

Melinda C. Urick

The value of important networking and effective internships were highlighted in an adult learning and development panel Wednesday night.

Three panelists gathered at Cleveland State University's Fenn Tower ballroom at The Adult Learning and Development Panel Discussion and Information Session on October 25, 2006 to discuss the importance of adult learning and development and the advantages of a higher education.

"Learning is a lifelong process," said Mr. Anthony Kinslow, Vice President of Human Resources of Case Western University.

His insight on late career changes resonated with the small audience of adult students and professionals. Kinslow added that not every portion of higher education is in a classroom, and insisted that a career has to be rewarding and fun.

A recurring theme of discussion throughout the panel was the importance and effect internships and networking play in adult higher learning situations.

Pamela Charity, Director of Undergraduate Affairs and Student Relations at CSU and a current student in the education doctoral program, shared her personal steps in development and added that the greatest gift is a job to enjoy. Within adult learning, there is compassion, said Charity.

Charity added, "I am more interested... in the social and contextual meaning of careers." She emphasized her focus on women and minorities in the engineering fields and what shapes career and decision making.