



## National Semiconductor at SJSU 9/26/07

By Danielle Ynostroza

Donalyn Ruiz spoke last Wednesday at the FMA speaker presentation. National Semiconductor is a producer of integrated circuits. In the last fiscal year their gross revenues were \$1.9 billion. National Semiconductor makes LCD monitors, amplifiers and other chip related products. They have manufacturing plants and research development plants worldwide, but their corporate office is based in Santa Clara.

Donalyn explained that financing is an important support tool for businesses to be successful in the marketplace. Financing helps the people with the ideas and the creativity to produce new and innovative products stay viable by keeping them on track either through forecasting budgets or anticipating costs. Donalyn explained the division of financing responsibilities at NSC is 4 sectors; operations finance, product line support, manufacturing support and corporate financial services. These departments provide the yardstick to gauge production and goal requirements with what is desired and what is happening. This keeps the company strong by showing what is turning the profit and what is not. Some of the responsibilities include basic accounting and finance activities such as billing and payroll to more complex activities like capital spending forecasts and annual strategic plans. Donalyn emphasized that Finance is not just crunching numbers; it is helping managers who don't know finance to make sound decisions, helping them to know the resources that they have and how to allocate them for the best return.

Donalyn focused her talk on how to get a job and started with the importance of a good resume. She gave the criteria that National Semiconductor uses to gauge prospective employees. In addition to a well-organized structure with detailed information about GPAs, graduation dates and job experience with a meaningful objective, Donalyn emphasized the need for balance between education, job experience and social life. At National, they strive to promote a balanced work/life environment and look for people have the same values that they do.

Donalyn also brought up some key considerations when looking and interviewing for a job. She said to ask yourself if this position fits your ideal career path? Where do you want to be in 3, 5 or 10 years? Are you going to enjoy what you do? By identifying your key strengths and characteristics, you can better vocalize to prospective employers what you can offer their company and what makes you different from other applicants. You also get a better idea about where you would like your career to take you. She also mentioned that it is important to get some basic company stats and a feel for the corporate culture, does the company reflect your values and does this show in your resume? At National, the characteristics that they value the most are leadership, teamwork, community involvement, communication skills, analytical skills, determination, eagerness to learn and adaptability.

Patty Hoo spoke about the benefits of working at National. She joined NSC 3 months ago as an FP&A financial analyst. She supports the product line director so that they can make better decisions for the business by giving various reports on department spending forecasts and helping in the month and quarter end closing. She spoke about why she chose NSC. NSC provides personal employee benefits like health insurance, retirement saving with a 401k, employee stock purchase plan, paid time off, on-sit convenience services, such as a fitness center and a private employee park. National also supports your career by providing 100% training and educational reimbursement, a job rotation program based on your interests and career path to keep your skill set at its highest and now, a CPA program that will allow you to get your license. In addition to these perks, NSC helps the new college grad to transition to the work environment by providing a college club and mentoring program that is designed for college hires to have fun and socialize with other new graduates. The mentoring program matches up new hires with someone who has experience with NSC to meet with once a week to discuss your job and any questions that you have.

What makes National so special? According to these presenters, it is the company culture and the open door policy that encourages people to communicate. National also promotes from within and provides many job advancement opportunities. Presently there are 6-7 positions available for people graduating in December '07 and May '08. They prefer finance majors and accounting background is a plus. Post your resume at either [www.national.com/careers](http://www.national.com/careers) or [www.careercenter.sjsu.edu](http://www.careercenter.sjsu.edu) National Semiconductor will be on campus on 10/3 for the first round of interviews and will host the second round of interviews at the NSC site in Santa Clara., see their website for more details.