

JOHN P. FAHEY CAREER CENTER

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2016

Letter from the Director

On behalf of the John P. Fahey Career Center, I am pleased to provide this welcome and introduction to our first official departmental newsletter. This newsletter will highlight several of the outstanding new initiatives, programs, and services that our team is collaborating on. In reflecting on the past few years, I am reminded how much change and transition the Career Center has gone through, and I am proud of the direction that our office is headed to meet the needs of the university.

The Career Center is a part of the Creighton EDGE, which is a concierge of academic success, tutoring, pre-health advising, pre-professional learning communities, mentoring and shadowing, and career and professional development programs and services. We are comprised of dedicated and experienced professionals from a variety of backgrounds who have one thing in common: a passion for helping students and alumni explore, develop, and implement their career goals that reflect their unique roles in the world of work and their commitment to a life of service to others.

The Career Center provides comprehensive career services to all Creighton University undergraduate and graduate students, and alumni. Our goal is to provide high-quality career development programs that are customized to students' developmental and professional needs. To reach these goals, we provide core services including career counseling, resume and cover letter assistance, mock interviews, workshops, on-campus interviewing, career fairs, networking events, job and internship postings, preparation for graduate or professional school, and online resources. These services are delivered with Creighton's Jesuit values in mind, focusing on caring for the whole person, facilitating opportunities for service to others, commitment to community, and encouraging student reflection and discernment.

It is my personal goal for the John P. Fahey Career Center to be a national leader in the field of career services. We have the dedicated staff, innovative facility, cutting-edge resources, and impressive success rates that already put Creighton University among the best in the nation. However, it is the strong community and support from our treasured faculty and staff that ultimately help shape our graduates' futures and make Creighton such a special place. We look forward to another banner year in career services. Thank you to all for being a part of it!

Sincerely,

Jeremy Fisher

Director, John P. Fahey Career Center



17 Determined Students Explore Options through EDGE Scholars

By Olga Zeisler

Over the course of the spring semester, 17 freshman students from various colleges were challenged to discern and explore occupations and career planning during EDGE 102, a career discernment class. Led by John P. Fahey Career Center counselors, this class is a part of the new 4-year career and professional development program, EDGE Scholars, that is designed for students who are determined to jump-start their career discernment and development.

“Our goal is to offer students the resources necessary to truly discern career related goals and aspirations, while encouraging motivation, accountability and ultimately, professional success” - Tricia Sharrar, the Associate Provost for Academic Administration and one of the program instructors, says. The EDGE Scholars Program aspires to achieve that.

The program highlights the importance of career preparedness through careful self-reflection,

internships, exclusive networking events, unique career-specific shadowing, and mentoring opportunities.

Kelly McGonigal, a CU freshman, shared about her experience in the program: “It opens my eyes to new opportunities and it’s a good time to think about things and figure out a plan. EDGE Scholars has opened

“They emphasize that no one has to wait. Everybody can start taking steps in their chosen career path right now.”

doors I did not think were possible to open until I have my degree from Creighton. They emphasize that no one has to wait. Everybody can start taking steps in their chosen career path right now. That alone blew my mind!” This semester, the students embarked on a journey, exploring occupational options while practi-

cally applying skills in networking and professional development. McGonigal says, “Finding yourself and exploring all kinds of options is important in these crucial years of our life. This class was a God-send. It is absolutely worth my time and effort. I am without a doubt continuing on with this program next year.” As students progress to the second year, they will practically apply their skills through a study abroad, internship, research, or a rigorous volunteer opportunity.

In addition to these experiential learning opportunities, the students will connect with alumni, mentors, and community leaders to further develop as young professionals. With the goal to prepare and connect students to student employment, research, service, internships, and study abroad experiences that will help them develop professionally, John P. Fahey career counselors are looking forward to continuing to work with the first cohort and to welcoming the new cohort of EDGE Scholars in the spring of 2017!

Celebrating the Career Portfolio Program

By Heather Doering

This past May, Heider College of Business seniors – the inaugural cohort – completed the 4-year Career Portfolio Program that is required for all Heider students.

Jeremy Fisher, Director of the Career Center, initiated the program in 2011 with the ultimate goal of offering an integrated approach to assist business students with planning, implementing, and evaluating their careers.

In the first year, students complete a series of activities to gain self-awareness and an understanding of potential career options. According to one freshman, “[The assignments] all played a very helpful role in my career development.

Through the FOCUS Assessment

and the Asher Career Values Survey, I was able to evaluate my personal

YEAR ONE
Exploration



YEAR TWO
Skill Development



YEAR THREE
Gain Experience



YEAR FOUR
Transition to Professional Life



values, strengths, and weaknesses and see how they fit into the companies' values. The Professional Etiquette Dinner helped me learn how to present myself

professionally. The Informational Interview helped me to branch out and learn about the field of my interest. Overall, everything tied in very well.”

The sophomore and junior years are focused primarily on gaining skills and experiences to help set students up for later success during their senior year. One junior summarized the program as being “very helpful in helping me find my career path and setting me apart from other applicants to employers.”

As this year's Heider graduates enter the “real world,” the Career Center is proud of the inaugural class of the Career Portfolio Program and is optimistic about continual improvement efforts to make the program even better next year.

‘Have you heard about EDGE Interns? Do you know you can get professional experience on campus?’ – these are the questions frequently heard on Creighton's campus. EDGE Interns, an on campus internship

program, launched as a hands-on method for students to explore their choice of major and future career field while also obtaining real-world professional experiences. Geared towards students searching for their first internship, 53 students participated in the program this past year.

Kyle Neustrom, an Exercise Science and Pre-Health professions student, shares: “I truly appreciate the fact that the EDGE Internship Program looked deeper, allowing me to further develop the digital marketing and analytical skills I was so interested in learning.”

The EDGE Internship Program provides undergraduate students with a carefully super-

vised learning experience, including professional objectives and learning outcomes that aid in both their career development and discernment process. Based on 5 objectives employer partners expressed as important, internships focus on: communication and interpersonal skills, teamwork, professionalism, organization and time management, and technical and analytical skills, which are evaluated by the supervisor at the end of the semester.

Sam Kirkpatrick, current HR-Operations EDGE Intern, adds: “I have been able to apply classroom knowledge to real world settings and strengthened my skills and confidence needed to achieve my career goals in order to be successful in the future.” Open to all undergraduate students, all majors, and with no minimum GPA requirement, the EDGE Internship Program plans to expand to over 75 internships in the next year!



Have You Heard about EDGE Interns?
By Katie McCarville

Internship Career Counselor, Katie McCarville (right) and current HR-Operations Intern, Sam Kirkpatrick (left)



National Employer Outreach Becomes High Priority

By Jeremy Fisher

Creighton University has experienced record student applications and enrollments the past few years and the university's footprint is increasingly becoming more national. Nearly 80% of Creighton students come from outside the state of Nebraska and are becoming much more geographically diverse.

The John P. Fahey Career Center has recognized this growth and diversity, and responded by researching and implementing an employer outreach initiative to meet the growing national interests of Creighton

students for internship and career opportunities.

We started by researching internal enrollment data from the Office of Admissions to identify the most common locations from where students were enrolling. Next, we looked at career outcomes data to analyze the top locations where students were securing employment or enrollment into graduate or professional school programs following graduation. Additionally, further research was conducted to review in-demand employers in business, health care, government,

and non-profit organizations that were targeted as top employers in each of the areas. Based on that list, we compiled a list of 12 cities.

In addition to numerous employer meetings throughout the Omaha metro area, employer outreach trips were made to Chicago, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Denver, Des Moines, St. Louis, New York City, Phoenix, Portland, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. throughout the 2015-2016 academic year. Future employer trips planned include visits to Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, and Milwaukee. The Career Center will continue to work with the campus community to help improve our national reputation and outreach efforts to provide even more premier internship and career opportunities for our students.



Map indicates locations traveled by Career Center staff in 2015-2016 for employer visit



Jays in the Bay!

By Heather Doering

For the past five spring breaks, the John P. Fahey Career Center and HCB Marketing Department collaborated on a project to promote career preparedness through increased knowledge of the Bay Area employers. Matt SeEVERS, Ph.D., Chair of the Marketing and Management Department, and Trent Wachner, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Marketing, have taken Marketing and Business Intelligence & Analytics (BIA) upperclassmen to the Bay Area as part of the MKT/BIA 491: San Francisco Travel Class. As a Business Career Counselor, I joined the group this past spring, taking advantage of the opportunity to engage with students, alumni, and Bay Area

Career Fairs are a great way for students and employers to network face-to-face. During the 2015-2016 academic year, the John P. Fahey Career Center hosted three Career Fairs. As in previous years, two university-wide Career Fairs were held this year.

On Friday, October 9, 2015, and on February 19, 2016, representatives from corporations, non-profit institutions, government agencies and volunteer organizations gathered in the Harper Center Ballroom to recruit, network, and connect with Creighton University students.

The five Omaha Fortune 500 Companies - Berkshire Hathaway, ConAgra Foods, Kiewit Corporation, Mutual of Omaha and Union Pacific - were represented. Whether a student was seeking an internship, an entry-level position, or a volunteer opportunity, there was a recruiter ready to discuss options. According to one student attendee at the Spring Career Fair, "The Career Fair is great and has helped me set up multiple interviews and have opportunities for the summer and beyond."

(Jays in the Bay! continued...)

employers. This was part of the Career Center's ongoing initiative to expand alumni outreach efforts for the benefit of students seeking non-local opportunities. Students got the inside scoop about career opportunities at large and small technology companies, including Google, Facebook, Uber, and Airbnb. The trip participants were also exposed to retail and service business leaders at companies like Williams-Sonoma, DCL Logistics, and Pebble Beach Resorts. During the evenings, the students had opportunities to network with professionals, including an informal alumni reception. Senior BIA and Entrepreneurship double major, Carlee Jaslowski, appre-



Career Fairs Continue to Grow

By D'Lynn Buck

Recruiters are quick to recognize that Creighton students are well prepared to network with potential employers. "Students were very well versed and focused on where they wanted to go with their careers," according to a recruiter attending the Spring Career Fair.

For the first time this year we hosted a third Career Fair. The Science, Technology, Energy and Mathematics (STEM) Fair was held on Tuesday, October 6. In its inaugural year,

ciated that the networking events "allowed us to get out of our comfort zones and go up and speak to people about their careers and how they got where they are today." Alumni also see the value for students in the experience. Alumnus, Nick Smith, BSBA '13, has been working in various finance roles at Yahoo! for three years. The travel course, he believes, "is one of the best ways that Creighton is providing [students] with the perspective and networking [they] need before entering the job market." The Career Center is excited about this collaborative partnership that helps students to better understand the real world application of their career skills.

over 20 organizations were represented to share with students in STEM fields what opportunities are available to them. One student said, "I very much appreciate that there was a career fair for STEM majors specifically this year."

As the Career Center staff looks toward the 2016-2017 academic year, plans are in the works to continue a tradition of top notch career fairs and to grow the STEM Fair in its second year.

FALL 2016 FAIRS DATES:

October 4th:
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
STEM/Grad School Fair

October 7th:
12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Fall Career Fair

October 26th:
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Major/Minor Exploration Fair

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Jordan Brabec: Discovering a Career in Education

By Neil Lulla

Making a positive impact through education has always been at the forefront of Jordan Brabec’s mind. The only question was how. Jordan, a class of 2016 graduate with a major in Psychology and minors in Music and Philosophy, came into his freshman year at Creighton with the aspiration of becoming a high school teacher.

However, as Jordan progressed through his studies at Creighton, he developed a strong interest in psychology. This led him to explore the field at a deeper level with the help and guidance of the department faculty and Rachel Gibson, Associate Director of the Creighton Career Center.

“[My career counselor] was able to help me identify what I valued most in a professional setting!”

As Jordan met with Rachel to explore career options, she encouraged him to seek out career-related opportunities to get hands-on experience. During his time at Creighton, Jordan completed a school counseling internship at Woodrow

Wilson Middle School, an applied psychology position at Boys Town, and a school psychology internship at Abraham Lincoln High School.

In explaining how the Career Center facilitated reflection on his experiences, Brabec remarks, “Rachel, is a spectacular listener with a bright, compassionate disposition; she helped with my career discernment and was able to help me identify what I valued most in a professional setting!”

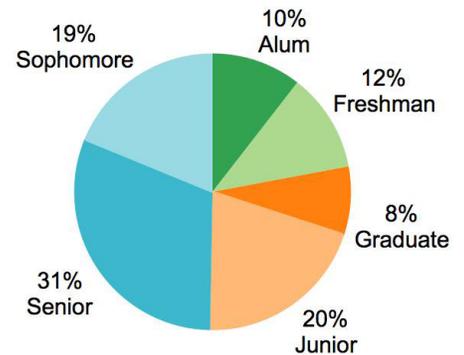
Reflecting on his experiences, Jordan realized that he found the most joy working with those who possess intrinsic curiosity and recognized that a career in higher education would be a great fit.

Meanwhile, as a senior at Creighton, Jordan had the opportunity to take a cognitive psychology course taught by Dr. Maya Khanna and absolutely loved it. Combining his interest areas, Jordan plans to earn a doctorate in cognitive psychology and eventually wants to become a professor, bringing him full circle back to his initial yearning to teach. With this goal in mind, Jordan is currently conducting pedagogical research through the University of Nebraska Medical Center under the mentorship of Dr. Khanna, an opportunity he heard about through the Career Center.

As Jordan looks to the future, he wants to “facilitate the conversation about connecting pedagogical research with widespread teaching methods” in order to “improve the experiences of both teacher and learner and change the face of education for the better.” Throughout his career exploration, Jordan reiterates, “Rachel, my career counselor, has been like a rock to me—a dependable, endless source of professional and personal support. I feel so lucky to know her and to have worked with her!”

2015-2016

Appointments by Level

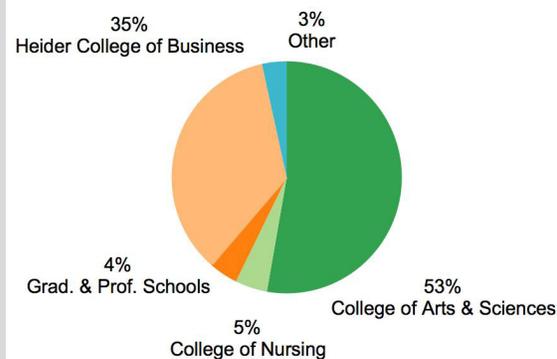


1,772

Appointments

Up 349 appointments from last year

Appointments by College



by the Numbers

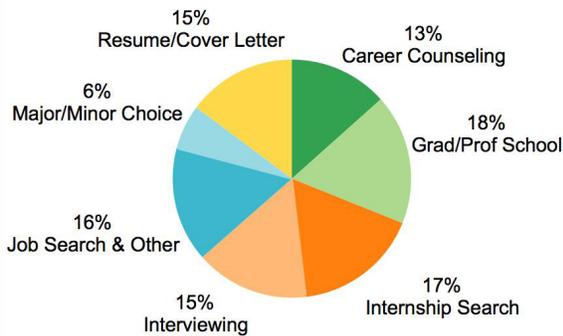


6,899

Jobs and Internships posted on **Jobs4Jays**

Up **817** postings from last year

Appointments by Type



237

Employers and Organizations attended Career Fairs

Meet the Career Center Staff!

By Rachel Gibson



Jeremy Fisher, *Director*

Role: department leadership, employer outreach, upperclassmen and alumni counseling
Favorite thing about work: “[What we do] is meaningful and fulfilling work that allows us the opportunity to impact others’ career goals and lives in a positive way.”



Rachel Gibson, *Associate Director*

Role: department management, EDGE Scholars coordination, Arts & Sciences, Nursing, and pre-health professions counseling
Most unusual job: “Inventory at the Colwich, KS Co-op counting things like baby chicks and cow tranquilizers.”



Heather Doering, *Business Career Counselor*

Role: Career Portfolio Program coordination, Business counseling
Favorite thing about working at the FCC: “Helping students become more confident and well-informed.”



Katie McCarville, *Career & Internship Counselor*

Role: EDGE Internship program coordination, Arts & Sciences and Business counseling
Career Advice: “When you find that job that causes you to be excited every day—forget about the pay—with people you love, doing what you love, it doesn’t get any better than that.” – Warren Buffet



Olga Zeisler, *Arts & Sciences Career Counselor*

Role: EDGE Scholars support, Arts & Sciences, Nursing, and pre-health professions counseling
Most unusual job: “Hosting an ambassador, picking currant berries, or assisting in dissecting chickens”



D'Lynn Buck, *Career Development Coordinator*

Role: career events coordination, on-campus interview management, employer outreach support
Favorite thing about working at the FCC: “Working with a fantastic team that always puts students first.”



Neil Lulla, *Graduate Assistant*

Role: Arts & Sciences and Business counseling
Career Advice: “Listen to your heart...it will lead you to the most fulfilling career.”

Thank you to our Employer Sponsors:

OUR MISSION:

The John P. Fahey Career Center, as part of the Creighton EDGE, is committed to assisting students and alumni in exploring, developing, and implementing career goals that reflect their unique roles in the world of work and their commitment to a life of service to others.

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HOURS OF OPERATION:

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 8:00AM - 4:30PM

DROP-IN HOURS

Mon-Fri: 1:30PM - 4:30PM
*when classes are in session

Appointments Recommended
402.280.2722

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