



CARDINALS CONNECT



2024

MENTORING YEAR-IN-REVIEW



BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY
Foundation


**CARDINALS
CONNECT**
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY



BY THE NUMBERS



HIGHLIGHTS

**24,014 Jobs Posted on
Cardinals Connect in 2024**



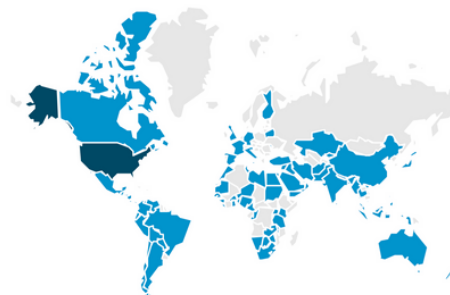
**Over 22% of Ball State
Students are enrolled
on Cardinals Connects**



**1,756 New Cardinals
Connect Users in 2024**

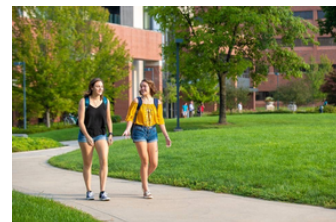


**9,812 Total Cardinals
Connect Users
Worldwide**



0-3,000 3,000-6,000 6,000-9,000

**35,225
Page Views
In 2024**



**133
Events Posted**



*NOTE: NUMBERS ARE
MEASURED FROM DECEMBER
1, 2023 - DECEMBER 1, 2024



FROM THE STUDENTS



HIGHLIGHTS



**KwaTashea
Marfo**

Class of 2026

Mentor: Janet
Edries Martinez 04'

“Mentoring has reminded me that I’m not alone in this process—I don’t always have to be in constant hustle mode. As a first-generation student and student of color, being paired with a mentor with a similar background has lifted the weight of figuring everything out independently. Mentorship is more than guidance—it’s a bridge between who you are now and who you aspire to be. It builds confidence, expands perspectives, and fosters connections that challenge and inspire you.”



**Ethan
Davies**

Class of 2024

Mentor: Rob
Bennett 89'

“Rob has been crucial to helping me jump start my career. Since day one he has been eager to listen about what opportunities that are not only presented in front of me but what may lie ahead. He has helped give career coaching/advice on what skills/tools I need to find specific jobs or even interviewing. I believe having Rob as a mentor but as well as a friend has definitely had an impact on how my career has started off so far and I'm happy to have him as a friend.”



Cassie Pomierski

Class of 2024

“This mentorship was a great experience overall, but it would not have been possible without mentors like Lauren. Her kindness, expertise, willingness to teach, and authenticity motivated me throughout my last semester at Ball State. Senior year is one of the busiest and most challenging years of college as one prepares to head out into the design field, and having a mentor and friend like Lauren, who had gone through the same stage of life, really helped me get through it.”



FROM THE MENTORS



HIGHLIGHTS



“I love the
opportunity to
make an **impact.**”

Stephon Jones
Class of 1985



**Brooke
York**

Class of 2017

Mentee: Rachel
Baker 25'

“I gained invaluable experience that helped me grow professionally and personally. Overall, mentorship is such a wonderful opportunity for both parties to grow and I think Rachel and I learned so much from each other. I would highly recommend anyone interested in growing personally and professionally to take part in any type of mentorship experience!”

**Rob
Bennett**

Class of 1989

Mentee: Ethan
Davies 24'



“I believe the relationship that Ethan and I have built and will continue to build upon is based upon respect, trust and honesty. I think he makes for a great listener but I try to do just as well in listening when he comes back with a counter question/comment. We are actually quite good at looking at the same situation from different angles and speaking about each scenario.

I think he knows I am honest with him on all topics and do not treat him with kid gloves or tell him the answer I think he wants to hear. He has made me self-examine my approach to some situations I have encountered since I've met him and I believe his approach to certain situations has actually begun to affect my approach in a positive manner.”