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April 4th, 2023

Dear Student Learning & Success Teamwork Award Committee,

My name is Kate Walsh, and I am a third-year working towards a political science major with a focus on law and politics with a minor in sociology. I am involved in Fraternity and Sorority life on campus as the Vice President of Recruitment for the Panhellenic Council, and the Director of Facility Operations for my chapter, Delta Delta Delta. I am also involved in undergraduate research with Associate Professor Christopher Stout, the secretary for the Pre-Law Society, and an Undergraduate Representative for ASOSU. Most importantly, and perhaps my favorite title that I get to share, I am a Career Assistant at the Career Development Center.

Throughout the past two years in the Career Development Center, I have discovered a passion for all things career and helping my peers learn how to develop their application materials, interview skills, and overall job development post-graduation. I have done two presentations specifically combining my positions in Fraternity and Sorority Life and Career Advising to about 100 members of our Greek Life community about how to add Fraternity & Sorority to your resume, and a presentation to about 50 community leaders at a conference in Anaheim, CA.

This fire and ambition that I have developed in the world of career advising have been a direct result of my working relationship with our Executive Director, Brandi Fuhrman. Brandi has taught me so much about the importance of Career Development and ensuring that every student has the knowledge and support they need to start the application process into the professional world post-graduation confidently. All of this to say, I am beyond thrilled for the addition of Career Development specific coursework that is required in the new curriculum that the Bacc Core Reform Group put together. I think it is incredibly important for every student to have the resources they need to confidently pursue a job post-graduation or apply for internships throughout their collegiate years. Providing these resources through a new curriculum is a huge step forward for Oregon State and the world of higher education that promotes student success while in college and professional success..

The Bacc Core Reform Committee has worked to put the student experience at the forefront of the conversation, which is clear throughout the new curriculum. Students attend higher education to obtain a better job post-graduation than they would have without. Being able to support students through accessible and intentional career curriculum will make a beneficial change for the student experience and long-term student and professional success. The biggest thing I hear after any career fair or peer-to-peer advising appointment I have is that students wish they knew about our services earlier in their college experience. Beyond OSU intentionally seeks out students to assist them with their materials, understand how to articulate what they learn in and out of the classroom to skills and knowledge needed for success, and provides them with experiential in a way we never have been able to previously.

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The 30 individuals on the BCRC have gone above and beyond to put the student experience and success at the front of the conversation. They have put action behind their words through the new curriculum plan to achieve this goal. I know that there was countless hours, energy, and passion behind every step of their work, and I feel that they deserve to be recognized for this amazing achievement and step forward both for the student experience and for Oregon State University as a whole.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the BCRC for the Student Learning and Success Teamwork Award. Please let me know if you have any questions. I would be more than happy to follow up!

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Kate Walsh
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Kate Walsh
CDC Career Assistant
Panhellenic VP of Recruitment
ASOSU Undergraduate Representative
Pre-Law Society Secretary