Graduate Student Career Support

Student Success Centre and School of Graduate Studies

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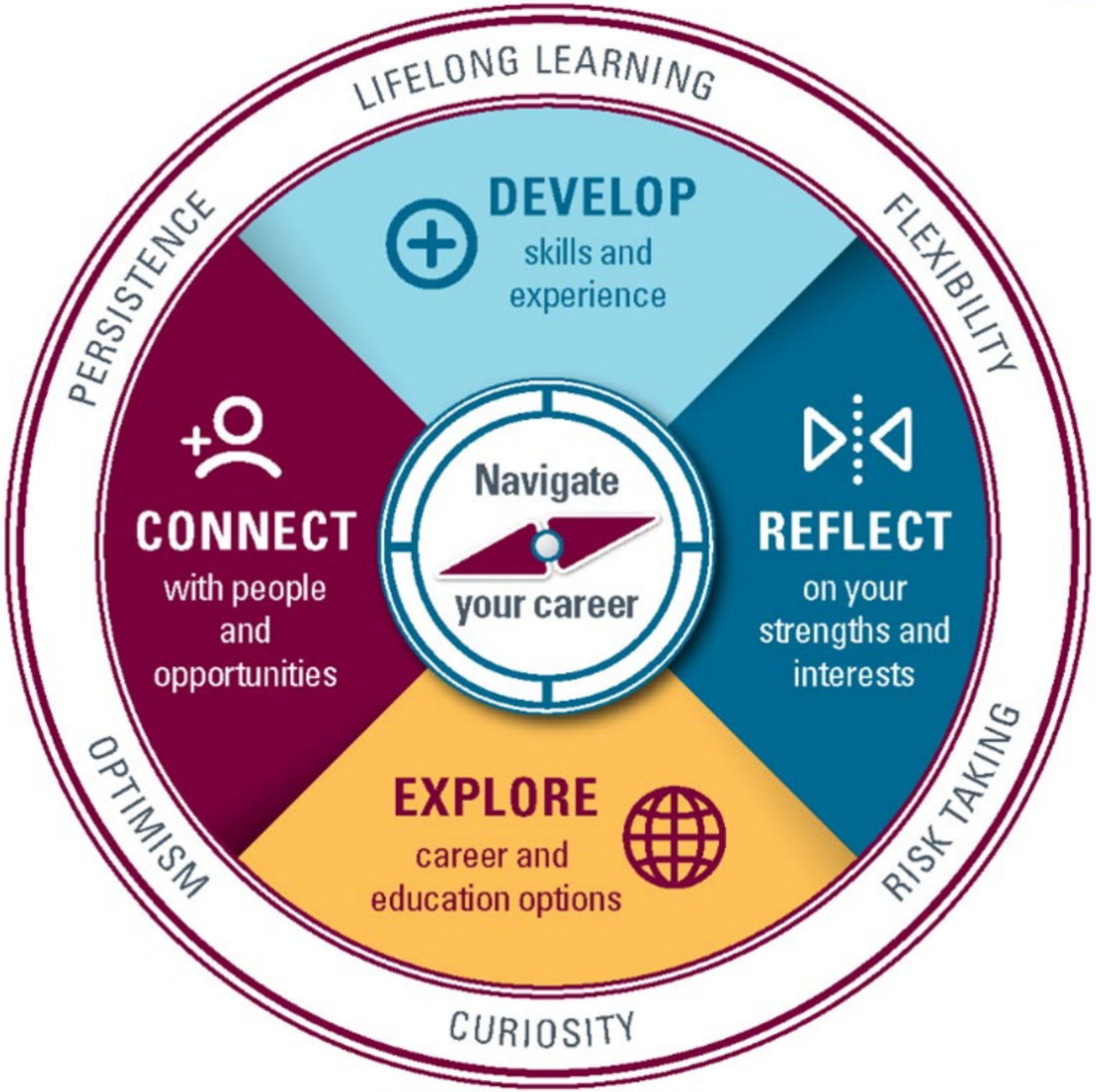
Initiative

Career Navigation for Graduate Students

Through a career development model, this initiative aims to:

1. Foster an understanding of career education as an essential part of the academic journey.
2. Help graduate students build their resiliency to navigate a challenging labour market.
3. Empower graduate students to manage their career paths independently.



Outcomes

Career Navigation for Graduate Students

Integration:

- Strategic collaboration and monthly meetings among Student Success Centre, School of Graduate Studies and Graduate Students Association.
- Workshops at 10 Bay Residence.

Faculty Partnerships:

- Bi-weekly meetings with Faculty career directors.
- Building of career services into Faculty programming, with a complementary approach individualized to each Faculty.

Individualized Student Approach:

- Personalized support and guidance through one-on-one appointments to address the complexities of graduate student life.
- Employment readiness workshops.

Over three years

5,168+

student touchpoints across **six Faculties** and **15 Programs**

Outcomes: By the Numbers

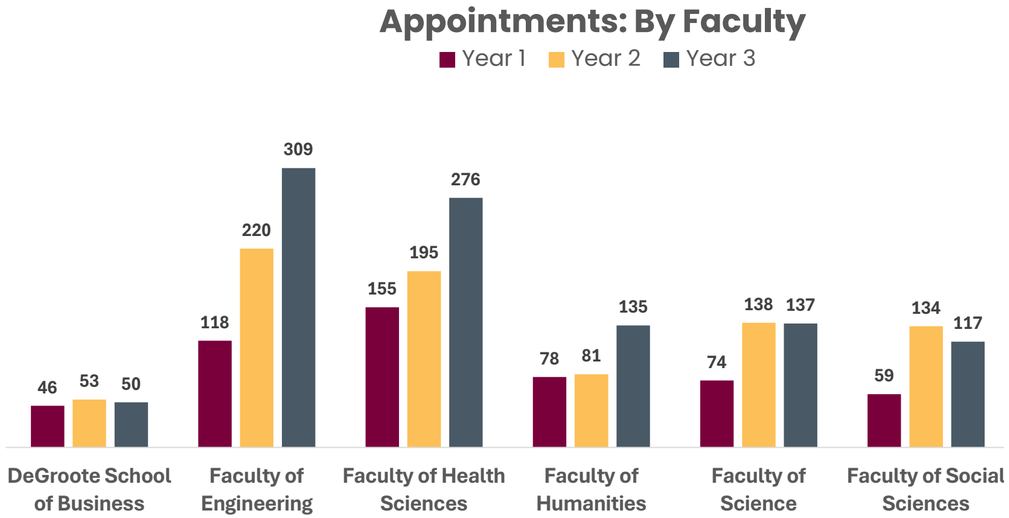
Career Navigation for Graduate Students

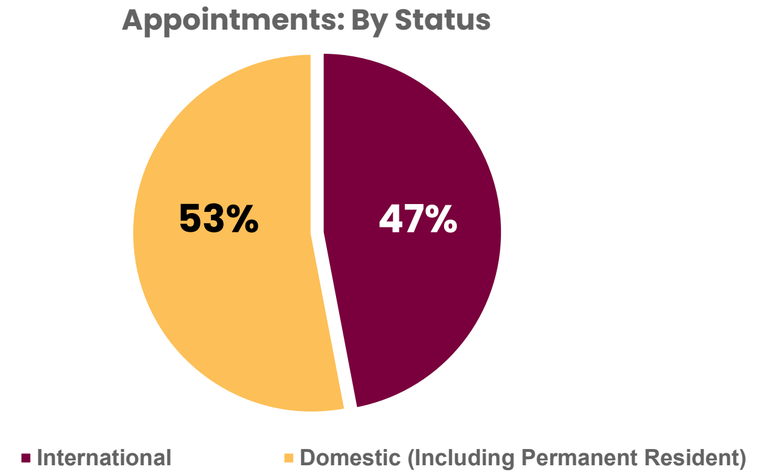
Interactions: 5,168

- Faculty Presentations: 1,159
- Events: 1,611
- One-on-one appointments: 2,398

Unique Students: 2,633

~43% higher than our SAF commitment of 1,500 students over three years





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Best Practices

Career Navigation for Graduate Students

Collaboration drives engagement and success

Built a foundation for cross-campus partnership and shared responsibility for career development, creating an integrated and supportive ecosystem for graduate students.

Career services must be agile and inclusive

Demonstrated agility and inclusivity to meet graduate students' unique trajectories—whether they're transitioning careers, advancing within organizations, or exploring entrepreneurship.

Graduate students have distinct needs

Embedded career education into their academic journey to meet students where they are in their career development.

Testimonials

Career Navigation for Graduate Students

“I would like to appreciate all your efforts and the work you put in… It has been a long one year and two months of nonstop work and job search. My success wouldn’t have been possible without your help. I’m grateful.”

“I wanted to thank you for all the help and advice you’ve provided me over the past few months. Your input and feedback have really helped me enhance not only my job search skills and documentation, but also my confidence as I navigated the job market. […] I hope many more graduate students come to you for your guidance and services, as they made a significant difference in my journey of seeking employment.”