

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## PROFESSIONAL MOCK INTERVIEW



On March 4th and 5th, Ascend’s Professional Development Committee provided an opportunity for members to enhance their social and speaking skills through mock interviews. Over forty members signed up to participate, and each person was given thirty minutes to talk to a professional as if they were actually being recruited into a firm. Professionals from Deloitte, EY, PwC, Clorox, Robert Half, PG&E, and Well Fargo all came

out and devoted their time to giving helpful and critical feedback to everyone they interviewed. After the mock interviews, members came out with a stronger sense of what to expect during an interview and how to approach it in the best possible way to land them a job. Thank you to the Professional Development Committee and all the professionals in providing the club a great opportunity.

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Preparing to sell boba in the morning



Ascend members selling boba!

**Us:**  
J-class tax and business advisory  
its clients with complex tax and  
ess problems for Fortune 1000  
emerging, high growth companies

**6th Information Session:**  
entation about True Partners  
ulting services and culture  
rtunity to meet and interact with  
ssionals at all levels of the firm  
ade levels are welcome to attend  
earn more about TPC and our  
ship and full-time opportunities

**We are Looking for:**  
idividuals with professional demeanor  
business mindset  
uating Classes of 2014 and 2015

**True Collab**  
"We have this culture of helping  
I measure our success based on  
many people we can make suc  
Michael Chen  
Managing Director

**TruePartners**  
CONSULTING  
Career Center, 2440

Career Exploration Activity

## MR. GREEN BUBBLE FUNDRAISER

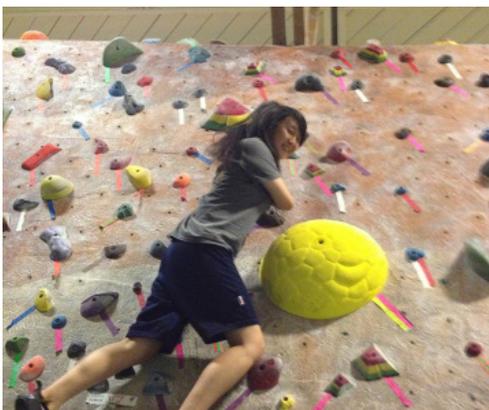
Given the successful turnout of Krispy Kreme donut sales from the month prior, the Marketing and Social committee were eager to tackle a new fundraiser by selling Mr. Green Bubble milk tea. Early morning on March 18th, Ascend members were up and ready to sell to their fellow peers of the Berkeley community. At the end of the day, all 300 cups were sold. Through the fundraiser, Ascend members had the opportunity to boost their speaking and advertising skills by confronting passing students on Sproul Plaza with boxes of delicious boba drinks.

## TRUE PARTNERS CONSULTING INFORMATIONAL SESSION

On March 12, 2013 True Partners Consulting, a platinum sponsor of Ascend UC Berkeley Chapter, hosted an informational session in the Berkeley Career Center, gathering attention of various students and possible tax consultants. Our Career Development Committee worked with True Partners Consulting in order to garner as much interest from the U.C Berkeley Campus. Using social media and flyers, the Career Development Committee filled the Gold room of the Career center with more than 60 attendees. The informational session gave many of the students an inside look of the daily life of True Partners Consulting and gave students an opportunity to network with many of the workers at True Partners. The session started off with a panel of the members and a powerpoint prepared beforehand. The session went on to a Q&A session and ended with a networking session. Many of the students expressed their gratitude for the event and gained a great interest in True Partners Consulting.

## CAREER EXPLORATION

Ascend's Finance Committee hosted its first event for the spring semester on March 12th, 2014. Nearly forty committee members and alumni participated in the career exploration event where they were introduced to investment banking, venture capital, asset management, and trading. Members of the Finance Committee presented to the audience the objectives, lifestyles, requirements, and salaries of different jobs in each industry. A game of taboo wrapped up the event where members not only utilized but also consolidated their newly acquired knowledge of the financial services industry.



## ROCK CLIMBING SOCIAL

On March 8th, 30 Ascend members and officers visited Bridges Rock Gym in El Cerrito to enjoy a Saturday night with fellow Ascend members. The group went by taking the BART together; members shared stories about themselves during the ride creating a closer bond and friendship between the members of Ascend. The members spent two hours rock climbing and tightrope balancing as well as just socializing, dancing, and taking humorous photos. Many of the members encouraged and supported other members who were trying to climb the walls, giving them extra strength to reach the top. Fortunately, nobody was injured during the night and everybody had a memorable time. To wrap up the social event, all the members headed over to Bangkok Thai to feast before returning home for a good night's rest.

## SIGNATURE SERIES: TECH PANEL

On March 13th around 20 student officers representing UC Berkeley and San Francisco State University traveled to the Salesforce location in San Francisco for a Signature Series Panel with professionals from both social media and technological industries. The students were able to ask detailed questions to these professionals regarding their career endeavors in their respective industries. It was an exclusive opportunity to not only meet and network with professionals that were not necessarily representative of the accounting field but also to explore different industries for the younger Ascend officers who attended. To conclude the event, the Salesforce hosts gave a brief tour of the office building to the students, allowing them to experience and observe their office environment. At the end of the event, the UC Berkeley students not only gained priceless insight from the professionals, but also met other officers from the Ascend organization of San Francisco State University.



## NETWORKING WITH PROFESSIONALS

On March 18, 2014, Ascend Career Development and Professional Development Committee held the Networking with Professionals workshop to teach students networking etiquette. Leading by example, we invited 10 professionals from big firms such as PwC, EY, KPMG, and True Partners Consulting to speak to our students. At the beginning, students were grouped in sections of 4-5 students while the professionals were assigned a specific table. This allowed each student a chance to rotate to every table and speak to all professionals from different fields at a more personal level. The professionals were also given time to give feedback to students regarding their networking skills after each session. At the end of the event, every student walked out learning many networking tips and a handful of business cards, anxious to go home to email a thank-you letter to those professionals whom they spoke to.

## TAX AID

Throughout the month of March, the Community Service committee organized Ascend members for the annual Tax Aid. Tax Aid is a program that is targeted to help underprivileged families file taxes as well as help them receive tax returns. Due to the fact that there were various locations, the Community Service committee separated our members accordingly to each station at a certain period of time. Our members who volunteered for the program had to go through an online lecture and test in order to become qualified. At the location our members learned how to do intake as well as how to use a tax program called lacerte. The program is still going on throughout April and Ascend is excited to continue volunteering for such a great event.

