

1086-M5-2364

Brian P. Beaudrie* (brian.beaudrie@nau.edu), 805 South Osborne Dr, P. O. Box 5717, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Flagstaff, AZ 86011. *Using JobQuests as a Capstone Project for Statistics in a Liberal Arts Mathematics Course.*

This paper will present the web-based activity JobQuest, a project for a statistics section of a Liberal Arts Mathematics course. The scenario presented to the students is as follows: they are to imagine that they have graduated in the field of their choice (their major). They are given job offers in six different cities across the country. Using statistics and statistical reasoning, reviewing a wide variety of statistical information, they are to decide which of the six offers they will accept, then give a Power Point presentation defending their choice.

The Power Point must have at least seven different statistics to back up their choice. The statistics they use must be in comparison with the other five cities under consideration. They are also to present at least three of their statistics in graphic form, using the proper graph. The other statistics can be presented in tables, as bullet points, or simply in paragraph form.

The goals of this project are to give students a real-world scenario in which statistical thinking can be applied, and to allow them to make connections with the statistical concepts they have recently studied. Through this project, students go beyond ‘book learning’ of statistical topics and realize how statistics are used in everyday life. (Received September 25, 2012)