CareerCenter welcomes new staff

Calvin’s Career Center is excited to welcome new staff members to our team: Wes Trammell, Brandon Jacob, and Courtney Banks-Tatum.

Wes joins the Career Center as the Career Coach for students interested in Education, Non-Profit, Public and Human Services. Prior to this role, Wes worked in a variety of positions at Wedgewood Christian Services, most recently as Human Resources Specialist. Wes has a bachelor’s degree in physical education and master’s in communication, both from Grand Valley State University.

Brandon transitioned to the Career Center after spending the past five years here at Calvin as Resident Director in Noordewier VanderWerp Hall. Brandon will be serving as the Career Coach for students interested in the STEM and healthcare fields. He has a bachelor's degree in Christian educational ministries and master’s degree in higher education, both from Taylor University.

Courtney is the new Employer Relations Manager for the Career Center. In this role, she will oversee on-campus student employment and will cultivate relationships with employers. Previously, Courtney worked as a Community Development Specialist for Mercantile Bank and a Program Administrator for School to Career Progressions. She has a bachelor's degree in biology from Aquinas College and two master's degrees (in public administration and health administration) from Grand Valley State University.

Upcoming Events

WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS

- Students from all disciplines and class levels welcome
- 3:30 p.m.: Hiemenga Hall 315
- 5:00 p.m.: Student Senate Meeting Room

Sept. 14 - On-campus jobs, Handshake and Federal Work-Study
Sept. 21 - Resume & Cover Letter Writing
Sept. 28 - Job/Internship Search
Oct. 5 - Interviewing
Oct. 12 - Networking & Small Talk
Oct. 19 - Major Selection
Nov. 2 - Personal Branding
Nov. 9 - Workplace Expectations & Etiquette
Nov. 16 - How to be a Christian in a Secular Environment
Nov. 30 - Discerning God's Call
Dec. 7 - Presentations & Public Speaking in the Workplace

CAREER FAIRS

Accounting & Finance Night
Sept. 21, 5:30 p.m., Prince Conference Center

Amway Networking Event
Sept. 27, 3:30 p.m., Amway World Headquarters

GVSU Fall Career Fair
Oct. 11, 1–5 p.m., DeVos Place Convention Center

Spectrum Health Networking Event
Oct. 27, 3:30 p.m., Bridgewater Place

Engineering & Computing Career Fair
Nov. 10, 2–5 p.m., Prince Conference Center
Calvin LifeWork

Have you heard about LifeWork?

The Calvin LifeWork program, scheduled to launch with the fall 2017 incoming class, is an incentivized, four-year, co-curricular program that will help students prepare for life and work after graduation. Through a series of workshops, experiential learning opportunities and intentional coaching, students will be guided through significant milestone activities designed to prepare them for their lifelong vocational goal of engaging God’s world.

YEAR 1: DISCOVER
Students will identify and discover their interests, values and strengths, connecting those with God’s call on their lives. Components of the first year program include:
- Introduction to vocation and calling
- jobZology career assessment
- Career exploration and major selection
- Communication skills
- Personal financial management
- Resume writing

YEAR 2: EQUIP
Students will gain practical, professional and world-readiness skills for their career, graduate education and post-grad life. Workshops and activities for the second year will include:
- Personal branding
- Interview skills
- Job fair preparation
- Teamwork and leadership
- Internship search strategies

YEAR 3: EXPERIENCE
Students will experience the world through internships or research projects while honing life skills. Year 3 will feature the following components:
- Workplace professionalism and business etiquette
- Financial and legal principles
- Resume and cover letter writing
- Internship or research project

YEAR 4: LAUNCH
Students will launch into a life that aligns with God’s call. Activities for the final year of the LifeWork program will include:
- Advanced financial and legal training
- Networking events with employers

By completing each requirement in the LifeWork program, students will receive a $3,000 scholarship to be applied in their senior year.

CalvinLifeWork will be open to all students, beginning with the fall 2017 incoming class.
Over 450 Calvin students completed a summer internship, giving them the opportunity to develop the professional skills employers are seeking in candidates.

Students: report your internship at www.calvin.edu/career for a chance to win $15 to the Campus Store!
jobZology for Class or Group Use

jobZology is a new assessment tool that gives individuals the opportunity to learn more about their unique combination of values, interests, and personality in order to gain understanding about the types of educational and career paths that are likely to be most satisfying.

The Career Center purchased an annual license for unlimited use of jobZology, and we will offer this assessment free for any classes or groups. Contact our office for instructions on how to access this assessment.

Other available class and group tools:
- Strengths Finder: $15 per assessment (includes a code to take the assessment, not a book)
- Myers Briggs Type Indicator: $15 per assessment
- Strong Interest Inventory: $15 per assessment

Note: Professors who want their class to take Strengths Finder should include the new (not used) book in their course materials list; some professors are using StrengthsFinder 2.0 by Tom Rath (which costs about $15 and includes a code to take the test).

Individuals interested in jobZology or other assessments must first meet with a career coach. Appointments can be scheduled online through Handshake at https://calvin.joinhandshake.com.

Contact Us

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Search for jobs and internships, or schedule an appointment with your career coach on Handshake:
https://calvin.joinhandshake.com

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