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INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE: About IA Mentoring

Information Architect & Design Experience

Information Architect Specialist

User Experience Designer

IA Mentoring

Instructions

1. Please fill out the required Mentor Program Survey (Protégé Registration Survey) to participate in the Mentoring Program.
2. Please return the required IA Mentoring Form to me.
3. Please get a LinkedIn account, and send me an invitation to connect with you.
4. If you do not fill out the required survey and provide all the requested items to me, I will not be able to respond back to you.
5. Please include your most current cover letter and résumé (required).
6. Please include your essay (1-2 pp.) about why you think I should mentor you—be specific and give the details about your goals and objectives—what you want to learn from the experience (required). Please review the handouts listed below (required). Why should I mentor you?

Mentoring is specifically for Information Architects, User Experience Designers, Project/Product Managers, including other protégés wanting to be mentored—if you work in a related career path, like computer/Web programming, technical writing, or graphic design. Thank you.



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Program

The IA Mentoring Program serves to introduce experienced IA and UXD professionals (“mentors”) to practitioners, newcomers to the field, students, and anyone interested in being mentored (“protégés”). We help by recruiting mentors, providing a listing to prospective mentors for protégés to review, and, if requested, making introductions based on criteria provided during registration.

This program is provided as a service to IAI members only. Mentors do not need to be members, but protégés do. If you are not already a member, you can join the Information Architecture Institute to participate as a protégé.

Getting Started

We ask that both mentors and protégés please fill out our Mentor Program Survey to participate in the Mentoring Program (see links below):

Please note we are experiencing some response time delays due to a pending account upgrade. We will process your registration as soon as we can and thank you for your patience.

If you are applying as a protégé, upon completing the survey, you will be able to:

Choose a mentor. Find someone whose interests and experiences match what you are looking for by reviewing the list of available mentors and contact them directly—or alternatively get a recommendation.

As you fill out the mentoring program survey, be sure to indicate this preference on the survey. Our Mentoring Coordinator can suggest an appropriate mentor based on your interests, experience, and needs. You will still be responsible for interviewing prospective mentors to ensure that your needs can be met.



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We highly recommend that you review the available mentors list before requesting a recommendation or introduction. We can make recommendations and assist with introductions; however, we will neither assign nor enforce matches. We see mentoring as a very personal process that only the participants can enter into through mutual agreement.

If you are unsure of what you are looking for or whom you should contact, contact our Mentoring Coordinator who will help define your goals and make introductions to appropriate mentors.

We ask that both mentors and protégés please fill out our Mentor Program Survey to participate in the Mentoring Program:

- http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=IUqTOtr2_2bEV3FEdaKtEdiA_3d_3d

To view list of available mentors, you will need to log into the Member Center. A list of available mentors is located under the Mentoring dropdown at the top of the page. If you are already logged in, you can Sign In to the Member Center to access the Available Mentors page. This action requires member login.

About Me

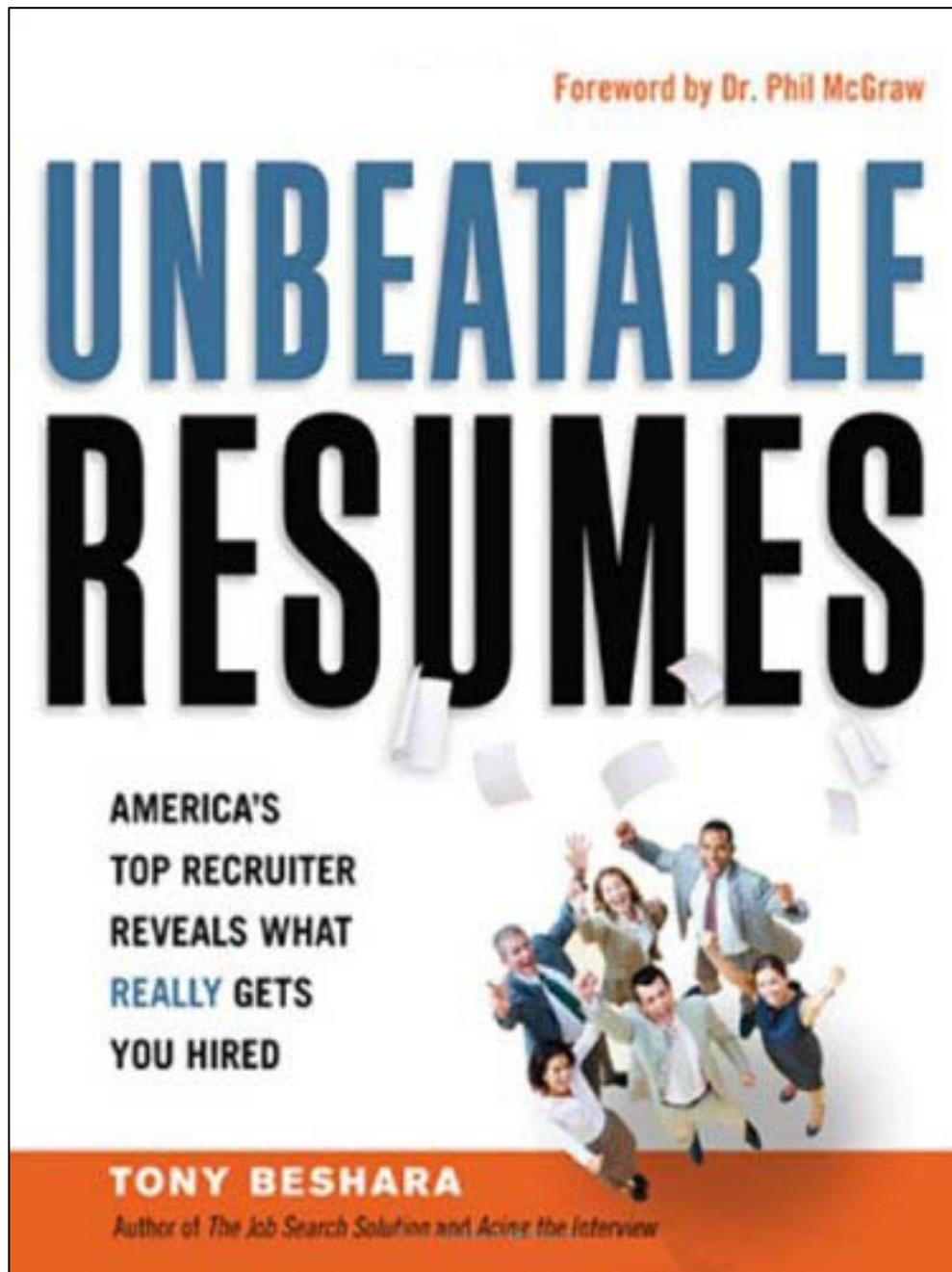
I volunteer and spend time mentoring students (usually graduate-level) or recent graduates on the Information Architect, User Experience Design, Project Management career path. This provides in-depth suggestions and recommendations for their specific needs, including ideas for portfolio improvements, as well as preparation for interviews.

I stress the importance of developing excellent communication skills, leadership and management skills, including professional interpersonal skills. The value and importance of being able to produce, communicate, and talk about pertinent deliverables—this definitely adds value to any organization.



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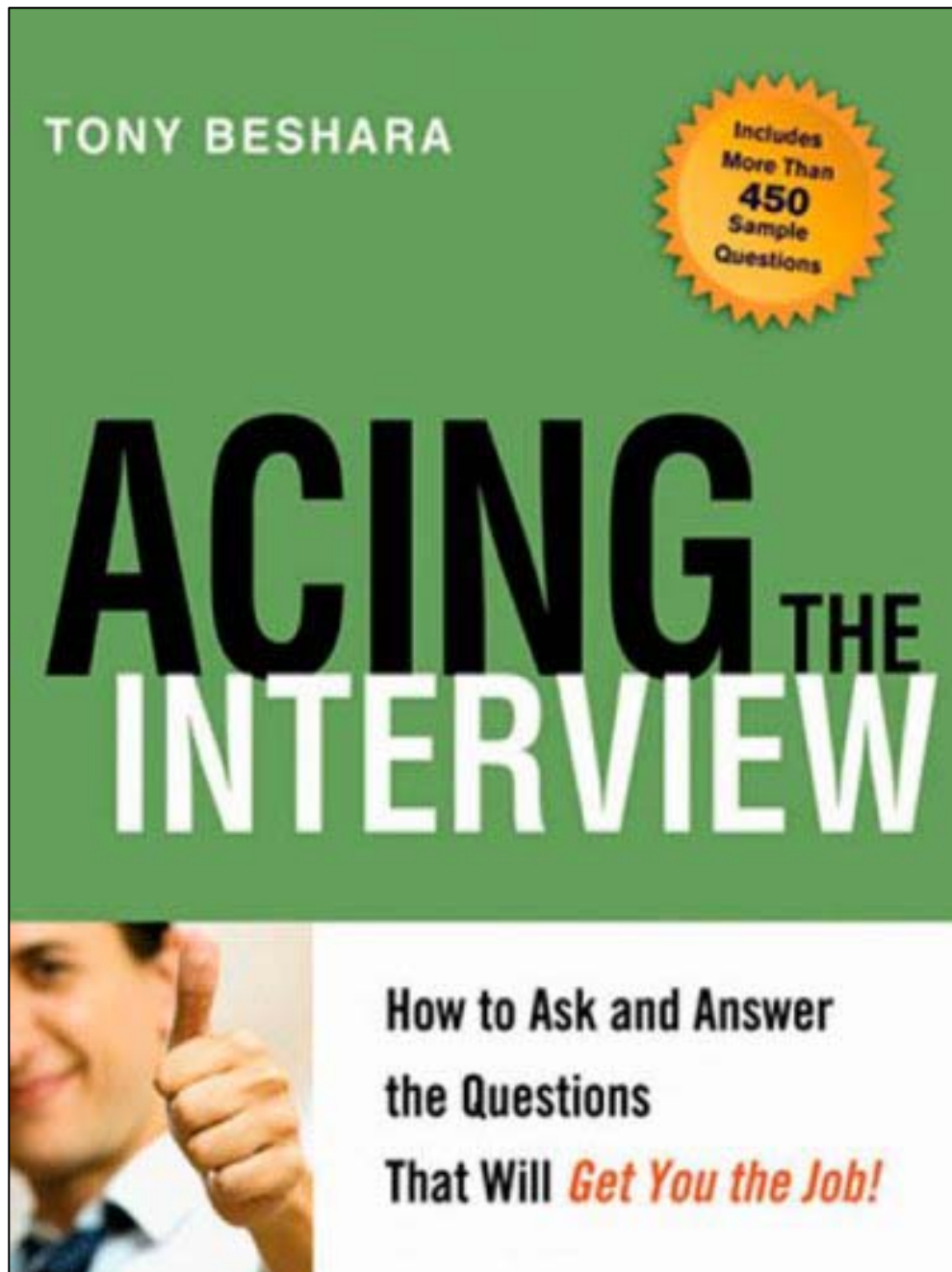
I recommend these reference books for résumé writing, interviewing, and job search.





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