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Help!! How do I choose the right career path?

So here you are at Bethel, spending thousands of dollars and four years of your life to get a college degree. That's a pretty serious investment. It would really stink to get to graduation and think "Did I pick the right major? What if I can't find a job I like? Do I even know what kind of jobs I can get with this major? OH NO—WHAT HAVE I DONE???"

You can avoid this panic by making an appointment with Linda Elek, the CISC Career Counselor. Linda has her master's degree in counseling and has been advising Bethel students for the past seven years.

In addition to her work experience, Linda is also mom to three sons who are in their early 20's so it's not hard for her to relate to what college students are going through.

So what exactly does "Career Counseling" mean? Well, it doesn't involve lying on a couch and telling Linda all of your deepest, darkest secrets—it's a lot easier than that.

Let's say that you give Linda a call and say "Help! I don't know if I've chosen the right major!" Linda will say, "Hey, no problem, I can help you with that!" She will schedule a time for you to come to the CISC to take the Career Direct assessment. It will take about 45-60 minutes for you to answer



lots of questions about what you like to do, what you are good at doing, and what types of values are important to you.

After you answer all of these questions Linda will schedule another time for you to come in and go over the results of the assessment. Before you meet she will do some research, based on the results of your assessment, on what options are available to you.

When you meet with her, she will give you advice on what majors and what careers are the best fit for your skills, interests, and for what you ultimately want to get out of a career. She will also give you some research tools that will help you to make career decisions.

All-in-all, it's a very painless process (we promise that Linda doesn't bite). And best of all, it's FREE! Oh, and we have candy in our office so that's another bonus of coming all the way to the third floor of Huffman to take the Career Direct assessment.

If you are interested in taking the assessment, contact Linda at ext. 2695 or email her at elek1@bethelcollege.edu.

Career Direct is a biblically-based assessment that can help answer the following questions:

- ▶ What should I major in?
- ▶ Did I choose the right major?
- ▶ What careers will be available when I graduate with this degree?
- ▶ I know what major I should be, but what track should I take?

To schedule an appointment to take the Career Direct assessment, call Linda at 257-2695 or email her at elek1@bethelcollege.edu.

Career & Intern Services Center

Start your resume now!

Preparing a resume may seem far into the future, especially if you are a freshman or sophomore. But what you may not realize is that you are working on your resume right now, this very instant!

A resume is only a written representation of your skills, experiences, and accomplishments and so it is not something that can be created in a day, a week, or even a year. You can't pull an all-nighter and come out with a stellar resume—building skills and experiences takes time.

So how do you build skills and experiences that will knock employer's socks off? Many common extra curricular activities can score big points on a resume, especially if you are intentional about accumulating resume-worthy experiences.

Here are some things you can do this year to start building your resume:

- ▶ **Get involved** with clubs or organizations that interest you. Whether it is chapel band, StuCo, or a sports team, any activity where you demonstrate responsibility, time management, teamwork, etc. will look good on your resume.
- ▶ Look for **leadership opportunities**. Volunteer to head up a committee, put your name in the hat to become an officer, and volunteer to take on special projects.
- ▶ Look for opportunities to **be creative and show initiative**.
- ▶ **Join professional organizations** in your major area. Examples are the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and the Student Education Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). Talk to your advisor about organizations in your area of study.
- ▶ **Volunteer, volunteer, volunteer!** Many companies/organizations can't afford to pay you to work, but would have a hard time turning down free help. You can accumulate some valuable experiences that have a future payoff by volunteering your time.
- ▶ **Look for a part-time and/or summer job that relates to your major.**

After reading these suggestions, you may be surprised to discover that you have been working on your resume without even knowing it!

Don't forget to check out the EMPLOYMENT PAGE on the Bethel web site! On the Bethel home page, click on Student Life, then Career Services, then Employment, then choose Part-Time Childcare/Tutoring, Part-Time Jobs, or Internships.

Career Tip

Looking for a job or internship?

Part-Time Jobs:

Das Dutchman Essenhaus is seeking WAIT-STAFF, CASHIERS-HOSTS and KITCHEN COOKS. Visit www.essenhaus.com for an application.

Jordan Ford is seeking a LOT ASSISTANT. The pay is \$8.50 per hour and they are located just 1.5 miles from campus. Call 259-1981, ext. 288 for more information.

Hillcrest United Methodist Church in Elkhart is seeking a part-time PRAISE TEAM LEADER.

Hours would be on Wednesday evenings for practice and on Sunday mornings. Call 264-3240 for more information.

Internship Openings:

The South Bend Center for the Homeless has 16 internship opportunities available. Just a

few examples are: Business Affairs Assistant, Special Events Assistant, Family Library Coordinator, Resilience Youth Group Coordinator, and MANY MORE!. Visit the CISC Employment Page (see the green box above for directions) for more information.

Check out the CISC Employment Page for MANY MORE job and internship opportunities!
(see the green box above for directions)

Mark your calendar

October 27 - **FYE Presentation—The Ultimate Road Trip: Campus2Career**
Everest-Rohr Auditorium, 10:00a.m.

March 24 - **Career and Internship Fair**
IUSB Student Center

Career Tip

Get a folder and label it "my resume." Include a page for every club, activity, organization or job that you are involved in. Write down important dates (when you started, years that you served in leadership roles, etc.), special projects you worked on, and some of the key responsibilities you had. Keep adding pages as you get involved in new things. When it comes time to put it all down on a resume you will be ahead of the game!

Career & Intern Services Center

Huffman Administration Building ▲ Room A314 ▲ (574) 257-2661
careerservices@bethelcollege.edu ▲ www.bethelcollege.edu ↳ Student Life ↳ Career Services