

Pace Unveils New Center to Help Students Realize Career Goals

By Anna Young

Pace University held a special celebration last week showcasing a new building aimed at helping students acquire internships and advancing their careers after college.

Representatives from Pace University were joined by students, faculty and elected officials last Wednesday as they unveiled their new career center located on the Pleasantville campus. The new 3,500-square-foot space in Paton House boasts the latest technology and relaxed, private interview rooms where advisers work with students on job placement.

Phyllis Mooney, executive director of career services at Pace, said she has wanted to open this facility for seven years. With a previous career services office that was difficult for students to access, she said advisers would have to travel the campus to meet with students in various buildings.

"Now we're here in a centrally located space and that was really important," Mooney said. "We're accessible to every single student and we're just so accessible that they're with us through their entire journey at Pace and beyond."

The renovated 18th century stone barn, directly across from student housing, features bright, open spaces, sound-proof glass, full-wall sliding doors and modern furnishing. The roughly 14 private rooms designed for career services contain computers, desks and virtual



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Executive Director of Career Services Phyllis Mooney, center, gets ready to cut the ribbon for the new career center on the Pace campus. She is surrounded by local officials and Pace administrators and alumni.

technology to be used for interviews with potential employers. The building also has conference rooms and gender-neutral bathrooms.

"We really brainstormed on what this facility should look like and we wanted it to be different," Mooney said. "We

wanted a very open and transparent space with spaces in the middle where students, advisers and executive boards can collaborate. It was designed for the students with the assistance of students in mind."

While the university held a ribbon-

cutting ceremony last Wednesday, Robina Schepp, vice president of enrollment management, said the facility opened in January for student use. She said more than 1,000 students have utilized the facility in that time to meet one on one with a career counselor.

"Our best practice career services team, which includes many experienced professionals from the Westchester business community, works with Pace students from resume to job offer to prepare them for their first and future careers," Schepp said.

Last year, she said students had access to more than 8,600 employers and 2,500 jobs and internships.

Mooney said she hopes that when students are successfully placed in a career that they come back to the facility and provide future Pace graduates with job opportunities. But for now, she's proud to have been a part of advancing student services on campus.

"I'm so honored that I have the support of the Pace community to build the space in the way that we wanted," Mooney said. "It really speaks to what Pace stands for and what they prioritize, and the fact that they were so thoughtful and generous in the building of this space says a lot about what career preparation and placement means to the community and our history."