

TECHNOLOGY FEE PROPOSAL, 2017

FAU CAREER CENTER

NARRATIVE

Introduction

The FAU Career Center is an innovative hub that works tirelessly to provide all students (from their first year through doctoral candidates and alumni) with comprehensive and critical career readiness resources and designed to help prepare students to acquire internships, entrance into graduate programs and ultimately to secure meaningful employment. Likewise, we work with business and industry leaders throughout the state and the U.S. to ensure that we understand and are meeting current talent needs, and subsequently connecting our students to high-demand positions. Our goal is to ensure that every FAU student gains meaningful employment and achieves lifelong success.

Further, as students are choosing their majors, the Career Center is the campus leader to help them gain experiential learning (internships) and understand which jobs will be available to them after graduation. The Career Center at FAU is on the front line of this dialogue with students. We strive to better provide students with a range of information on contemporary career options and potential organizations available to them, and enhancing our technological capabilities will allow us to better reach and engage with more students early, often and in a meaningful way resulting in more significant employment opportunities.

The FAU Career Center is focused on helping students develop career readiness skills and then providing the resources, connections and opportunities for our students to secure meaningful internships and employment. These efforts also have positive impact on the State of Florida Board of Governor's metrics 1 and 2. Metric 1 is Percent of Bachelor's Graduates Employed (Earning \$25,000+) or Continuing their Education. Metric 2 is Median Wages of Bachelor's Graduates Employed Full-time.

Smart Boards/Teleconferencing

The Career Classroom

We need to expand the accessibility of career information in the classroom. This includes career readiness workshops, courses, student development, and distance learning and interviewing capability.

Over the past 10 years the FAU Career Center in SU 220 has expanded our reach to a growing number of students. In 16-17, we engaged with over 8,800 unique FAU students. The projections for 17-18 will surpass 11,000. Part of our growth is the offering of a number of career preparatory workshops to support student development of essential career soft skills in career management, communication, leadership, professionalism, teamwork/collaboration, critical thinking, global intercultural fluency, and

digital technology. In addition to soft skill development, we work to prepare students with other core workshops on career readiness topics such as resume writing, using LinkedIn to network, applying to graduate school, effective interviewing strategies, the best ways to navigate the job search process and others. Historically, the primary target audience has been students in their juniors and seniors; however we have greatly expanded our approach to engage with students in their first and second years, as well as specialized populations (Student government leaders, Student athletes, Urban Male initiative (UMI), Military/Veterans, etc.).

To achieve the large scale outreach efforts, the FAU Career Center provides interactive career preparatory workshops year round. One of the challenges/opportunities has been reaching a greater number of our students through electronic media that compliments and facilitates multiple learning styles. As well as reaching students on the partner campuses and distance education students. The technology in our existing classroom has become antiquated and is very limited on interactivity or videoconferencing. The FAU Career Center classroom (SU222) was last enhanced with technology in 2008-2009.

Having this cutting-edge technology will allow us to incorporate video conferencing capabilities to provide a lecture/capture type of environment. This would allow those students who we are interacting with to be a part of the live broadcast of the workshop. In the event that a student was still unable to remotely attend we would now be able to record workshops for later viewing. This would further increase attendance and the development of vital career readiness and soft skills for of all our students. This type of environment is beneficial for many students who may find it a challenge to connect with a pedagogical style of teaching and learning. We want students excited about participating and leaving (whether in person or remotely) with the fulfillment of having learned something practical while thoroughly being engaged.

The Student Interview Lounge

The FAU Career Center runs an on-campus interview program that brings hundreds of companies and organizations to SU220 each year to conduct professional interviews for internship and full-time positions. This program has experienced high growth each year and provides our students with the advantage of interviewing on-campus, in a familiar environment, with some organizations that would normally require travel. The Career Center has several interview rooms and a dedicated space for students to wait (The Student Interview Lounge).

With only one classroom we are limited to how many workshops or courses we can offer at the same time. With the right technology, The Interview Lounge can also become an additional educational space for us to deliver invaluable career information. Further, with video conferencing capabilities we can deliver this content to students anywhere, and subsequently create a new educational space that will increase our capacity to deliver simultaneous workshops on a diversity of career topics.

Using the same equipment, within the same space, we can position our students to professionally interview with employers across the country via Skype and other teleconferencing software. The Interview Lounge (with technological enhancement) can provide an ideal space to maximize students interviewing skills.

In addition, as students wait to be called for their professional interview they would be able to learn more about the companies and organizations by utilizing the proposed “interactive tech board.” This would allow them to be better informed and align their values and skills with what the company is looking for.

Having this cutting-edge technology will allow us to incorporate video conferencing capabilities to provide a lecture/capture type of environment. This would allow those students who we are interacting with to be a part of the live broadcast of the workshop. In the event that a student was still unable to remotely attend we would now be able to record workshops for later viewing. This would further increase attendance and the development of vital career readiness and soft skills for of many more of our students. This type of environment is beneficial for countless students who may find it a challenge to connect with a pedagogical style of teaching and learning. We want students excited about participating and leaving (whether in person or remotely) with the fulfillment of having learned something practical while thoroughly being engaged.

The Development Room

In its current form, the development room does not provide workshops facilitators the ability to present information to students with different learning styles or students that are not physically in the room. A SMART Board will allow for students in remote locations anywhere in the world to directly connect to the content being delivered at the workshops as well as create an addition space for them to conduct video telecommunication interviews. As mentioned previously, with the right technology we can create additional educational space that will allow us to deliver the information students need. With video conferencing capabilities, we can deliver this content to students anywhere. Creating this third educational space will increase our capacity to deliver simultaneous workshops on a diversity of topics.

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Multitaction Wall

Having the interactive, Multitaction Wall board will immensely help to connect students to “real time” and ever changing career information and opportunities. Our vision for the Multitaction Wall board is to provide students with the latest employment trend analysis, current labor market information, regional/state company profiles/informational videos, as well as a current listings of internships and meaningful jobs. The Multitaction Wall would also allow the thousands of students that check-in to the Career Center each year to fully understand the resources, services, and programs available to them within our walls and beyond.

In addition, as we interface on a daily basis with corporate and industry partners, there is an expectation on their part that Career Center resemble a space more familiar to their own. This includes having the latest technologies and an effectiveness on how we share their company information with students. Having the employer content and productive within our space (coupled with our students' outstanding talent) will only increase the likelihood of them returning to campus to share their opportunities and company profiles as well as make FAU a top choice school for recruitment.

We can use this progressive technology to create a truly immersive experience. We believe this will enhance the quality of their career and world of work understanding. The data and trends still hold true; engaged students are successful students

Surface Pro/Remote Capability

One of FAU Career Center's primary functions is to assist students from freshman year through Ph.D. with their career planning needs. Last year, there were over 20,000 points of contact including students served during Same-Day Career Advising and individual appointments. Many of these touchpoints occur outside of our physical space as we now station career practitioners in high student traffic areas such as five colleges (Business, CDSI, Arts & Letters, Science and Engineering), the Oxley Center, three resident halls (GPT, HPT, and IVAS), the Center for Global Engagement, Diversity Way and the Breezeway. Having portable technology such as a Surface Pro will allow for career practitioners to meet students where they are and assist them in accessing online career development resources such as career interest inventory, connections from major to career data and our centralized job/internship portal and career event alert/registration system, OwlCareerLink.