Program name: International Business Management Program

Chair: Bradley Box and Asif Dadashov

Date: 2022-12-02

Attendees: Craig Ervine, Christina Decarie, Bradley Box, Asif Dadashov, Jennifer Sommer, Joan Vogelesang, Chikei

Meeting Summary:

Summary of Meeting:   
The International Business Management Program Advisory Committee discussed the curriculum review process for the new program and the impact of the pandemic on working trends. They also discussed the need for students to be adaptable and open to different ideas, cultures, and backgrounds. The group proposed to add a service for students to connect with a counselor remotely. They also discussed the need for students coming out of post-secondary institutions to have the skills that employers are looking for, such as communication, operating within a team, problem solving, empathy, good intuition, and the ability to read a room. Craig suggested exploring the possibility of adding a certification from the FIT program to provide students with a unique experience, and Joan suggested creating a nonprofit organization to fund scholarships for students going through these experiences. Lastly, the group discussed the importance of going to organizations in person and the value of informal conversations, the importance of having an elevator pitch, and being aware of changes in the industry.

Main Items Discussed:

- Curriculum review process for the International Business Management Program

- Impact of the pandemic on working trends and the importance of mental health for students

- Need for students to learn to be adaptable and open to change, different ideas, cultures, and backgrounds

- Leadership, ethical considerations, and the need for more courses on ethics and values for young people

- Number one skill employers look for is not technical skills, but the ability to work in teams, have good communication and problem solving skills, and have a good attitude

- Difficulty students face when trying to get a job that is not entry level, due to rising inflation and systematic barriers

- Need to create connections with centers for workforce development and colleges to remove some of the barriers

- Embed job search and job acquisition into the curriculum in a more comprehensive and equitable way

- Advantages of specializing in certain certifications, such as project management, multilingualism, and extracurricular activities

- Possibility of adding a certification from the FIT program to provide students with a unique experience

- Value of meeting people in person as opposed to relying on technology

- Creating a nonprofit organization to fund scholarships for students

- Importance of having an elevator pitch and being able to communicate value to potential employers

- Awareness of changes in the industry, such as moves toward sustainability and environmentalism

Action Items/Recommendations:

1. Create a curriculum review process for the International Business Management Program.

2. Provide guidance and support to students in adapting to changing working trends.

3. Emphasize the importance of mental health for students.

4. Teach students to be open to change, different ideas, cultures, and backgrounds.

5. Provide a service for students to connect with a counselor remotely.

6. Emphasize the importance of leadership, ethical considerations, and courses on ethics and values for young people.

7. Embed job search and job acquisition into the curriculum in a more comprehensive and equitable way.

8. Create connections with centers for workforce development and colleges to remove barriers for job seekers.

9. Create a platform or service to link students with job opportunities.

10. Brand St. Lawrence College as a best of breed in a particular niche.

11. Specialize in certifications such as project management, multilingualism, and extracurricular activities.

12. Partner with other organizations to give additional certifications or credentials to help students stand out.

13. Explore the possibility of adding a certification from the FIT program to provide students with a unique experience.

14. Create a nonprofit organization to fund scholarships for students going through these experiences.

15. Emphasize the importance of going to organizations in person and the value of informal conversations.

16. Teach students to have an elevator pitch and communicate their value to potential employers.

17. Encourage students to be aware of changes in the industry, such as moves toward sustainability and environmentalism.