Online Career Portfolios: Connecting Academic Advising and Career Development

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Career Portfolio Issues

- Career planning & teaching tool
- Integration of job search components
- Graduate/professional school application
- Dynamic online candidate information rather than a static resume
- Student utilization
- Application to academic programs

Structure of Advising at FSU

• Undergraduate Studies

Academic Colleges

Career Services Linkages with Academic Colleges

• Liaison Program with Academic Advising

History & Development

Fall 1997

- Approached by Sandy D'Alemberte, President of Florida State University
- Fall 1998 Fall 1999 (ongoing)
- Research regarding other university portfolio systems
 - i.e., USC, Oregon, Kent State
 - Portfolio clearinghouse-AAHE
 www.aahe.org/teaching/portfolio_db.htm

History & Development (cont.)

January 1999

- Northwestern Mutual Life proposal June 1999
- Created Career Center Task Force
 Fall 1999
- Professional Staff line

Spring 2000

• Graduate Assistant (Web Designer)

History & Development (cont.)

1999-2000 Developed System Prototype

- Prototype demonstrations
 - President, University Technology Oversight Committee, Council of Deans, Council of Informed Advisors, College of Engineering ABET Accreditation Committee

2000-present

• System technical development with AIS

Initial Testing & Current Status

Goals of the FSU Career Portfolio

- Educate students about workforce skills
- Connect students with opportunities to develop skills
- Provide a mechanism for students to document their skills and market themselves to employers or graduate schools

Student Feedback

- Focused on user interface design issues
 - Is it user-friendly?
 - Does it make sense?
 - Would you use it?
- Many changes were made to the design as a result of the testing
- Results were overwhelmingly positive

1.5

Demonstration

Career Portfolio Demo

Some Key Aspects

- Compatible with liberal arts mission
- Generic workforce skills have consensus
- Comprehensive Career Center
- Integrating student and academic affairs
- Boundary-spanning career services

Some Key Aspects (cont.)

- Career preparation supported & integrated
- Multiple intervention points in time & place
- System intervention self-help mode
- Career Portfolio focal point of intervention

Integration & Implementation

- Students
- University Staff
- Employers
- Parents



Questions & Discussion

For more information, please visit: http://www.career.fsu.edu/portfolio/info.html

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