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Career Plan

When I first transferred to Longwood University my sophomore year, I was a business administration major with a concentration in finance with no career path in mind. I struggled through my classes and realized that I was not interested in my courses and that my strengths were not being utilized in my courses. I decided in the fall semester of my junior year to change my major to communication studies with a concentration in public relations. Once I changed my major I had a better sense of what career paths interested me.

Human resource has always interested me and is a career that aligns with my interests. My ideal job when I graduate is to be a human resource specialist and climb to higher positions from there. This job involves interviewing, recruiting, and assigning workers (Bureau of Labor, n.d.). Human resource specialists also handle employee relations, benefits, and training for employees (Bureau of Labor, n.d.). Human resources interest me because of the similarities it has to my job as a resident assistant. A human resource specialist helps employees navigate policies and procedures that a company has as well as find individuals who they think would be fit in with the company through interviews (Bureau of Labor, n.d.). Resident assistants have the same tasks but on a college campus. Human resource is the best fit for my skills with confrontation, conflict management, and communication skills.

The educational requirements that need to be met to be a human resource specialist is a bachelor's degree in areas such as, human resource, business, or a related field (). There are also certifications that human resource specialists can obtain by taking

an exam from the Society of Human Resource Management (Bureau of Labor, n.d.).

While at Longwood I need to take advantage of every opportunity to network. I can do this by joining the Public Relations Student Society of America. This organization will give me opportunities to use my leadership skills and connect me with alum and students studying public relations (About PRSSA, n.d.). Being a resident assistant also gives me valuable skills that I will need in the work place. I plan on being a resident assistant until I graduate. This will give me the opportunity to hone my skills with conflict resolution, communication, and confrontation. Continuing to work as a resident assistant also gives me the opportunity to network with the professional staff here at Longwood and see what internship opportunities are available here.

When I first came to Longwood I had no career plan. It was not until I changed my major and found a field that allowed me to utilize my strengths that led me to finding a career path that interested me. I now have an idea of what career I want to pursue when I graduate and what I need to do to get there.

Reference List

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational outlook handbook. (n.d.). Retrieved January 10, 2018, from <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/human-resources-specialists.htm>

About PRSSA. (n.d.). Retrieved January 10, 2018, from <http://prssa.prsa.org/about-prssa/>