

NECC 2020 Strategic Plan Update: April 2017



Context

The vision of this goal team is to provide students with comprehensive career development services including access to internships, career exploration, experiential learning, and job placement.

Accomplishments

- **Student Career Opportunities Summit** with NECC faculty and staff was held on February 3, 2016. More than 80 people collaborated to generate feedback for our team, with specific input gathered from the advising team and faculty from various academic areas. The information from the summit will be used to focus our efforts and move towards achieving our aspiration goals.
- **Open Forums with Students** are being hosted by Bill Heineman (Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs) and Ashley Moore (Director of Career and Experiential Education) focusing on the topic of enhancing career services at NECC.

In Progress

- A **STEM Subcommittee** has been formed to increase non-traditional students in the STEM and Healthcare fields. They are:
 - Conducting research on best practices for implementation at NECC.
 - Conducting an internal assessment, using a focus group to learn from current students, specifically women who are enrolled and persisting in STEM fields.
 - Best practice research on how other schools integrate career exploration into their programs and academics, specifically the advising process.
- We are investigating and implementing ways to both offer career services along with **generating revenue** for our work. Examples are creating 1) YouTube videos on Career Services and/or workshops being offered as webinars opened to students and alumni, and 2) charging employers a nominal fee for on-campus recruitment events.
- **'Virtual Job Shadow'** software and process will be implemented for a pilot roll out in the fall of 2017.
 - A comprehensive career exploration tool.
 - Provides students and faculty assistance with exploring career pathways, side-by-side transfer institution comparisons, career journals, and career-related assignments.
- We are in the beginning phases of coordinating a **Major Exploration Fair** event, in conjunction with Civic Engagement and Service Learning, for the fall semester. This would include faculty and alumni representation from each program, fun activities, and prizes to encourage students to learn more about different majors at NECC. The goal would be to help students understand their future career options in a fun environment.
- **NECC's 3rd Annual Networking Night** will be held on May 18, 2017 from 5:30-7:30pm in the Technology Center. Last year the group had 180+ employers and students in attendance. Employers are encouraged to attend this free event, which helps our students learn how to network and allows them to connect with employers for potential jobs and internships.
- We are working on **Pop-up Thrift Stores**, located on both the Haverhill and the Lawrence campus, along with a professional clothing drive for faculty and staff. Students will be able to visit the store and "shop" for

professional clothing to be worn at Awards Convocation, Graduation, Networking Night, and on job interviews.

Coming Soon

- We will be hosting a monthly **“What Can I Do With this Major?”** coffee series, in conjunction with Admissions and Alumni Relations. We will bring in professionals, preferably NECC or community college graduates, to discuss their education and career journeys that led them to where they are today. Students will be able to enjoy light refreshments while hearing from people they aspire to be.