#### Trent University LogoOPSEU JOB DESCRIPTION

**Job Title:** Academic & Career Advisor

**Job Number:** A-231 | VIP: 1396

**Band:** OPSEU- 9

**Department:** Student Affairs Durham

**Supervisor Title:** Director, Student Affairs Durham

**Last Reviewed:**  March 26, 2019

#### **Job Purpose:**

Reporting to the Director, Student Affairs Durham and working closely the Manager, Community Engagement and the Director, Academic Programs & Campus Operations, the Academic & Career Advisor is responsible for making decisions about the development and implementation of the Academic and Career Advising program on the Durham Campus.

This program includes supporting students from the application stage to post-graduation with an aim to increase student retention, ensure academic success, and help students explore connections between degree and career possibilities. This includes facilitating student learning about career possibilities related to their skills and degree through a decisive consolidation of current Academic and Career Advising best practices.

#### Key Activities:

##### Academic/Career Advising & Campus Engagement

* Advises both new (including university and college transfer) and existing students in appropriate programs, courses, and majors based on criteria including, but not limited to: degree requirements and Durham campus program choices/schedules, and the student’s interests, previous educational experience (articulations, transfer credits), current academic standing, finances as well as current and future employment exploration. Advising may be accomplished through student appointments, group sessions, seminars, collaboration with other services, video conferencing, and online web-based communication.
* Accountable for independent decisions and advice concerning the development, implementation, and practice of both individual student Academic and Career advising and the broader impact of Academic and Career Advising planning and programming strategies for the Durham Campus.
* Represents Trent University Durham in multiple external relationships including, but not limited to: Alumni, Employers, Post-Secondary Institutions and Community Partners.
* Regularly involved in the decision-making process concerning the preparation of academic programming and scheduling on the Durham Campus.
* Advises students on career exploration and employment preparation activities. Encourages self-reflection, curiosity, open-mindedness, and active use of available resources to help students make informed decisions about their career direction.
* Engages with research in the field of academic and career advising, updating resources, and informing students of current and future trends.
* Maintains a tracking system for individual student development, academic progress and advice provided.
* Monitors student admission status and records.
* Assists students in their understanding of academic regulations, policies, and requirements.

##### Students At Risk

* Develops and evaluates programming to increase student success and retention including an “early-warning” system to identify and intervene with students at academic risk.
* Monitors and provides outreach to students who are at-risk or on academic probation or returning to their studies from academic suspension.
* As appropriate, consults with, and provides advice and referrals to, the Director of Student Affairs (Durham campus), Faculty, Departmental Chairs, the Office of the Registrar, Financial Aid Office, Financial Services, Accessibility Services, Academic Skills Centre, Counselling Services, and other on- and off-campus resources.
* Assists students in the preparation of petitions to the Committee on Undergraduate Petitions (CUP).

##### Student Experience & Administration

* Collaborates with all academic programs/faculty, staff and student leaders on the Durham Campus to plan and administer student engagement activities through multiple transition points including, but not limited to: orientation, career development, experiential learning, significant life transitions and progression out of the campus or to further education.
* Assists the Dean and Head of Trent Durham and the Director, Student Affairs in creating and sustaining collaborative relationships between faculty, staff, and Student Services to build an integrative support network that fosters student resilience, retention, and success.
* Develops and delivers student workshops, information sessions and events based on the needs of students and the campus overall.
* Administers and coordinates the Durham Academic Mentoring Program. This includes managing the Durham Academic Mentoring Program budget, hiring, and supervising the part-time student mentor coordinator, recruiting academic mentor volunteers and implementing an effective training and recognition program for all academic mentors.
* Responsible for hiring and supervising work study positions in support of career services and international student programming on the Durham campus.

##### Student Recruitment

* Works collaboratively with the Durham Enrolment Advisor to provide comprehensive information about the University’s undergraduate degree programs and associated special programs and opportunities as well as detailed admissions information.
* Liaises with departments and programs to assist students transitioning into further education at Trent University such as graduate and post-graduate studies.
* Works in conjunction with the Recruitment and Admissions Office to identify and support effective liaison strategies for Durham campus recruitment.
* Attends and participates in Durham open house events, scholarship dinners, transfer student events and other recruitment initiatives.

##### General

* Liaises closely with Academic Advisors, the Careerspace, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders at Trent University Peterborough.
* Maintains professional development through membership and active participation in relevant organizations (e.g. NACADA, CACUSS, CACEE).
* Sits on relevant committees and collaborates on special projects upon request.

#### Education Required:

* Master’s Degree specializing in Higher Education Administration, Academic Advising, Student Affairs/Services, or related field, or equivalent experience.
* Additional experience and credentials in Counselling and Suicide Prevention is an asset.

#### Experience/Qualifications Required:

* A minimum of three (3) years academic advising experience in a post-secondary setting.
* Demonstrated understanding of post-secondary structures, academic policies, procedures and regulations, and student needs and supports.
* Demonstrated communication and interpersonal skills in individual and group settings; active listening skills; teaching/presentation skills; strong writing skills are all required.
* Demonstrated ability to work effectively with a diverse student body in a cross-cultural environment.
* Demonstrated ability to work independently in a multi-tasking environment that requires a high level of adaptability, combined with excellent teamwork.
* High level of organizational skills.
* Strong computer skills including familiarity with Microsoft Office suite, student databases.
* Willingness and ability to periodically work flexible hours.
* Supervisory experience an asset.
* Demonstrated accountability in decision-making processes.

#### Supervision:

* Supervise and direct the activities of student employees