

STC WorkQuest™ Conference Session Description

Region 4 STC Conference, November 9, 2002, Columbus OH

90-minute session

Session title: **Smart job searching: A report on a job search support group for writers**

Panel: *Janis Ramey, John Clark, Diana Mathis, Jim McCarty, Mary Ann Pike*

Who should attend:

- Anyone who is or may be looking for work (We're going to talk about some specific techniques for job searching.)
- Anyone wanting to start a job search support group (We're going to describe what it is and how to start such a group.)

Description

Looking for work can be lonely, frustrating, depressing, and demoralizing. You can battle these effects by joining a support group that not only motivates and empowers, but also provides concrete information about how to conduct your job search. Five members of the STC WorkQuest™ support group in Pittsburgh will describe how such a group operates and share what we've learned about looking for work. We are your peers, writer practitioners, who are looking for work.

We will also give you take-home tips on subjects such as these:

- Networking
- Coping skills
- Interviewing
- Resumes

See the STC WorkQuest™ website for more information about the group and about job search topics -- <http://home.earthlink.net/~workquest/>.

Biographical information:

Janis Ramey (panel moderator) is a freelance technical writer with clients from many technologies. She's produced software and hardware manuals, procedures, proposals, reports, newsletters, websites, catalogues, and most any other type of technical documentation. She is also a teacher of technical writing. Email: ramey@technical-writing.net, Website: www.technical-writing.net, Phone: 412-833-5548.

John Clark is a freelance writer with over 20 years experience in technical communications. He consults on writing and document design, and conducts training on writing, graphics, document design, and creativity. His clients tell him

he has outstanding versatility, is efficient and well-organized, and has a great attitude. Email: clarkenter@attbi.com, Phone: 412-781-8655.

Diana Mathis is a technical writer and public relations specialist with experience in all formats and aspects of print production and writing for the Web. With degrees in biology and nursing, Diana has special expertise in health/medicine and a particular interest in wellness and patient education. Email: dbmathis@fyi.net, Phone: 412-521-6346.

Jim McCarty is a Consulting Technical Writer with 20+ years experience. He analyzes and refines business and industrial processes, defines new procedures for targeted audiences, and develops training programs to support them. Email: mccarty@nauticom.net, Phone: 412-487-9696.

Mary Ann Pike is an award-winning freelance technical writer in southwestern Pennsylvania with degrees in electrical engineering and professional writing. Email: mapike@earthlink.net, Phone: 412-833-8652.