Dear Members of the Dual Career ~ Spouse Network,

October is the month where it becomes darker again, people are preparing for more rain and autumn kicks in. October is also the month where companies tend to hire more people. So for those looking for a job, make sure your CV is known to your favorite companies.

One of the possibilities to contact companies is through an unsolicited application, the theme of this months newsletter. In this Spotlight, Morten Esmann, Career Counselor at IDA, gives his advise on how to optimise your chances using unsolicited applications.

In the end of October, you probably will hear: "Slik eller Ballade?" (Trick or Treat). Halloween is especially popular with kids and shops. The modern Halloween came to Denmark some years ago when the Danish newspaper Ekstra Bladet in 1998 began to organise Halloween events. It wasn’t long before the children’s toy store Fætter BR also focused on Halloween along with the theme-park Tivoli.

Halloween was already celebrated from 610 until 1770, when it was cancelled by the Danish Protestant Church. Back then, the night was named as the translation of All Hallows Eve: Allehelgens aften – the night before Allehelgens dag. For Danish Protestants it was a day to remember and pray for the deceased Christians. The protestant church dates this day for the first Sunday in November.

31 October, and the modern Halloween is celebrated much like in USA. Over the last ten years the Danish pumpkin production has had a tenfold increase. So you will probably see a lot of houses with carved pumpkins waiting for the dressed up children to come round trick-or-treating.

We are looking forward to meeting you at on of our next events!

Mark de Vos & Mary K. Kobia

NEW JOB
CONGRATULATIONS!

JORD PRANGSMA
From Holland, PhD in Nanobiophysics
New Job: Application Specialist, Ibsen Photonics

NATHALIE CREMADES
From France, Audit & Accounting Specialist
New Job: Team Lead for Head Quarter Controlling, Maersk Oil
Spotlight: Tips on your unsolicited job search
How to succeed with unsolicited applications?

Over the years Morten Esmann, Career Counselor at The Danish Society of Engineers, IDA, has helped numerous people handle changes in their work life through career counselling, coaching, courses and workshops. I spoke to Morten to get his input on how you can improve your job hunting when seeking unsolicited. Here is what he had to say about this subject:

Why is it important to also consider the unsolicited job search method, when seeking a job in DK?

There is a large invisible job market in Denmark. A recent survey shows that 31% of all Danish employers considered unsolicited applications for their most recent recruitment. By applying unsolicited you show interest and enthusiasm as well as good knowledge of how you skills can benefit the company, provided that your approach is professional and relevant to the employer. Sending out a large number of identical application letters will not do anything good for you.

What is your best advice to jobseekers on how they can personalize their unsolicited application?

When I'm approached by candidates unsolicited, I don't want to see signs that I'm just one of many employers who have received the same CV. So my first advice is to show the company how you can contribute to their success. Be specific and describe the tasks that you are able to take responsibility of.

Do your research! You need to find out what will trigger the interest of that specific company. Don't forget to follow up. If you lean back and wait for an answer nothing will happen.

What do you love most about your job?

Every day I get the opportunity to help people improve their work life. It really motivates me that my raw material is people. That means that I’m constantly challenged and that I can’t just use standard solutions for individual problems!

Please feel free to attend our next International Career Spouse Lunch 14th October where we will be sharing more career advice and giving you tips on how you can personalise your unsolicited job search.

This informal and cozy event provides the opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have in connection to your job search.

“Making unsolicited job search personal is the key to success”

MORTEN ESMANN

International Staff Mobility (ISM) - International Career Spouse Lunch 10.00-13.00hrs

⇒ October 14th - Unsolicited job search. How do you personalise your unsolicited application? Does & Don’ts - Please register here

⇒ November 11th - Mock Interview & Elevator Pitch. How to improve your personal performance at a job interview? - Please register here

⇒ December 9th - Applying JTI: What’s your type and preference? - Please register here

Please visit our website for more information on all events www.ism.ku.dk

Welcome to New Spouses

Roland Alexander Pache
Germany

Judit Kőhler
Hungary

Chandini Ravindra
India

Elena Longhin
Italy

Andrew Soh
Philippines

Magda Rogalska
Poland

Talmadge Nardi
USA

Tatenda Mushangwe
Zimbabwe

Spouse with Kids Meetup

The meetup is for parents with children (babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers); pregnant spouses and everybody in our network who would like to join a parents’ spouse group. This initiative is run by volunteers of KU-spouses headed by Ines Mosler, who is a Swiss Child Psychotherapist. Meetings will be held every 2nd week on weekdays from 13-15hrs. at International House, 6th floor. Please register here.