



# Longwood Career Success

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**Liz Narehood**

*Senior Director, Career and Professional Engagement*



Welcome to the  
2023 Alumni, Student, &  
Employer Networking Event



CENTER FOR  
**CAREER  
SUCCESS**

*Strategic Vision:*

## **A MODERN CAREER SUCCESS CENTER**

*A holistic approach to career success that guides and connects Longwood students and alumni to enrich their professional journeys.*

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# A New Brand

**YOUR CAREER JOURNEY STARTS NOW!**  
(That's right, fall semester freshman year)

**Step #1: Activate your Handshake account**  
Why? (Glad you asked.)

- Connect with employers
- Make an appointment with Career Success
  - Get help with your resume, LinkedIn account and more
  - Select attire from our Career Closet (It's free!)
- Find the latest information about career events and experiences

**CENTER FOR CAREER SUCCESS**  
www.longwood.edu/career  
career@longwood.edu  
434-395-2063

## CAREER WEEK

**SEPT. 29 - OCT. 3**

- DRESS FOR SUCCESS WORKSHOPS
- ALUMNI PANELS AND NETWORKING
- CAREER AND INTERNSHIP FAIR
- PORCH PARTY

**CENTER FOR CAREER SUCCESS**

**TEACHER RECRUITMENT DAY**  
**OCT. 30 | 1-4 PM**  
**BLACKWELL BALLROOM**

CALLING ALL FUTURE EDUCATORS!  
MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM 60+ SCHOOL DIVISIONS, AND INTERVIEW ON SITE!

**CENTER FOR CAREER SUCCESS**

Career Introduction

Career Exploration

Career Readiness

Career Success

Student Milestones

**Prospective**

- Marketing student career success stories
- Linking Longwood majors/minors to potential career paths
- Support recruitment events with Alumni engagement.

**Orientation**

- Activate Handshake Account
- Complete an exploratory assessment linking interest with major/minor
- Embed a career discussion into first semester coaching groups

**Freshman**

- Complete Handshake orientation
- Participate in a work shadow or volunteer experience
- Attend a professional panel/speaker University event
- Complete a course assignment exploring a career of interest (Civitae Course)

**Sophomore**

- upload a resume on Handshake
- Participate in a micro-internship or volunteer experience.
- Attend a local professional event (Chamber, Tech Council, etc.)

**Junior**

- Take a professional development course if available.
- Participate in a Mock interview
- Completed a Linked-in profile
- Attend Career Week/Career Fairs
- Interview a professional in the field.

**Senior**

- Complete an internship within program of study.
- Attend Career Week/ Career Fairs
- Research Longwood alumni working in your target industry.
- Join a professional association
- Apply for Jobs

**Alumni**

- Connect with the Alumni related to target companies.
- Job attainment
- Network with Longwood students
- Encourage employers to engage with Longwood students.
- Support Career Switchers

# The Lancer Career Journey

## Embedding Career from Applicant to Alumni



Student-Focused, Collaboration-Driven



# Grants Secured

**\$600,000 awarded** through the Virginia Talent and Opportunity Partnership (*since December 2023*)

- **Student Support Grant**  
Professional Clothing & Supplies, Stipend Project
  - **Data Collection Grant**  
New Position & Technology Upgrades
  - **Capacity Building Grant**  
*Program Pilots, Stipend Program, and University-wide Institutional Analysis of Work-Based Experiences*
  - **Scaling Grant (2 years)**  
*Expanded Staff Support, Internship Support Hub, and Virtual Options*
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# Work-Based Learning (WBL) Task Force

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- **Wade Edwards**, *Cook-Cole College of Arts and Sciences*
- **Shannon Salley**, *College of Education, Health, and Human Services*
- **Patti Carey**, *College of Business and Economics*
- **Sheri McGuire**, *Community and Economic Development*
- **Quincy Goodine**, *Multicultural Affairs*
- **Courtney Hodges**, *University Advancement*
- **Danika Bellamy Sankar**, *Career Success*
- **Liz Narehood**, *Career Success*





*Technology Upgrade*

# Longwood's Student Career Portal

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***Handshake***

- Seamless Appointment Scheduling
- Event Marketing & Registration Tracking
- Job and Internship Search
- Career Resources

# Career Success Website Update


Focused content for target audiences including **students**, **alumni**, and **employers**.

Empowering Students and Alumni on Their Professional Journeys

We provide students and alumni with the opportunities and guidance they need to navigate their journeys to meaningful careers. From professional networking to career coaching to work-based experiences, we're here to help you succeed.

→ Students → Alumni → Employers

## STUDENTS



From one-on-one coaching to hands-on learning, we're here to help you build a future that fits your goals.

Student Services

## ALUMNI


Support, wherever you are in your journey

Whether you're updating your resume, switching careers, or giving back, we're here for you.


You'll find:

- Coaching and job search support
- Mentorship and volunteer opportunities
- Access to Handshake and career events

→ Career Success Services for Alumni



## EMPLOYERS



Connect with motivated Longwood talent. Post jobs, host internships, and meet students ready to make an impact.

Employer Services

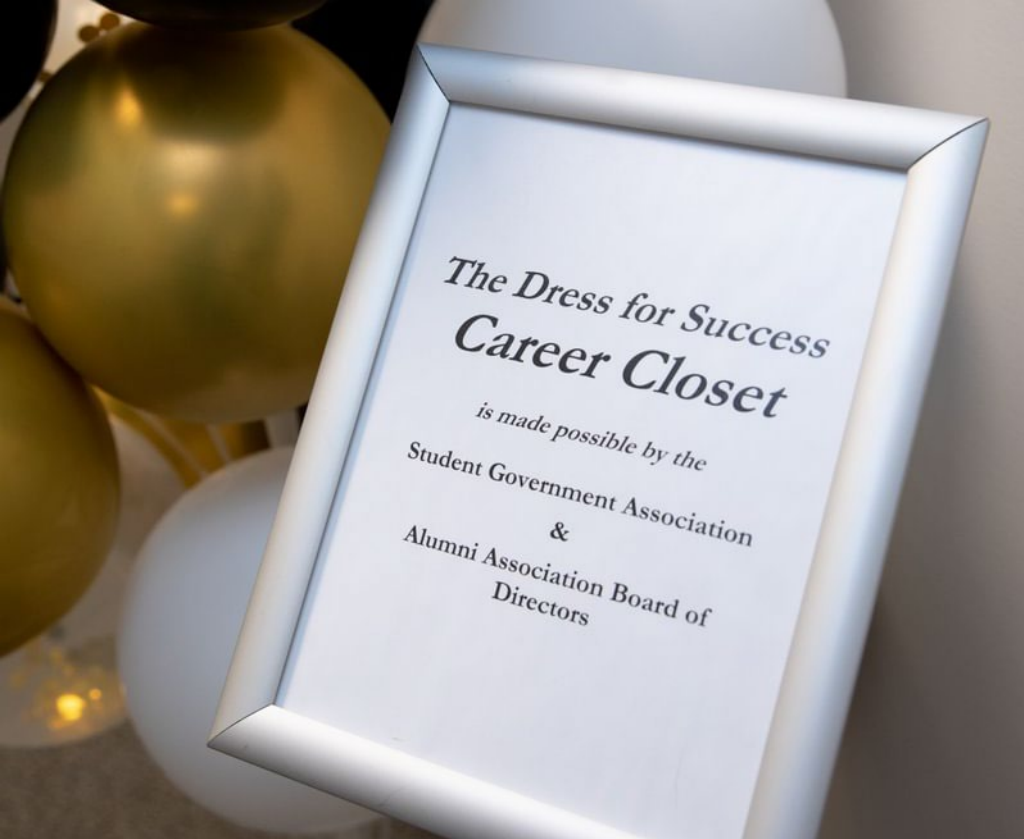
New  
Programming



# Expanded Center Appointments

- Professional Networking
- Internship Support
- Career Closet





## Career Closet

- Opened in April 2024
- A collaborative project with the Student Government Association, Longwood Alumni Association, and University Advancement

## Career Closet

- **398** student appointments during 2024-25
- **257** appointments in Fall 2025 (**57% increase** from Fall 2024)



# Career Week Expansion

- Addition of Career Focused Professional Panels prior to networking
  - **350+** student participants since Fall 2024
- Open House Porch Party to introduce new students to the Center for Career Success location, staff, and services
  - **630+** student participants since Fall 2024
- Dress for Success Workshops



# Career Fairs Expansion

- Teacher Recruitment Day moved from Spring to Fall = **226% increase** in student attendance

## New Fairs

- Health and Human Services (Collaboration with IPE Event)
- Public Safety and Law Enforcement



# Faculty Collaborations



## CAREERS IN THE ARTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM



Andrew Jones    Amanda Haymans    Mike Kropf    Emma Masaitis    Garrett D. Reese    Noah Carter

Teacher & Working Artist    Art & Gallery Director    Lead Photographer Richmond Times-Dispatch    Media Specialist III    Actor, Singer, Teacher, Writer, Director & Model    General Partner Carter Music & Art School



PANEL DISCUSSION      DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH 2025

## DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH ALUMNI PANEL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

<b>Holden Allen</b>	<b>Amber Schmitt</b>	<b>Clinton Mooney</b>	<b>Molly Smith</b>
Doctoral Student, Florida State University	Site Substitute, Briar Woods High School	Real Estate Agent & 911 Dispatcher, Rethrax & Farmville Emergency Communications	Assistant Director of Loans & Federal Programs, University of Mary Washington

In this panel, alumni will share experiences and advice on navigating disability in the workplace, accessing accommodations, and building fulfilling careers.



# Staff Collaborations

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# Enhancing the Alumni-Student Connection

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# Career Success Mentorship Program





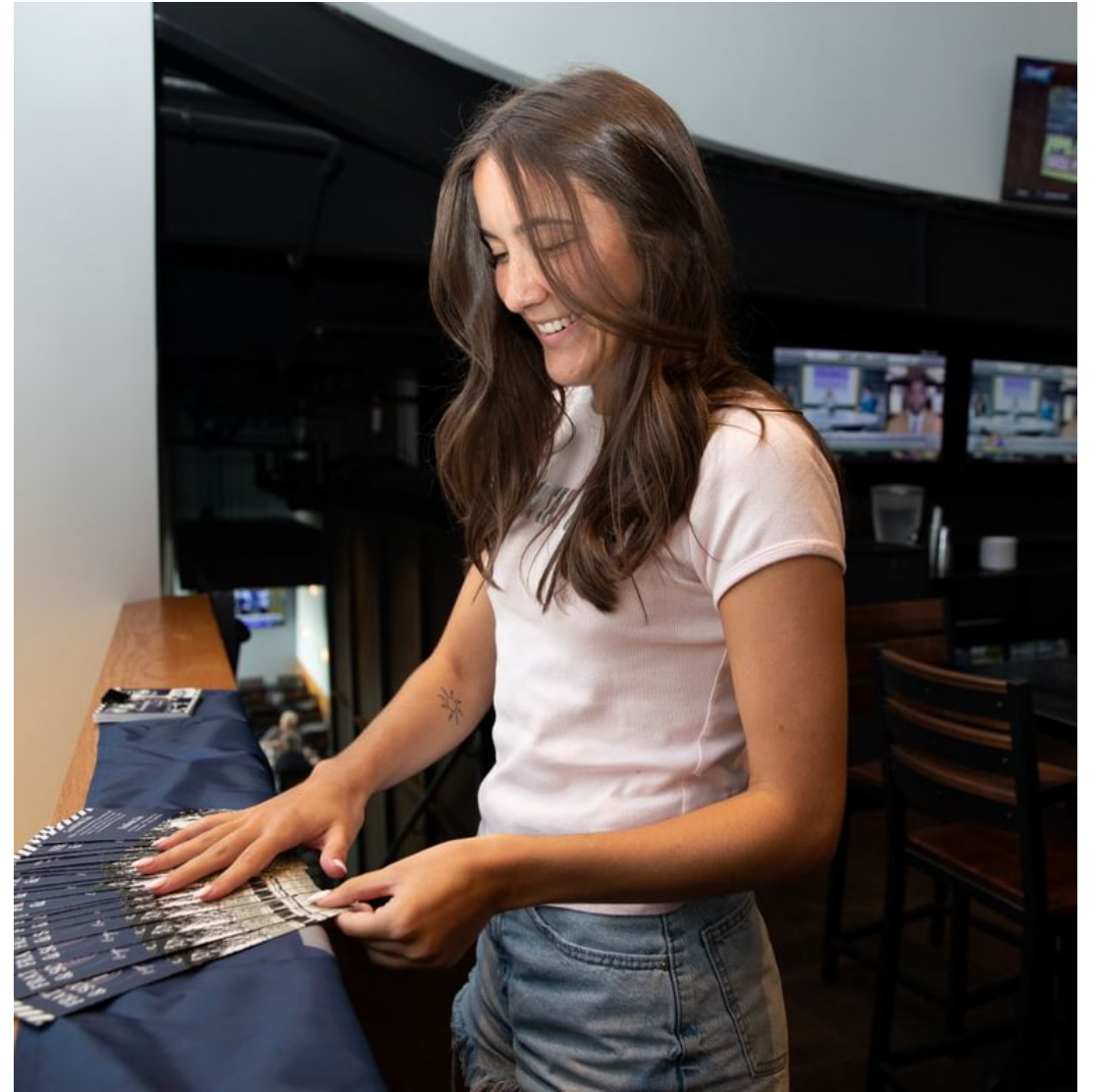
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# Expanded Alumni Networking

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# Micro-Internships

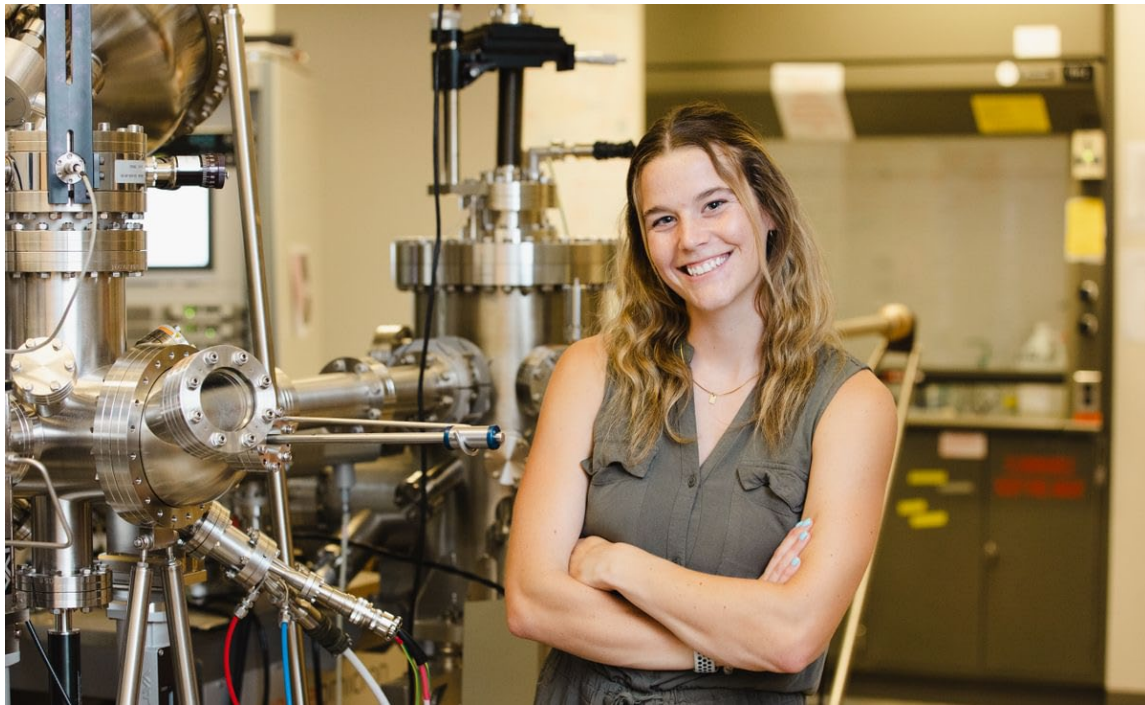
- A key program located in Longwood's Quality Enhancement Plan - Preparing for Post-Graduate Success
- CTZN 292 Course
- Two class cohorts - Winter Intersession 2024 and Summer I 2025



# Work-Shadow Program

- Targeting Sophomores during Spring Break
- Provides the opportunity to observe a professional in action
- Prioritize placement with Alumni Hosts
- Pilot in Spring 2025 with expansion in Spring 2026

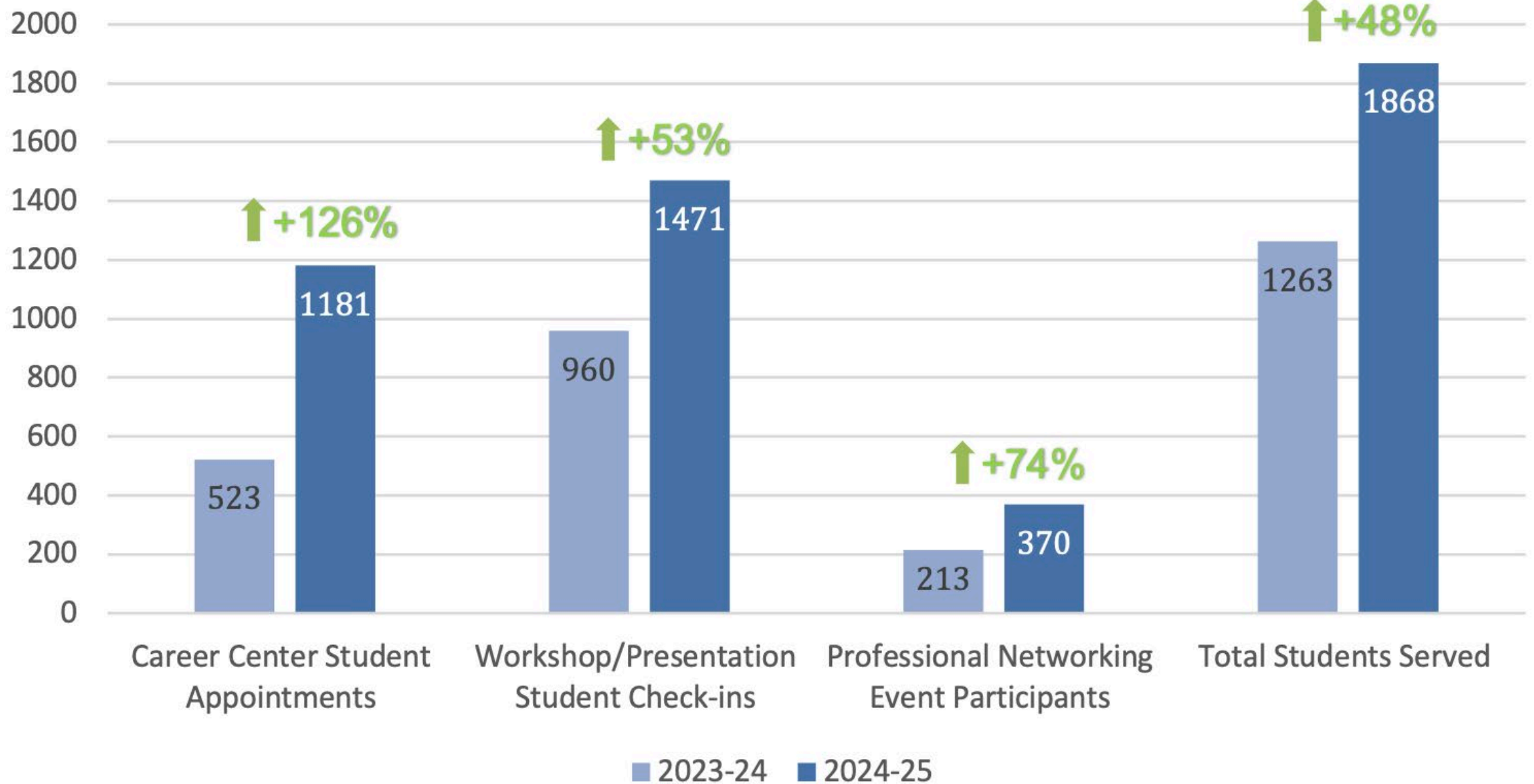




## Internship Support

- Distributed **\$110,250** in V-Top funding to fund two student stipend projects
- Conducted an Internship Support Stipend Project in Summer 2024 (Student Support Grant)
- Expanded the program in Summer 2025 (Capacity Building Grant)
- Applications rose from **23 to 40** students

## Career Success Student Engagements



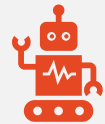
# 2025-26 Highlights



1012 completed appointments to date



Large increase in student check-ins at events (classroom presentations, workshops, center tours, professional panels and networking events) from **1,335** in Fall 2024 to **3,317** in Fall 2025



Spring Pilot of AI Resume Review Technology



Begin V-TOP Scaling Grant Project Work

## Next Steps

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- Centralized Support Hub for Internship Coordination
- Reduce the Financial Burden of Internships
- Expand Virtual Internship Opportunities
- Support Colleges with Pre-Internship Preparation

## Work-Based Learning Landscape Analysis

Longwood University

September 22, 2025

fig Educa

# Longwood's Career Success Team

- **Liz Narehood**, *Senior Director of Career and Professional Engagement*
- **Megan Miller**, *Director of Campus Career Engagement*
- **Danika Bellamy Sankar**, *Director of Work-Based Experiences and Partnerships*
- Graduate Assistants and Student Workers

*Part of the Office of Alumni and Career Success*

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