

RISE

CONCORDIA CAREER INITIATIVE



“The Career Center was a critical resource for me in my job search. They conducted mock interviews to develop my skills and provided me with alumni contacts who I was able to ask questions and network with, which is how I found a job opening at Epic.”

– Quinn Anderson '16, Project Manager at Epic Systems Corp.

The Concordia Career Initiative is building the capacity to prepare students to take the creative problem solving, razor sharp communications skills, and cultural literacy they develop at Concordia out into the professional world to be a part of overcoming the world's unscripted challenges.



APPLY, PIVOT AND LEARN

Liberal arts graduates from Concordia are coached on how to articulate the value they bring to employers: innovation, historical context, critical thinking and leadership skills. With the focus on problem solving, Concordia graduates will know how to learn and how to pivot so they can apply that knowledge and skill to new situations. They can be taught technical skills and then quickly absorb and master new skills when technology changes next week, next month or next year. Concordia students come equipped with the abilities they need to be the next generation of managers and leaders.

CAREER READINESS

Today's jobs morph and become obsolete with stunning speed. Projections show most 2020 graduates will work for at least five employers in their lifetimes and will likely change career tracks at least once. That is why we don't focus on getting students a job but on giving students the skills to get this job and the next. The Career Center teaches students how to build and maintain the professional relationships and networks in the field of their vocational call that are the best source of career opportunities.

A FOUR-YEAR APPROACH

Every Concordia student embarks on a four-year journey that guides learners to explore, plan for and then secure their place in the job market or in graduate school.

- 1 First-year students start their vocational journey by discovering and learning about the many careers that align with their interests, skills and values.
- 2 Students have opportunities to apply what they have learned out in the community through PEAK experiences, job shadowing and internships during their second year.
- 3 Junior year is about clarifying future goals and acquiring relevant skills through more internships, co-curricular involvement and self-study.
- 4 Seniors prepare to pursue their post-college dreams by presenting research and scholarly work to peers and the community, and begin to deploy their education and the professional network they have been building to secure jobs, graduate school admission, and other goals they have set for themselves.



“The number one thing employers are looking for is meaningful experience, preferably internship experience.”

– Bonnie Klein, Executive Director of the Career Initiative

Funding will allow the Concordia Career Initiative to continue growing internship programming and provide stipends, housing assistance, and strategic planning for students who obtain internships so *every* Concordia student has the opportunity to gain the real-world experience that sets them ahead in the job market.

When you rise to support the Concordia Career Initiative, you provide access to internships for all students, you support innovative partnerships, and you create opportunities to better prepare students to serve as the next generation of thoughtful and informed leaders in our communities and the world.

Talk to one of our gift planners to discuss the ways you can invest in a future that a Concordia education makes possible.

Learn more about the Concordia Career Initiative:
ConcordiaCollege.edu/career