

# WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

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## Memorandum

**To:** Wayne State University Community

**From:** Ronald H. Kent, Director  
Career Services

**Subject:** Career Services Annual Summary 2016-2017

**Date:** November 2017

Career Services provides students, alumni, and external organizations a one-stop shopping experience through a wide variety of programs and services customized to fit individual needs and/or preferences. Our program, service, and counseling venues include, but are not limited to, individual and group career counseling, telephone interaction, targeted email correspondence, 24/7 online services, social network mediums, classroom presentations, etc. Each offers students and employers a unique way in which to experience Career Services and also engage the University.

Career Services is WSU's centralized career center that serves all WSU students, WSU alumni, and employers through five primary program areas. The following table offers a breakdown of students registered with Career Services for 2016-2017 by program area:

<b>Students Registered with Career Services by Program Area<sup>1</sup></b>	
<b>Program</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>
Career Planning	1,663
Cooperative Education	1,082
On-Campus Student Employment	4,398
Professional Employment	3,511
Seasonal Employment and Internships	6,105

For 2016-2017, the number of students registered with Career Services online interactive data system totaled 9,081: 5,387 undergraduate students, 2,603 graduate students, and 1,091 alumni. It is important to note that our services are available to all students and alumni throughout their academic-experience at WSU and beyond.

The following tables on page two offer a breakdown of students and alumni registered with Career Services by class standing, school/college, and race/ethnicity.

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<sup>1</sup> 7,678 students selected multiple program areas.

<b>Students Registered with Career Services by Class Standing</b>	
<b>Class Standing</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>
Freshman	1,395
Sophomore	1,142
Junior	1,501
Senior	1,349
Graduate	2,603
Alumni	1,091
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,081</b>

<b>Students Registered with Career Services by School/College<sup>2</sup></b>	
<b>School/College</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>
Business	1,285
Education	618
Engineering	2,551
Fine Performing Communication Arts	933
Graduate School	35
Law	70
Liberal Arts/Sciences	2,851
Medicine	261
Nursing	230
Pharmacy	273
Social Work	370
Undecided	150

<b>Students Registered with Career Services by Race/Ethnicity</b>	
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>
American Indian	30
Asian/Pacific	2,123
African American	2,095
Hispanic/Latino	234
Multi-Cultural	293
White	3,218
Unknown/Other	1,088

### **Program Highlights**

It is our mission to *educate and prepare* students for their career in a progressive manner through a variety of mediums. This year, at least 1,663 students and alumni utilized our *career planning services* that involved guided career explorations, personal assessment inventories, direct classroom instruction, and a variety of career planning workshops and presentations; *exploring career interests, how to plan your career, and what can I do with my major*. In addition, Career Services engaged in niche career planning collaborations with departments and faculty throughout the University community including detailed in-service training with various student service units, academic units, and the academic advising community. Also, over 40

<sup>2</sup> 546 students selected multiple academic disciplines.

on/off-campus events with organizations associated with career planning were served during the year, i.e., faculty/classroom collaborations, topical programming, extension center outreach, student organizations, k-12 schools, local community centers, professional associations, etc.

With regard to hands-on experiential learning, *170 paid cooperative education assignments* were generated for 2016-2017 as indicated in the table below.

<b>Career Services Cooperative Education Assignments</b>				
<b>School/College</b>	<b>Fall 2016</b>	<b>Winter 2017</b>	<b>S/S 2017</b>	<b>Total</b>
Business	14	11	5	<b>30</b>
CLAS	5	3	3	<b>11</b>
Engineering	49	43	37	<b>129</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>170</b>

According to our cooperative education course assessments, 84% of the students indicated that they were able to *apply and practice concepts learned in their curriculum*, 96% indicated that they were able to *communicate more effectively* as a result of their cooperative education assignment, 96% indicated that they *gained a meaningful educational experience*, 91% indicated that they achieved a *better understanding of their chosen career path and academic objectives*, and 92% of the employing organizations said *they would invite their student to return for a rotational assignment*. In addition, *189 students participated in paid seasonal internship assignments* from a wide variety of academic disciplines. Moreover, a myriad of job location and employer development activities were ongoing throughout the local/regional area involving business and industry, federal and state government, law enforcement, and professional associations.

Career Services also administers the *on-campus student assistant and college work-study programs*. These programs *serve every department on the WSU campus* and provide a significant contribution to WSU's workforce. For FY 2017, there were 2,782 student assistant and 527 college work-study students employed on the WSU campus. In addition, students earned *\$12,072,676 in paid compensation* as student employees including *111 that served in a community service capacity*.

The campus-wide assessment initiative continued regarding the impact of on-campus student employment on students. This initiative, *Invest in Student Success*, called upon students and employing units to reflect on student learning and the learning connections that occur both inside and outside of the classroom. According to the *677 student respondents*, 80% indicated that *their job encouraged them to continue their education at WSU*, 83% indicated that their job helped them to develop effective *time management skills*, 83% indicated that their job helped them to *improve critical thinking skills*, 87% indicated that their job helped them to *improve oral communication skills*, and 89% indicated that their job *increased their ability to work effectively with individuals from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, and cultures*.

### **Employment after Graduation**

The southeast Michigan economy continued to improve which resulted in an increased hiring trend. At WSU Career Services, such *professional employment opportunities* were addressed through the employ of technology, outreach, customized service, *cross-campus collaborations*, along with related services in order to make WSU an attractive, convenient, and effective choice for employers. For 2016-2017, over 426 new employer connections were made utilizing in-person contact and the Career Services online data system. In addition, employers and students

were served through a variety of on-campus career events, i.e., mock interview/resume critiques, employment expo, presentations, workshops, and more. Also, Career Services continued to employ its web-based interactive career blog to facilitate additional outreach and dialog.

Career Services conducted a post-graduation survey of 4,868 individuals that graduated from WSU in December 2016 and May 2017. We received 1,221 authenticated responses for a return rate of 25%. The **overall employment rate was 91%**: 90% bachelor degree, 91% master degree, and 90% doctoral degree.

Of those students employed within six months after graduation, **82% reported being employed in Michigan (33% employed in the City of Detroit)** among the 8,018 Michigan-based employers registered with Career Services. The remaining 18% were employed among 2,713 out-of-state employers. Moreover, 87% indicated that they were employed full or part-time while attending WSU and 47% said that they planned to pursue further educational studies within one year.

WSU Career Services estimates that most if not all of the 10,731 actively registered employing organizations recruit and/or employ WSU students. This is an estimate because of several factors that make it difficult to know precisely who employs our graduates and how many they each employ. Employers often are reluctant to give information on new hires, particularly with companies that have multiple divisions and where there are numerous contacts. Many employers perceive it as not necessary, practical, or cost-effective to keep track of such aggregate data on their employees. However, in a recent survey, **154 Michigan employer respondents** indicated that the top three reasons they recruited students from WSU was **location, quality of students, and curriculum** respectively.

For further information, inquiries, and/or requests regarding this report, please contact:

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