them is executive speaker series. Another is during global immersion.
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Oh that's great! Are there opportunities for one to one interaction with leaders?

ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Sagnik, many accomplished leaders come to the Penn State campus to speak to the Smeal student body. Since our Smeal undergraduate student enrollment is the largest in the country, it is a real draw for business leaders.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Sagnik, typically the one on one interaction happens through recruiting efforts, receptions, or lunches and dinners.....or following the large group presentations
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Sagnik_2010: This is a great question. Actually, most of the interaction are group based, but you have a lot of opportunities to raise any question you want to learn to them. Meanwhile, because some of these global leaders are alumni, they will make their best effort to expand your global business exposure.
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Wow! that must be very motivating to students, Dr. Dulin
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Trevor, Yes, MBA alumni take an active interest in the program. There is an Alumni mentor board, who visit school and mentor us. Also, some of the alumni conduct simulated interviews. Smeal community is very helpful.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Sagnik, it is motivating actually. The trick to work on "networking" skills and to make the proper personal presentation when you get that opportunity
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Do the alumni help the students in entrepreneurship ventures?
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: One of the things that is important to me is that sense of community in a program. None of the other programs that I am looking at are like that.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Sagnik, those alumni who have delved into their own entrepreneurial ventures often make themselves available to provide insights, pointers, and personal experiences.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): "personal experiences"
emilyr74	emilyr74: I'm wondering if someone could address how Smeal recruits being in a rural area and not near a large city? I'm concerned that I might not have opportunities that other MBA students do
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Emilyr74, welcome!

Sagnik_2010	<p>Sagnik_2010:</p> <p>Thanks, Dr.Dulin. I have a general question regarding the teaching methods.Is it like normal classroom based or its always in small groups interacting with each other</p>
Trevor from Minneapolis	<p>Trevor from Minneapolis:</p> <p>Dr. Clark, what resources does career services provide for general career research? I am considering several different industries to pursue, and I need to make up my mind.</p>
ga	<p>ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Sagnik_2010: Teaching is mixed, there are courses in which it is case based discussion. Some others follow classroom teaching methods. And each semester we are assigned to a group and there are many group based assignments and projects.</p>
ga	<p>ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Hi Emily, great question. Well, we have a loyal alumni who are pretty committed to recruiting at Smeal. Once a reputation is built at a school, it really does not matter whether you are flying into Philadelphia or State College. So, our partner recruiters are pretty committed to recruiting with us. Plus, many positions are posted via an online system so a presence on campus is not always necessary.</p>
emilyr74	<p>emilyr74: thank you--that's helpful information</p>
ga	<p>ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Trevor, there are many ways to research career information. We have a very extensive business library, a very large centralized career services library, as well as access to may websites for that type of information</p>
emilyr74	<p>emilyr74: I'm wondering what companies typically recruit for consulting?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Emily, it varies from year to year but Deloitte Consulting and IBM have been our two most active firms/companies.</p>
Trevor from Minneapolis	<p>Trevor from Minneapolis:</p> <p>hey first years, how is the internship hunt coming along?</p>
emilyr74	<p>emilyr74: good to know. I'm potentially interested in exploring positions with Deloitte</p>
	<p>Sagnik_2010:</p>

Sagnik_2010	Actually I am also interested in consulting and Deloitte been one of the leaders in that area.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Emily, Well as I'm sure you are aware consulting is extremely competitive so it really becomes important to be on your game. Polished interviewing skills become critical
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Trevor, actually I have already got my internship from a Fortune 500 IT company. I think as long as you have clear career goals and work together with career serveces and your peer, internship is not that far away from you.
emilyr74	emilyr74: what makes Smeal Career Services different from other programs' Career Services? Is there anything that's really unique?
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: That's great Jingwen!
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): "Fortune", sorry for the typo~
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Which company?
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Are there any increase in GA/ scholarships for this year?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Trevor, if you're really interested, I will have my intern in Dell at Austin:)
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: what are the typical profiles for the financial aid
emilyr74	emilyr74: Sagnik--this year we expect to be able to offer roughly the same amount of GAs and scholarships as we did last year
emilyr74	emilyr74: I asked the admissions office the same question earlier this week and that's what they told me
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): This year we expect to be able to offer roughly the same amount of GAs and scholarships as we did last year.
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: hey Emily, thanks for the info

ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Emily, many schools have similar kinds of services, however we put a heavy emphasis on our 1 to 1 career coaching service. We utilize a unique model called "Personal Career Strategy" which takes a look at many facets of you as a future business leader. It incorporates an intensive exercise before you even arrive at Smeal that gives us a look at where you've been, where you want to go.....and how you might get there.
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: hey Ravi and Jingwen, what has your career coaching experience been like?
emilyr74	emilyr74: how many times a semester can I meet with someone in Career Services?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Typically those who get their financial aid, are applicants have strong profiles, for example some of them have outstanding GPA, leadership experience and potential to grow as global business leaders.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Emily, because we are a small program, we can literally offer you a 1 hr. meeting a week for as long as you are here. This is really a big deal since paid coaching done privately can cost as much as \$250.00 per hour.
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Hi Jingwen, how are the extra-curricular activities? I heard about Executive Panel Case competition. How does this help the students to be better leaders?
emilyr74	emilyr74: that's great--do most students use the hour per week? that's a great resource
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Thanks for the information, Jingwen. It was really helpful
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Career coaching is quite good here. There are many one on one meetings with career coaches Dr Dulin and Dr Paul

Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: What exactly do career coaches do for you during one-on-one meetings?
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Sagnik_2010, As MBAs we have as many opportunities we can handle ! There are various workshops, lunch and learns as a part of MBA associations. There are cultural events like Diwali and Chinese new year. There are opportunities for community activities.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Trevor, from the first day of our MBA program, we have many opportunities of been coached and learn from Career Services. We can schedule one-on-one meeting with our career service coaches. I personally met Dr. Clark, and he gave me great advices on career development. Because I was changing my career from government to business. I found it really helpful, and I think it greatly attributed to my internship hunting.
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Emilyr74 : Yes, most students use that. Those are used for one-on one meetings.
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: where do the students actually search for internship offers?
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Is it posted online?
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Trevor, it depends on what issue the student brings up for discussion, however it usually involves: help me figure out a career path, help me craft a resume, assist with writing cover letters, assist with my ability to network. As the year goes on, we might focus more on interviewing skills discussions or salary negotiation discussions
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Sagnik_2010, Many companies visit the campus for info sessions and interviews. There are job postings on the internal job postings website. Also there are other networking opportunities.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Sagnik_2010, as Ravi answered , we have diverse extra-curricular activities. We have several great associations. By joining and working together with those associations, you will learn a lot on a specific industry. Meanwhile, if you are willing to devote more time, your peer in these associations will also help you to forge your leadership. We also have many cross-culture events, for example, we are organizing a big celebration for Chinese New Year, and everyone is invited to leading program. So, the point is, as long as you want to, you will always get abundant opportunities to forge your leadership.

Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Are there any restrictions in these associations. For example can the Indian students participate in organising for the Chinese New Year
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: What other international events does the Smeal program have? You mentioned Chinese New Year, and Diwali. Are there others?
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: hey Trevor, did you decide upon your MBA specialization area?
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Not yet, Sagnik.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Sagnik_2010, not at all. Every MBAA member is welcome to attend. Ravi, who is from India, is actually one dancer of the Chinese New Year celebration. Plus, I have participated Indian's Diwali celebration.
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: How about you, Sagnik? What's your concentration going to be, and where are you from?
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Hey, that's great to hear Jingwen
msrrautela	msrrautela: Hi all,
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: I am from India. I would like to be in Technology consulting
msrrautela	msrrautela: I'm really sorry for having joined so late
emilyr74	emilyr74: thank you for your help everyone! I need to log off now.
msrrautela	msrrautela: is the chat over ?
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: hi msrrautela!
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): msrrautela, nice to have you with us
msrrautela	msrrautela: Thanks Dr. Clark
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Trevor, Smeal has great multicultural environment. We also have an introduction month for hispanic culture, we have Black History month, which is February.
	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services):

ga	msrrautela, please feel free to ask what you like
msrrautela	msrrautela: I'm wondering that since most of the questions would have already been answered ,so would it be okay if I ask them
msrrautela	msrrautela: coz there maybe a repetition
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): No problem.. I can type again
msrrautela	msrrautela: I really apologize again
msrrautela	msrrautela: Thanks ,Dr Clark
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Where are you from, msrrautela?
msrrautela	msrrautela: Dr. Clark,I want to take up Entrepreneurship as my concentration .So wanted to ask what kind of opportunities are available during the course for this concentration ?
msrrautela	msrrautela: Hi Trevor,I'm from India
msrrautela	msrrautela: .I mean since entrepreneurship is unlike Finance or Marketing where the roles one would get post MBA would primarily be in that field,so wanted a first hand insight
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: Hi Ravi, how is a typical day for an MBA student at Smeal? Is it very hectic?
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): msrrautela, normally we recommend pairing the entrepreneurship concentration up with finance, marketing, or supply chain so that you have a specialty if you choose to move into a company prior to going out on your own venture
msrrautela	msrrautela: Okay,Dr Clark. I want to take Marketing as my other concentration but given the fact that my pre MBA experience is in IT,and the education sector would it not be a disadvantage
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Sagnik_2010, for the first year MBA students classes are from 8 to 12:30
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): And rest of the day passes in team work or assignments.
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): Usually we are quite occupied. But good time managers are able to do many things apart from just studies. Usually there are always things to do, I feel.
msrrautela	msrrautela: Can anyone tell me how difficult is to change his career after an MBA degree ?

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi All, we have five minutes left for our chat. Do you have any questions?
msrrautela	msrrautela: and how many students usually change industries or do most of the students take up jobs which are related to their pre MBA experience.
msrrautela	msrrautela: ?
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): msrrautela, we have many students who make the transition into marketing from many backgrounds including IT and education. However it is critically important that you find a way to get some marketing exposure while you are here. This can come from an internship or a project through one of the research institutes. People from an IT background or education often have marketing insights into those specific industries
ga	ga(Ravi, Smeal 1st year): msrrautela, if you have a clear career goal and if you can make a point that you are suitable for the job, you can make a career switch.
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: just wanted to know that how does Smeal value the experience from Information Technology.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): msrrautela, we have plenty of both.....same careers and career changers. Obviously the goal is to build your experience in your chosen area while you are here.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): msrrautela, I am actually going to change my career through MBA program. I would say your should specify your career goal and leverage all resources you can acquire here at Smeal. This will make your career development more efficiently.
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Thank you for putting on this nice chat and answering my questions.
msrrautela	msrrautela: Yes,Jingwen ,that's what I'm looking for.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): You're welcome Trevor. Good luck with your application!
msrrautela	msrrautela: Okay. I have one question .

ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Sagnik, we have found the IT background to be particularly helpful in the supply chain area and in some cases consulting
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Good luck everyone!
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Thanks, Jingwen. I look forward to being a part of the Smeal community. If I get in, 2010 will be the first year that I root for Penn State to beat Minnesota!
Trevor from Minneapolis	Trevor from Minneapolis: Have a good day!
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: that was really encouraging Dr. Clark. Thanks to all for organising such a nice and information session.
msrrautela	msrrautela: Honestly speaking,from the research i have done on the universities I am applying to ,Smeal seems to one of the best resources.I mean the school's fabulous.But why hasn't it been to come up in the rankings .I wonder.
ga	ga(Dr.Dulin Clark Career Services): Thanks for checking in Sagnik
msrrautela	msrrautela: I mean the recall value of Pennstate in India seems a lil low as compared to the other univs
Sagnik_2010	Sagnik_2010: correction "informative session" "