

ASSESSMENT WEBSITE INFORMATION

College: University

Degree Program: Interdisciplinary Studies BS

Chair/Director: Jill Simons

DATA SAY:

Qualitative results from BSIS Advisory group suggest BSIS majors lack knowledge on career options.

SO WHAT:

Students in the BSIS program have little understanding of the specific skillsets obtained upon completion of the three emphasis areas.

HOW WE CHANGED:

University College added a mandatory capstone experience starting Fall 2012. UC 4013, Seminar in Professional Development, is designed to help BSIS majors define career goals. Students research and articulate their unique, employable skills and articulate these skills through a series of career management activities.

WHAT WE GOT:

All students who completed the course submitted a three-year career plan with resume. Student course evaluations are pending. Below is an excerpt from one student's understanding of networking.

"When applying for a new job, it is helpful if you know someone in the business that is well known since this will give you and the interviewer at least one thing in common besides the career choice. Even if the network you do before the job search doesn't help in the interview, you have gained a mentor who is well experienced in your field that you can go to with any questions or advice. Attending monthly school board meetings would be a great way to meet people in the district and also get your name out there. Also, volunteering at the school for field trips or substituting during holidays gets your name and face in the school as well as the great experience. A strong reference pool is important for any interview. Having professional and personal references that believe in you can be your biggest asset in the job search."

