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BOSTON UNIVERSITY

BU grad gets on-air job recommendation from 'Daily Show' host Jon Stewart

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By Matt Rocheleau, Boston.com Staff

A recent graduate of Boston University got a key, televised job recommendation this week from comedian Jon Stewart during the popular Comedy Central program “The Daily Show.”

Framingham native Adam Even Engel went with some friends to New York City and got free tickets to the taping of Monday’s “Daily Show,” according to the university-run news website [BU Today](#).

Engel had been to a taping before and knew Stewart routinely takes questions from the audience before the taping starts. He had prepared his question ahead of time.

“During the Q&A, I told him I was a recent college grad and asked how to get my Jewish mother off my back about getting a job,” Engel told BU Today. “Stewart laughed, and he immediately shot back, asking what my mother’s religion or gender has to do with it. He was kidding, and went on to ask me what I majored in and where I went to school, and when I told him, he said, ‘BU is a really good school.’”

Engel earned a degree in chemistry from BU in May 2012 and hopes to ultimately teach high school chemistry. But, so far, he has not had much success finding full-time employment. He has held several part-time jobs and is now applying to graduate schools.

Stewart told Engel he had studied chemistry during his first two years of college before switching to psychology.

“Stewart then asked me why I haven’t found a job teaching chemistry yet, saying he was sure there were people looking for a young teacher who’s passionate,” Engel told BU Today.

Engel said he was surprised Stewart talked to him for so long.

“Normally his responses to these questions are really short, but we had a dialogue going.”

Stewart surprised Engel again moments later.

Looking into the camera as he opened Monday night's show, Stewart made an on-air plea on Engel's behalf: "If your school is currently looking for a chemistry teacher, I

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want you to call us."

"I got a guy over here, Boston University, seems smart – could have shaved," Stewart added. "He's a chemistry major, he's looking for a job teaching chemistry ... so if you need a chemistry teacher, contact us, and I will finally get this [expletive] kid out of his parents' house. That's what I'm going to do."

Engel wasn't mentioned by name on-air and his face was not shown, but he said that during a break in the taping, a producer took down his name and phone number in case someone contacted the show with a job lead.

"I had no idea he would do that," Engel said.

He told BU Today he now has more motivation than just his mother to continue applying to jobs and graduate school.

"Now I have another reason – all of these viewers on my case," he said.

Monday night's "Daily Show" had another local connection: the episode's guest was [Watertown historian Marilynne Roach](#).

To see the episode, [click here](#).

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at matthew.rocheleau@globe.com. Looking for more coverage of area colleges and universities? Go to our [Your Campus pages](#).

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