There is good news for the 2016 college graduating class. Employers plan to hire more graduates than they did the year before, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The overall estimated increase is 11 percent. It was a slight increase from spring 2015 when the increase was just below 10 percent.

In addition to the 11 percent increase, NACE is reporting that the perception of the job market is also on the rise. A survey conducted by NACE, 42 percent of employers indicated that they characterized the job market class of 2016 graduates as very good or excellent. Two years ago, only 18 percent of the responding employers had the same view.

For more information, click on http://tinyurl.com/nzpqchg.
Prepare your “Elevator Pitch” for the NMHU Spring Career Fair on April 21

Thirty seconds isn’t much time, but could potentially help you get a job. In the career world, we call it a 30-second “elevator pitch” (speech) which essentially is a clear, brief message or commercial about yourself.

Imagine yourself in an elevator with a CEO of a company you would like to work for. Both of you are on the first floor and going up, let’s just say, to the seventh floor. You have approximately 30-seconds to a minute to tell your story to this person. The elevator pitch allows you to summarize who you are, what you do and why you’d be a perfect candidate for a job.

Although an elevator pitch sounds simple, the challenge is to condense your life’s accomplishments into a quick-hitting half a minute.

Here are some tips that can help you get started on making a good first impression and potentially the job you want.

- Tell who you are and your career interests
- Talk about your education, major and class standing
- Tell why you are qualified and what specials skills and attributes you can offer
- Tell why you are interested in their company
- Ask a question and for a business card, a key contact person, an interview for an internship or career opportunity

Now that you have a general idea of what an effective elevator pitch will look like, why not practice it at the New Mexico Highlands University Spring Career Fair taking place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 21 at the Student Union Ballroom where over 40 employers are expected to attend. The career fair is for all majors. For more on the elevator pitch, check out this CareerSpots video on the NMHU Career Center’s website: [http://tinyurl.com/ja73thg](http://tinyurl.com/ja73thg). The Career Center can help you develop a job-winning pitch.

Make your 2016 Career Resolutions work

The beginning of a new year is the time when people make resolutions. Most of us have made resolutions in the past, and unfortunately at some point, we don’t keep up with it.

One of the areas that students can’t afford to do is allow a New Year’s resolution fade is in their careers. The following are some tips on how to keep your career resolutions intact.

Define your goal. If you feel that you need change or are frustrated in your current goal, identify whether you really are doing what you want to do. If you’re not sure, take some time to figure it out. Simply write down what your career goal is. It may take some time to do this, but articulate your goal on a piece of paper. Make sure to see it through. It’s important to take this first step. You are in the process of taking action. The goal is to narrow your focus. You want to be able to apply what your best abilities and skills are in your work. This will make you happier, and your performance at school and work will excel.

When you have outlined the career you want, resolve to do it. Set your mind that you will be doing it. Take action every day toward achieving this. Little steps like developing or updating your résumé, creating your LinkedIn profile, and applying for five internships or jobs per week can make a difference. Since you will likely spend 75 percent of your life at work, your career should be something you love to do.

Lastly, constantly review your resolutions. Place a copy of your resolutions on your bathroom mirror or your refrigerator door. The items that are on your mind will be the ones you get done. Take your career goals to the next level in 2016.

For assistance in exploring and planning your career, visit the friendly staff at the Career Center. For more on 2016 Career Resolutions, click on [http://tinyurl.com/gtsdjsw](http://tinyurl.com/gtsdjsw).
International student hiring continues to climb

The number of employers with plans to hire international students continues to grow as more than one-third of organizations responding to NACE’s Job Outlook 2015 survey report plans to hire these students. For more information, click on: http://tinyurl.com/j88alq9.

Figure 1: International student hiring plans, 2010 - 2015

By geographic region, two of the last four years exhibit increased demand for international students compared to 2013-14.

Figure 2: International student hiring plans, by region

Google “OOH” to explore careers

Three simple letters—OOH. Three simple words—Occupational Outlook Handbook. If you haven’t looked it up, you should. You will be amazed what you will find.

The OOH website provides detailed information on hundreds of occupations to help students explore careers. Simply enter the name of an occupation in the “Search Handbook” box. Examples of detailed information you will receive include: major duties, education and training requirements, work environment, salaries, job outlook through 2024, projected number of new jobs and additional resources on relevant professional organizations offering career tips, scholarships, and internships.

For example, if you type in graphic designer, OOH will provide you with current facts on this particular occupation such as: detailed job descriptions and needed skills, related job titles, education and training requirements, median national pay of $45,900 per year, the number of jobs in 2014 (261,600), the job outlook from 2014-2024 is a one percent increase (little or no change) and the employment difference from 2014 to 2024 is 3,600.

When exploring careers, just remember OOH! It’s as easy as saying it. All the career information is at your fingertips.

Many students have already taken advantage of this and many more should. It may very well make a difference in your career choice.

An added feature is a Spanish language version for searching occupations. OOH is provided by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For more on OOH, click on http://www.bls.gov/ooh/.
HACU: one of many paid summer internships

**FEDERAL SECTOR INTERNSHIPS**

**HACU NATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Work in Major U.S. Cities - Paid Internships

**PAID INTERNSHIPS FOR ALL MAJORS**
Work in Washington, D.C., or other major U.S. cities

Whether you’re seeking an internship with the federal government or in the corporate sector, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) can provide you the opportunity to graduate with career experience.

Gain skills and expand your professional network. The HACU National Internship Program (HNIP) has been a premier student program for over 20 years, recognized as an internship program with the largest Hispanic participation.

**Eligibility**
- Be enrolled in a degree-seeking program at an accredited institution in the U.S. or Puerto Rico. Recent graduates are eligible for a limited number of internships.
- Have completed freshman year
- Be an undergraduate or graduate student
- Have a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Be authorized or eligible to work by law in the U.S.

**Corporate Interns**
Corporate interns will be paid salaries similar to federal interns based on 40 hours per week, at minimum.
- Most corporate internship dates are in the summer for ten weeks (June - Aug.
- Resumes are accepted year round for corporate internships.
- Interviews for corporations take place beginning in Oct. until March for summer positions. Email CHNIP@hacu.net or apply online.

**Federal Intern Pay**
- Undergraduate $520
- Graduate $590

**Travel and Housing**
- Round-trip airfare for interns is arranged and paid by HACU.
- Housing arrangements are managed by HACU. Federal interns pay for housing through payroll deductions. Federal interns can choose to arrange their own housing.
- HACU and corporations will coordinate with corporate interns on housing and travel arrangements, whenever applicable. Corporate interns may make their own housing and non-airfare travel arrangements. Corporate interns pay for their housing through electronic funds transfer.

**Academic Credit**
Interns may be eligible to receive academic credit. HACU can facilitate the process to ensure the necessary documentation is submitted.

**HNIP Application Deadlines**
To apply, visit www.hacu.net/hnip. The program dates and application deadlines are as follows:

**Spring 2016 Internship dates:**
January 14 - April 30
Application deadline: October 30, 2015

**Summer 2016 Internship dates:**
June 3 - August 13 (regular dates)
June 17 - August 27 (quarter dates)
Early deadline: October 30, 2015
Regular deadline: February 15, 2016
*Later start date in the Summer is only available for applicants who attend institutions that operate on a quarter calendar.*

**Fall 2016 Internship dates:**
August 25 - December 10
Application deadline: June 17, 2016

**CONNECT WITH US**
facebook.com/hacu
hacu.internshipprogram

Information about the HACU Scholarship Program, HACU Student Travel Conference Scholarships and other student programs is available at www.hacu.net.

Visit the HACU website and select “Student Programs” listed under “Programs.”

For more Information
Information on the application process and online application is available at www.hacu.net/hnip.

—[Sitting]—
Joe Torrez, political science and government major at California State University, Fullerton, intern at LULAC through Fund Motor Company Fund. (L-R) PBS Interns Adel Mendoza, computer science major at New Jersey City University; Jaden Rapoport, communication and journalism major at Nova Southeastern University; and Clara Marrel, political science and government major at Regis University.