

Career Vision 20/20: Recalculating Your Career Goals

Hello! This is Career Coach Larry Tucker, and if you are a new Wake Tech student or a returning Wake Tech Student, hello and welcome back. I know this have been a hectic Summer for many of you as we all have been trying to safely navigate this Corona Virus. I have spoken to several of you during the last few months, who have had your career or career plans turned upside down as our nation has been hit by this unexpected Pandemic. If you are like me and my family, all of our short-term personal and career plans have all been canceled or put on hold as we struggle to decide what do we do? Or, where do we go from here? What do you do? Where do you go? When all of a sudden you have been going about your business and proceeding through life as planned. Maybe you had two months to finish your school program and receive your degree. Or, maybe you recently just started a new job. You've been following your well thought out career plan and out of nowhere something happened. Something you hadn't anticipated. Something you had not planned for. Something you had no idea that was even possible comes out of nowhere and everything changes! And now you've been furloughed. And now you've been laid off. And now you are competing with hundreds of other applicants for the same job. What do you do? Where do I go from here?

Each year my family and I take this road trip from Raleigh to New York City. We have been taking this yearly trip so long that it has become a family tradition. But, on this one particular year, there seemed to be obstacle after obstacle preventing us from reaching our destination. It felt like everyone in America was on the road that day. There was accident after accident, detour after unexpected detour throughout our planned route. In fact, some of the detours took us off track for miles before we managed to get back on track. Luckily, we had this amazing GPS device. With this amazing Global Positioning System, I just enter my destination into that device and this little box searched millions of options, comparing the latest traffic data, including up to the minute updates, and gave me a turn by turn directions eventually getting us to our ultimate destination. The more we veered off the track the more that GPS would recalculate our current location to enable us to get back on track. It made it impossible to get lost. Each time we hit a detour and turned off our planned route, it said "Recalculating, turn left at the next light. We stopped to use the restroom, "Recalculating, continue down this road for 3 quarters of a mile and turn right on Washington Road." We stopped to get gas, "Recalculating, turn right at the stop sign!" Each and every time we encountered an obstacle, got distracted or veered off course, our trusty little device, this GPS would attempt to put us right back on track. It would navigate us back to the highway. Or, re-route us another way to ensure that we still arrived successfully to our destination. It made me think of how wonderful it would be if we had our own personal career GPS system available to us that operated like our automobile GPS. No matter how many obstacles we faced in our career, every time we veer off course or get off track on our career path, our personal career GPS would recalculate, every time we veered off course, and would skillfully and accurately put us back on the right track.

You just earned your degree and now you are competing with hundreds of applicants for the same job, Recalculating! You recently got laid off, Recalculating! Your department has be reduced and your boss wants you to get an industry related certificate to compliment your new duties, Recalculating! Your spouse unexpectedly loses his or her job and you are forced to return to work, Recalculating! And each and every time it recalculate, it immediately gives you specific

directions to get you quickly and successfully back on course moving confidently towards accomplishing your career goals. Wouldn't that be great if there was such a thing? Wouldn't it be great if we all had our own personal career GPS to keep us on track? Well, what if I were to tell you that as a Student, Graduate or Prospective Student here at Wake Technical Community College you do have such a personal Career GPS. And it's called, Career & Employment Resources! You heard me right!

In Wake Tech's Career & Employment Resources, we have Career Coaches & Career Specialists available to help you recalculate your situation and help you charter a new direction based on your situation and career goals. Our Career Coaches and Career Specialists collectively have over fifty years of experience helping people navigate through career development and employment obstacles. To take advantage of your personal career GPS and meet with one of our Career Coaches or Career Specialists, visit careers.waketech.edu today to schedule your one-on-one virtual career coaching session. As always, Career & Employment resources is ready and able to help you recalculate your career goals.

