

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SHOWCASE

ARTS & LETTERS PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR SERIES (ALPSS)

A collaboration between the Career Center, the College of Arts & Letters, and the Carlsen Center in partnership with Sacramento County, City Year Sacramento, Highlands Community Charter Schools, Enterprise Mobility, Flexcare Medical Staffing



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Arts & Letters Professional Seminar Series (ALPSS) is a 6-week (now 8-week course!) series of seminars and workshops that focus on career exploration, job research skills, networking, and transferring skills.

ALPSS is a partnership between the Career Center, the College of Arts and Letters, and the Carlsen Center, working with external community partners, like Sacramento County, City Year Sacramento, Highlands Community Charter Schools, Enterprise Mobility, and Flexcare Medical Staffing. These organizations provide volunteers for mock interviews and networking events, so students apply skills learned in this program.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM

Students: 38 Faculty: 2 Staff: 4

Mock interviews were interactive one-on-one sessions where community partners provided opportunities for ALPSS students to practice and receive feedback on interviewing skills with professionals.

Networking event brought community partners and students together to engage in networking basics with multiple partners for different engagement opportunities.

PROMOTING STUDENT SUCCESS IN COLLEGE AND CAREER

ALPSS is a tangible learning experience that bridges college and career, so students can graduate with a purpose. These career-preparation workshops are designed to prepare students for the college to career transition.

The ALPSS academic course is guided by the National Association of Colleges & Employers (NACE) Career Readiness Competencies. ALPSS's learning outcomes teach students how to market themselves by translating their skill sets into job readiness.

ALPSS is centered on an intense 6-week curriculum. In addition to the two weekly meetings, ALPSS offers hands-on job preparation assignments, that include self reflection, career and occupation exploration, resume development, cover letter writing, job search, and interview preparation as well as professionalism.

These skills support students with informational interviewing, networking, creating LinkedIn accounts, practicing elevator pitches, developing professional branding, writing position statements, and preparing for interviews.

ALPSS is designed to guide our critical and creative students through each step of the "landing a job" process. ALPSS students have received interviews, internships, and jobs, via the growing ALPSS network.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY IMPACT

Mock interview sessions and the networking event allowed community partners to interact directly with students to help them practice career skills and to provide feedback which benefited their learning. Students learned about expectations and best practices in current workforce development.

"I found the panels, discussions, workshops, and networking events to all be very valuable. Basically, everything in the class helped me grow both professionally and as a person."

-Ismael Martinez Castillo, English major

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Community partners were enthusiastic and excited to engage with students in the mock interview sessions and the networking event as they were able to provide feedback and support to students learning career development skills.

"It was wonderful connecting with students and learning about their career aspirations while providing useful guidance as they embark on their career journey."

-Jeni Odoms, Community Partnerships Director, City Year Sacramento

