

Mentoring and Career Advising

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Two Distinct Issues:

- Activities outside the core curriculum
- Do we need to make changes in the curriculum?

First is probably not very controversial . . . but we don't know much
Second touches on deeper issues

Outside the core

Problem: faculty know how to become faculty
but that's not what most of our students will do

Some steps:

- Seminars/speakers from outside academia
- Resource collections (paper, Web)
(e.g., <http://cosmology.berkeley.edu/jobs/jobover.html>)
- Building student/alumni connections
- Workshops/training on career skills, communication, . . .
- Internships
- Using campus resources (career centers, placement centers, job fairs, . . .)
- Mentoring mentors?

Can we go beyond anecdote?

How do we disseminate what we learn?

How do we get resources and credit?

Our core programs

Do we adjust our curriculum to respond to a changing job market?

- New courses (optics, teacher training, . . .)
- Joint degree programs: physics/engineering, physics/business, . . .
- Professional Masters programs
- Students in joint campus/industry research
- Apprenticeships in industry

Serious issues here:

What does a physics degree mean?

What is the purpose of a physics education?

How do we maintain academic freedom, open access, etc.?