**Career Immersions**

**What is a Career Immersion?**

Career Immersions, or “career field-trips” connect students with employers in the employer’s real-world of work setting! Students receive a “behind the scenes” look at organizations and the variety of careers that exist within them! Students and employers participate in unique and interactive networking activities to allow students to expand their industry knowledge and apply what they are learning in the classroom! For employers, career immersions are unique opportunities to build relationships with UIS students and recruit passively for internships, part-time and full-time jobs!

**Sample Areas of Your Organization to Have Students Engage with:**

Human Resources, Marketing/Advertising, Finance/Accounting, Sales, Information Technology, Communication/Public Relations, Development/Fundraising, Management/Business, and many more!

**Suggested Agenda & Topic Items:**

 \*\*\*These activities are suggested topics only. Please feel free to suggest additional topics and customize your immersion agenda. For assistance in developing your immersion, contact Alanna Cieslek at (217) 206-6508 or email at acies2@uis.edu

**Beginning of Immersion:**

* Start with overview of organization/industry, company culture, careers within orginization
* Tour of organization with meet & greet of employees, career descriptions
* Meet & Greet with UIS Alumni Employees and/or new hires
* What you would be doing if you worked in this area or department

**Middle of Immersion:**

* Role play with employees, case studies, leadership styles, group work
* Lunch with students and employees (optional)
* Create sample work products with students: press releases, business plans, PR pitches
* Have students sit in on actual meetings
* Have students pair up with employees to conduct informational interviews
* Have employees mock interview students
* Have employees provide students with resume and/or cover letter advice

**End of Immersion:**

* What skills employer looks for when hiring, recruitment trends, tips
* Q&A session/discussion
* Open Networking, networking activities
* Discuss salary trends, negotiation, etc.

**Which Career Immersion Model Are You Interested In?**

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 **Option 1 (Approximately 2-3 hours spent at your organization):**

* Choose about 2-4 activities

**Option 2 (Approximately a half day or 4-5 hours spent at your organization):**

* Choose about 3-6 activities

**Option 3 (Approximately a full day or 8.5 hours spent at your organization):**

* Choose about 5-8 activities
* Lunch must be built into the schedule using this option

**So How do you Get Started and Schedule your Immersion??**

Please contact Alanna Cieslek at the Career Development Center to schedule, develop, and customize your Career Immersion! (217) 206-6508 or email at acies2@uis.edu. Thank you!