As student-athletes, Ashley Bird '06 and Hugh Arrington '06 gained valuable leadership, teamwork and communication skills. On and off the basketball court, they learned to work with a variety of people to achieve a common goal, a skill both attest has helped them smoothly transition to their respective jobs as an exercise specialist in Cardiac Rehabilitation at St. David's Georgetown Hospital and an account executive at Clear Channel Radio Houston's KBME 790 The Sports Animal.

Bird, a kinesiology major, explains, “Extracurricular activities such as basketball, student government and Zeta Tau Alpha contributed immensely to my success outside of Southwestern by teaching me how to balance my time and work with a variety of people. These experiences have allowed me to case gracefully into my position, where I am required to work with special populations and a diverse group of coworkers.”

Arrington, a communication studies major, concurs. “Even though radio sales are based on individual effort,” he says, “my leadership ability, which I strengthened in extracurricular activities, helped me take charge of my own fate and motivate myself to do what I have to do to become successful.” He continues, “My work with 790 The Sports Animal is a good fit. I’ve always been involved in sports, and it was an easy transition from playing sports to talking sports with my clients as a segue into talking business.”

Both graduates also credit close connections with professors and internship experiences as key to their success. “By taking advantage of my professors’ willingness to aid in my career development,” Bird says, “I was not only able to find a field in which I could be successful, but also able to obtain an invaluable internship that later evolved into my current job. My professors’ connections in the Georgetown and Austin communities helped me to network with a large
group of people in my field.”

“My business capstone with Dr. Don Parks and Foundations of Business I with Dr. Mary Grace Neville really helped my critical thinking ability and helped me truly understand the different aspects of business and its effects on society,” Arrington notes. He put this knowledge into practice through his internship in the Promotions Department at Clear Channel Radio Houston. “The Promotions Department is known as ‘the face of the radio station,’” Arrington says. “My internship there really helped me understand the radio business and how it affects people in different ways. As an intern, I established great relationships with Clear Channel management and periodically kept contact with them—which really helped me keep my foot in the door after I graduated from Southwestern University.”

Networking, both as a way to land an internship and to convert that internship into a job offer, paid off for Bird and Arrington, as well as many of their classmates. Of 289 Southwestern graduates, 98 percent responded to the 2006 Post-Graduate Survey, and 48 percent of those working full-time attributed their job search success to networking. Another 18 percent secured their positions through the Internet, 12 percent did so through Southwestern University Career Services and 10 percent contacted employers directly. Like Bird and Arrington, nine percent of the Class of 2006 gained positions as a result of previous internships with their employers, a growing national trend as organizations rely on internship programs to identify and train top talent for eventual full-time employment.

Bird and Arrington also share another commonality: both made effective use of career planning resources on campus. “Career Services really helped me understand the importance of starting your job search early,” says Arrington. “They really emphasized that internships will help you get a job! I can attest to that. Career Services also played a big part in helping me gain employment, including helping with resume development and offering an etiquette dinner and mock interviews, among other things.”

“I got great help developing a successful graduate school application, including writing my resume and personal statement,” adds Bird. “Though I’ve been accepted to the University of St. Augustine’s Health Science dual-degree program for a master’s degree in occupational therapy and a doctorate in physical therapy, I am also considering the Peace Corps, becoming a nurse practitioner or joining my family’s business.”

Bird and Arrington are among the 64 percent of responding graduates of the Class of 2006 who secured employment in Texas, around the country and in Guatemala, Spain and Taiwan. While 86 percent of those graduates remained in Texas, 14 percent ventured to 20 different states, as well as abroad. Alternately, 30 percent of respondents elected to pursue graduate or professional school before joining the workforce. Of those, 56 percent are enrolled in graduate school (master’s and Ph.D. programs), 13 percent each in law school and medical school, four percent in schools of theology, five percent in other professional schools and 10 percent in advanced coursework. Seventy-one percent of graduates continuing their education did so in Texas, while 29 percent ventured to 21 other states, Australia, Italy and England.

For most of these students, these destinations are but the first of many in a dynamic career founded on a liberal arts education. Arrington summarizes what he, Bird and numerous other Southwestern University graduates know. “At this point, it’s tough to tell where I will end up,” he says, “but I can tell you that my Southwestern University experience groomed me for success, and I will do whatever it takes to achieve every goal I set for myself.”
“Career Services really helped me understand the importance of starting your job search early.”
—Hugh Arrington '06

A Sample of Employers & Graduate/Professional Schools with 2006 SU Graduates

Employers:
- Accenture
- AIG
- American Cancer Society
- American Heart Association
- AmeriCorps VISTA
- Ameriprise Financial
- Austin ISD
- Austin State School
- Austin Travis County Advocacy Program
- Automatic Data Processing, Inc.
- Avista Development
- BizCom Associates
- Blackbrush Oil and Gas, Inc.
- Brashear Properties
- Brown and Gay Engineers, Inc.
- Bryan ISD
- California Lutheran University
- Centenary College
- Child Protective Services, Office of the Governor, State of Texas
- Children’s Center of Austin
- City of Austin—Austin Fire Department
- City of Chicago Department of Environment
- Clear Channel Radio—Houston
- Colgate-Palmolive Company
- Competitive Marketing Concepts
- Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
- Dell Inc.
- DHL Analytical, Inc.
- Edelman
- Emerson Partners, Inc.
- Employee Benefit Solutions, Inc.
- Equis
- Erben Associates
- Ernst & Young, LLC
- Fidelity Investments
- Ford, Powell & Carson, Inc.
- Georgetown ISD
- Gibson Consulting Group
- Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, P.C.
- Guaranty Bank
- Helping Hand Home for Children
- Houston ISD
- Houston Rockets/Toyota Center
- International Studies Abroad
- Iowa Public Interest Research Group
- JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- KPMG LLP
- Lehman Brothers
- Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission
- National Hispanic Institute
- National Instruments
- Northside ISD
- November Design Group, Inc.
- People
- Plano ISD
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Round Rock Family YMCA
- Round Rock ISD
- Royal Oaks Bank
- SCA Environmental, Inc.
- Sierra Club
- Smiley Media
- Smith & Nephew
- Southwest Financial Services, Ltd.
- Southwestern University
- St. David’s Georgetown Hospital
- Steger & Bizzell Engineering, Inc.
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas House of Representatives
- Texas Methodist Foundation
- Texas Representative Burt R. Solomon
- Texas Senator Jane Nelson
- Texas Society of Professional Engineers
- Texas Woman’s University
- TexasSweet Citrus Marketing, Inc.
- The 401(k) Company
- The Miracle Foundation
- The University of Chicago Hospitals
- The University of Texas at Austin College of Fine Arts
- The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
- The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- U.S. Congressman Pete Sessions
- U.S. Senator George Allen
- Warren H. Smith & Associates, P.C.
- Wendi Lester & Associates, P.C.
- Williamson County & Cities Health District
- Williamson County Sun
- XTO Energy Inc.
- Young Judea

Schools:
- Baylor University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Colorado State University
- DePaul University
- George Washington University
- Harvard Law School
- Melbourne University
- Michigan State University
- Northwestern University
- Rice University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Royal Holloway, University of London
- San Diego State University
- South Texas College of Law
- Southern Illinois University
- Southern Methodist University
- Southern Methodist University-Dedman School of Law
- Southern Methodist University-Perkins School of Theology
- Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine
- Texas A&M University
- Texas Christian University
- Texas State University
- Texas Tech Health Sciences Center-School of Medicine
- Texas Tech University School of Law
- The University of Arizona
- The University of Notre Dame
- The University of Alabama—Birmingham
- The University of Houston Law School
- The University of New Hampshire
- The University of North Texas
- The University of North Texas—Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
- The University of North Texas Health Science Center
- The University of Oregon School of Law
- The University of Texas at Austin
- The University of Texas at El Paso
- The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston
- The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
- The University of Texas Medical Branch—Galveston
- The University of Texas School of Law
- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
- Virginia Tech
- Washburn University School of Law
Career Services at a Glance

Southwestern University Career Services' mission is to help students and alumni explore career options, gain marketable experience and engage in the search process for internships, jobs and graduate/professional school admission.

Advising
Career Services offers one-on-one advising for:
- Major and career exploration
- Self-assessment testing
- Internship development
- Resume development
- Graduate and professional school advising
- Job search strategies

Events
Special programming events throughout the year provide occupational information and teach career skills. Examples include:
- Professional Practice Interview Day
- Etiquette Dinner
- Getting into Graduate School
- Career Connections
- Resume Drive
- Careers in . . . series

Resources
- Career Services Resource Center (600+ publications)
- Career Services Web site
  (www.southwestern.edu/careers)
- Major Possibilities Guides
- Resume Writing Guide
- Vault Online Career Library
- Alumni and Parent Networking Contacts

MonsterTRAK
Students and alumni can register free of charge with MonsterTRAK, a Web-based resume referral system, to search for jobs and internships. Registered users are eligible to participate in on-campus recruiting.

Recruiting and Career Fairs
Students can interview on campus and attend information sessions for non-profit, government, private-sector business and education employers. Career Services also provides transportation to job and internship fairs around Central Texas.

Location and Hours
Call or e-mail for an appointment or stop by the office in the McCook-Crain Building (next to the Kyle E. White Religious Activities Center). Office hours are 8 a.m.—12 p.m. and 1—5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

First destination for 2006 graduates by major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAJORS</th>
<th>Fine-Arts</th>
<th>Humanities</th>
<th>Social Sciences</th>
<th>Independent/Interdisciplinary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad School &amp; Advanced Coursework</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Seeking/Volunteering</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Responding Majors</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Of 289 graduates, 42 earned two or more majors in 2006.

Southwestern University
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