# CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

### 2014 - 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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From left to right: Leah Marousek '15 (paraprofessional training); Chloe Neal '16 (alumni-focused special projects); Amy Toledo '15 (social media and marketing projects); Danielle Keeton '16 (choosing a major programs).

LUNDREDS OF EMPLOYERS and students are connecting at West Chester University! The Career Development Center implemented a new schedule of career fairs and networking events this year. Five events in the fall (Student Organization & Employer Reception, Meet the Firms Night, and the Business & Communication, STEM, and Social Services Career Fairs) brought 123 employers to campus to connect with approximately 650 students; the third annual Meet the Firms Night engaged a record number of 254 students. We continued our traditional spring career fair and engaged a record number of 550 students and alumni to connect with 68 hiring organizations.

Another new initiative, "Ask an Employer," was piloted in the fall to foster student-employer interaction. Students attended drop-in hours on the designated days to get advice directly from hiring managers. Fifty-three students connected with the following organizations: Capital One Bank, Elko & Associates, Enterprise Holdings, Evolve IP, The Goshen Group, Melmark, Northwestern Mutual of Eastern PA, Peace Corps, Target, The Travelers Companies, and Vanguard.

In its second year, we expanded our successful Career Ambassador program to include four student paraprofessionals. Career Ambassadors develop and deliver programs to clubs and organizations, Academic and Student Affairs departments, and residence halls, to increase career development awareness and educate students. To further enhance the visibility of career services, a new "Career Center Onthe-Go!" program has the CAs staffing tables in various locations across campus so students and faculty can learn more.

The career center has gone global! In support of the WCU strategic plan, a range of initiatives are elevating student awareness and developing their global competencies. The center participated in several globally-focused programs, including: Global Careers Panel during IFest; Study Abroad Pre-Departure Program in collaboration with the Center for International Programs (CIP); WCU Study Abroad Fairs; and the Delaware Valley Re-Entry Conference at Temple University. We also partnered with CIP to conduct our first ever needs assessment of the International student population in the spring, which will result in new programming and resources in 2015-16.

#### **Exceeding National Benchmarks in Career Services**

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) conducts an annual survey to benchmark career services operations in the United States. A total of 2,066 member schools were contacted in 2014-15 and 879 responded to the survey (42% response). Comparing the Career Development Center outcomes with other Carnegie-classified Master's Large institutions, we exceed the national median in all instances and most of the national means.

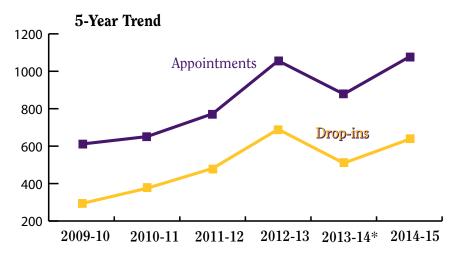
| 2014 – 2015:                                   | WCU   | National<br>Mean | National<br>Median |
|--|-------|------------------|--------------------|
| # Students – Appointments                      | 921   | 1,191            | 854                |
| # Students – Drop-ins                          | 586   | 573              | 400                |
| # Career Fairs (on campus)                     | 4     | 3                | 3                  |
| # Employers at Career Fairs                    | 142   | 183              | 140                |
| # Employers in On-Campus<br>Recruiting Program | 68    | 45               | 28                 |
| # Interviews Conducted in On-Campus Recruiting | 808   | 382              | 152                |
| # Workshops                                    | 157   | 65               | 36                 |
| # Students Attending Workshops                 | 4,904 | 1,815            | 800                |

NACE 2014-15 Career Services Benchmark Survey for Colleges and Universities

# Student & Alumni Career Planning – Appointments & Drop-ins

The Career Development Center staff engages students and alumni in the lifelong process of clarifying interests, skills, and values, exploring options, making decisions, and implementing a plan to pursue a goal. Individuals may schedule appointments or utilize drop-in hours to obtain professional assistance.

#### Total Appointments and Drop-ins = 1,714

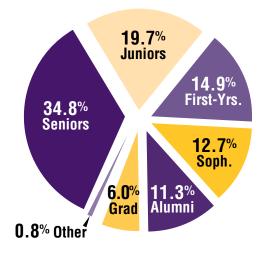


<sup>\*</sup> Annual Report cycle changed to *Summer-Fall-Spring* and therefore only includes Fall '13 and Spring '14; Summer '13 was reported in the previous year when the report cycle was *Fall-Spring-Summer*.

In my seven years as the Director of the career center, I am proud to say that each year we have implemented new initiatives and programs and we have increased student, alumni, and employer engagement. is a dedicated team of professionals and Career Ambassadors; we strive on a daily basis to provide the expertise, services, resources, and guidance that support student success. I am pleased to shine a spotlight on our accomplishments from 2014-2015. many of which came to fruition due to the wonderful collaborations we have with our alumni, employer partners, and faculty and staff colleagues.

~ Becky Ross, *Director, Twardowski* Career Development Center

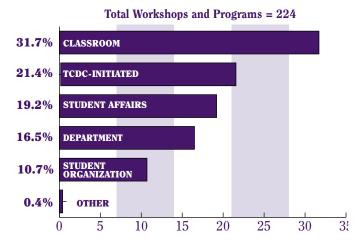




## Student & Alumni Engagement | Faculty Linkages – Workshop & Program Attendance

The TCDC presented 224 workshops and programs in collaboration with a variety of campus partners for 6,233 attendees. Alumni participated in an array of special events, educating and networking with students about future possibilities. We engaged 44 alumni as guest speakers and participants, who connected with more than 300 students and other alumni.

# Career Ambassadors Led: 38 Programs & Workshops for 816 Students



#### Career Center On-the-Go!

A new initiative organized by our Career Ambassadors, who staffed tables and engaged in conversations with students, faculty and staff across campus!

39 Tabling Events
184 Students, Faculty & Staff Engaged

#### Providing Skill Development for Students & Alumni – Resume & Cover Letter Reviews

#### 3,062 Total ~ 80% Students | 20% Alumni

TCDC professionals review resumes and other documents to help students and alumni maximize the impression made on potential employers. The majority of reviews were conducted electronically via Ram Career Network, and other documents were reviewed when dropped off or emailed to the center.



#### **Enhancing Programs for Exploratory Students**

Assistant Directors Amanda Mitchell and Ashley Rowe developed a new Welcome Week event called "RamTracks Ice Cream Social" to engage exploratory students and connect them with resources to begin exploring majors and career options. Program attendance included 65 pre-major and ADP students, Career Ambassadors, academic advisors, and a panel of upper class students who spoke about decision-making.

The Career Development Center and Alumni Relations completed the second annual WCU Shadows job shadowing program. Of the 52 students who applied, 16 students were interviewed. Eleven students were matched with alumni and professionals to complete a one-day job shadow over winter break and explore careers of interest.

#### Leveraging Technology – MyWorldAbroad & Alumni Career Community

In consultation with the Center for International Programs (CIP), the TCDC acquired a license in January 2015 for MyWorldAboard, a resource that helps students develop global competencies. Another new resource, the Alumni Career Management Community, provides live and recorded career and professional development webinars; promotional efforts have targeted alumni, to expand our reach to those who may not be able to take advantage of campus programs.

Compared with 2013 - 2014:

**10.1%** Increase in # of Web Users

**17,875** Website Unique Users

#### Increasing Employer Relationships—On-Campus Recruiting Program

The On-Campus Recruiting (OCR) Program hosts representatives from diverse industries who interview students for career and internship opportunities. OCR is completely managed within Ram Career Network, our state of the art career management system.

Compared with 2013 - 2014:

**3.0%** Increase **68** Unique Employers in On-Campus Recruiting Compared with 2013 - 2014:

**3.6%** Increase

175 Unique Employers Participating in All Recruiting Events on Campus

|  | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | % change |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------|
| OCR Interview Schedules (one schedule may include full-time and internship interviews) | 101       | 99        | -2.0%    |
| Positions in OCR (full-time and internship)  | 132       | 147       | +11.4%   |
| Applications Submitted   | 1,568     | 1,314     | -16.2%   |
| Interviews Conducted   | 681       | 808       | +18.6%   |

#### Engaging Employers & Providing Employment Opportunities – Ram Career Network

Ram Career Network is WCU's official career services management system, used to promote jobs, internships, career fairs, and other recruiting activities to students and alumni.

|  | 2013-2014* | 2014-2015 | % change | % change<br>(comparing fall/<br>spring data only) |
|--|------------|-----------|----------|---|
| Jobs Posted in Ram Career Network (full-time, internship, and part-time) | 1,777      | 3,366     | +89.4%   | +42.3%  |
| Internships Posted in Ram Career<br>Network                              | 488        | 861       | +76.4%   | +39.7%  |
| New Employer Registrations (a new company or organization)               | 517        | 784       | +51.6%   | +11.6%  |
| New Contact Registrations (a new person, with a new or existing company) | 709        | 1,036     | +46.2%   | +7.7%   |
| New Alumni Account Registrations   | 358        | 268       | -21.5%   | -49.2%  |
| Documents Uploaded into Ram Career<br>Network                            | 2,914      | 4,726     | +62.2%   | +48.6%  |

|  | 2013-2014* | 2014-2015 | % change | % change<br>(comparing fall/<br>spring data only) |
|--|------------|-----------|----------|---|
| Unique Student and Alumni Users  | 4,892      | 5,370     | +9.8%    | +0.5%   |
| Logins by Student and Alumni Users   | 28,957     | 47,120    | +62.7%   | +52.1%  |
| Number of Visits to Ram Career<br>Network Site (all users, Google Analytics) | 40,072     | 61,583    | +53.7%   | +33.9%  |

<sup>\*</sup> Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 only, due to change in annual reporting cycle. Columns above show the year-to-year % changes using all data for the full 2014-15 year, as well as fall/spring comparisons (excluding Summer 2014 data).

#### Increasing Employer Relationships – Career Fairs

With the goal of increasing employer and student participation, the TCDC implemented a new model for campus career fairs. Three new career fairs were coordinated in the fall (Business & Communication, STEM, and Social Services); the larger all industry-fair in the spring was continued (with all-time record attendance). Through consortium participation in the greater Philadelphia region, the TCDC co-sponsored two additional fairs.

|  | # Employers | # Students & Alumni |
|--|-------------|---------------------|
| Meet the Firms Night (Accounting)          | 29          | 254                 |
| Business & Communication Career Fair       | 30          | 196                 |
| STEM Career Fair                           | 24          | 81                  |
| Social Services Career Fair                | 20          | 80                  |
| Spring Career Fair                         | 68          | 549                 |
| DVEC Greater Philadelphia Teacher Job Fair | $130^{3}$   | $242^{1}$           |
| Philadelphia Nonprofit & Government Fair   | 74          | $14^{2}$            |

Consortium career fairs include individuals from multiple colleges and universities.

"I had a number of interactions with the CDC, ranging from resume building and interview prep, to networking events and discussion panels. Through these experiences I developed skills necessary to distinguish myself as a worthy job candidate and I met some incredible people with great insights along the way."

~ Skye Hisiro '14, Early Grades Preparation



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>WCU Attendees (out of 880 – 27.5% of total attendance)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>WCU Attendees (out of 245 – 5.7% of total attendance)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Largest employer participation since 2009

#### Increasing Employer Relationships—Employers that Recruited at WCU

Employers utilize on-campus recruiting, career fairs, job postings, and information tables to promote opportunities throughout the year. Below is a list of all 175 employers that visited campus at least once in 2014-2015.

4Telecomhelp, Inc. Diamond State Financial Lutron Electronics Techtronic Industries, NA (TTi) A. Duie Pyle, Inc. Maillie Falconiero & Company **Enterprise Cloudworks** The Bancorp Abraxas Youth and Family Main Line Rehabilitation Corporation Services Associates, Inc. The Fairman Group LLC Adroit Associates Inc. **Enterprise Holdings** Master, Sidlow & Associates The Goshen Group Alliance Bank EnviroSure, Inc. Mastery Charter Schools The Judge Group Amazon Student **ESF** Camps and Experiences McAdam Financial Group The Matt Fetick Real Estate **Amity Care** McGladrev **Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories** Team Appleby Systems Inc. Melmark Evolve IP The North Face Aramark Mondo Family Lives On Foundation The Sherwin-Williams Arbonne Music Training Center **Fastenal** Company New Castle County Police Ascensus Fesnak and Associates The Travelers Companies Department Azer Scientific First Financial Group/ **TIER Environmental Services** Northwestern Mutual Barbacane. Thornton & Co. Massmutual NutriSystem Bayada Home Health Care First Investors Corporation Torrillo & Associates, LLC Ottos BMW BBD, LLP Fischer Cunnane & Assoc. Ltd. **Truth Teacher Services** Peace Corps **BDO** Frontline Technologies, Inc. Pelican Auto Finance, LLC Turn5 Inc Belfint, Lyons & Shuman, P.A. Fulton Financial Corporation Penn Oaks Golf Club uFinancial Berkley Technology Services General Healthcare Resources Pennsylvania Liquor Control Best Brains Exton **Unisys Corporation** Glen Mills Schools Board Bethanna Upper Bay Counseling and GMS Surgent CPA's & Advisors Penske **Bonbids Fundraising Penny** Support Services GoPaperboy Pep Boys Auto Auctions US Army Reserve Recruiting Gunnip & Company **PLS Logistics Services Bradley Staffing Group** US Marine Corps Power Home Remodeling Highmark Health **Brand Builder Solutions** USLI - United States Liability Group HomeNet Automotive Breakaway Technologies, Inc. Insurance Group PricewaterhouseCoopers Horizon House Brian's House Inc. Vanguard Primepay Brooksource Horse Power for Life **Vector Marketing** Primerica Camp Wicosuta Horty & Horty, P.A. Verizon Wireless-Zone Propulsion Media Labs Capital One **Huntington Learning Center** Public Allies Delaware Victory Brewing Company Careflow **IM Consultants** QVC, Inc. Visiting Angels CCRES, Educational and **IMX Medical Services** Radius Systems, LLC Behavioral Health Services W.B. Mason Intelligent Capital Network Rainer & Company Cecil County Public Schools Waddell & Reed, Inc. Intern U Reinsel Kuntz Lesher Chester County OIC Walgreens iPipeline Remed Recovery Care Centers Child and Family Focus Warwick Child Care iO Media ReminderMedia Chris Yard State Farm Center, Inc. Johnson Matthey Renewal by Andersen Christiana Care Health System Wawa, Inc. JPMorgan Chase & Co. Roch Capital Citrin Cooperman LLP Wegmans Food Market Kaleidoscope Rothman Boylston City Year Weisermazars LLP Karr Barth Associate/AXA Ruby Tuesday Clark Associates, Inc. Advisors Wells Fargo Bank Russell Roofing CliftonLarsonAllen Keane Weschsler/Marsico Associates Comcast **RW** Group Kelmar Associates Windsor Financial Group/ Sage Microsystems, Inc. Comhar

Sears

Kelsch Associates, Inc.

KenCrest Services

Kreischer Miller

Lincoln Heritage

KPMG LLP

Listrak

CommSolutions

Coordinated Health

Connolly iHealth Technologies

Corrigan-Manning Co., Inc.

Daniel A. Winters & Company Devereux-Southeastern PA SEI Wipfli (formerly Elko and Associates)
SevOne, Inc. Wyndham Garden Exton Hotel
Target Corporation Y Prime
TE Connectivity YMCA Camp Tockwogh

MassMutual