

EXHIBIT B

CONVERSATION STARTERS for EMPLOYEES

Students may be shy or quiet when working with you at the workplace. To help students break out of their shell, strike up a conversation using these ideas to get you going. The following matrix outlines conversation starters for different types of activities with students.

◆ **Talk about your career or industry...**

- ◆ Ask students why they chose this company for a job shadow or internship.
- ◆ Ask students what they already know about your career or industry.
- ◆ Ask students what they would like to know about this career or industry.
- ◆ Ask students what they think would happen to the community or the world if this industry disappeared.

◆ **Talk about the work you do on a daily basis...**

- ◆ Share a typical day in the life at your job.
- ◆ Tell students about the zaniest day you have ever had on the job.
- ◆ Describe a problem you had to solve recently. Ask students how they would have approached it. Explain how you solved it.
- ◆ Ask the students how they think your job will change in the next 10 years.
- ◆ Describe the variety of technical, academic, and interpersonal skills required to do your job. Given your description, ask students: "What other jobs could someone get with these skills?"
- ◆ Share how other people in the company depend on your work and how you depend on their work.
- ◆ Tell students about the most rewarding and boring aspect of your work.

◆ **Get to know students...**

- ◆ Ask what students' "dream" job is. Why is this their idea of the ultimate job?
- ◆ Ask Students: "If you could wake up tomorrow with one added ability, what would it be? Why?"
- ◆ Ask students: "If you could project yourself into the past or future, but never return, would you do it? If yes, where and to what time would you go?"
- ◆ Ask Students: "If you could have the answer to one question, what would it be?"
- ◆ Ask students: "What is something happening in the world that really bothers you?"

◆ **Share something about yourself...**

- ◆ Share what you thought you wanted to be when you were younger and describe how you got to where you are today.
- ◆ Share the different kinds of jobs you had as a youth.
- ◆ Tell the student one thing you would do differently in your life.

◆ **Reflect on the experience...**

- ◆ Ask students what the most and least interesting thing they have discovered during their experience.
- ◆ Ask students, based on their experience, what other jobs or roles in the company seem interesting.
- ◆ Ask students if there is anything about the job, company, or industry they want to know more about. Does the job interest them as a career possibility?
- ◆ Share why you chose to be a job shadow host, internship mentor, classroom speaker, or project advisor.