
CREATING CLASS CONNECTIONS

Advisory Panel and Alumni
Shadowing Network for
CCSU CLASS Students

A vertical decorative image on the left side of the slide showing a microscopic view of plant cells with blue-tinted cell walls.

WHAT AND WHY?

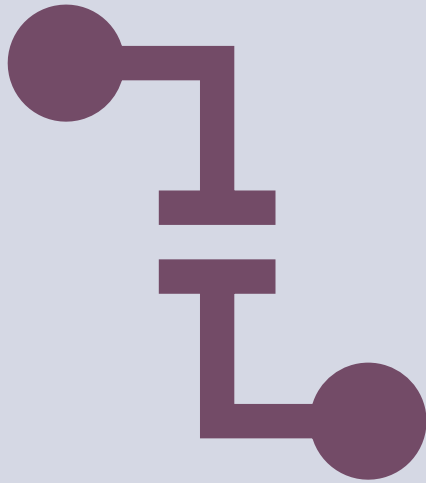
CLASS students and faculty are missing out on the benefits of an Employer Advisory Board that:

- other schools (e.g. SEST)
- departments (e.g. Academic Accounting)
- and centers (e.g. CCESR) enjoy.

A CLASS Employer Advisory Board (EAB) and Alumni Network (AlumNet) provide faculty and students with current Industry Mentorship.

DISCONNECTION:

How does **CLASS** apply to the real working world?



- In CLASS, we teach disciplines that are often disconnected from real world application.
- Real-world application, where available, updates at the speed of academics, not business.
- Attempts at creating current applications are based in theory – not real-world application
- CLASS EAB and AlumNet provide access to students and faculty for industry mentorship – real world application for the knowledge skills and abilities learned in the CLASS disciplines.

**STUDENTS NEED
CONNECTIONS**



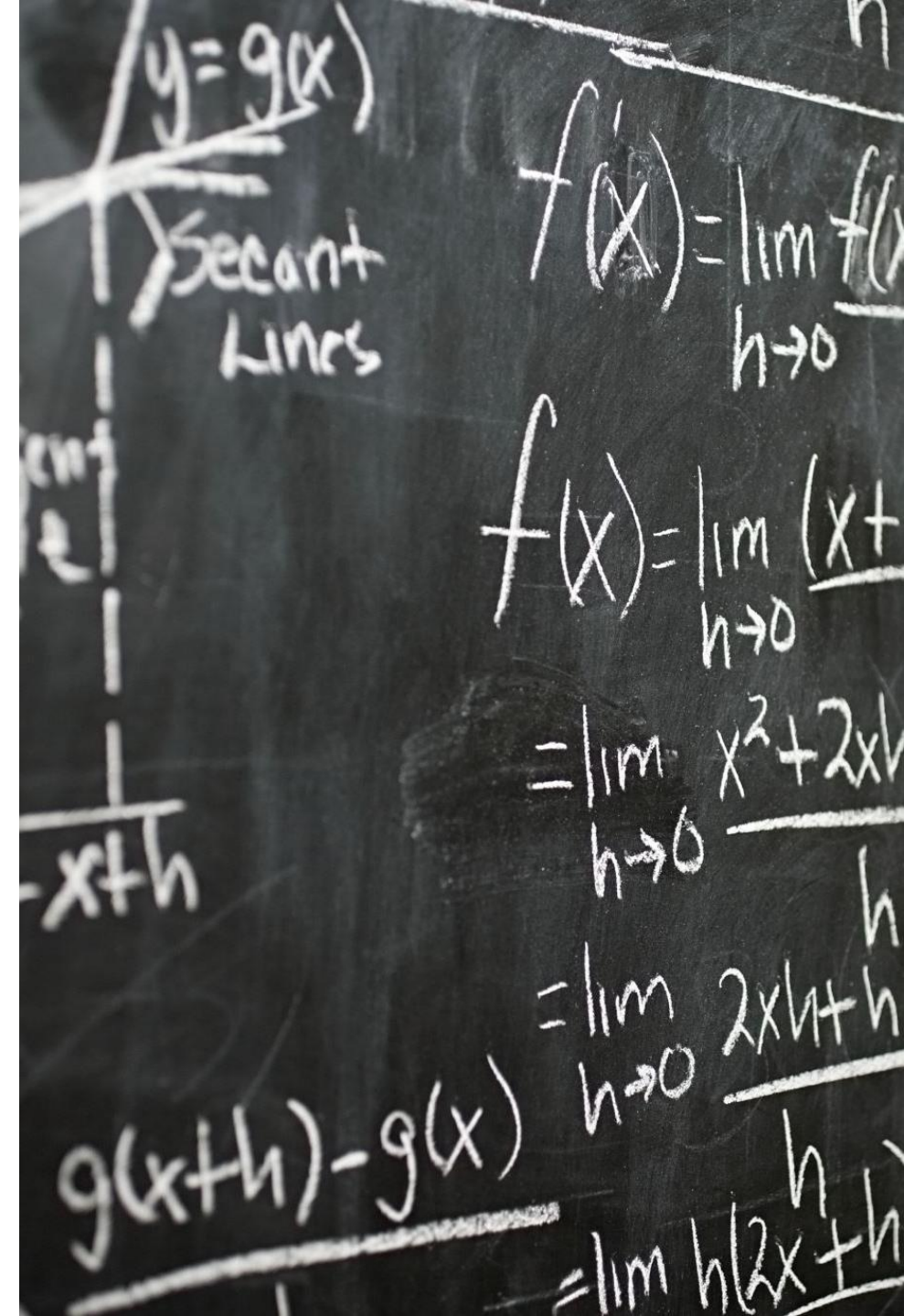
**EMPLOYERS NEED
EXPERTS**



**FACULTY NEED
CONTEXT AND
CURRENT TRENDS**

CLASS EAB AND ALUMNET PROVIDE ALL

- Current approach is largely unorganized and relationship dependent.
- Existing connections are temporary and transient
 - Not scalable, not enduring
- EAB provide stable, enduring partnerships from which the ALUMNET can expand

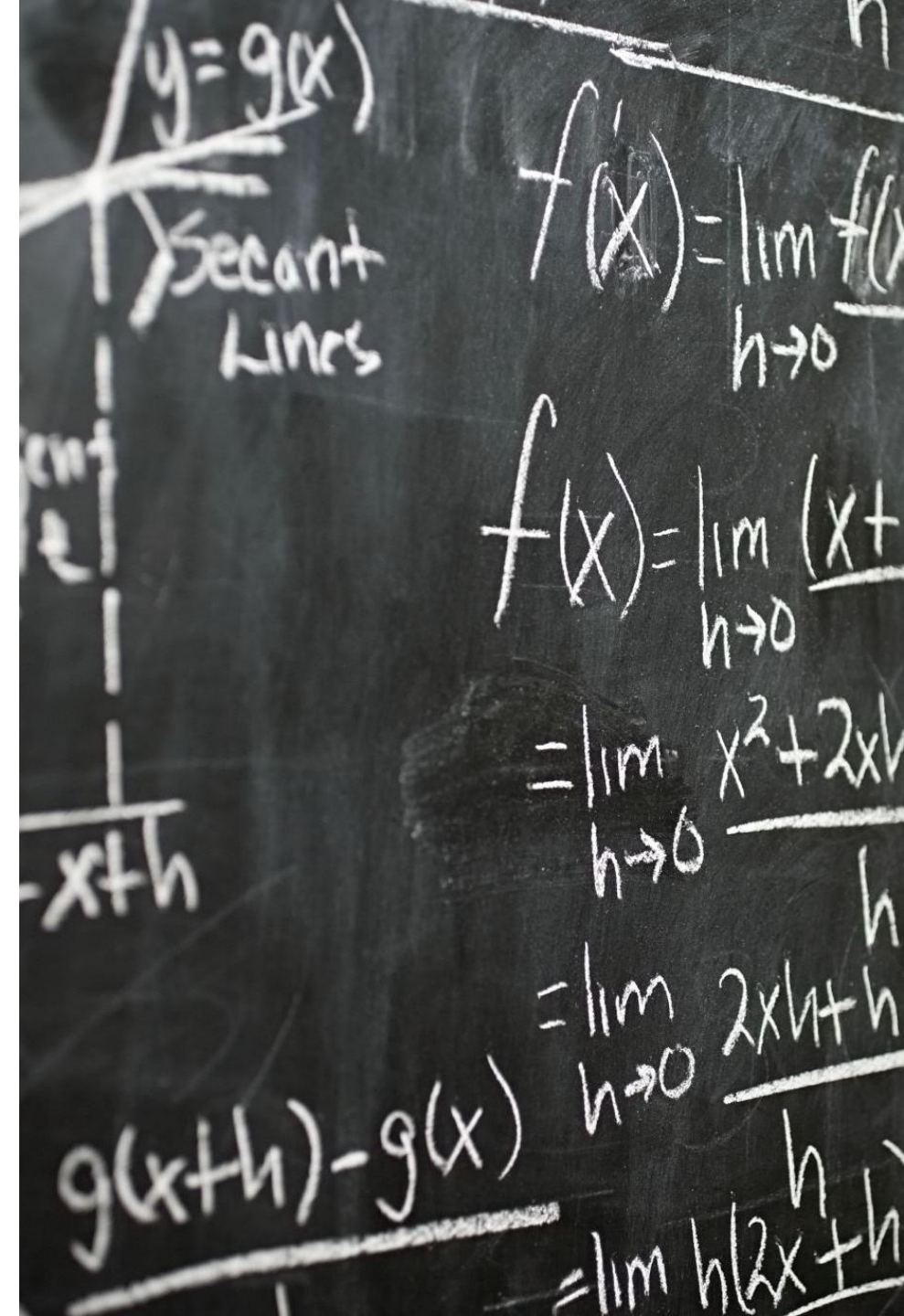


OUR ADVISORY BOARD WILL SERVE MANY INTERRELATED NEEDS

For Board Members: Gain access to top student talent for internships and recruitment, faculty expertise, university resources, and the Workforce Innovation Hub—all while strengthening ties with the community.

For Students: Provide experiential learning, mentoring, internships, and opportunities to apply skills in real-world settings.

For Faculty: Advise on curriculum modernization, research collaboration, and community partnerships.



HOW ARE WE DOING?

What makes now the time?

- current approach is unsustainable
 - mixed results, ambiguity, missed opportunities, wasted resources
- Greater focus than ever on Career Readiness
 - ACT, Central's SP2030, Workforce Innovation Hub directive

ADVISORY BOARD STRUCTURE

The CLASS Advisory board will be comprised of 13-15 members as follows:

Dean's Office (2)

- Dean
- Associate Dean or CLASS Career Consultant or Designee
- Administrative Assistant (support role, non-voting, not counted)

CLASS Faculty (3-4)

- Chair, Assistant Chair or designee from each cluster plus one “at large” if there is interest

External Partners (6-7)

- Six or seven active members that represent partners and employers with large CCSU alumni presence or established relationships (see list for potential names)

Academic Affairs Representative (1)

- representative from Institutional Advancement or Alumni Relations (ex officio, non-voting)

Student Representative (1)

- CLASS student representative (from SGA or nominated from CLASS department)

Activities

Twice annual Meeting: In person (food provided by Dean's office)

Discussing board activities, and issues to assist CLASS in areas like:

- Student Success and Career Readiness
- Experiential Learning Opportunities, Collaboration and Partnerships
- Networking
- Public Relations, Marketing, and Promotion
- Opportunities for CLASS alumni
- Strategic Planning
- Fundraising

Subject Matter Expert (SME) Consultation: connection to industry partners

Bring into classrooms, collaborate on projects, or just have a community connection you can talk to.

- Email list of contacts
- Routing through Central Workforce Innovation Hub
- Networking Connections for current and future students

Community Engagement, Volunteering, Fundraising etc.: connection outside

Help plan and participate with board members activities to strengthen departments and your students

WHAT ARE WE ASKING FROM YOU?

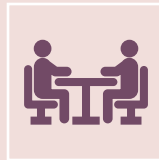
(EXTERNAL
PARTNER)



Initial one-year commitment with option to renew.



Come to two (2) bi-annual board meetings.



Be open to collaboration on a project, community engagement event, or other activity in the year.



Thank you