

 Spring CDL Employer Newsletter 

Dear Employer,

Greetings and welcome to the vibrant **Spring 2024** edition of our Employer Newsletter! It is incredible to witness the remarkable progress our students at **Columbia University's School of Professional Studies** have made, now nearly halfway through their academic journey this semester. We are thrilled to share some of the extraordinary projects we've accomplished since our last newsletter and eagerly await your valuable feedback.

Before we delve into the exciting highlights of this newsletter, I am delighted to introduce the newest member of our team that recently joined the **Career Design Lab, Gonzalo Miranda!** Gonzalo joined us in February 2024 as our second Industry Relations specialist. Many of you may already be familiar with Gonzalo, as he is a recent graduate from our esteemed Negotiation and Conflict Resolution Program and previously served as our dedicated **Employer Relations** Intern in Fall 2023. Gonzalo's expertise and unwavering dedication make him an invaluable asset to our team, and you can learn more about him **HERE**. Please take a moment to welcome Gonzalo to our team by reaching out to him via email at [gm3074@columbia.edu](mailto:gm3074@columbia.edu) or connecting with him on **LinkedIn**.

As we navigate the challenges and embrace the opportunities of the Spring 2024 semester, we extend a heartfelt invitation for you and your esteemed organization to

partner with us. Whether it's by hosting engaging information sessions, arranging enlightening field trips for students to explore your facilities, or participating in our upcoming **Fall 2024 Career & Networking Fair**, your active involvement is pivotal to our collective success.

Please feel empowered to reach out to our dedicated Employer Relations Team at [spsemployer@columbia.edu](mailto:spsemployer@columbia.edu) to explore the myriad ways we can collaborate for an even more prosperous semester ahead.

Here is to a season filled with growth, learning, and impactful partnerships and enjoy our newsletter!

Warm regards,

Mariela Torres  
Associate Director, Employer Relations

The graphic is a dark blue rectangular banner. At the top left, the text 'Employer Relations' is written in a white, elegant script font. Below it, the Columbia University logo (a crown) is followed by 'COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY' in a white, all-caps serif font, and 'School of Professional Studies' in a smaller, white, all-caps sans-serif font. In the top right corner, there is a small white crown icon above the text 'CAREER DESIGN LAB' in a white, all-caps sans-serif font. The banner features three circular headshots of team members. Below each headshot is their name in white, all-caps sans-serif font, followed by their pronouns in a smaller font, and their title in a white, all-caps sans-serif font.

Name	Pronouns	Title
MARIELA TORRES, M.S.	(she/her/hers)	Associate Director
GONZALO MIRANDA	(he/him/his)	Industry Relations Specialist
NOEMI MORALES-HORSFORD	(she/her/hers)	Industry Relations Specialist

Contact Information: [spsemployer@columbia.edu](mailto:spsemployer@columbia.edu) | 212-853-0308 |

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## Meet the Employer Relations Interns



They are Nicole, Carol, Amruth, and John. Learn more about them here:

[Meet All CDL Interns](#)

## Virtual Career Expo 2024 Recap



Last Thursday, February 15th, 2024, the Career Design Lab (CDL) hosted the Columbia Graduate Virtual Career Expo a significant event attended by more than 50 employers, and 475 students, marking it as a substantial success. The event brought together seven of Columbia University's schools -**the School of Professional Studies, School of Social Work, School of the Arts, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Teachers College, and the Union Theological Seminary** and through this collaboration, Columbia University provided students with unparalleled access to leading employers from various sectors.

Among the notable companies in attendance were **UNICC, Wells Fargo, and NYU Langone Health**, each offering insights into career opportunities and industry trends. This event marked a significant milestone for CU students, offering them a

unique platform to connect, network, and explore potential career paths with multiple prestigious organizations.

The Expo was not just about job hunting; it was a comprehensive learning experience that allowed students to understand the professional landscape better. Feedback from participants highlighted the value of engaging directly with employers and gaining firsthand knowledge about what companies are looking for in their future talent.

As the virtual doors closed, the consensus was clear: **the Expo was more than just a career event; it was a bridge connecting the ambitions of CU students with employers.** The success of this event emphasized the power of collaboration across its schools and the importance of providing students with direct access to leading employers.

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## Happy Year of the Dragon!



The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival in China, marks the beginning of a new year on the lunar calendar. It is the most important traditional holiday in China and is celebrated with great enthusiasm by Chinese communities around the globe. The festival symbolizes the onset of spring and new beginnings, with festivities that include family reunions feasting on special foods, giving red envelopes (hóngbāo) containing money for luck, and setting off fireworks to ward off evil spirits.

The Lunar New Year of 2024 heralds the Year of the Dragon, one of the 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac cycle. The Dragon is the fifth animal in the cycle and is considered the most auspicious and powerful sign, symbolizing strength, luck, and prosperity. You can find Your Chinese zodiac animal [here!](#) In New York, people can enjoy Chinatown's annual New Year Parade with dragon dancing, stunning outfits, martial art performers and more. Many Chinese restaurants in Flushing will offer themed menus, you should definitely try some traditional dishes such as dumplings (symbolizing wealth), fish (for prosperity), and sticky rice cakes (for a higher year). You can also check out special exhibitions and workshops hosted by the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) and the New York Historical Society.

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## The Blueprint: If You Can See Us, You Can Be Us, event Recap



On Thursday, February 15, 2024, I had the privilege of attending an extraordinary event titled "The Blueprint: If You Can See Us, You Can Be Us." hosted by [The School of Professional Studies Career Catalyst Internship Program](#) in partnership with the [Columbia University Center for Justice](#). It was a captivating panel discussion and networking event for our CCIP interns moderated by the esteemed [Zelon Crawford, Senior Associate Dean of Student Affairs](#). The goal for this aspirational panel was to provide the Career Catalyst Interns, those of whom are justice system-impacted young New Yorkers, with the opportunity to network and hear stories from staff at The School of Professional Studies. During this two-hour event, the atmosphere was brimming with enthusiasm and camaraderie. The panel featured outstanding individuals from various departments, including Xavier Hamilton - Assistant Director, Advising; Nyesha Hightower - Associate Director, Faculty Affairs; Lucas Higuera-Hidalgo - Associate Director, Instructional Support; Michelle Boachie-Ansah Norton - Finance and Operations Specialist; and Iyunola Oyowemi - HBCU Fellow, and student in the [Non-Profit Management program](#). Each panelist brought a unique perspective on their nontraditional academic and career trajectories as well as the personal challenges and hardships they had to overcome to succeed in the positions they are in today.



As we mingled during the networking event, I couldn't help but feel grateful for the opportunity to connect with such talented and passionate individuals. The event was a testament to our community's strength and each member's invaluable

contributions. I left feeling inspired by the stories shared and deeply appreciative of the incredible talent and dedication within The School of Professional Studies. I sincerely thank the CCIP Committee for organizing such a memorable and impactful event.

**Click [here](#) to learn more about the School of Professional Studies Career Catalyst Internship Program and how you can get involved.**

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## CDL Podcast Rising To The Top: Lessons in Leadership

In this CDL podcast series, [Rising to The Top: Lessons in Leadership](#) we interview senior industry leaders who shed light on obstacles they overcame as well as wins they achieved in their careers. Want to be featured on the podcast? Contact [Paul Maniaci](#)



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## Save The Date Upcoming Events



Please save the dates for our upcoming events and contact [spsemployer@columbia.edu](mailto:spsemployer@columbia.edu) if you are interested in registering for one of these events!

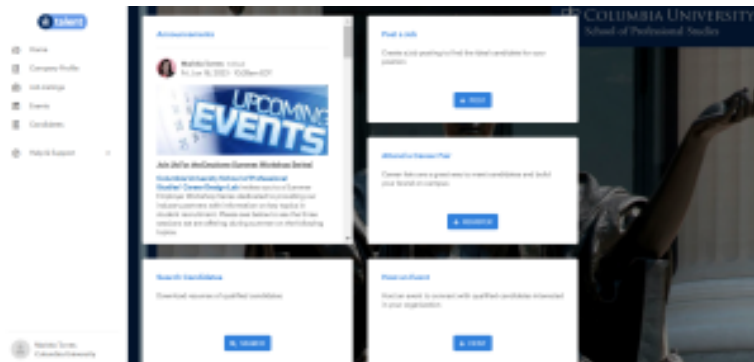
## Pre-Register Now

### HOST AN INFORMATION SESSION

We offer two types of **Employer Information Sessions**:

- **30-45 minute** company presentation, **15-20 Minute** Q&A
- **"NEW"** InfoView session combines Employer Information Session with Candidate Interviews. Employers will receive a prescreened resume book before the event to select candidates to interview. Company representatives offer a **15-20 minute** information session with Q&A. As a recruiter, you get the chance to interview candidates that you choose from YOUR resume book on the same day for **90-120 minutes**. A "NEW" One Stop Shop event!
  - All Employer Sessions will provide you with a resume book of all registered attendees for your event.

To learn more about these opportunities and other events, please visit [SPS Talent](#) to register for a career fair or host an event:



- Click on the **"Post"** button to post an **Open Job or Internship**
- Click on the **"Register"** button to register for **Upcoming Career Fairs**
  - Scroll down to select the appropriate Career Fair
- Click on the **"Host"** button to register for **Employer Information or InfoView Session**

[Register for an SPS TALENT account](#)

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