# PMI-SV Job Seekers' Group ● November 7, 2011

Monday, November 07, 2011
7:30 AM

- **It is worth reminding people** that our host location (Coco's) stays in business by:
    - □ The restaurant survives on the price of the food that we purchase, and
    - □ The staff survive on the tips that we provide
    - *. . . please be appropriately generous in your patronage*

- Every Monday
    - □ Coco's Restaurant (Lawrence Expressway at Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale)
    - □ 7:30 AM (but welcome to arrive earlier)
- See the PMI-SV calendar for details

- **Today's agenda:**
    1) Introductions (at 10 minutes after the meeting start)
        - □ Introduce yourself in 2-3 sentences
    **2) Focus topic for today:**
        - □ **Discussion of "Seth's Blog" on What good interview questions are actually trying to discover**
    **3) Open topics**
    4) Upcoming Events

- Notes from this meeting are abbreviated (names and introductions are removed) and posted in the "Files" area of our Yahoo! Group at http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/PMISV_JOB_SEARCH_GROUP/

- A copy of this handout is available at the moderator's personal website: http://PMP.slafetra.org/js-team

**Tips & Tricks**

| Word Cloud | • Look at your resume through the lens at http://www.wordle.net |
| | • Try this with job descriptions as well as your resume |
| Have your PMP? -- claim your PDU credits | • Our meeting is worth 1.5 "category A" PDUs -- see http://www.pmisv.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=71&Itemid=143 |



PMI-SV Job Search Breakfast Attendance Over Time
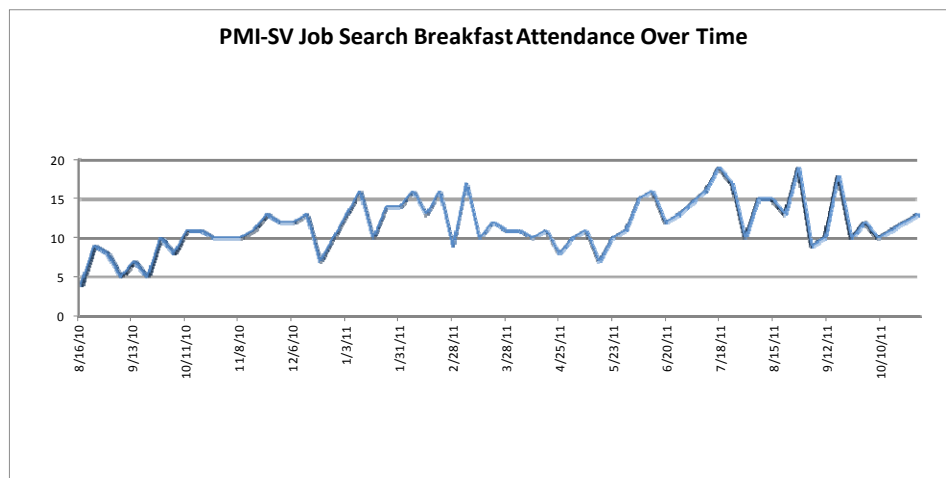
**Possible topics for discussion**:
(please add to this list, as it is a "living" topic-list)
**(We will also periodically revisit items that we have discussed in earlier meetings)**

- **How-to**
    1) Managing conflict within a team
    2) Showing your expertise to different classes of "customers" (recruiter, hiring manager, other interviewer, social contact, etc.)
    3) Resume hints (dos, don't, best way to present oneself)
    4) LinkedIn Groups (how to leverage the groups for job search)

5) Finding and contacting HR & recruiters WITHIN a company
6) Key questions to ask of recruiters and interviewers
7) Reading the interviewer and adjusting yourself accordingly
8) The structure of job-searching -- taking charge of the job-search
9) Incident and Problem Management

- **Hands-on**
    1) Share Web and other resource links
    2) Share actual interview questions heard by recent interviewees
    3) Two things that you are doing (or will do) differently in your job-search this week

- **Other**
    1) The worth of domain knowledge as a PM (Project mgr, Program mgr)
    2) What temp agencies are associated with which companies
    3) Never stop looking
    4) Questions you are tired of hearing again and again -- how do you differentiate yourself when you reply?

**Past topics we have discussed:**
**(We will periodically revisit these items)**
The date listed is the most recent time we discussed the topic, and the discussion is usually summarized in the meeting notes from that date.

- **How-to**
    - 10/14/2011: Ways to get or enhance your visibility
    - 10/03/2011: Handling complacency
    - 08/22/2011: Reading an interviewer
    - 08/15/2011: Handling a glut of information (to and from yourself)
    - 08/08/2011: How do you get experience when you need experience to get a job
    - 05/16/2011: Presenting yourself
    - 04/18/2011: Avoid being perceived as a "threat" to the interviewer
    - 0 4/11/2011: Open-ended questions
    - 04/04/2011: Your 90-day plans (pre-job and post-acceptance)
    - 03/07/2011: Managing your relationship with temp and employment agencies
    - 01/31/2011: Neutralizing employer's concerns
    - 01/31/2011: Dealing with Gaps in resume, Many short jobs, Extensive time with one company
    - 01/24/2011: Sharing your true expertise when you are not familiar with the jargon
    - 01/17/2011: How do you suggest or recommend change in an interview situation
    - 12/06/2010: Job-hunting over the holidays
    - 11/29/2010: Where to find assistance in writing/reviewing your resume
    - 11/29/2010: Getting the attention of a hiring manager
    - 11/22/2010: Survival jobs when you need them to "just pay the bills"
    - 11/08/2010: Preparing for an interview
    - 11/01/2010: Business Card (dos, don't, best way to present oneself)

- **Hands-on**
    - 0 6/13/2011: Share a simple one-page graphic or diagram that is significant to you.  Explain it to your interviewer
    - 05/23/2011: Share business cards and resumes (style, format, content, organization)
    - 01/24/2010: Learning during the interview
    - 12/13/2010: Share business cards (style, format, content, organization)

- **Other**
    - 11/07/2011: What good interview questions are actually trying to discover
    - 10/24/2011: Applying for "survival" jobs that may not be on your career path
    - 09/26/2011: Advice about how to present yourself
    - 08/22/2011: What do you think of the current financial roller coaster and how it impacts your job hunting
    - 07/25/2011: Your perception of the current job market / any stories or anecdotes to share
    - 07/11/2011: Share your interview experiences
    - 06/27/2011: How do you allocate your job-search resources
    - 06/20/2011: How do you "un-ask" for something (changing directions gracefully)
    - 05/30/2011: What do you feel is blocking you from passing the interview and/or landing the job
    - 05/09/2011: Stupid Mistakes Not To Make

Skip,

Thought you might be interested in this for the Job Search group discussion…
Thanks,
Terrie

**From:  On Behalf Of** Seth Godin
**Sent:** Friday, November 04, 2011 3:21 AM
**To:**
**Subject:** Seth's Blog : What good interview questions are actually trying to discover

## What good interview questions are actually trying to discover

How long are you willing to keep pushing on a good project until you give up?

How hard is it to get you to change your mind when you're wrong?

How much do you learn from failing?

How long does it take you to learn something new?

How hard is it for you to let someone else take the lead?

How much do you care?

The rest is merely commentary, either that or they're interviewing you for a job that's not as good as you deserve. For those jobs, the only question they're really focusing on is, "will she fit in around here?"