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Peace Students Explore Career Opportunities

During Queen of Peace's annual Career Day on April 28, over 50 professionals, many Peace alumnae, ranging from engineers, to professors, to marketing executives, to healthcare workers shared their time, educational backgrounds and expertise with Peace students. In addition to perusing the tables and asking representatives questions at the Career Fair, Peace students also enjoyed career panel discussions on fine arts/media, education, medicine, law, business, science/engineering and human services.

Throughout the panel discussions, which are intended to raise student awareness of different career opportunities, the presenters spoke to the importance of education and pursuing the career of each student's choice. An overarching focus of the day centered on students seeking out their passions and building their skill sets by collaborating with others.

During the panel presentation on business, Jessica Heidemann, advertising sales for "USA TODAY", Mary Burns, marketing and advertising, and Bridget McGuiggan '01, public relations, discussed job shadowing and the importance of internships, especially because of the valuable insights that can be gained during the interview process, as well as the opportunity to discover new interests.

Throughout the two medical panels, the speakers discussed on-the-job training and continuous medical education.

"It's constant; medicine is never static," said Janet Miller Hudson '75, a labor and delivery nurse. "It's a new thing every few years; even the way I treat asthma changes."

Registered nurse Patricia Peck told students that the medical field is full of a number of

opportunities, including jobs that will be available to them right out of college. Peace students, she said, are also at an advantage because of the school's commitment to seamless technology integration and the 1:1 laptop program.

The topic of learning a second language was brought up in a number of the panel discussions, including medicine and human services. Julie Welsh '95, social worker/psychologist, emphasized that bilingual speakers have the opportunity to earn more money, especially in competitive fields such as social work.

Elizabeth Boyle '05, osteopathic medicine student, told the girls in her panel that bilingual physicians who speak Spanish and Polish are in extremely high demand. Boyle studied abroad in Madrid, Spain for a year while she majored in Spanish at DePaul University.

"Medical schools are looking for students who didn't major in the traditional fields of Biology and Chemistry," Boyle said.

"You can major in anything you want to get into med school," echoed Jessica Sulkowski '00, a DO and OB-GYN resident. She also told students to consider volunteering at a place such as Hope Children's Hospital.

"It's good practice to be in a hospital, and volunteer experience looks great on your resume," Sulkowski said.

While the sophomores and juniors attended the panel discussions, the frosh class received a presentation from Michelle McCaskey of DeVry University about linking their passion to their career path – entitled "Careers, Inc." The senior class attended "What Does Your Wallet Look Like?" – a presentation by PNC Bank on personal finance.

During the Career Fair, all students had the chance to speak one-on-one with the

presenters to learn more about facets and insights of specific careers, receive literature, and view occupation displays.

Photo caption:



Queen of Peace frosh speak with Kim Davis '89 about lab science and education at Peace's annual Career Fair on April 28. More than 50 professionals, including many Peace alumnae, participated in the event, which introduces students to professionals from a variety of occupations.

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