The College of Business Placement Center, the BPC, enhances career and employment opportunities for students in the college. The primary mission of the center is to connect students in the college with employers for internships, externships and career placement. One of the many goals of the center is to provide students with a wide variety of services to adequately prepare them for a successful job search.

The center’s staff is committed to offering an exceptional level of service to both students and employers. Services provided by the center include:

- Career counseling
- Networking opportunities with employers
- On site job interviews
- Resume critiques
- Social media audits
- Specialized workshops on career-related topics
- Dedicated computer terminals for employment searching/research
- Mock interviews with business/community leaders/alumni
- Myers-Briggs type indicator assessment administration

Involvement Opportunities

Students are encouraged to participate in additional employment opportunity programs, such as the Extern Program sponsored by the SIU Alumni Association. The Extern Program is a job shadowing program whereby students are matched with alumni and friends of SIU during the University’s spring break in March to observe and experience their chosen career fields.
Externships and Internships
Gaining hands-on, practical experience in the work world as a supplement and complement to gaining formal education can better prepare you for a business career. In addition, many employers view experience as an advantage when hiring new employees. These are two of the reasons why the College of Business strongly advises its students to gain practical experience via active involvement in student clubs, community volunteer activities and/or externships, internships and part-time jobs.

Externships
The College of Business participates in and assists with SIU’s Annual Extern Program, which is sponsored by the Student Alumni Council of the SIU Alumni Association. An externship through this program is generally a week-long volunteer, career experience during spring break. Juniors and seniors are invited to apply in the fall for this spring program. More information is available at: siualumni.com/extern.

Internships
An internship is one type of career preparatory experience (or job). During an internship, the intern usually works on actual projects and observes others working in the career field. In addition, the intern may be involved in participating in training seminars and meetings. Internships vary, but are frequently for one semester or longer. They may be part-time or full-time, and may or may not be for credit or pay. To earn credit for an internship, the student must apply and be accepted to the appropriate academic department’s internship program. The employer must be willing to sponsor the internship for credit, the academic department must approve the internship for credit as well as provide a faculty sponsor prior to the internship commencing. Both the student and employer must meet the academic department’s program activity requirements.

Please note: The center has a cooperative agreement with University Career Services [UCS] in the Student Services Building to share and disseminate information on campus-wide career workshops, career fairs, job postings and interviews, including sponsorship/payment of the UCS registration fee. Additional services offered by UCS may be located online at: careerservices.siu.edu.