

**The Raven P.A.A.C.T.**  
**Professional Alumni Advising & Career Tracks**

*#Make a PAACT that Lasts a Lifetime!*

The Raven P.A.A.C.T Mentorship Platform is designed to connect students to alumni for the purpose of professional development. The platform and its' guidelines for professional behavior are overseen by the Career Development Center with developmental activities run by the Alumni Board of Directors. The ABOD will be responsible to organize and facilitate one Mentorship/Mentee on-ground or virtual event per year with the goal of enhancing the mentor/mentee connective experience. Advice regarding internships, resumes, careers, networking, business etiquette, professional behavior and interviewing are a sampling of the types of topics that can be addressed among students and alumni. In some cases, students can be identified by alumni for possible internships; however, that is not the goal of the mentor/mentee relationship.

The goal of the Raven P.A.A.C.T. Mentorship Platform is to provide a safe space, nurturing space for students to connect with university alumni for the exploration, development, and implementation of professional career-related topics and the acquisition of knowledge, skills and connections which will enhance each participants' return on the investment of a Pierce education. FPU alumni will enhance their professional mentorship skills while building relationships that can last a lifetime!



## **First-Year Student Career Exploration and Preparation Plan**

### **Goals**

The First-Year student should gain knowledge about various careers of interest to them and have a foundation from which to begin thinking strategically about how to gain the knowledge, skills and experiences towards a particular career.

Understand the “soft skills” employers are looking for.

### **How**

Assist student career exploration through exploratory conversations, literature, suggesting professional organizations, identifying the types of skills and knowledge required for success, among other activities and advice. The student should be encouraged to conduct multiple informational interviews with the alum and other professionals suggested by the alum. The students should be directed to attend at least two career-related networking events and write about or discuss their experience(s) with the alum.

### **Outcomes**

- Create a career development plan using “SMART Goals”
- Student should have a basic/generic resume completed and uploaded into Pierce Portfolio.
- Identification of at least one internship, externship, or volunteer activity they are interested in pursuing and identify at least three soft skills they would like to develop.

- Have attended at least two career-related events (met with a career counselor in the career development center, attended a career fair, a career workshop, visit an employer site, employer and alumni panels, employer information tables, etc.)

## **Second-Year Student Career Preparation and Participation Plan**

### **Goals**

To apply and obtain an internship or participate in an activity, club, job shadow, or volunteer opportunity that will serve to help develop those “soft skills” employers are looking for.

The Second-Year student should have identified their career path (in conjunction with their major), gain practical skills and begin building a plan of action towards their chosen career.

### **How**

Assist student in narrowing career choices using conversational questioning techniques and interest-based testing among other activities promoted by the alum. Practice interviewing skills with the student and encourage further resume and cover letter development. The student should be provided with information on various organizations related to their chosen occupation. The alum and the student are encouraged to have conversations about the type of skills and knowledge required to pursue a chosen profession and how that relates to their academic coursework and extra-curricular activities.

### **Outcomes**

- Apply to at least two internships and/or on-campus jobs by the end of their second year.
- Attend at least two career related events or workshops.

- Have a more targeted and updated resume as well as a generic cover letter uploaded into Pierce Portfolio.
- Upload a short paragraph about their experiences with the mentor/mentee relationship focusing on skills and knowledge learned and upload to Pierce Portfolio.

### **Third-Year Student**

#### **Career Participation and Implementation Plan**

##### **Goals**

To obtain an internship.

This year should have a decided focus on obtaining an internship and honing their interviewing skills, job search skills, and creating a targeted resume/ cover letter towards a specific industry or job opportunity.

Identification and development of additional soft skills.

Update of career development strategy.

##### **How**

The mentor is encouraged to help the students develop stronger interviewing skills, networking skills, job search techniques, and begin talking about life after college “life skills” and perhaps graduate school in relation to their career choice. The alum should help the student develop a clear understanding of the knowledge, skills, experiences and abilities they now possess which add value to an organizations bottom line and how to articulate their value to employers.

##### **Outcomes**

- Acquisition of an internship or volunteer activity which is in alignment with their career goals.
- Attend at least two career related events or workshops.
- Update and upload of their new, targeted professional resume and cover letter into Purple Briefcase.
- Upload a copy of their career development plan.

### **Fourth-Year Student Career Implementation and Execution**

#### **Goals and Outcomes**

Obtain a job, internship, or decide on graduate school.

Attend at least two career-related events.

Develop a post-college career plan and life skills.

Refine resume and create a professional portfolio from Purple Briefcase which contains

- one general/generic resume and cover letter
- one targeted, professional resume and cover letter
- a list of professional and academic references
- a record of their post-college career plan
- a list of professional networks and contacts
- a list of certifications
- professional business cards
- a professional LinkedIn profile

## **How**

Assist the student with job search and internship search strategies via LinkedIn, Pierce Portfolio, and other job boards and professional organizations. Continue to provide advice and mentorship opportunities.

To Apply:

Submit a copy of your resume and signed application along with one professional reference to [careercenter@franklinpierce.edu](mailto:careercenter@franklinpierce.edu).