

UW-River Falls: Career Readiness Advising Fellows

SUMMARY

The purpose of this program was to engage faculty and instructional staff to collaborate with Career Services and connect conversations and mentoring occurring during academic advising sessions to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Career Readiness Competencies. Eleven Career Readiness Advising Fellows attended a three-hour training focused on information and resources related to career assessment and career competencies, as well as worksheets to guide career-related conversations at different points in students' academic journeys. The grant funds were used to provide an overload stipend to attend the training and weave the competency conversations into their advising session.

OUTCOMES

Participants conducted a pre-assessment before the training and a post-assessment at the end of the spring semester. The training met or exceeded the expectations of 100% of the participants who completed the assessment. Use of the NACE career competencies in academic and other advising sessions increased significantly. Prior to the training, no participants said "yes" to the question of whether they weaved competency information into academic and other advising sessions with students (with 57% answering "maybe"). Following the training, 89% stated that they have integrated this information into conversations with students (with 11% stating "maybe").

"Honestly, I felt more emboldened to tie in Career Competencies into my work. The training, in some ways, gave me license to make these professional, career connections for my students."

"I feel this is a great initiative that all instructors should be aware of so that students continue to encounter the importance of these competencies to their lives and careers."

NEXT STEPS

A follow-up meeting for all advising fellow participants will be conducted in early Fall 2024 to debrief on experience and discuss individual goals for continuing this work and disseminating information to colleagues.

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Faculty/staff take Career Readiness Advising Fellow training

