The Career and Professional Readiness Center



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Our Mission

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The Career and Professional Readiness Center assists students with the **career development** process and provides **professional development** opportunities to
enhance their marketability and support their purposeful and intentional transitions
from college to career.

- Assisting students in identifying, enhancing and accomplishing their career development, internship, job search, and educational goals
- Engaging students in distinctive accelerated professional development opportunities to facilitate their pathways to internships, jobs and graduate schools
 - Providing opportunities for students and employers to meet

Career Development



Exploration of self

Decision making and goal setting

·Choosing a major/career

•Searching for career experience/internships

·Planning for graduate school

·Looking for permanent employment after graduation

Dedicated staff members offering individualized career counseling/coaching sessions for all students, freshman through graduate level



Why Professional Development?



All SBU students, regardless of field of study, are given the opportunity to develop the professional skills necessary for a successful transition to their chosen profession.



These skills will also allow SBU graduates to have a positive impact in the workplace

In recent surveys.....

- HR professionals consistently report that an applicant's professionalism affects the likelihood of being hired.
- Managers consistently report that a worker's professionalism has a direct impact on opportunities for advancement or promotion.
- Graduate schools are recognizing the need for professional development skills as part of the total educational experience

What's professional development look like for an SBU student?





What is The EDGE?

The Competitive Edge Certificate (The EDGE) is a program that provides participating sophomores, juniors, and seniors the opportunity to develop professional skills employers and graduate schools seek. These skills supplement the extraordinary experiences and knowledge, as well as Franciscan values, that are unique to a St. Bonaventure education.

With a 1-year completion timeline, students will participate in a diverse series of seminars. Topics to include:

Self Awareness
Professional Communication
Personal Branding
Networking
Interviewing
Workplace Dynamics



Each student is encouraged to choose topic areas based upon their interest and/or need.

No matter what they have studied at SBU, whether French or computer science, they will have had the opportunity to learn the skills employers seek.



The challenges are to:

ensure that they take advantage of as many opportunities as possible to apply those learned skills

and

develop the ability to articulate those skill-building experiences in their professional communication including: cover letters, résumés, online profiles and interviews

Signature Programs and Services:



- Individualized career counseling/coaching services for students and alumni
- The EDGE certificate program
- ™ BonaLink job and internship postings
- **Careerfest**
- □ UNIV 101 passport series
- ™ Internship Spotlight/Summit
- On-campus Recruiting



St. Bonaventure's new online internship and job posting system





Opportunities both regionally and beyond.

New opportunities added daily.

SO, where do you come in???

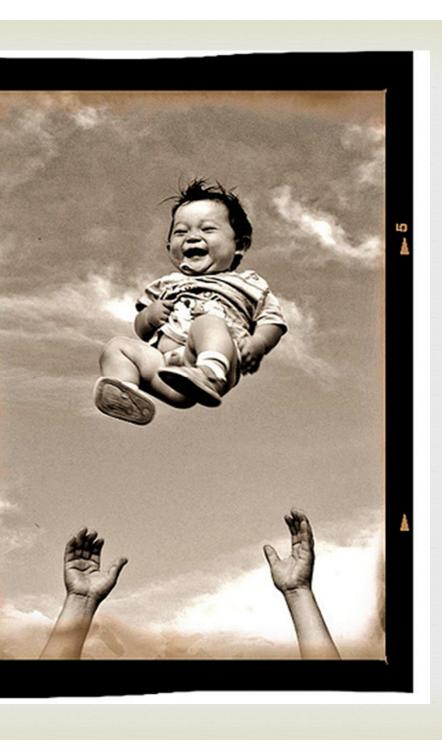
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We have a great staff....

Great resources....

We know what students need....

AND, we have programs, events, and services to provide opportunities to learn and practice those skills...



Are you really **so** important in your student's career planning?

Research has shown that parents are the number one influence over their child's career choice.

Here's what we recommend...

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SUPPORT

Support responsible involvement in campus activities and the exploration of new areas of studies and interests. Help them feel empowered to make their own decisions, follow their own passions and develop their own independence and confidence.





LISTEN

Students discover new things about themselves throughout the college experience and will likely want to bounce ideas off of you. Try to separate what you'd like to see your child choose as a career versus what he or she wants to do. Keeping an open mind and demonstrating a willingness to listen will be an important role for you to play.

BE PATIENT

Realize that every young person has his or her own timetable. Some may not be ready to make career decisions as early as others.





ENCOURAGE

Encourage your student to take healthy risks, move beyond their comfort zone, actively engage in their university experience and talk to new people.

ENCOURAGE

Leadership positions!

ICOURAGE

evelopment of global awareness and competencies!

ENCOURAGE

The pursuit of real-world experience!

NCOURAGE

ouilding of relationships and networks for future each!

ENCOURAGE

Early engagement with the CPRC!

Career Myths

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™ Myth: There is only one right job for me.

There are numerous occupations for multi-faceted individuals where multi-talents can be applied.

It is rare that this will happen! In fact, the majority of people change jobs a minimum of seven times over the course of their lifetime.

Myth: Career planning is an irreversible process.

Career plans are revisited and refined all the time. You can change career directions whenever your talents, needs or resources dictate or allow you to.

Career Myths



Myth: A four-year college degree guarantees me a job.

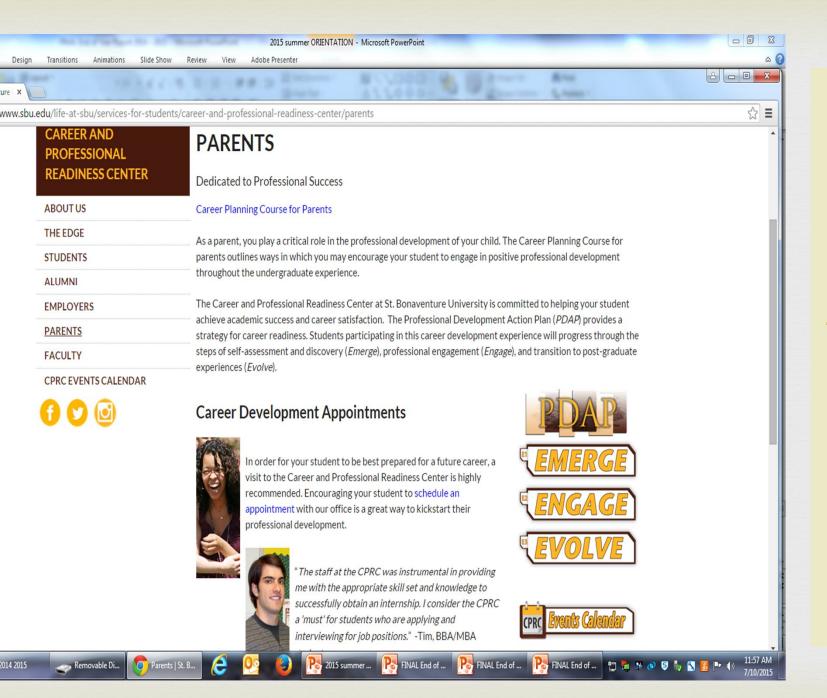
No college degree "guarantees" you a job. The key is obtaining skills, education, and experiences that strengthen your candidacy for employment.

Myth: Most people know their career goals and academic major when they enter college.

Some people may have a major and/or career in mind when they enter college and may actually stick with these original goals. However, the majority of entering college students change their minds about majors and careers several times before graduation.

Myth: I should choose an occupation based on my strongest skills.

It is risky to consider only your skills when making career decisions; interests and values are equally as important in the decision making process. Just because you are good at something doesn't mean you will enjoy doing it.



Online Resources for You

www.sbu.ed

Career
Planning
Course fo
Parents



Career & Professional Readiness
Center
Reilly Center, Room 231
Tel: (716) 375-2384

Email: career@sbu.edu



The CPRC looks forward to partnering with you and your student as they embark on their good journey!



The top 10 personal qualities/skills employers seek, according to the 2015 National Association of Colleges and Employers' Job Outlook survey

- . Ability to work in a team structure
- 2. Ability to make decisions and solve problems (tie)
- 8. Ability to communicate verbally with people inside and outside an organization
- . Ability to plan, organize and prioritize work
- 6. Ability to obtain and process information
- . Ability to analyze quantitative data
- '. Technical knowledge related to the job
- 8. Proficiency with computer software programs
- 2. Ability to create and/or edit written reports
- 0. Ability to sell and influence others