

THE DUAL CAREER NETWORK

Founded in 1994, The University of Iowa's Dual Career Network (DCN), has been a national leader in responding to the employment needs of accompanying partners of new faculty or staff members, and has proven to be a strategic initiative in enhancing recruiting and retention efforts.

Who we help

The DCN assists the accompanying partner of a new, permanent faculty or staff member in locating and securing employment. The DCN works with all University colleges and departments, and the impact of this program is felt across campus: from Human Resources to Health Sciences, and Philosophy to Pathology. For those requesting services that do not qualify under program guidelines, the DCN offers a limited service appointment, where a resume/CV review is performed, and job leads, connections to community leaders and networking tips are provided.

The University of Iowa's Dual Career Network has provided assistance to over 50 universities in starting similar programs.

How we help

DCN clients receive one-on-one assistance until they secure employment, or for up to one year. Clients are provided with a resume/CV review, assistance with writing cover letters, the most current information related to interviewing techniques and salary negotiations, and career coaching, as well as University of Iowa job leads and leads with Corridor area businesses. The DCN collaborates with approximately 400+ area businesses in order to stay knowledgeable of where opportunities exist in the private sector.

Who we are

DCN Founder and Director **Joan Murrin** has over 20 years experience in developing and managing employment programming and career coaching.

Assistant Director **Heidi McLaughlin** has more than eight years experience in employment services and career coaching.

Both are Certified Professional Resume Writers (CPRW) as well as a Job and Career Transition Coaches (JCTC).

“Thank you so much! I really attribute a large portion of my success to the resources offered by the Dual Career Network...the service was so comprehensive.”

Former DCN client

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Our 2008 successes

In 2008, the DCN assisted 90 regular clients; 38 were successful in securing employment in 2008 and 27 continued service into 2009. The few remaining (15) either discontinued their search, were part of an unsuccessful recruitment effort of the primary partner or were not able to secure a job in the one year of service.

Consistent with years' past, the majority (61%) of DCN clients served were the accompanying partner of a faculty member. 60% of DCN clients served were female and 40% were male. 32% of the successful hires were hired by The University of Iowa.

In addition to the regular DCN clients, 28 limited service appointments were completed for people who needed services but did not fit program guidelines.

DCN Economic Impact
\$1.7 million dollars in
starting salaries in 2008

What DCN clients say

Clients served receive a program evaluation once they are finished working with the DCN. In 2008, clients highly rated the service and recognized the program as a strong factor in the recruitment process. Other factors receiving high rankings:

- * 100% of respondents would recommend the service to others.
- * Services most appreciated were the resume/CV review, help with interviewing, job leads, contact names, resume preview with employers, area websites and on-going support.
- * Those employed felt their new job was a good match for their skills and their standard of living had increased.
- * The existence of the DCN demonstrates The University of Iowa's concern for work/life issues.

Sample Occupations Served

Purchasing Coordinator
Academic Supervisor
Purchasing License Assoc.
Teacher
Education Site Director
Staff Accountant
Nurse Supervisor
Leasing Consultant
IT Team Leader
Reimbursement Counselor
Marketing Specialist
Donation Assistant
Financial Analyst
Registrar
Quality Assurance Manager
Customer Service
Director of Mental Health
Premium Sales Director
Quality Assurance Engineer
Systems Analyst
Researcher
Chemistry Professor
Supervisor Applied Systems
Program Manager
Commerical Loan Officer
Office Manager

“(My coach) was wonderful! She made me believe in my abilities and to shoot for positions that may or may not have been within my abilities. In other words, I needed to be confident and not sell myself short. She offered relevant advice about resumes, cover letters, salary negotiation issues, and a whole host of little details. She gave me the encouragement to keep going.”

Successful DCN client

Contact Joan Murrin or visit our website at www.uiowa.edu/~dcn.

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