

**CHOOSING YOUR CAREER
PATH**

A California Cadet Corps
Resource

Modified from a presentation prepared by David McAlpine,
DeWitt High School, DeWitt, MI

***“Choosing a Career That’s
RIGHT for YOU”***
FACTS NOT MYTHS

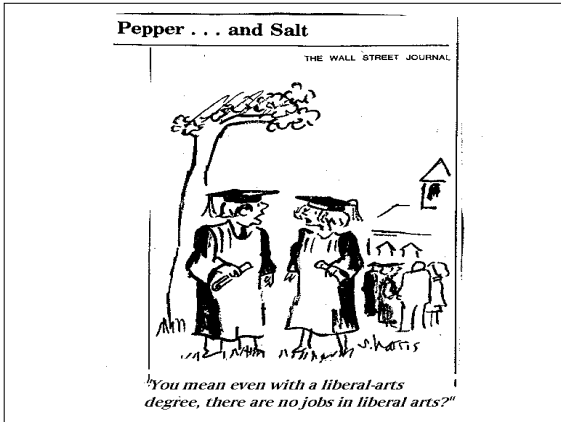
Research and Statistics

Ø Of the new U.S. jobs in this decade,
70% will require technical education
beyond high school.

..... U.S. Bureau of Labor
Statistics

Education Messages/Myths

Ø Technical/Vocational classes are for
students who can’t achieve academically



Research and Statistics

θ Approximately 30% of all full time equivalency students enrolled in technical and community colleges already have a baccalaureate degree. Higher Education Reports

Education Message/Myth

θ A 4 year college degree will guarantee success.

Research and Statistics

θ Paraprofessional/technical jobs will show the greatest growth through the year 2010. . . . U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Education Message/Myth

θ Technical courses are not for college prep students

Research and Statistics

θ Through 2010, 20% of jobs will require a Bachelor's Degree and 60% will require an Associate Degree.

..... U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Education Message/Myth

θ The four year degree is the only degree worth having.

Research and Statistics

θ 50 % of all students who prepare for a professional job - bachelor's degree - will end up underemployed.

...Shelly, 1992

Education Message/Myth

θ If you have a four year degree, you will be successful.

Research and Statistics

θ 30 - 40 % of recent 4 year college graduates will get a job for which a 4 year degree is not required.

.....U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Education Message/Myth

θ You need a four year degree to get a quality job.

FACT

In West Virginia

- 62 out of 100 students enter a 4 year college.
- 15 earn a college degree.
- 7.5 get a job in their career field

University **enrollment** is at an all time high.

University **drop out rates** are at an all time high.

University **underemployment** is at an all time high.

Research and Statistics

θ In the past 30 years, the number of professional jobs has increased by 0%!

....U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Education Message/Myth

θ There is only one way to win - in the future most jobs will require a four year degree.

Life in the 21st century is about

Change

*Our main educational
message has not changed
in 50 years!*

Message:

“There is only one way to win -
A four year college degree!”

Many Ways to Win
Many Ways to Win

Many Ways to Win

Many Ways to Win
Many Ways to Win

One Way includes:

- **The FOUR YEAR Degree...**

But ONLY 20% of the JOB Market requires this. Ask yourself these questions:

- 🔍 Does the job I am seeking require this?
- 📖 Am I a dedicated student capable of competing for SELECT jobs?
- 📊 What is the job outlook for my career?
- 📄 Can I start with an associate degree?

- Higher education no longer guarantees higher earnings
- The law of supply and demand is a key factor in earnings potential.
- High demand + High Skills = High Wages.

..... Ken Gray, Penn State University

Programs of Study

- **Cluster/Major Format**
- 6 Clusters
- 21 or more Majors

How The System Works

- Graduation Requirements
- 4 core major units required
- Recommended Electives
- Unrestricted Electives

What do you need to consider?

- JOBS AVAILABLE
- JOB PLACEMENT
- CAREER LADDERS
- TRAINING REQUIRED
- YOUR SKILLS
- YOUR INTERESTS



Planning Ahead

- Dual Credit
- Articulation Agreements
- Scholarships
- Advanced Placement



The message must change:

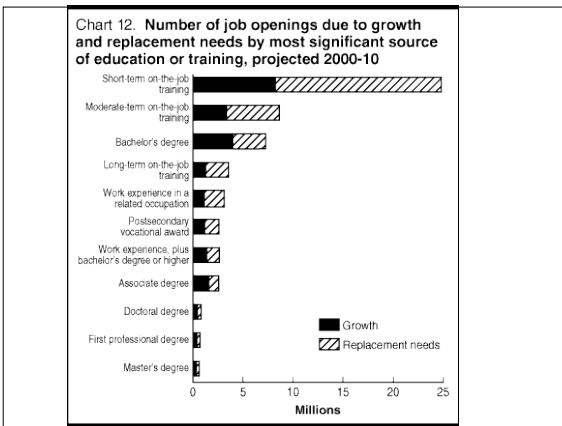
- Focus on post-secondary success not on college admissions
- If the goal is a better job, then do not confuse education with occupational skills
- Know the odds and know the costs
- Other ways to win

- Ken Gray & Edwin L. Herr

“We should all be concerned about the future because we will have to spend the rest of our lives there.”

- Charles F. Kettering

What are the jobs you are preparing for....
AND
What kind of training IS Really Required????



The time to begin is NOW...

How will you decide what you're going to do.....WHEN YOU GROW UP...AND HOW YOU WILL GET There???

Explore Careers by...

- **Interviewing people** you come into contact with...if a job looks interesting...*learn more*
- Resource books/videos
- Traveling
- TV Shows
- Job Shadowing
- Career Fairs
- Websites



A great resource...

- www.bls.gov/oco
- Click on: ***OOH Search/A-Z Index***
- Read about career options and what is required in secondary school to prepare for those careers

Research One/Two Careers

- Occupation Title
- Career Cluster/Major
- Work Environment
- Nature of Work
- Educational Requirements
- Salary Range – *Entry Level/Experienced*
- Job Outlook
- Relates to your interests....Why/Why Not?
