

Natural Sciences Council

25 January 2016

NSCR 1502

A Resolution In Support of Standardizing FIGs to Include a Career Preparedness Component

WHEREAS, The CNS Career Services Office offers guidance in finding employment and internships as well as exploring post-graduation options; and,

WHEREAS, The 2015- 2016 College Tuition and Budget Advisory Committee (CTBAC) report¹ found that the majority of CNS students had not used Career Services, with many stating that they did not know of either the existence or purpose of these services and,

WHEREAS, The report found that among students who had used Career Services, 92% indicated that they would use the office again²; and,

WHEREAS, Career Services has recently increased efforts to improve visibility and diversify services offered such as online employment opportunity database Handshake³, resume-developing workshops, and mock interviews; and,

WHEREAS, CNS First-Year Interest Groups (FIGs), found under the CNS Cornerstones program aimed at freshmen and other new students, offer a comprehensive way to reach a large number of first-year students⁴; and,

WHEREAS, CNS Cornerstones lists career preparedness as a key component of the program⁵; and,

WHEREAS, Other similarly focused student communities in other colleges such as McCombs School of Business' BA101⁶ and the College of Liberal Arts' LA101L⁷ heavily

¹ 2015 CTBAC Report:

² Ibid.

³ <https://utcns.joinhandshake.com/login>

⁴ <https://cns.utexas.edu/student-communities/first-year-interest-groups>

⁵ <https://cns.utexas.edu/student-communities/cns-cornerstones-communities#key-components-of-cns-cornerstones>

⁶ <https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/student/coursedocs/nlogon/download/5546911>

⁷ <https://sites.utexas.edu/lahonors/2014/10/29/liberal-arts-college-to-career-courses/>

emphasize gaining career skills such as networking, online branding, and interview techniques; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, That the Council recommends that as a requirement all CNS FIGs standardize a portion of its flexible curriculum to include required workshops that introduce students to Career Services, promote interview skills, and hone resume writing skills; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution of the Natural Sciences Council be sent to Dr. David Vanden Bout, *Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education*, College of Natural Sciences; Elizabeth Morgan, *Student Life Coordinator*, College of Natural Sciences; Ruth Franks, *Director of Career Services*, College of Natural Sciences; and Dr. Linda Hicke, *Dean of College of Natural Sciences*

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