

The Career Development Needs of Student Athletes: Using Data to Inform Practice

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Career Center Liaison

- Career Center (CC) Program Director serves as liaison between Career Center and the athletic department; working with Life Skills and Athletic Academic Support staff members
- Have also used a graduate student position; jointly funded by Career Center and Athletic Department

Communication

- Have CC staff do a seminar 1-2 times per year for selected athletic department staff members on what's new in the Career Center
- Use targeted e-mails to key Athletic Department staff members; inform them about upcoming events, job and internship opportunities, etc.
- Using student athlete listserv
- Provide CC materials in student athlete recruiting packets

Examples of Programs and Services

- Provide a session during "Summer Bridge" program for incoming student athletes
- Provide brief CC overview during new student athlete orientation—have student athletes complete brief needs survey
- Provide workshops (Pizza & a Resume Critique) and one-on-one career services in the Athletic Department
- Sophomore/Juniors--SWAG Program—Student Athletes Working Towards Attaining Goals (proposed program)
- Have student athletes complete career assessment during study hall team meeting; train advisors on interpreting the results
- *Peers Helping Athletes Transition (PHAT) Tuesdays*—Presentation on Career Center services to freshmen and transfer athletes
- *Senior Transition Classes*—Presentation on Career Center services and transition-related skills catering to senior athletes (e.g., on campus interviewing, interviewing, , networking, job search strategies)
- Revise selected CC career planning and employment resources and target them to student athletes
- Host the Student Athlete Advisory Council meeting in the Career Center
- Plan career information panels with former student athletes in varied career fields—host them in the athletic facilities; invite other students to attend
- Include former student athlete as a search category in alumni networking database
- Offer to give CC tours when recruits visit
- Coordinate with athletic advisors on referrals to the career planning class

FSU Freshmen Athlete Questionnaire – Fall 2006-Fall 2010

Participants: 501 Freshmen Athletes ()*

Sport	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	Total
Baseball	12	16	12	18	12	
Basketball	7	4	10	6	4	
CC/Track	29	21	22	17	17	
Cheerleading	13	24	14	0	11	
Dance	10	4	8	0	0	
Golf	1	5	4	2	4	
Soccer	0	6	8	8	0	
Softball	10	8	6	5	6	
Swimming/Diving	21	29	12	11	22	
Tennis	1	5	2	3	6	
Volleyball	2	3	3	7	8	
Football	2	0	0	0	0	
Total per year	108	125	101	77	90	501

*includes cheerleaders on scholarship

Occupational Alternatives:**	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	
Yes primary choice, No alternatives	20	18	10	7	9	64 (12.8%)
Yes primary choice, Yes alternatives	37	50	43	24	49	203 (40.5%)
No primary choice, Yes alternatives	25	31	30	12	24	122 (24.4%)
No primary choice, No alternatives	26	26	18	35	8	113 (22.6%)
	108	125	101	77	90	501

**Item based on the Occupational Alternative Question (OAQ; Zener & Schnuelle, 1972; modified by Slaney, 1980)

Future Career Plans:	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	5 year average
Job related to field of study	47.2%	49.6%	43.6%	55.8%	44.4%	48.1%
Job that combines field of study and sports	41.7%	36.8%	38.6%	36.2%	43.3%	39.3%
Job in sports but not related to field of study	6.5%	9.6%	10.9%	12.7%	14.4%	10.8%
Job not in sports and not related to field of study	5.6%	1.6%	5.9%	2.0%	2.2%	3.5%
Become a professional athlete	21.3%	28.8%	33.7%	37.2%	33.3%	30.9%
Go to graduate school	44.4%	37.6%	35.6%	26.4%	27.8%	34.4%
Unsure	7.4%	16.0%	9.9%	7.8%	8.9%	10.0%

Note: respondents were allowed to select more than one response

Career Assistance Needed:	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	5 year average
Choosing a major	24.1%	18.4%	11.9%	24.5%	23.3%	20.4%
Gaining experience	61.1%	65.6%	59.4%	52.0%	62.2%	60.1%
Matching majors to occupations	47.2%	43.2%	38.6%	46.1%	54.4%	45.9%
Preparing resumes or cover letters	34.3%	48.0%	41.6%	35.3%	54.4%	42.7%
Preparing for interviews	33.3%	38.4%	35.6%	29.4%	31.1%	33.6%
Networking	51.9%	53.6%	40.6%	31.4%	46.7%	44.8%
Identifying employers	38.0%	40.8%	35.6%	24.5%	34.4%	34.7%
Applying to graduate school	40.7%	38.4%	30.7%	28.4%	31.1%	33.9%

Note: respondents were allowed to select more than one response

Career Planning Questionnaire

The Athletic Department's Student Services Office & the Career Center appreciate your responses to the questions below to help us in planning future programs and services to assist you with your career development. Thank you.

Please indicate your **primary** sport: _____

What is your FSU major or intended major? _____
(if undecided, write "undecided")

Please list all the occupations you are considering right now:

Which occupation is your **first choice**? (if undecided, write "undecided")

Which of the following **best** describes your plans following graduation? Place a check (✓) in the space provided.

- _____ I plan to look for a job related to my field of study
- _____ I would like a job that combines sports and my field of study
- _____ I would like a job related to sports, but **not** necessarily related to my major
- _____ I plan to look for a job in a career area **not** related to sports or my major
- _____ I would like to try to make it in professional sports
- _____ I plan to attend graduate school. Intended area of study: _____
- _____ Unsure of my plans following graduation
- _____ Other (Please describe): _____

Please indicate areas where you would like career assistance: (Check all that apply)

- _____ Help choosing my major
- _____ Help in gaining experience (internship, summer job, volunteer, etc.) related to my major and career interests
- _____ Help in matching my major with occupations
- _____ Help in preparing resumes/cover letters
- _____ Help in preparing for job interviews
- _____ Help in networking with people employed in my career field(s) of interest
- _____ Help in identifying employers related to my career interests
- _____ Help with applying to graduate or professional school
- _____ Other: _____



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www.career.fsu.edu/techcenter--What's New, NCDA 2011