Description of Effort: Panel discussion for individuals in job or career transition.

Need Addressed: Professional development program for members and potential members currently in job transition or looking for a career transition into the WLP field.

Does this effort align with your chapter mission? Yes

Does this effort align with ASTD’s mission? Yes

Target Audience: WLP professionals who are currently in transition, seeking new job opportunities or individuals looking to change careers into WLP field.

Costs/Resource Use: The program was co-sponsored by the Cleveland State University Cole Center for Continuing Education. They provided the location and AV equipment for the program. Cleveland State University also has an Adult Learning Program and hosts several ASTD certificate programs. Several Cleveland State staff and faculty are chapter members.

How did you implement: The panel historically has consisted of individuals representing key areas in the job search: a career counselor, recruiter, someone discussing employment trends, a hiring manager and someone discussing job search resources. This year, the panel consisted of a recruiter, a career counselor, a “networking goddess” (and career coach), as well as the Regional Coordinator Ohio Skills Bank. The program included resume critiques prior to the panel discussion. The discussion was very interactive with the audience asking questions.

What were the Outcomes: As a result of the program, the Chapter received 2 new memberships. In addition, several of the participants have related stories of networking successes since the meeting and discovering volunteer opportunities to help build their portfolios. In addition, a few others have started discussions on the Chapter website’s online forum.

Lessons Learned: If there are any companies with positions available, invite them to attend. There is a ready-made pool of candidates. They can also speak to the skills that they are looking for. Also, have a table available with job postings that you have downloaded from various sources. We have a job board on the Chapter website.