This year, “A Major Affair” celebrated its 20th anniversary! Steven J. Marqusee, Liliana L. Trevizan, Robert L. Badger, and David C. Curry were all honored for attending this event for the past 20 years! Exactly 500 students attended, which was a 13% increase in attendance from last years 432 students! Students were able to learn about all the undergraduate majors and minors on campus and the careers our alumni have entered. FYSS freshmen accounted for 89% of attendance, while Non-FYSS freshmen represented (5%), Sophomores (4%) and Juniors (2%) accounted for the rest.

Student Comments:
- “Everyone was really informative and passionate about their topics, I loved it.”
- “It gave me ideas of what I want to major/minor in, about requirements, and classes.”
- “It was really fun to see the professors outside of the classroom. The one-on-one time was helpful.”

Faculty Comments:
- “Even the students who don’t realize they need the fair found something to take away from it.”
- “Great job, loved the photos from 20 years ago.”
- “Excellent as always!”
- “Great exposure to students.”

What students learned:
- 56%: I learned more about my current major.
- 55%: I learned about majors aside from my current major.
- 45%: I learned about minors.
- 45%: I gained useful career knowledge.
- 37%: I learned information that would help me pick a major.
- 16%: I declared a major/minor.
- 14%: I obtained information about other majors because I am considering changing my major.
- 7%: I learned that I can double major/minor, about specializing, internships, and study abroad.

Where are the Undergraduates from 2011?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>N=419 (60%)</th>
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<td>Employed</td>
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Sample Job Titles: Outreach Coordinator, Archaeologist, Palaeoarchaeology, Art Teacher, Financer, Medical Assistant, Certified Personal Trainer, Contract Specialist

Sample Employers: Triton Regional School District, Planned Parenthood, Galson Laboratories, Sarasota Opera Association, Community Bank Corp. Office, United Health Services, Canton-Potsdam Hospital, Pace Analytical, Enterprise Holdings, St. Lawrence College

Sample Graduate Schools: University of Rochester, Clarkson University, St. John Fisher College, Ross University, Drexel University, University of Missouri, Arizona State University

Check Out the “Faculty” Link On our Website!

- NACE Job Choices Magazine
  - Access information on upcoming job trends, research, and professional development.
- Presentation Request Form
  - Request Career Planning to come and present to your class on any of the 15 services we provide!
- Previous Newsletters
  - Look at past events and see the growth!
- Career Status Report
  - Access to the statistics from the previous graduating classes (2001-2011).
- Our Upcoming Events
  - See what Career Planning has planned for events and services!
- Confidential/ Non-Confidential Reference Form
  - Links to confidential and non-confidential forms for reference letters.
To Go or Not To Go?
Helping Students Decide if Graduate School is the Right Choice:

Career Path: Help students understand what it is that they truly want to do and what excites them the most. Students need to understand that you go to graduate school to become an expert in a certain area. If their dream job does not require higher education, then it might not be necessary.

Investment of Time, Money, and Energy: It is a quick realization for students that graduate school sometimes necessitates a greater commitment to school than they are used to. Not only is it a huge strain time wise, but it is also a huge financial commitment on top of whatever loans they already owe. Each student should be sure that they are ready for these commitments.

Marketability: Students must be clear on the requirements for their desired profession; depending on the program, a mixture of fieldwork experience and graduate school could be the best combination. Sometimes, if a student enters graduate school without having any field experience, they run the risk of being over-educated and under-experienced.

Opportunities within the Field: If a student decides to enter the job market before attending graduate school, they must decide if going back to school for an advanced degree will get them ahead in their current profession and move them up the ranks. Sometimes, advanced education may help students reach their career goals.

Motivation: Some students decide to go to graduate school to hide from the job market. If a student is not passionate about something, then they should not pursue it. Be sure to express to them that graduate school should not be a decision made lightly; they should not go just for the sake of going. Only go if they want to develop their skill set in a certain area.