

# CAREER CONNECTIONS

A Career Services Publication



## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

Implementing Career Strategies:  
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## WELCOME TO 2022!

A new year brings new opportunities! We made it through 2021, another topsy-turvy year and we're ready for an even better 2022!

Internships continue to be vital in growing students' career skills, making valuable connections, and guiding students in their career decisions. We're finding more and more employers insist on at least one internship (preferably two) in the student's career field.

The more we can encourage and support students in pursuing internships, the more career ready they will be, leading to successful careers, showing how UNG prepares tomorrow's leaders.

# Career Badges



Are you looking for ways to add career content to your curriculum? Well look no further! Career Services has created three career badges in UNG Connect where your students can build their career readiness skills.

The first badge, Career Voyager, gives students the opportunity to begin their career journey. Launching your career begins with self awareness - knowing your interests, values, skills and personal strengths. This leads to a more focused career exploration. By working through this badge, students will discover career options that are meaningful and satisfying.

After students complete this level, they dig deeper and start developing skills such as building their resume and exploring internships in the Career Ascender badge. Students will build experience and connect to professionals for information, inspiration, and mentoring. They will take steps to learn about internships, career competencies, and networking to gain the skills they need to succeed.

Finally, the Career Achiever badge allows students to add the finishing touches to their job search strategy. In this Badge, students will ensure their resume is perfectly tailored, perfect their interview skills, prepare their interview attire, and network with employers.





# Intern Spotlight



## *Whitney Melius - Art Marketing*

Whitney is an Art Marketing major completing her internship at Alliance Prosthetics & Orthotics in Gainesville.

Whitney didn't want just any internship, she wanted something that would be gratifying. "I love art, but I'm also a practical person who never intended to take a traditional art path." Whitney reached out to local companies, and Alliance was ready for an intern.

"I love working with my hands and how Alliance treats their patients." What is Whitney's advice to her fellow Nighthawks? "Job satisfaction comes from something that interests you. It might require bravery to reach out, but it's worthwhile. Innovate and find a place for yourself.

"Internships are a safe space to try something and could open doors to help you see what you're truly interested in."

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## *Mary Kennedy Wilson*

Mary Kennedy, a Criminal Justice major completing her internship at Rape Response in Gainesville.

How did Mary Kennedy find out about her internship? "A couple of Rape Response interns visited the campus and explained their services. Then I applied, completed the 30 hours of training, and started in August. I wanted to do an internship where I can actually help."

What has been the most rewarding aspect of your internship? "Being able to help survivors. They are so grateful for our services and help."

What advice do you have for students? "Internships are extremely important. Not only with building experience, but building connections. School can only take you so far; you need real experience and get your feet wet."



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## Jessica Pienta



Jessica Pienta is an Interdisciplinary student who completed her internship at Camp Gray in Wisconsin.

### **How did you hear about your internship?**

I was encouraged by one of the Visual Arts professors, Christopher Dant, to pursue an internship I would actually enjoy. I reached out to a couple rafting companies and summer camps via e-mail just asking if they would allow me to intern with them for a semester.

### **What has been the most valuable (or favorite) part of the experience?**

I have loved meeting new people that love their job. I have also learned a lot about how to market to a specific group of people through social media and have seen more of the “business” side of things that goes on behind the scenes which has been very neat to be a part of.

### **How will this help you in the future?**

I have also learned how helpful constructive criticism is, which has helped me perfect my craft of being a Graphic Designer. It has been such a wonderful experience to work with them in a business-like setting, but also to get to know them on a personal level and I think these connections will help guide me in obtaining my dream job post graduation

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Nick Price completed his Digital Art internship at UNG's Alumni House.

## Nick Price



### **How did you hear about your internship?**

I was offered my internship through my position as the Corps of Cadets S5 primary. S5 is responsible for public relations within the corps of cadets.

### **What has been the most valuable (or favorite) part of the experience?**

The most valuable part of my internship has been the ability to experiment with different mediums like photography, videography, graphic design.

### **How will this help you in the future?**

I have a much better idea of my strengths and weaknesses moving forward, as well as the work I would like to do when I graduate college.

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## Spring Career Fairs

Nursing Career Fair -	Feb. 2	9:00 - 1:00	Lanier Room, GVL campus
All Majors Career Fair -	Feb. 22	11:00 - 2:00	Convocation Center, DAH campus
All Majors Job Fair -	March 9	11:00 - 2:00	Robinson Ballroom, GVL campus
Teacher Recruitment Fair -	March 10	4:00 - 6:00	JA Discovery Center, Cumming