

Career Readiness in Liberal Arts Education

*Bridging Education Abroad and Career
Development*

Erica Tealey, Career Counselor

University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts

Timothy Dohmen, Education Abroad Program Director

University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts/Learning Abroad Center

Session Overview

**Introduction
& our roles**

**Education Abroad
& Career Readiness
Initiatives**

**Career Readiness in
The College of Liberal
Arts**

**Partnership &
Collaboration**

**Your
Questions
&
Thoughts**

5 min

15 min

15min

10 min

10 min

Our Work and roles in CLA

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College of Liberal Arts/Learning Abroad Center

Education Abroad in CLA

Increase awareness and participation in education abroad in CLA with the following goals:

- Departments include learning abroad as part of their curriculum
- Increase the number and quality of faculty-led programs running in the college
- Increase the number of students participating in learning abroad experiences
- Education Abroad will be seen as an integral part of an undergraduate education in CLA
- Education Abroad is a high impact experience that contributes to the over-all value of a liberal arts education and can be an integral part of an undergraduate degree

Education Abroad Staff

Tim Dohmen, Education Abroad Program Director

Oversee the development of structure, policy and processes to support greater engagement in college in learning abroad (faculty, student services and students) serve as a liaison between Learning Abroad Center and CLA supporting departmental needs for information and resources related to education abroad

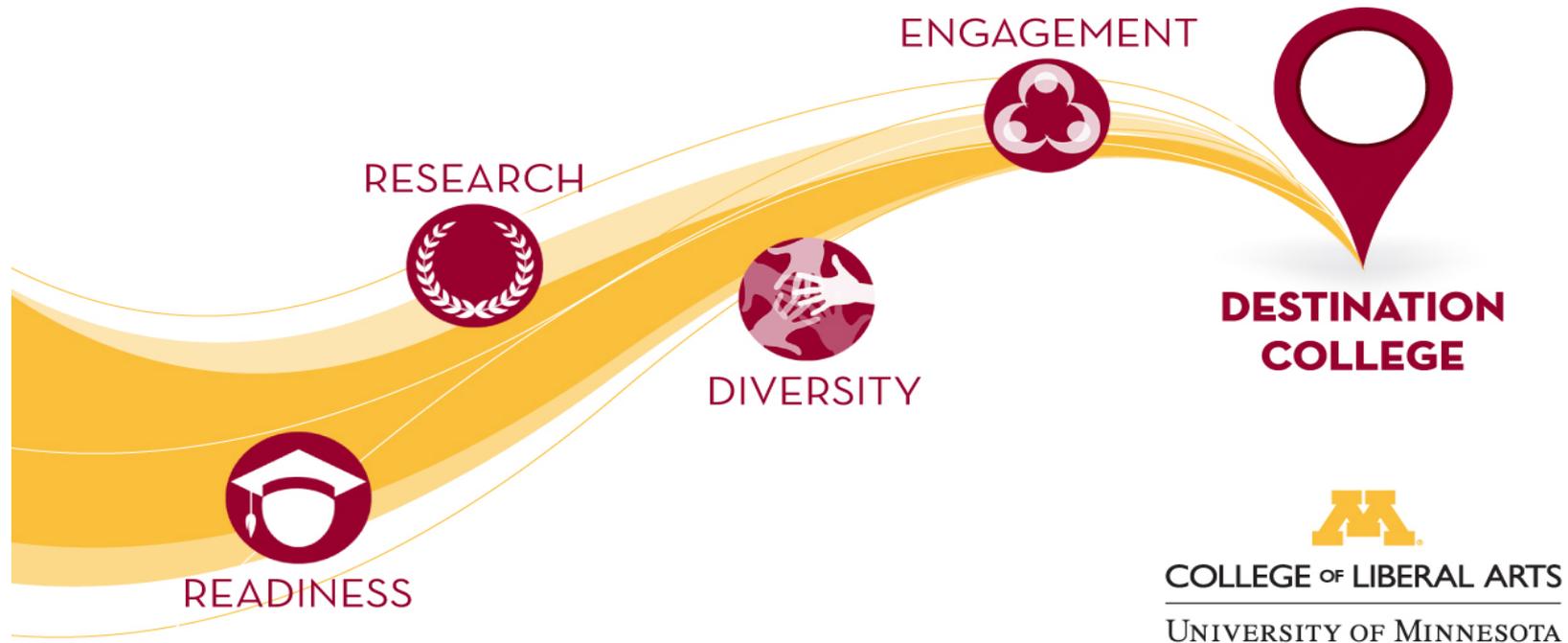
Michal Kobialka, Faculty Director:

Engage faculty and departmental leadership ensuring the academic and intellectual quality of programs departments use and create. Encourage departments to create a strategy that includes learning abroad as part of curriculum

Career Readiness

- Thinking beyond the current state to identify a **transformative idea** that can significantly advance the College's vision.
- Reinforces the idea of “CLA graduates being the most desirable graduates available
- Response to public discourse about the value of liberal arts education
- Response to students' question; “why liberal arts?”

The Dean's Roadmap



The Dean's Roadmap

Readiness <i>CLA undergraduate alumni will be the most desirable graduates available.</i>	Research <i>CLA will have a relentless focus on research and creative excellence.</i>	Diversity <i>The CLA community will mirror the community at large.</i>	Engagement <i>CLA will deepen a culture of engagement for our alumni, community and state.</i>
Attract top students from Minnesota and beyond.	Generate new levels of innovative research through focused investment strategies.	Advance and sustain diversity and inclusion as a collegiate priority.	Increase opportunities for connection between CLA and the public.
Fully leverage the liberal arts experience through innovative curricular models.	Recruit and retain field shaping faculty.	Identify, recruit, and retain the best underrepresented faculty, staff, and students to CLA.	Strengthen existing and forge new partnerships between CLA and the broader external community..
Distinguish CLA through career readiness and preparation for life after graduation.	Foster top tier graduate programs that attract, train and place the best graduate students.	Establish well-defined measures and training that support the continuous pursuit of diversity.	Increase the level of and opportunities for engagement with CLA undergraduate and graduate alumni.
Improve outcomes for current undergraduate population.	Enhance the visibility of the research and creative excellence within the College of Liberal Arts.	Cultivate a welcoming and respectful climate that brings together a diverse intellectual community of faculty, staff and students.	Ensure that CLA's research and creative excellence are shared and visible with the public.

Career Readiness

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**TEAM
WORK**

Advocating for the liberal arts



11

Common Challenges

Liberal Arts Education and Learning abroad

Value Proposition of experience is not immediately evident or understood

Relevance to future success is not automatic

Students do not have but need a common framework and language to articulate benefits of experiences

Active and regular student engagement and reflection on experiences is required

Discussions about how students can broadly add value to their education are not typical

Students need to share responsibility for connecting their educational experiences to their future

Career Readiness in CLA

What is it?

- Bridging the academic and professional with 10 core competencies
- Re-framing of an undergraduate degree
- Initiative meant to facilitate ongoing conversations and collaboration across the college
- Both curricular and co-curricular experiences are highly valued
- Helps make the case or leverage Education Abroad as a valuable and important **curricular** and **experiential** opportunity

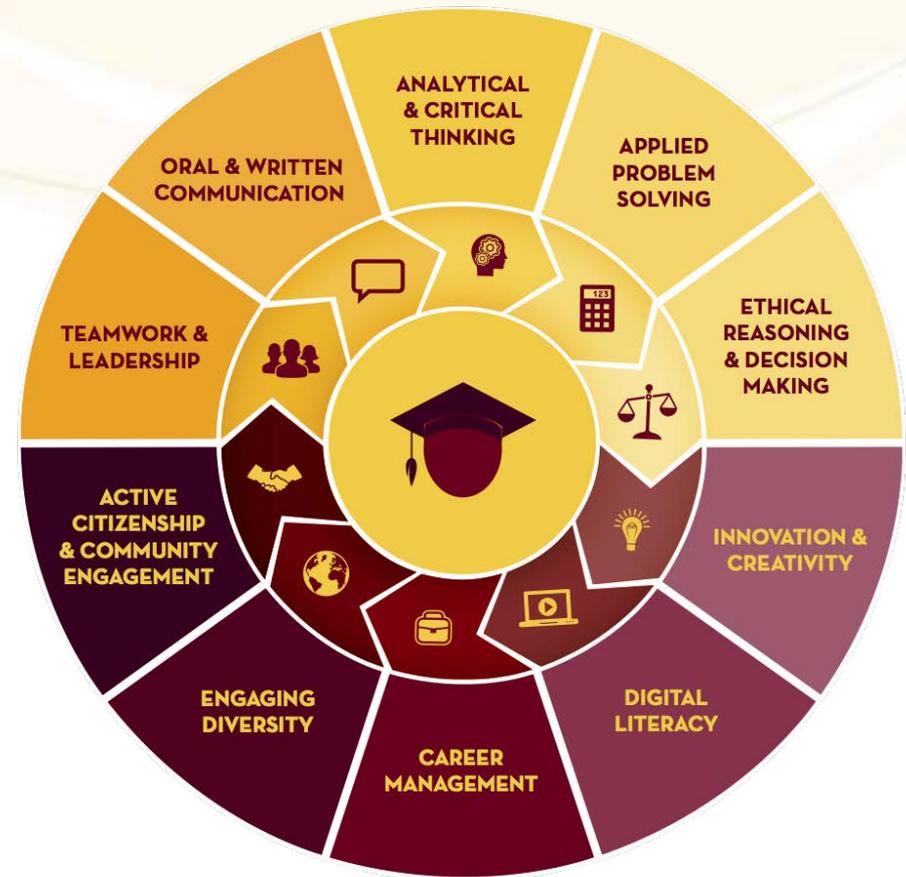
Career Readiness in CLA

- Readiness defined as proficiency in 10 Core Competencies inherent to Liberal Arts
- Readiness understood holistically: more than “major” or “skills for 1st job”
- Emphasize competitive advantage of CLA graduates
- Forceful response to public & internal criticism
- Provides another opportunity for students to add value to their undergraduate experience

Career Readiness in CLA

10 Core Career Competencies

- Analytical & Critical Thinking
- Applied Problem Solving
- Ethical Reasoning & Decision Making
- Innovation & Creativity
- Oral & Written Communication
- Teamwork & Leadership
- Engaging Diversity
- Active Citizenship & Community Engagement
- Digital Literacy
- Career Management



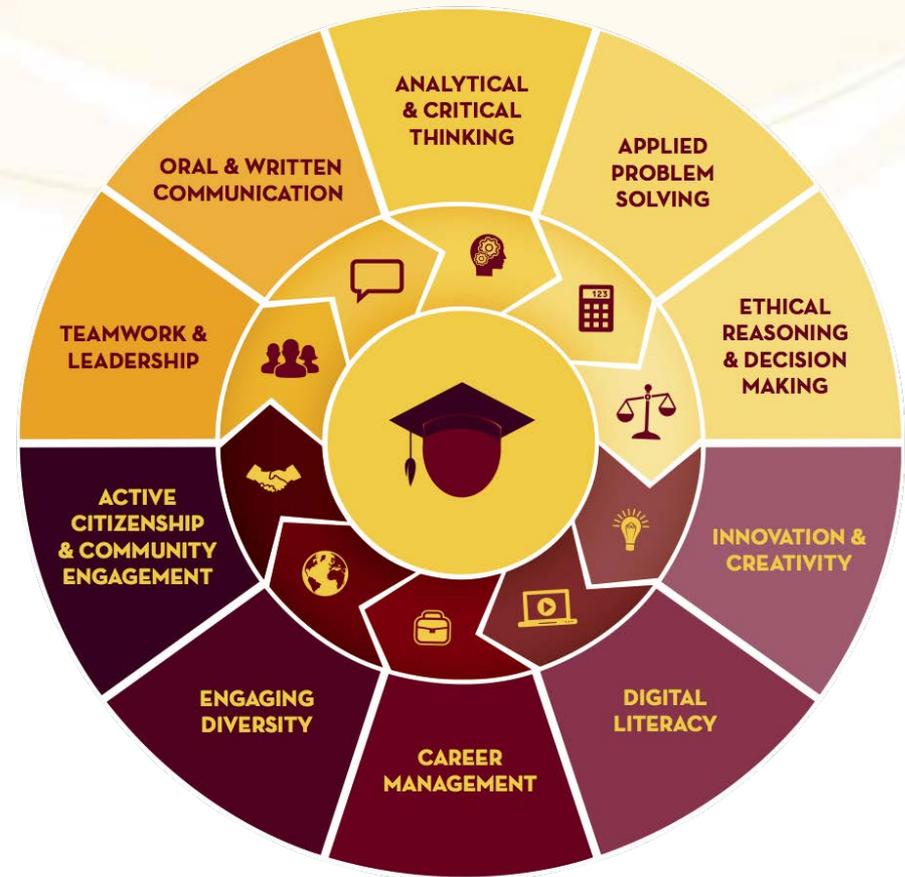
Competencies & Learning Outcomes Comparison Chart

National Association of Colleges and Employers	College of Liberal Arts Career Readiness	University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts Student Learning Outcomes
<i>Critical Thinking/Problem Solving</i>	<i>Analytical & Critical Thinking</i>	<i>Can locate and critically evaluate information.</i>
	<i>Applied Problem Solving</i>	<i>Can identify, define, and solve problems.</i>
<i>Professional worth Ethic</i>	<i>Ethical Reasoning & Decision Making</i>	
	<i>Innovation & Creativity</i>	<i>Understand the role of creativity, innovation, discovery, and expression across disciplines.</i>
<i>Oral/Written Communication</i>	<i>Oral & Written Communication</i>	<i>Can communicate effectively.</i>
<i>Teamwork/Collaboration</i>	<i>Teamwork & Leadership</i>	
<i>Leadership</i>		
<i>Global/Intercultural Fluency</i>	<i>Engaging Diversity</i>	<i>Understand diverse philosophies and cultures within and across societies.</i>
	<i>Active Citizenship & Community Engagement</i>	<i>Have acquired skills for effective citizenship and life-long learning.</i>
<i>Digital Technology</i>	<i>Digital Literacy</i>	
<i>Career Management</i>	<i>Career Management</i>	
		<i>Have mastered a body of knowledge and a mode of inquiry.</i>

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This is your life!



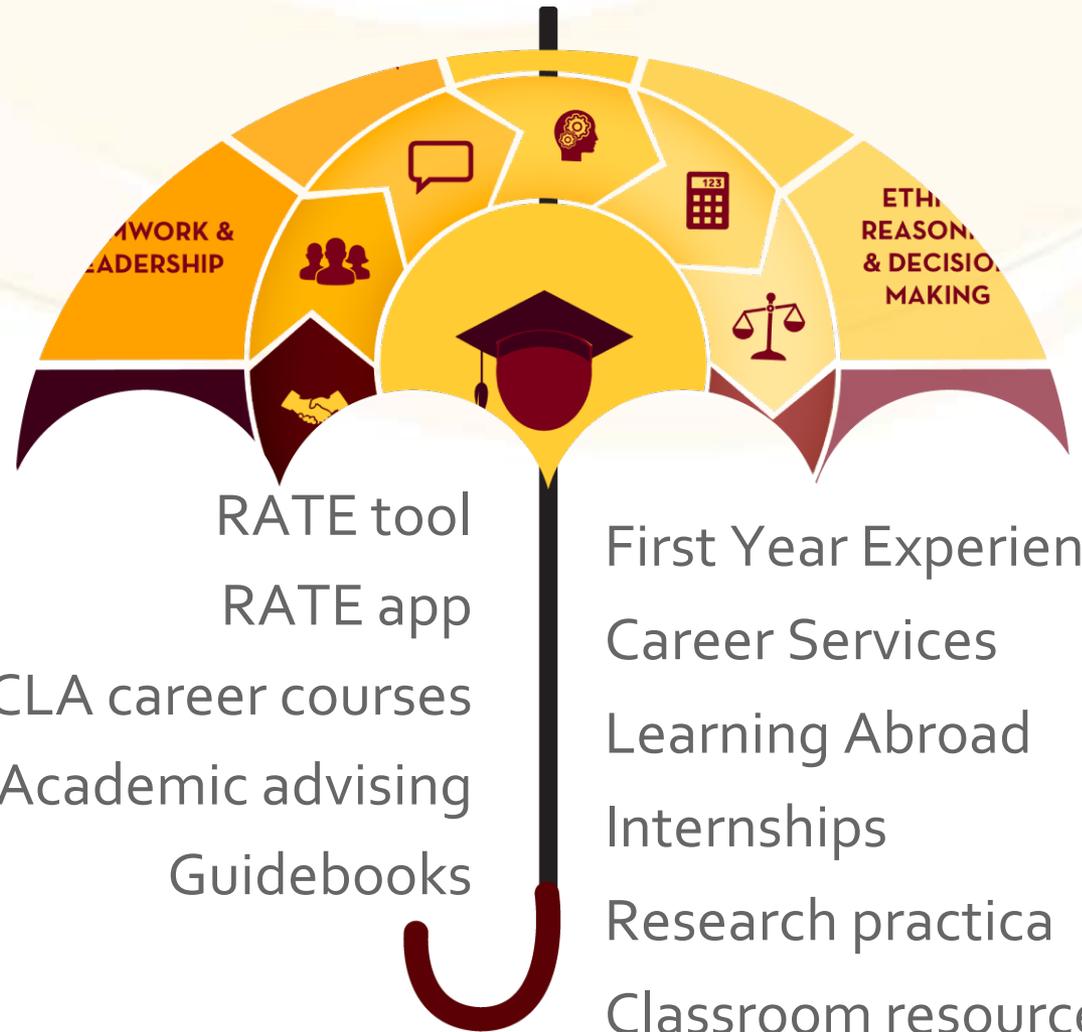
Create your story



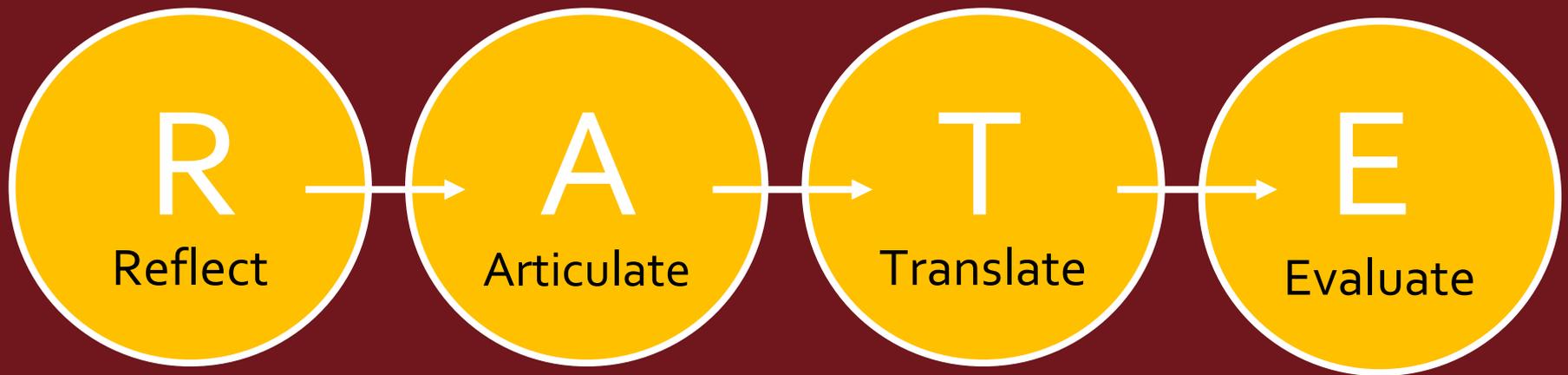
Tell your story



This initiative is about facilitating consistent, ongoing conversations across CLA



A practical tool you can use to tell your unique story



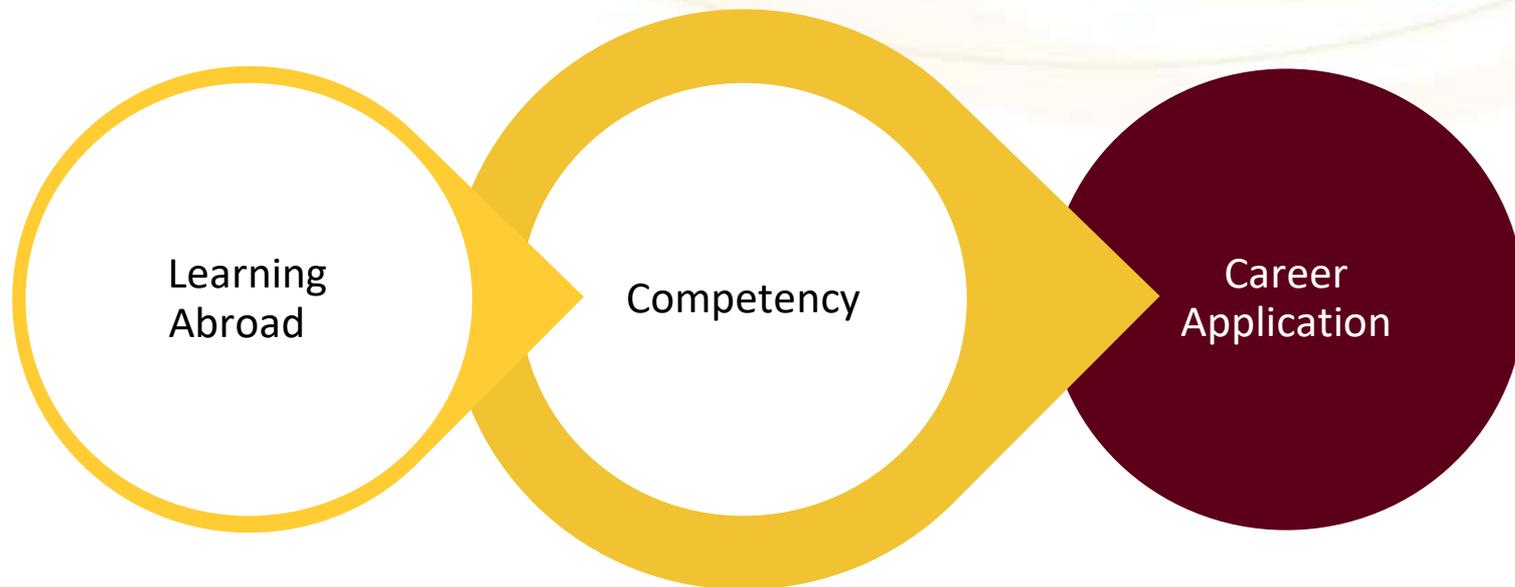
Be specific and
concrete: Say
what you did!

Bring in the competency!
Use language from the
definition!

Pull it together in
the interview
context

Self assess and
get feedback to
help you improve

What might this reflection look like?



Common Challenges

- Liberal Arts Education and Learning Abroad
- Relevance to future success is not automatic
- Students need **language** to articulate
- Requires a **framework**
- Focus on competing for future opportunities
- Requires active engagement - RATE
- Shared responsibility to connect to their CLA education

Partnering and Collaborative work

Education Abroad and CLA Career Readiness

- College structures that support Education Abroad
 - Policy/Process
 - Staffing and visibility
- Compass Team-broad stakeholder involvement
- Identification of and mapping of programs and courses where students can develop competencies
- Teaching special sections of Global Identity where Career Readiness curriculum added

Partnering and Collaborative work

Education Abroad and CLA Career Readiness

- Regular Education Abroad Program Selection Advising-same location as CLA academic advising
- Developing a joint college strategy between Career Readiness and Learning Abroad
- Engaging Faculty and Staff Abroad
 - CLA Career Readiness Visit
 - Faculty/staff workshops on Career Readiness
 - Career Services Webinars on Career Readiness

A person wearing a dark blue suit jacket and a light-colored shirt is holding a white rectangular sign with both hands. The sign has the word "QUESTIONS?" written on it in a large, bold, dark blue font. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

QUESTIONS?

Our Contact Information

Erica Tealey

Career Counselor

University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts

ea10013@umn.edu

Timothy Dohmen

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tedohmen@umn.edu