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October 22, 2011

Philosophy of Student Development/Career

Student development or career development is a lifelong process that is defined and redefined based on each individual's commitment to its success. Students begin their college career at various stages of development which have been defined by their culture, family life and involvement, economic position, civic engagement, education, and life experiences. In fifteen years of work in higher education I have had the privilege of assisting first time college students and non-traditional students identify their starting point or stage of development and help them realize their responsibility and role in their own development.

Students are indeed unique and require professional assistance to further explore and establish skills, define and apply knowledge, and develop interests that are stimulated by the individual developmental stage of each student. Professionals who work in higher education have a infinite responsibility to encourage the development of the holistic student and to build from the existing point of development.

Career Services role in student development is very instrumental in the professional success of students. Career Services professionals help students to assume responsibility for self and develop the lifelong skills that are needed to transition from college student to the world of work and on to the level of a successful professional.