

LIS-4708

The Interview

(and other stuff, but that actually matters)

“What are the rules for talking to other human beings.....?”

“You either succeed or you learn.”

“

There are PILES of information and articles about this topic, and what's more annoying...

...none of it is particularly bad.

# Basics, then deconstruction

- Prepare as much as you can
- Be on time
- Dress well
- Be Authentic/Upbeat/etc
- Answer questions well
- Ask good questions also, if appropriate
- Thank interviewer afterwards

# PREPARE

(this is a good one)

I'd say –

THINK ABOUT WHY AND HOW THIS IS ALL  
HAPPENING.

This is better than any one size fits all  
advice...e.g.

# PREPARE

- What is the place / What is the job?
  - How big is the place
  - Do you have any personal connection?
  - Have you heard of them?
  - How (if at all) desperate are they
  - Google! Seeeriously

# PREPARE

- How did this interview come to happen?
  - Who will be conducting it?  
(actual boss? HR? Some rando?)
  - When and where – and WHY when and where?  
(set up just for you? Factory line?)



# BE ON TIME

I mean, duh.

# DRESS

- If told, do that.
- If not told, err on the side of “formal”
- Also, err on the side of “not provocative”

# THE REST OF IT

...is “talking to people, a skill that literally can’t be summed up in slides – but some thoughts”

# THE REST OF IT

- It can't be “taught,” but it can be practiced
- If your interviewer likes you, then you win the interview part and can stop worrying about that.
- People can tell when you're being fake, but that may not matter. Try to figure out if it does or not.
- The person talking to you is a person, with a particular role.

# “NETWORKING”

So, if you're going “ugh” right now, you're not alone.

But to offer a few things:

# “NETWORKING”

The network YOU ALREADY HAVE is probably your most valuable asset. Just “use” it.

# “NETWORKING”

Do your best to **disinterestedly** understand the “current social/business climate.”

..even though disinterestedly is literally impossible if you're a human being...

# “NETWORKING”

It's not “fake” – if it feels completely fake then forget about it.

It's just that, like everywhere else, meeting and getting to know people is hard. And by the way, you're PRESENTLY in the place where its easier then it ever will be again.



# “NETWORKING”

In much the same way that the most interesting part of the club is outside the club afterwards – the most important parts of the symposium/conference/talk etc. is in between the sessions.

**“NETWORKING”**

**GO TIL THEY STOP YOU.**