



QUESTIONS to Ask Provosts, Vice Chancellors, Deans of the College, or Academic Support Heads:

- ✓ Does your institution have any current initiatives for career readiness?
- ✓ Do you map information literacy/critical-thinking skills to each of your majors/careers?
- ✓ Does your career center collaborate with other academic support organizations such as the library?
- ✓ What percentage of your recent graduates are currently employed?
- ✓ What measures are taken to ensure that your students are ready to enter the workforce upon graduation?
- ✓ How do you assess whether or not a student is prepared to enter the workforce?

QUESTIONS to Ask Librarians:

- ✓ What role do you play in ensuring that students are prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation?
- ✓ How do you collaborate with your institution's career center to prepare students to enter the workforce?

CAREER READINESS FACTS

Career readiness includes the skills, habits, and content knowledge that students must possess to be successful in a sustainable career. Many institutions also refer to this as "employability."

- According to the Career Readiness Partner Council, "A career-ready person effectively navigates pathways that connect education and employment to achieve a fulfilling, financially secure, and successful career."
- Many institutions are asking their career centers to change their processes to focus on lifelong learning and career changes.
- Libraries are being asked to collaborate with career centers and to map Information Literacy skills needed for career choices.
- A study conducted by ACRL found that fewer than 40% of libraries are partnering with career centers in order to prepare students for their careers—a much smaller percentage than it should be.
- The ability to obtain and process information has been identified as a "very to extremely important" skill by employers. (National Association of Colleges and Employers. [2012]. *Job outlook 2013*. Bethlehem, PA)
- Half of the employers surveyed by *The Chronicle* and *Marketplace* found it difficult to fill positions with qualified recent graduates.
- These employers also found that Bachelor's Degree holders lacked basic skills critical to success in the workplace, including "adaptability, communication skills, and the ability to solve complex problems."
- Select findings from *PIL: How College Graduates Solve Information Problems Once They Join the Workplace*
 - Many employers were dazzled by new hires' natural ease with computers, but employers soon found graduates lacked research readiness for the workplace.
 - Most graduates found the transition from college to the workplace daunting.
 - There was a difference between the information competencies graduates brought with them to the workplace and the broader skill set employers need and expect from them.



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