Tabia’s advice:

“You’re not alone in the networking struggle. Persevere. A single interaction with the right person could lead to a big opportunity.”

Tabia Yapp, who graduated in May 2014 with a major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and minors in Writing and Legal Studies, works for the Creative Artists Agency in Los Angeles, California.

Getting to know myself in college:

My career goals were always rather diverse and continually under construction. I have considered (and still am thinking about) pursuing careers in law, social advocacy, and the entertainment industry. Meeting with Career Advisor Carol Moakley helped me find ways to test out these curiosities in the real world. For example, I had a legal internship where I learned a ton about the organization and various legal systems and developed meaningful relationships with several lawyers. I also discovered that law wasn’t for me at that stage in my life, so I shifted my focus towards making an impact through entertainment, which is what I do now. All of my internships were incredibly helpful and insightful!

Bringing my story to life after college:

After college, I landed a position with a leading talent agency, Creative Artists Agency. Getting a job can be exhausting and difficult, but during that process, it was important for me to remember it’s ok to remove yourself from interview rounds when the job or company doesn’t seem like a good fit.

My take-away:

It was so important for me to attend career fairs and on-campus events that gave me experience in networking. I learned to keep in regular touch with people I connected with, so when the time came to pursue a full-time position, I could submit my resume to a specific person with a robust history and professional relationship behind my application.