



## QUESTIONS to Ask Provosts, Vice Chancellors, Deans of the College, or Academic Support Heads:

- ✓ Does your institution have any current initiatives for career readiness?
- ✓ Do you map information literacy/critical-thinking skills to each of your majors/careers?
- ✓ Does your career center collaborate with other academic support organizations such as the library?
- ✓ What percentage of your recent graduates are currently employed?
- ✓ What measures are taken to ensure that your students are ready to enter the workforce upon graduation?
- ✓ How do you assess whether or not a student is prepared to enter the workforce?

## QUESTIONS to Ask Librarians:

- ✓ What role do you play in ensuring that students are prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation?
- ✓ How do you collaborate with your institution's career center to prepare students to enter the workforce?

## CAREER READINESS FACTS

**Career readiness includes the skills, habits, and content knowledge that students must possess to be successful in a sustainable career. Many institutions also refer to this as "employability."**

- According to the Career Readiness Partner Council, "A career-ready person effectively navigates pathways that connect education and employment to achieve a fulfilling, financially secure, and successful career."
- Many institutions are asking their career centers to change their processes to focus on lifelong learning and career changes.
- Libraries are being asked to collaborate with career centers and to map Information Literacy skills needed for career choices.
- A study conducted by ACRL found that fewer than 40% of libraries are partnering with career centers in order to prepare students for their careers—a much smaller percentage than it should be.
- The ability to obtain and process information has been identified as a "very to extremely important" skill by employers. (National Association of Colleges and Employers. [2012]. *Job outlook 2013*. Bethlehem, PA)
- Half of the employers surveyed by *The Chronicle* and *Marketplace* found it difficult to fill positions with qualified recent graduates.
- These employers also found that Bachelor's Degree holders lacked basic skills critical to success in the workplace, including "adaptability, communication skills, and the ability to solve complex problems."
- Select findings from *PIL: How College Graduates Solve Information Problems Once They Join the Workplace*
  - Many employers were dazzled by new hires' natural ease with computers, but employers soon found graduates lacked research readiness for the workplace.
  - Most graduates found the transition from college to the workplace daunting.
  - There was a difference between the information competencies graduates brought with them to the workplace and the broader skill set employers need and expect from them.



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