Helping Students with Career Development

For students at Coastal Carolina University, career development involves more than just the completion of specified degree requirements that lead to a particular academic degree. Most students are concerned with their lives after graduation from the University. In some cases, academic advisors serve as the primary career planning resource and, in other cases, their role is to identify student needs and make necessary referrals to appropriate resources. Many advisors feel uncomfortable talking about careers because they are not career counselors. However, there is a certain level of expertise that every academic advisor needs to have in the area of careers, simply because that is an important area of student concern. Educational, career, and life planning is the fundamental purpose of academic advising. However, comprehensive career development services are available at the University through the Office of Career Services (843-349-2341) to assist advisors in preparing the student for the work environment.

It is wise to recommend that all students visit the career services web-site at www.coastal.edu/career and become familiar with the site. This web page contains the Discover Online Career Assessment, internship opportunities, on-campus and off-campus job postings, the CareerQuest plan and many helpful links (such as “What can I do with this major” and others) to assist students in determining career goals and college majors. This is a full service site that students can use throughout their college careers. As advisors, we should encourage them to do so.

Students can also create a resume with Optimal Resume, available on the Coastal Carolina University Career Services website. Once the resume is completed, it can be uploaded into the Chants JobLink for future reference, expansion and use. It is recommended that every Coastal Carolina University student have a current resume at all times. Students should log onto the Chants JobLink system by going to the Career Services website at www.coastal.edu/career and clicking on the Chants JobLink icon or by following the directions to Chants JobLink from the Optimal Resume main page.