Career Readiness Resources

Adoption and Promotion of NACE Career Readiness Competencies

Courtesy of Towson University
ADPTION AND PROMOTION OF THE NACE CAREER READINESS COMPETENCIES AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

Context: Towson University is a public, 4-year institution located in suburban Baltimore, Maryland. Towson University just celebrated its 150th anniversary and currently enrolls 22,000+ students. Starting with the 2015-2016 academic year, the TU Career Center has led an effort across a number of campus departments to develop an awareness of the importance of developing and communicating career readiness competencies.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
In Progress:
- The Division of Student Affairs launched a survey during spring 2016 to all students employed on campus asking them to self-rate their competency with each career-ready skill before their on-campus employment experience and then after/as a result of their on-campus employment experience. A similar survey was sent to a random sample of students to gauge potential competency development as a result of their off-campus employment experience. The data is in the process of being analyzed.

Future:
- Incorporate career-ready competency awareness into the online on-campus student employment orientation (Summer 2016)
- Integrate career ready competencies into the Student Employee Performance Evaluation (Summer 20163)

CAREER ADVISING
In Progress:
- Created handout/checklist to use as a tool in resume, mock interview and other 1:1 advising appointments
- Incorporate career readiness competency content (awareness raising, development strategies and self-marketing approaches) into our year-by-year checklists
- Incorporate career-ready competency awareness into our workshops

Future:
- Integrate career readiness competencies into our campus Student Engagement Record (co-curricular transcript)
- Include in the programming for the Career Exploration Residential Learning Community (launching Fall 2016)

CAREER & LIFE PLANNING COURSE
In Progress:
- Integrate career ready competencies (awareness raising, development strategies and self-marketing approaches) into this two-credit course (10 sections per academic year)

INTERNSHIPS
In Progress:
- Include career readiness competencies in the suggested learning outcomes developed by students/faculty for academic internship experiences; included in the faculty internship coordinator handbook

Future:
- Incorporate career readiness competency awareness, development strategies and self-marketing into the in-development online student intern orientation (fall 2016)
- Include career readiness competencies in the suggested learning outcomes for all (including non-credit bearing) internship experiences (fall 2016)

DIGITAL BADGING
In Progress:
- Towson University has joined forces with the University System of Maryland and five other USM universities to design, implement and evaluate a collection of digital badges aimed at validating and communicating our graduates’ career-ready skills (badging ecosystem covers 5 of the 7 NACE Career Ready Competencies). Each of the participating institutions will pilot one of the competency badges on their campus during the 2016-2017 academic year.