



# SDSU Student Accounting Society

## Meeting Minutes: CohnReznick

Date 04/04/2022

Presenter: Vanessa Dastmalchi,

Email: [VANESSA.DASTMALCHI@COHNREZNICK.COM](mailto:VANESSA.DASTMALCHI@COHNREZNICK.COM)

### 1. Officer Elections:

- Monday April 18
- 12 PM - 2 PM
- Reach out to any officers if have any questions
- Need to have a presentation slides:
  - Length 3 minutes max
  - Use google slides
  - Information should include but not limited to About you, Experience, Plans for position
  - Email slides to [SASpresident.sdsu@gmail.com](mailto:SASpresident.sdsu@gmail.com) by **Friday, April 5th 8 pm**

### 2. Things to consider before choosing a firm:

- Why is finding your fit important? Consider the following:
  - Many different firms to choose from (Big 4, mid tier, etc)
  - Decision impacts our future career paths ( public accounting, private, industry, etc)
  - Firms are not just about size (work in big groups, small groups, big
  - Important to choose what's best for you
- Self Assessment: What interests me?
  - What type of firms are interesting to me?
  - What industries do you wanna work in?
  - What area of the country do I want to work in?
  - Any opportunities to travel abroad?
- Self Assessment: How do I work best?
  - What motivates me at work?
    - ❖ Working in a large or small team?
    - ❖ Work vs personal life? Separate?
  - Preferred working environment?
    - ❖ Working alone or collaboratively?

- ❖ Want to be a part of a larger team to feel like I'm a part of something or work one on one in a smaller setting?
- ❖ One on one training?
- Figure out what is important to me?
  - Strong firm culture
  - Community involvement
  - Diverse workplace
  - Opportunities for promotion
  - Mentorship and training programs
  - Work life balance

### 3. Benefits of different firms:

- Big 4 Firms:
  - Have national and international presence
  - Diverse portfolio and large, publicly traded clients
  - Narrower focus due to SEC regulations and company scale
  - Working on larger engagement teams, won't know everyone
  - May only work on part of the audit- less exposure up front
  - Company culture can be very competitive
  - "Small fish, big pond"
- National Firms:
  - Have large US presence, but typically limited international scope
  - Clients are typically private clients and companies
  - Typically smaller engagement teams
  - Have the opportunity to work on whole audit
  - More opportunities to own client relationships
  - Better work/life balance
  - "Big fish/smaller ponds"
- Choose a fit, not a name:
  - Choose a firm that fits your interests, working styles, and values
  - Choose a firm who is interested in you
  - Choose to work with people that you want to work with
- During Interviews:
  - Pay attention to the culture:
    - ❖ How will I be challenged?
    - ❖ What type of support will I receive (mentors, training, etc)?

- ❖ Does my interviewer seem happy to work here?
- ❖ Does the team get along well?
- ❖ Any social activities planned?

→ Making your decision post offer:

- ❖ Ask the recruiter if you need to speak with more people in the firm
- ❖ Ask for extension on your offer deadline if you need to
- ❖ Talk it over with your family
- ❖ Remember it's your choice

#### **4. Welcome to CohnReznick:**

- Has 2700+ employees include 275 partners in 27 cities
- \$700+ Million in revenues
- Various industry: real estate, emerging industries, public sector, private client service, etc
- **Culture:** Newsweek's Most Loved Workplace List, Vault Top 10 Internship Program
- **Our Interns:**
  - Real hands on experience
  - Excellent mentors
  - Consistent feedback
  - Strong sense of purpose
- [VANESSA.DASTMALCHI@COHNREZNICK.COM](mailto:VANESSA.DASTMALCHI@COHNREZNICK.COM) is the recruiter's email
- Apply to winter and summer internships or full time associates