

ASSIGNMENT #7 – Resume and Career Plan

DUE: At the beginning of your recitation section, November 28-30, 2006.

As a senior in EE or CmpE, you are most likely about to enter a professional career that may last for 40 or more years. This assignment requires you to address a number of issues regarding preparation, life-long learning, and measures of success in your chosen (or possible) field. This assignment consists of two parts: a current resume and a written career plan.

The first element is a current resume suitable for use in interviewing for a permanent job upon graduation. Georgia Tech Career Services (in the Student Success Center, or www.career.gatech.edu) provides information and examples on resume preparation, and the subject is discussed in many books. If you are already interviewing for jobs, you may submit the resume you are using for that purpose. If you do not have such a resume, create one.

The second element is a written career plan. This should focus on your plans for the first five to ten years after graduation. If you are planning to immediately enter graduate school, then it should emphasize your plans following graduate school. In addition to defining your career plan for the indicated period, you should “fill out the story” with information such as the following:

- ◆ Why do you plan to pursue this particular specialty or career path? What are its advantages and disadvantages?
- ◆ How does your EE/CmpE education prepare you for this career?
- ◆ What additional education or training will you need to enter this field? To stay current during your career? What options are available for continued professional development in your chosen field?
- ◆ How is success typically defined in this career path? How does this match with your personal goals?
- ◆ How will changes in technology be likely to affect your chosen career? How is this career path likely to evolve over time?

The format and content of the career plan are not strictly defined, although it must be typed and a maximum of two pages long. Your career plan should be written so that it reads as a coherent and organized document; it should not be simply a list of responses to the above questions. Include your name and recitation section at the top of the first page.

Assume that your intended audience is hiring managers at a company with which you are interviewing for a job. As such, the overall tone of your written plan should be professional rather than entertaining. You are not required to select a traditional EE/CmpE engineering career path, since there are many other professions (including, law, medicine, and business management) for which an engineering background is suitable preparation. Additionally, some people with engineering degrees choose seemingly unrelated careers.

Overall, the plan should reflect your serious contemplation and analysis of the issues involved, as well as your own intentions and aspirations.