

educating the whole person

THE OFFICE OF PERSONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Redefining SUCCESS

IN TODAY'S COMPLEX AND DYNAMIC WORLD, COLLEGE STUDENTS NEED HELP. Many students are tentative and unprepared to make sound career choices. After college, they wander aimlessly from job to job, or through graduate school, in search of meaning and satisfaction. A great classroom education isn't enough.

At Wake Forest, education has never been limited to the classroom, and so the University is poised to offer groundbreaking direction and help. Wake Forest can do something that no other school has done before.

Wake Forest is restructuring its career development group to guide, equip and inspire personal and professional development of students.

Rather than making changes at the margins, the University has taken the bold step of creating a new strategic office to recognize the importance of career development in the education of the whole person.

The Office of Personal and Career Development will link students with people and experiences in the University and the broader community. The Office will then help students interpret the information they are gathering to learn about who they are and what kinds of work will lead to fulfilling careers.

THE OFFICE OF PERSONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT WILL GUIDE, EQUIP AND INSPIRE WAKE FOREST STUDENTS TO TAKE CHARGE OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND TO PREPARE THEM FOR *AUTHENTIC, VIBRANT CAREERS AND LIVES.*

- ANDY CHAN, Vice President for Career Development



STRUCTURE OF THE OFFICE

OFFICES OF CAREER SERVICES

While the traditional offerings of career services offices are no longer sufficient to prepare students to find meaningful work and lives, Career Services is still a critical foundational resource to guide students in finding summer and post-graduation employment. OCS is currently upgrading technology and undergoing reorganization to deliver comprehensive advising, information and education services to students and employers. The Career Services group is also developing partnerships with faculty across disciplines to advise and support students appropriately and to build on strong connections to alumni.

CENTER FOR INNOVATION, CREATIVITY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ICE)

Entrepreneurship programs at Wake Forest have a record of building ground-breaking connections between academic departments in the liberal arts and sciences, industry pioneers, and enthusiastic students. ICE will build on these connections to provide experiential opportunities for entrepreneurs among our students and faculty. ICE will also support collaborative student and faculty ventures with funding, educational resources and mentoring.

MENTORING RESOURCE CENTER

At the core of Wake Forest University, since its first days more than 175 years ago, is a commitment to the transforming power of relationships between students, faculty, staff and alumni committed to a world view that

values not only achievement and personal excellence, but also service for the common good. The Mentoring Resource Center will support this defining commitment with standards, training, support, tracking and inspiration for mentoring so that it will be a core experience across the Wake Forest campus. The Center's objective will be to provide a mentor to every Wake Forest student who wants one.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR THE ARTS & SCIENCES

Building on the successful model of the Ernst & Young Professional Development Center in the Schools of Business, the Arts & Sciences PDC will offer students practical knowledge and “soft skills” valued by employers like professional communication skills, influencing and interpersonal skills, working with people from different cultures and generations and etiquette skills . The Center will offer multiple learning methods and create tailored offerings for specialized careers. The Center's goal will be to distinguish Wake Forest students as prospective employees who are ready - beginning the first day on the job - to be productive colleagues in fast-paced, highly demanding, dynamic professional environments.

EMPLOYER DEVELOPMENT TEAM

At the center of this structure is a team charged with pursuing and developing relationships with employers, alumni and parents to support the efforts of the four centers and to create a pool of mentors, speakers, and prospective employers. The team will work across every school and department to represent and promote all Wake Forest students in every interaction with the community.

EXPERIENCE TIMELINE

The following represent examples of the types of activities students will experience when the office is fully in place. Many of these are distinctive programs that will be unique to Wake Forest. In total, Wake Forest will be the only university to have such a comprehensive program.

FRESHMAN YEAR

- At orientation, learn about resources and get an action item list that offers strategies for a positive start.
- Get a “big brother” or “big sister” upper-class mentor to help navigate the first year at Wake Forest.
- Create a personal action plan with a Career Center counselor that includes self-assessments and introductions to majors, internship options, and creating a college resume.
- Learn foundational career concepts and the importance of purpose and passions in the first “From College to Career” class and the “Paths to Purpose” guest lecture series.
- During the summer, conduct academic research with a professor or try a “stretch internship” designed to get students out of their comfort zones and maximize personal growth.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Assess summer experience and develop vision, goals and action plan for sophomore year at the “Summer Reflection Retreat”.
- Build a foundation for personal and career development in the second “From College to Career” class, which focuses on the structure of the working world and graduate schools as well as worldview and workview frameworks.
- Learn about majors and minors in one-on-one sessions and at Majors Day and explore academic connections to options for careers and graduate education.
- Get work experience in the “target zone” - areas of greatest interest - via a summer internship.

JUNIOR YEAR

- In the third “From College to Career” class, understand and take action steps in the strategic job search process to develop attractive summer internship options that align with career goals.
- Work with a mentor to navigate the road from Wake Forest to a first job or graduate school.
- Meet with a Career Center counselor to strategize making the most of a junior year internship and the possible translation to full-time employment.
- Attend career fairs and alumni panels and learn about interviews and networking.

SENIOR YEAR

- Prepare to excel in the first job and handle major life challenges and questions in the fourth “From College to Career” class and seminars on professional and life skills.
- Build on relationships with mentors to maximize the experience of the senior year.
- Refine personal action plan and implement job search with the help and support of a Career Center counselor.
- Focus job search or graduate school application efforts throughout the year.



Nathan O. Hatch
President

“The Office for Personal and Career Development is still in the early stages, and your input and support is critical as we move forward. The stakes in the ground are that we will engage students in more fully considering the lives they wish to live at the end of their formal education, that we will push them to question their assumptions about work and self, and that we will support them fervently in this exploration.”

HOW WILL WE KNOW WHEN WE'RE SUCCESSFUL WITH THIS NEW APPROACH?
SIMPLY PUT, WHEN THOUSANDS OF WAKE FOREST ALUMNI ARE LIVING
AUTHENTIC, VIBRANT LIVES FILLED WITH PASSION, SERVICE, IMPACT AND
GRATITUDE.

- NATHAN O. HATCH
President



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

Office of University Advancement

P. O. Box 7227

Winston-Salem, NC 27109