ENHANCED CAREER SERVICES AND RESOURCES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

RATIONALE

- Jobs in Canada requiring graduate degrees increased from 600,000 in 1990 to 1.3 million in 2009.\(^1\)
- More than half of current graduate students are pursuing non-academic careers.
- Today’s graduate education needs to prepare students for both academic & non-academic careers.

Through this TLEF, the Centre for Student Involvement and Careers (CSI&C) partnered with Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS) and other campus partners to extend UBC’s capacity to support the career development of graduate students, particularly those pursuing careers beyond academia. The initiatives and programs developed will continue to support graduate students to effectively prepare for life after graduation, both in academia and beyond, and to fully contribute their immense value to their communities, places of work, and our society.


PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

- **Identity Development, Confidence**
  - StrengthsQuest™
  - One-to-one advising
  - Panic-to-Power
  - Graduate career skills workshops
- **Enhanced Career Planning**
  - Orientation workshops
  - Individual Development Plans (IDP)
  - Discipline-specific support
  - International student support
- **Online, Remote Access Resources:**
  - Videoconferences
  - Webinars
  - Tutorials
- **Alumni & Professional Engagement**
  - Career panels, mentoring events
  - Online videos and profiles
  - Invited experts (i.e. Anne Krook)
- **Networking, Community Building**
  - Informational interviews
  - LinkedIn and networking workshops

KEY SUCCESSES

- 2,506 individual advising appointments
- 3,216 CSI&C / G+PS workshop attendances
- 1,370 online, remote access resources
- 105 alumni and professionals at events
- 40 “alumni on success” online stories
- 93% of students would recommend our services to colleagues*
- 95% of students were satisfied with offerings* (based on surveys from 47 events)

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop high quality, sustainable career development services and resources accessible to all UBC graduate students
2. Enhance programs and opportunities for graduate students to build networks and mentoring relationships within industry and to identify the value of advanced learning in relation to future employment
3. Expand targeted career development programs and resources to better support the unique disciplinary needs of graduate students across a range of academic departments.

FUTURE POSSIBILITIES

- Expand engagement of professionals, mentors, and employers through collaboration with alumni affairs and PhD outcome tracking project
- Broaden community-based experiential learning and entrepreneurship opportunities
- Continue to enhance career services, advising, and events, both at G+PS and CSI&C, and with campus partners
- Expand use of Individual Development Plans
- Support faculty members in embedding and enriching career learning within curricula
- Increase support for discipline-specific career symposia

...the CSI&C advisors helped me rebuild my job search strategy. Thanks to them, I landed my dream job! C.P., PhD (linguistics)

…I met an engineer at the career symposium who ended up being my boss a year later. That event really paid off. T.R., MASc