## **Career Panel Activity Sheet**

Career panels give you the opportunity to speak with people from the community about:

* What they do
* How they got there
* The challenges and rewards

The speakers come to answer **YOUR questions**. All students are expected to participate. So that you will be prepared, please take a few minutes to write down three questions that you would like to ask. What would you really like to find out?



**NOTES:**

***Remember to bring this sheet with you to the career panel!***

**Possible questions for Career Panel speakers**

This list is to help students get ideas**. It is important for students to come up with their own questions,** based upon interest, experience and curiosity. Each student will be expected to ask one question. It is recommended that each student write down at least 3 questions and bring them to panel.

1. How did you choose your career? What interested you in this field?
2. Describe your current job and what is the primary function of your department/organization?
3. Could you describe a typical workweek or day on the job?
4. How did you acquire your position? What job search methods did you use?
5. What other positions have you held or considered?
6. What skills are most important for this career? i.e. highly definable ones such as computer programming or public speaking, or less definable skills such as good organizational ability, attention to details, strong persuasive skills....
7. What aspects of the job are most appealing? Least appealing?
8. What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?
9. What future do you see for the job market in this career?
10. What is the pay range for your career?
11. What reasons do people get fired for in your business?
12. Are there spin-offs or developing areas students should know about?
13. What do you know now that you wish you would have known when you graduated from University?
14. Does your organization offer any summer, part-time, or internship positions for students?
15. Are you considering making a major career change in the future?
16. What are the advantages and disadvantages within different types of sectors, i.e. private, non for profit, provincial and federal?
17. What kinds of experiences, paid employment or otherwise, would you most strongly recommend? What about internships or volunteer work?
18. Do you still have to keep getting training for what you do? How do you stay abreast in your field?
19. Looking back at your career, Did it turn out as you expected?

#### Speaker information sheet

There will be 3 or 4 professionals on your panel. The instructor will be the panel moderator as well as your host. You will be virtually with 20-35 students. The format is informal; Speakers briefly introduce themselves. The discussion then proceeds based upon student questions.

**Provide us with a brief professional bio 1 week prior the event (example below)**

Thank you for your help. By sharing your personal experience, you are helping students to learn…

* + what kinds of skill sets are common to most careers
  + how career choice is related to lifestyle choice
  + what types and levels of jobs are available in this career field
  + how a young person should prepare (recommendations for university courses, related activities, and typical university majors)

**If appropriate, please bring any examples of your work, tools of the trade, or handouts.**

**Students are always interested in visuals and hands-on experiences.**

Please contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for any schedule questions or unanticipated emergency. We look forward to meeting with you! We appreciate your participation in this activity that helps students in making important life decisions, and supports their “University to career” transitions.