Success for the Graduate and Professional School Day!

On September 20, 2010, Career Planning hosted SUNY Potsdam’s 3rd annual Graduate and Professional School Day. With a total of 258 students and 60 representatives from 53 colleges, the event was a sensation with students and representatives alike.

Student Comments:
- “Very informative!” and “Very helpful!”
- “Prior to the fair, I had no direction.”
- “I know what is out there now!”

Although the vast majority of students responded positively to the event, many are looking for an expansion in regard to next year’s fair. “I can only encourage you to grow in size when it comes to the number of schools present,” one student suggested. With this in mind, planning for next year’s fair is already underway.

We thank the faculty, administrators, staff, and students who helped with planning, promoting, and supporting the Graduate and Professional School Day. We look forward to bringing this event to campus next year in September.

Career Planning Office Information
315-267-2344
206 Sisson Hall * Monday – Friday * 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
www.potsdam.edu/offices/career * career@potsdam.edu

The Value of Career Planning

According to NACE, many students are unaware of the services offered by their university’s Career Planning Office. Although this, to some, does not seem like a huge loss, it could prove to be detrimental during the job search process. Results from NACE’s 2010 Student Survey show:

- The likelihood of a student getting a job offer increases with the frequency of use of the Career Planning Office.
- Use of the Career Planning Office resulted in higher median salaries due to awareness of the job market.
- An increasing number of freshmen used the Career Planning Office to get help in developing their resumes, practicing interviewing, and researching employers. Starting earlier allows students to become more aware of the career process.

By taking advantage of the Career Planning Office and using the variety of services the office offers, students will become more involved in the job search process and will know, to a further extent, what to expect when the process begins. By being fully prepared and asking the Career Planning Office for help in areas such as career coaching, resume reviewing, interview practicing, and the like, students will be better informed as they begin their search for employment.

An inside look at the application process:

Q: What advice can you offer to applicants with the application process?
A: “Internships are vital; make sure you have one that is relevant to the field you plan on studying in graduate school.”
–University at Albany

Q: What is the biggest mistake you see applicants make?
A: “When people blame a professor for a poor grade in a class; don’t make excuses. It just makes you look bad.”
–Ross University

Q: What advice can you offer an applicant for the interview process?
A: “Show off your interpersonal skills, dress for success, be excited!”
–Roberts Wesleyan College

Class of 2011: College Hiring on the Rise

With the current state of our nation’s economy, many students worry about employment as they leave the comforts of the university life for the harsh reality of their first “real” job. How many students obtain employment after acquiring their degree? How is the current state of our economy affecting hiring rates for students? NACE (National Association of Colleges and Employers) Research investigated and came to the following conclusions:

- According to employers responding to NACE’s Job Outlook 2010 Fall Preview Survey, employers plan to hire 13.5% more graduates in 2010-11 than in 2009-10.
- Just under half of employers state they plan to increase their number of hires. Merely 12.2% plan on decreasing their number of hires. Around 40% of employers plan to maintain their number.

As the findings suggest, despite the current economic hardships, employers continue to support recent graduates in their job search process.

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Where are they now? SUNY Potsdam’s Undergraduate Class of 2009

Reported Job Titles: Research Technician I – Nephrology, Claims Examiner, Teacher, Intelligence Analyst, Chemist, Weatherization Technician, Medical Biller, Pharmaceutical Technician, Counselor…

Reported Employers: Canton-Potsdam Hospital, Utilant, LLC, SpiceCSM, CAVA Rape Crisis & Counseling, Upper Canada District School Board, MCA Ambulance, Samaritan Medical Center, Northwestern Mutual Fund, US Army…

Reported Graduate Schools: Clarkson University, St. Lawrence University, Eastman School of Music – University of Rochester, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Union Graduate College, LeMoyne College, St. Joseph’s University, Syracuse University…

For more detailed information about the Class of 2009, please visit http://www.potsdam.edu/offices/career/faculty/report.cfm to view our Class of 2009 Annual Report.

Upcoming Events and Programs

Academics Limited Recruiting:
Recruiting teaching positions for English and the Middle East
When: October 22, 2010
Where: Student Union Lobby
Time: 11:00am-2:00pm
Information Session for Academics Limited Recruiting:
When: October 22, 2010
Where: Room 203, Student Union
Time: 3:15pm-4:00pm

Kaplan Graduate Mock Exams: Free!
Exams: October 26, 2010
Sign Up (at Career Planning): by October 22, 2010

A Major Affair
When: October 27, 2010
Where: Student Union MPR
Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm

Careers in Sports Symposium
When: October 30, 2010
Where: Ithaca College
Time: 8.30am-12:00pm

Update of “Major In” Handouts
Handouts will be sent to department chairs by November 1, 2010 for critique and input.

Clarkson University MBA Information Table
When: November 11, 2010
Where: Student Union Lobby
Time: 11:00am-1:00pm

Making a Difference: Students Thank Faculty for Support

On May 2010’s Graduate Survey, graduating students were asked to identify the SUNY Potsdam faculty and staff members who have positively influenced and greatly contributed to their growth as individuals during their time spent at the university.

Graduates named 289 faculty and staff as having had a positive impact on their education!

The Career Planning Office made it our mission to thank each and every individual staff and faculty members for their positive influence over SUNY Potsdam’s students by sending individualized congratulations cards to faculty members named on the survey.

The personal atmosphere at SUNY Potsdam is remarkable. SUNY Potsdam’s tight-knit community allows for more individualized interactions between faculty and students. At Potsdam, the student is never “just a number,” but truly a respected individual.

Once again, congratulations, faculty and staff that you will keep up the great work and will continue to have a positive affect on the lives of your students.

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”
-Henry Brooks Adams

Written by Breanna Murphy, Student Assistant
Edited by Karen L. Ham, Director CP