

# THE LINK CENTER

## Staff

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## Background

The Link Center works to provide a competitive edge for students, university programs, community partners and employers. Students are afforded a number of enriching opportunities in and outside of the classroom that are supported or led by Link Center staff. Some of the opportunities, resources and support provided for students include:

### Academic Service-Learning

History: Academic Service-Learning (AS-L) (<https://www.uwsuper.edu/academics/beyond-the-classroom/academic-service-learning/>) is community-engaged learning, embedded within a credit-bearing course, enhancing students' understanding of the course's learning objectives and of their sense of civic responsibility. AS-L allows students to apply what they are learning in class in the community and learn while serving, benefiting both student and service recipient.

Courses with an AS-L experience will provide students an opportunity to have hands-on, real-world experiences by applying knowledge from the course while simultaneously meeting identified community needs. Research has shown that AS-L experiences provide students with a distinctive advantage for their career and/or graduate school preparation.

AS-L is a part of an even larger institutional commitment to community engagement that is directly connected to UW-Superior's mission and has been a signature aspect of a UW-Superior education since 2009. UWS is leveraging its strengths as an anchor institution—one in which community engagement is deeply ingrained, fully institutionalized and effectively taught and implemented. Since its founding in 2009, 117 professors incorporated AS-L into 894 course sections. As such there were 11,686 student experiences with 551 community partners. Students completed over 240,000 hours of service within their AS-L experiences.

### Career Services

History: Career Services (<https://www.uwsuper.edu/student-life/support-and-services/career-services/>) provides resources and opportunities for students and recent alumni to identify and develop career goals and life-long career competencies. A long-established program, Career Services recently joined the Link Center to further strengthen career readiness opportunities for students through partnership with academic programs and employers.

Some of the supports Career Services can offer students includes:

- Empowering students in their self-reflection, exploration, and implementation of major, career, and life planning
- Attaining transferable career skills throughout college for successful transition to career
- Making enriching connections with the others including employers and within the community
- Participating in professional networking events and programming

Students can connect with Career Services for recommendations and feedback related to:

- Career and Major Exploration
- Crafting Resumes and Cover Letters
- Job and Internship Search Strategies
- Utilizing Handshake - our web-based recruiting system for internship, volunteer, part-time, and full-time opportunities
- Networking including Career Fair Preparation and LinkedIn
- Interview Preparation
- Graduate School Preparation
- Career Closet

### Jackets Vote

History: The Link Center is committed to creating a nonpartisan, institutional effort towards civic and voter engagement with the necessary leadership and partnerships to provide the resources and support students need for civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation. This goal is accomplished through Jackets Vote.

Jackets Vote works to ensure the voices of UW-Superior students are heard – by providing students with the necessary tools and resources to get registered, get educated, and to get out the vote. Jackets Vote promotes non-partisan civic and voter engagement efforts for UW-Superior students, faculty, staff, and the community.

### Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (URSCA)

History: While undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity (URSCA) has long been established on campus, Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (URSCA) (<https://www.uwsuper.edu/academics/research-and-innovation/undergraduate-research/>) was established in 2014 to promote, recognize and support URSCA in all academic disciplines.

The Center administers the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (<https://www.uwsuper.edu/academics/research-and-innovation/undergraduate-research/>), organizes a campus undergraduate research celebration day annually, coordinates student participation in UW-System sponsored URSCA activities and events, assists students and staff in accessing regional, state and national opportunities, and serves as a resource for faculty and students.