

Monday Matters: Student Engagement

Dodge, Gail <gdodge@odu.edu>

Mon 9/19/2022 8:01 AM

To: Dodge, Gail <gdodge@odu.edu>

Cc: Whitfield, Tiffany L. <twhitfi@odu.edu>; Wallach, Josh <JWallach@odu.edu>

 1 attachments (136 KB)

22_Fall_EnvironmentalCareersConnection_Final.pdf;

Dear Colleagues:

We have heard a lot about how important engagement is for student success. With the help of the College of Sciences Advisory Board we have organized “Lunch and Learn” events for students in which a speaker talks about his/her career path or presents information about scholarships, internships, or other opportunities for students. Before the pandemic we had decent but varying attendance at these events. For the last two years these events were mainly virtual and attendance was much reduced, with one or two exceptions. I think it is fair to say that students were not interested in spending more time on zoom and did not see the value of these events to them personally.

This week we are piloting a new idea, one that grew out of discussions with alumnus and advisory board member Myles Pocta. On Tuesday we will hold an Environmental Career Fair (flyer attached) in which representatives from 12 organizations will be available to talk with students about opportunities in that sector. This has been specifically targeted to students who are majoring in Biological Sciences, Chemistry/Biochemistry and Ocean & Earth Sciences. We see this as a cross between Lunch and Learn and a typical career fair. By having several organizations attend an event spanning two hours we hope that students will find this activity valuable and that they will be able to get plenty of individualized advice. We are encouraged by the number of registrations we have received so far.

Going forward we would like to work more closely with student organizations to plan professional development events that would be meaningful to them and that they would then help publicize. Of course it is important for students to have access to strong student organizations related to their major in addition to extramural activities.

I appreciate all the hard work and dedication by many faculty and staff who support student organizations and help students in numerous other ways. If you have suggestions for how we can support your efforts or engage students in other ways, I would appreciate hearing them.

Best Regards,
Gail

Upcoming Events:

- Science Fridays: 4 pm in PSB 1100
 - Oct. 14: Jiangwen Sun (CS) & Erin Purcell (Chem & Biochem)
 - Nov. 11: Sandipan Dutta (Math & Stat) & Jeff Olenick (Psych)
- [Mars Fest](#): Oct. 14 – 16, 6 – 10 pm

Gail Dodge
Dean, College of Sciences
Professor of Physics
757-683-3432
gdodge@odu.edu

