

Name: Jenny Chen

Degree: B.S., Accounting, June 2008

Current job: PricewaterhouseCoopers, Tax Associate

How did you decide on your undergraduate major?

I chose Accounting because it's a very challenging field. The first time that I attended my accounting class something just clicked!! I had a wonderful professor and the material was interesting. I just knew this profession was for me. I have a passion for it.

What was your experience like at Hunter?

Hunter feels like home for me. It has always been there for me when I needed something, especially the career office, (Career Development Services) Ms. Shayne Bernstein and Ms Paula Wicklow helped me update my résumé so many times. They also gave me professional advice and internship opportunities. When I was applying for the PricewaterhouseCoopers position, I needed help to prepare for my interview. I had many mock interviews with Ms. Bernstein. She gave me ideas on how to organize my thoughts and to successfully deliver them. I definitely recommend my fellow students to take advantage of our career office in their job search. Your chances of acing the interview are much higher when you are prepared and confident.

Tell us about any internships you completed while at Hunter.

I had many internships during my four years in college. I recommend that students participate in internships to gain hands on experience and get a better knowledge of the process and procedures of the corporate environment.

I had completed an internship at Berdon LLP accounting firm. I liked the environment, and the open-door policy that Berdon has. really enjoyed the few months that I was there and I liked the people that I worked with. They were all so friendly and knowledgeable. I felt like if I needed an answer to something, I could ask them. Even the partners were nice and approachable and explained things to me. I feel that at Berdon I gained a lot of experience in the accounting field and learned a lot from everyone.

While working in Tax Support at Berdon, I was helping out different people from the tax department, from Tax Associates to Partners. Everyone had different tasks for me to do, so I did my best to fulfill each person's individual requirements. I did my best to deal with each task and the obstacles. I looked at it as a challenge that would eventually lead me to my career.

After the internship in Berdon I was continuously looking to learn new things that would add to my experience and skills. I went to the career office and spoke with Paula Wicklow. She gave me a list of employers who offer internships. I chose to do an unpaid internship with Smith Barney. I prepared a seminar for continuing education for CPA'S related to our business. My responsibility was to obtain a CPA contact database and create a new one with their name, telephone number, e-mail address, name of the firm they work for, and their titles. Then I had to mail out invitations, or call them, and email them to let them know about the seminar. This involved a lot of research, because many

telephone numbers were incorrect, or the person was no longer with the firm. When I got that done I had to prepare the PowerPoint presentations along with packages that we handed out to the clients during the presentation including name tags and label print outs. On the day of the seminar I helped set up everything and it was a success!

Tell us about your current job as a Tax Associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Back in Feb 2008 I went to the career office to meet with Ms. Bernstein, hoping she had some job openings for me when I would graduate in the spring. She told me that PwC was recruiting students from Hunter College. She gave me the email address to whom I could send my résumé. A few weeks later I received a phone call asking me to schedule an appointment with PwC. The career office and Ms. Bernstein were a big help during my job search. She prepared me for the interview and told me what I should accept. The interview lasted the whole day, from 9:00am to 3:00pm. I was the only student coming from Hunter College and I am very proud of myself. I was lucky enough to have two offers from PwC. One was for a Tax Associate position and the other was for Auditing. However, I always enjoyed tax classes more, so I decided to pursue my career with the Tax Department with PwC.

What are your future aspirations?

My short term goal is to pass the CPA exam and work successfully with the clients in the firm.

Do you have any advice for students thinking about pursuing this career?

Make sure you take advantage of the career office and schedule a mock interview. They will help you update your résumé and prepare you for the interview so you show up ready and confident.