Collaborating with Career Services as a Faculty Mentor

What is a mentor?
The Meriam-Webster dictionary defines mentor as a trusted counselor or guide.

How Career Services can help:
Career Services treats each student as an individual and approaches the student from their developmental framework.

Career Counseling
The career counselors in Career Services have graduate degrees in counseling, have theoretical knowledge in career development, and are experts in the areas of career assessment interpretation.

Career counseling enables students to understand how their skills, interests, personality, and values intertwine to make a good career decision. Having a firm understanding about themselves and their goals is the first step in career development.

Career Assessments:
What are some of the career assessments that students take at Career Services?
The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) is a personality assessment used to help students and alumni understand how their personality type can point them in a career direction.
The Strong Interest Inventory uses the theory of John Holland to help individuals identify their top interests and how these interests compare to people in specific careers.
The Campbell Interest and Skill Survey helps students and alumni understand how their interests and skills connect to the world of work.

Since career development and decision making are important components of a student’s academic career, it is essential that all students connect with a career counselor. Please refer students to a career counselor.

Students can call 977-2828 to set up an appointment.

Internship or Job Search:
Career SLeUth, the online database, allows access to hundreds of full-time, part-time, on-campus, and internship opportunities. In addition to jobs, students can access SIGI 3, an interactive database of self-assessment, career information, and videos.

Career SLeUth is also an excellent resource for exploring employers, with over 4200 active employers in the database.

For students who are looking for a job outside of the St. Louis area, Career Services has a reciprocity agreement with many career centers throughout the country. Talk to a career counselor to inquire about setting up reciprocity services with other career centers.

Check out our new CareerCasts, featuring five-minute interviews with area professionals, interns, and alumni! Go to careers.slu.edu and listen from your computer or iPod!
Four-year Career Development Plan for Students

Freshman Year: SELF-EXPLORATION
- Set up an appointment with a career counselor to discuss your major and career plans
- If still deciding, seek career counseling with a career counselor
- Take career assessments from Career Services as a way to learn more about self and how interests, skills, personality, and values connect to a career
- Attend Majors Fair to explore majors
- Register for Career Decision Making (PSYA194) in spring semester if still deciding

Sophomore Year: CONNECTIONS
- Write a resume and post it to Career SLeUth to be critiqued by a career counselor
- Go on an informational interview or job shadow someone in careers of interest
- Research careers in SIGI 3, found in Career SLeUth
- Plan internship or other experience
- Listen to all podcasts on career decision making located on Career Services website
- Connect with a career contact in Career SLeUth’s mentor database

Junior Year: EXPERIENCE
- Attend all career fairs to practice networking with employers
- Update resume and post it to Career SLeUth
- Establish a Job Agent on Career SLeUth and apply to interesting internships
- Conduct a mock interview with a career counselor and have it recorded on a DVD
- Establish a networking list
- Participate in an internship through your department or through Career Services

Senior Year: LAUNCHING
- Update resume and post on Career SLeUth
- Develop a job search timeline
- Update your networking list
- Attend all career fairs to network with employers
- Register for Mock Interview Day or schedule a mock interview
- Develop a career portfolio
- Learn market trends and salary expectations for your industry or career of interest
- Complete graduate survey

Career SLeUth On-line Database
Career SLeUth can be a great way to learn about the employers that recruit students at SLU.

In addition to company information, there are job and internship postings, a job agent to alert students about posted opportunities, and a way for students to watch videos about different careers in SIGI 3.

Log into Career SLeUth!
- Career SLeUth is an interactive database available to students and alumni.
- Faculty can access Career SLeUth by visiting careersleuth.org
- Username: faculty
- Password: careerservices

According to NACE’s 2007 Recruiting Benchmarks Survey, employers reported that, from the class of 2006, 64.9 percent of their interns received offers for full time employment; 72.9 percent accepted those offers for a conversion rate of 47.3 percent.

For co-ops, employers reported that 74.9 percent of 2006 grads received offers for full time employment and 70.0 percent of those offers were accepted. That equates to a 52.4 percent conversion rate for co-op students.

NACE’s Job Outlook 2007 reported that employers are seeing more competition for new college graduates when compared to a few years ago.

Need a guest speaker?
Career Services can present on the following topics:
- Job search strategies
- Cover letter/resume development
- Interviewing skills
- Career decision-making
- Career development
- Career services

Call Marian Dorna at 977-2324 to schedule a class presentation.

Faculty News from Career Services

Career Services staff:
Kim Reitter, Director
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