CAREER SERVICES NETWORK

(Re) Considering Professional School

Ed Tillett, Career Consultant, Lyman Briggs College & College of Nursing
Pepa Casselman, Career Consultant, College of Education

CareerNetwork.msu.edu

Is professional school right for me?

Navigate your own path

Think Transferrable Skills

- Going beyond your major

You ≠ Major

- You are very knowledgeable in _____ (insert major/discipline), but think about what other qualities, skills, or experiences you have…
- It's time to think about transferrable skills:

Communication
Teamwork
Organization
Creativity
People Skills

Flexibility
Analytical
Leadership
Initiative
Problem Solving

It’s not about the major: Industry areas where all majors excel

- Insurance
  - Auto-Owners
  - Blue Cross Blue Shield
  - Jackson National
- Recruiting
  - Aerotek
  - Maxim Healthcare Services
- Research
  - MPI Research (all science majors)
- Nonprofits
  - YMCA
  - Hope Network
- The #1 Employer of MSU grads…

“Branding Yourself” Exercise

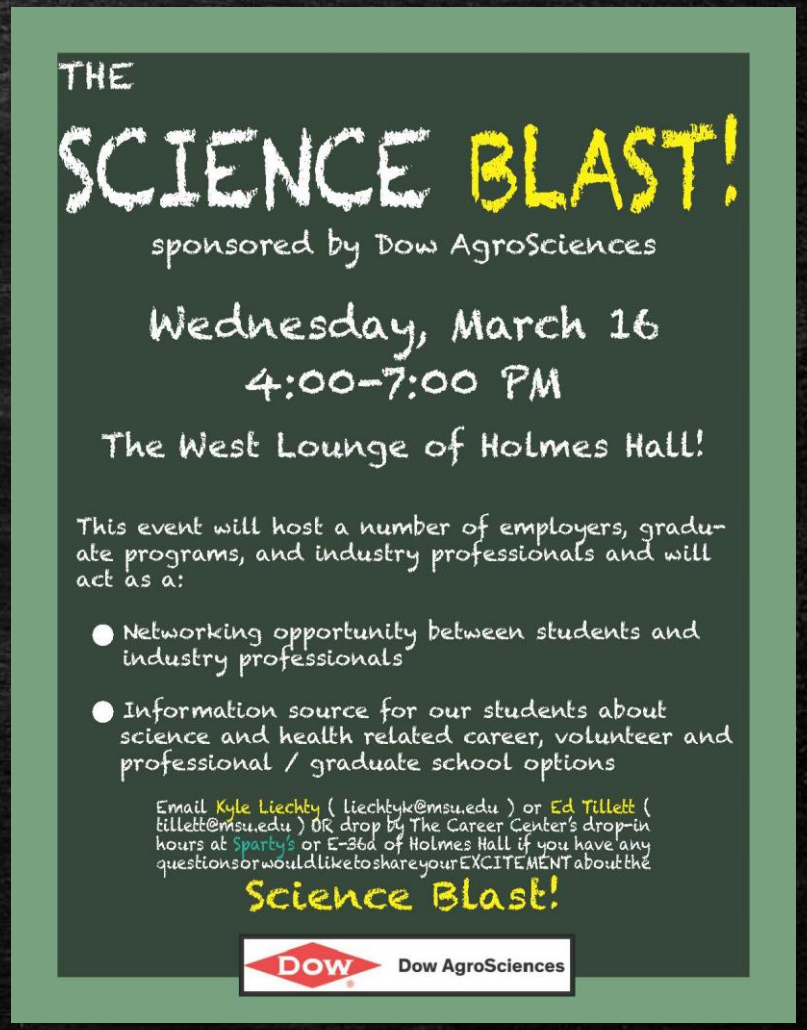
- Take a moment to think about who you are and how you want to be viewed by others

How to explore & find opportunities

- Onetonline.org
- ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Read job descriptions on MySpartanCareer & online sites like Indeed.com or SimplyHired.com
- Personality: MBTI (Myers Briggs Type Indicator)
  - Must be administered by career services professional
- Strengths: StrengthsFinder & StrengthsQuest
  - No free version at this time
- Talk to your family, friends, professors, advisors, etc. about "other options"
- Continue to Volunteer & Job Shadow

Developing a Plan

- Create a LinkedIn Profile
  - https://university.linkedin.com/linkedin-for-students
- Attend Science Blast!
- Explore online resources
- **Talk to people** who are in those professions
  - Make contact with 3 professionals to help you explore
- Meet with a pre-professional advisor for a realistic conversation
  - http://natsci.msu.edu/students/preprofessional



Hear from Alum

Meet Ed, 2003 Lyman Briggs Physiology grad

- Once looking forward to becoming a Pediatric Doctor, transferred skills to student affairs to become a Career Consultant.
- https://www.linkedin.com/pub/Edmund-Tillett/5/432/456/en

Meet Desiree, 2015 KIN grad

- Once on a pre-OT track, working as a Life Underwriter at Auto-Owners Insurance in Lansing area.
- https://www.linkedin.com/in/desiree-baron-bb494bb4

Meet Nick, 2014 AT grad

- Once working toward becoming an all-star athletic trainer, transferred skills to the business industry for a better "fit."
- http://www.linkedin.com/pub/nicholas-lochner/89/535/670/en

Homework

- Stay connected with your peers that are here now
- Stay connected with the MSU faculty and staff you have worked with
- Make new connections in areas you are interested in pursuing
- Continue to build your "brand"
- Explore multiple career options
- Develop your plan

Give yourself permission to change your mind along the way