

Alumni Questionnaire (Job or Grad School)

How did your experience at USI help you find your first position after graduation?

I currently have 2 positions and the experiences from USI have really helped me. First, I am a Graduate Assistant for Housing and Residence Life at USI, and also a Cottage Concierge at Victoria National Golf Club. USI really helped me acquire both positions because of how I was involved in undergrad. I got to be a part of the Sport Management Club, the Screaming Eagles Running Series, and several other organization. With all of the experience from executing the running series, working with different organizations, and the event management experience I gained through my internships, it helped me secure the position within housing at USI. I

acquired the job at Victoria National through another Sport Management Club member, so that is another reason why I am thankful for the network I developed through these experiences.

If you had it to do all over again, what would you do differently?

I'm really glad I chose the path I did, I was pretty involved, but I wish I had a more of a go-getter attitude if I had to do it again. I feel like I could have capitalized more on these great opportunities.

On a typical day in this position, what do you do?

At USI, I have the position of Graduate Assistant for Resident Engagement, and my job entails quite a bit. I supervise two undergraduate Programming Assistants, I plan/execute large programs for USI residents, I am a member of the campus wide Be Well to Do Well committee, and the Diversity Committee within housing.

At Victoria National, I work within the Cottage Services department, where I work with cottage guests to allow them to have the best experience possible. I handle everything from their reservations for cottages, tee times, food and beverage, and I check them in, and provide them with service throughout their stay.

What personal qualities or abilities are important to being successful in this job?

Organization

Detail-oriented

Cooperative
Understanding
Passionate

What opportunities for advancement are there in this field?

I would love to continue my career in event management, hospitality within sport, or within higher education.

Is there a demand for people in this occupation?

Yes, I feel like anyone can find their niche in any selected field. I have always had a passion for sport and there is so much within sport that you can specialize in, and I have experience with event management, food and beverage, and customer service. This is just a few examples of what it takes to run a successful event, so there's opportunity for a lot of people.

What do you think of the experience you've had so far in terms of entering this field?

I never expected to work at a private golf club, this is a sector that I never even thought about. I also never thought I would be working in higher education either, so these are two areas that are a little different than what I went to school for, but at the same time, I use the same skills I learned in school and can apply the different ones I learn to different job opportunities.

If you could do things all over again, would you choose the same path for yourself?

Why? What would you change?

I would chose the same path because this is what I am passionate about. I enjoy working with events, more specifically sporting events.

What part of this job do you find most satisfying? most challenging?

USI

The most satisfying would be executing the events at USI and seeing the excitement and happiness it brings to the students, which makes me happy knowing I had a part in that.

The most challenging would be working with all the different types of people, we have a diverse student population, and it's been a very good but challenging learning experience for me considering I came from a very rural area where it wasn't very diverse.

Victoria National

The most satisfying part of the job would be how much fun the guests have at the golf course, we allow them to not have to worry about anything. They're just there to have a great time and relax. I also get to personally meet a lot of these people, so just getting to know them and building relationships throughout their stay is awesome. It's a very fun and rewarding job.

The most challenging would be understanding the private golf club and understanding how it is different than public service. Once you get the hang of it, it is a completely different kind of experience.