
L&S CAREER INITIATIVE UPDATE: WEEK OF 3/17/14

CAREER INITIATIVE (CI) PROGRESS REPORT

1. Showcase 2014: Members of the L&S Career Initiative leadership team will be participating in a panel discussion on career readiness as well as presenting the CI in a poster at this year's Showcase. Showcase 2014 will feature several posters touching on career readiness. We hope to see you there. Wednesday, April 2nd, 8-11 am in Varsity Hall, Union South.
2. Last call for applications for the Director of Alumni Networks & Career Resources (joint hire between the Wisconsin Alumni Association and the CI)! Application information can be found here: http://qtigroup.com/JobDescription.aspx?jpid=bh_589.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Help us answer the question: *"How could data collected on L&S alumni career trends help you in your work?"*
Discuss this with your colleagues in your department or unit and let us know!

Q & A

- Q Should departments create LinkedIn pages to build alumni connections now or should they wait to do this as part of a roll out with the broader school?
- A *The Career Initiative leadership team is just beginning to look at LinkedIn as a resource to connect undergraduates and alumni. We are currently talking with career advisors across the College about their experiences using LinkedIn with students and managing these pages. We plan to collect examples of successful LinkedIn department, university, and WAA pages and to examine instructional materials provided by LinkedIn. We will provide some useful guidelines for departments who are interested in utilizing LinkedIn pages in the fall semester.*
- Q What can we expect to be accomplished during the rest of this semester?
- A *This semester, the Career Initiative team will launch the APIR/L&S Post-Graduation Questionnaire for May graduates, design and implement two alumni surveys, pilot alumni/employer videos, and finalize a document outlining the CI vision, measurable outcomes, guiding principles, and project plans. Meanwhile, we continue to meet with College and campus partners, committees, alumni, and employers to communicate progress and solicit feedback.*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

In reviewing student responses to a recent advising survey, a number of statements have drawn my attention as indicative of the challenges we face and the opportunity that we have to impact students in meaningful ways. Here's just one example:

When asked, "What does your liberal arts degree mean to you?" this L&S senior wrote: "Honestly really doesn't mean much to me but it probably should because I'm graduating in December." (November 2013)

Such statements remind me, as I work on the L&S Career Initiative, that we have a great responsibility to help students connect the lifelong skills they have acquired in their academic work to their professional development.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS?

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