SECC SUMMARY (ARTS & SCIENCE) – 2015-2016

The SECC and the College of Arts & Science (A&S) share a unique partnership on campus, working closely together to provide students with the advice and support they need to make the most of their uSask education.

In 2015-2016, the SECC provided onsite career coaching through the Undergraduate Students Office and the Trish Monture Centre for Student Success, participated in the Huskies Den competition, and supported the UTRAN program and A&S Learning Communities through CareerTalks presentations and other initiatives. With the aim of increasing students’ engagement in their programs, we worked with faculty to bring career content into the classroom through curriculum-based programming in INTS 100 and INTS 102. In 2016-2017 will be integrating career content into four A&S courses: INTS 100, INTS 102, CHEM 248, and POLS 205.

Additionally, SECC staff provide career services cross-training to A&S advisors while also collaborating and consulting with them through staff meetings, Brown Bag sessions, the Academic Advising Council, and the AASK Conference. Our close working relationship allows us to share knowledge, better serve high needs students, and contribute to overall student success and retention.

SECC HIGHLIGHTS – 2015-2016 (ARTS & SCIENCE)

- 370 – number of Career Coaching sessions attended by Arts & Science undergraduates (60% of attendees)
- 168 – number of ResumeTalks sessions attended by Arts & Science undergraduates
- 41 – number of InterviewTalks or Mock Interviews attended by Arts & Science undergraduates
- 105 – total Arts and Science undergraduate attendance at our 6 IndustryTalks sessions
- 10 CareerTalks presentations delivered to Arts & Science classes
• New curriculum-based career programming incorporated into 2 INTS classes with 67 students (total)
• 453 undergraduate Arts & Science students attended the Campus Career Expo, which had 58 employers recruiting Arts & Science students
• 41% of undergraduate Arts & Science students accessed CareerLink
• 12 employer and graduate school information sessions

WHO USES OUR SERVICES? (ARTS & SCIENCE)

• 58% are first time users of our services
• 6% are self-declared Aboriginal

INDUSTRY SURVEYS

Twice every year we survey employers recruiting on campus and ask them about current hiring trends and about the uSask students they recruit.

Those hiring Arts & Science students are predicting that overall hiring in their industries will remain steady or experience modest increase over the next 3-4 years. When asked to rate the overall career readiness (see NACE Career Readiness Competencies) of uSask students, 12% rate our students as having excellent career readiness, 59% as good, and 18% as fair.
All but 12% of these employers now use competency-based skill sets in their hiring process/job descriptions. When asked about the most common competencies sought in candidates, the highest rated competencies were: Communication (94%), Verbal communication (94%), Interpersonal (94%), Ability to work in a team (88%), Strong work ethic (82%), Leadership (82%), Friendly/outgoing personality (82%), Problem solving (76%), Flexibility/adaptability (76%).

TESTIMONIALS FROM STUDENTS AND ALUMNI (ARTS & SCIENCE)

“My career coach was extremely friendly and genuinely showed interest in my questions and concerns.”
– 1st year Arts & Science student (Sciences)

“Great resource even for people who convocated 3 years ago. It was very nice to have a pair of unbiased eyes go over my resume with me.”
– Arts & Science alum (Social Sciences)

“I did not really know that the university offered this. Wish I would have known about it earlier! It really helped build my confidence for my interview.”
– 2nd year Arts & Science student (Undeclared)

“I found everyone very helpful and friendly at the centre. I’m glad I stumbled upon them as a resource and feel comforted knowing I can rely on their assistance and guidance.”
– Arts & Science alum (Fine Arts)

“It was professional, helpful, and relaxed. The experience was also very personally relevant, not just broad and all encompassing.”
– Arts & Science graduate student (Social Sciences)

“I really enjoyed my career coaching session. It helped me better understand what I need to do to accomplish my goals!”
– 3rd year Arts & Science student (Humanities)

“It was a positive experience and I left the session with a clearer idea of where I’m headed.”
– 3rd year Arts & Science student (Undeclared)

“This was very helpful and informative. I feel I have found more opportunities though my meeting!”
– 3rd year Arts & Science student (Sciences)

“It’s definitely a wonderful idea to help students with resume development.”
– 1st year Arts & Science student (Social Sciences)

“I enjoyed the chance to meet representatives from potential employers around the province and hear about the various opportunities they have to offer.”
– Arts & Science student (Undeclared), commenting on the Campus Career Expo

“I am a physiology and pharmacology student looking to become a doctor. Considering this, I very much enjoyed the booths that were talking about schools that are available for pursuing medical, or other health care education.”
– Arts & Science student (Sciences), commenting on the Health Sciences Career Fair
STUDENT SUGGESTIONS TO THE SECC (ARTS & SCIENCE)

“[M]ore pointed career help for arts and science students in particular would be very beneficial as I know many students entering the college have little to no idea what career path to take. Targeting first years would be helpful.”
– 3rd year Arts & Science student (Social Sciences)

“Maybe that this becomes a part of academic advising especially for arts and science students and first year. I feel as though the two types of advising often get mixed up, although they are both important to helping students reach their goals academically and in the career world.”
– 4th year Arts & Science student (Humanities)

“To promote more to let students know there is actually a service on campus that can help them about majors and careers.”
– 2nd year Arts & Science student (Sciences)