Preparing for GPITT

The Government and Public Interest Table Talk (GPITT) give students the opportunity to meet with public interest employers and discuss internship opportunities for the upcoming summer or academic year. During the event, local non-profit organizations and government agencies come to campus and set up tables and share information on their organization and its hiring needs. Employers will be organized in alphabetical order at GPITT.

Come to the student check-in table when you first arrive to pick up a name tag. CDO counselors will be at that table throughout the event if you have any questions.

What should I wear?
Dress professionally, in interview attire. Generally, men should wear dark suits, white or light blue shirts, and conservative ties. Women should wear dark skirt suits with pantyhose.

What should I bring?
Review the GPITT Employer list and prepare application packets for the employers you’re interested in. Paperclip your application packets together so they’re ready to submit. Remember to bring extra copies of your resume in case you meet any other employers that you’d like to apply to while you’re at the event.

How should I approach the employers?
No need to be nervous, just walk up to their table and introduce yourself! Remember, this is not an interview. You will introduce yourself, let them know you’re interested in working with them, drop off your application materials, and ask any questions you might have about their organization.

What should I do if the employer is already talking to another student?
You should be respectful of other students, but it’s perfectly fine to jump into the conversation when they touch on a subject you can speak to. Otherwise, most conversations won’t be too lengthy, so you can always wait until the previous student is done.

Once your conversation is coming to end, don’t be afraid to introduce the employer to another student. That way you’re helping out another student approach the employer, while giving yourself a natural way out of the conversation.

I spoke to the employer and dropped off my application materials, what now?
This depends on the employer. Most will give you some indication of how they plan on following up or if they expect you to follow up (if not, you should always ask). Generally employers will take all the applications back to their office and then invite students to come to their office for an interview.

Don’t forget to ask for a business card. If you do not hear from them within their specified time frame (or after about 2 weeks if they did not specify), you should always follow-up.

I got an offer, but it’s unpaid! What do I do?