**Talking Points for SIG Speakers**

Please refer to the below as needed to help your invited guests prepare for career chats at F&ES.

Dear Guest Speakers,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with our Student Interest Group. The Career Development Office co-sponsors career chats for SIG’s in an effort to expose our students to industry trends and career opportunities related to their interests. These industry specific chats help students better understand available career paths, identify specific skills needed for success, and prepare for a job in their desired field. We greatly appreciate your participation in our program and hope you will consider covering some of the following topics when speaking with our students.

**Talking Points for SIG Speakers:**

* **Industry Overview-** What are some of the current developments in your industry today? How do these developments correspond with core environmental issues (energy, sustainability, forestry, social justice etc) addressed here at FES?
* **Career Path** – can you briefly describe your career path and major factors leading you in this particular direction? Have you worked in a variety of sectors? Did you complete an internship, and if so where? How did your internship affect your career choice? Has your path been a clear one with established goals?
* **Academic Preparation** – if you were in graduate school today, what courses would you study to prepare you for your career? How has your particular degree prepared you? What courses do you wish you had taken at F&ES? (If applicable)
* **Professional Skills** – what are the top three skills you use on a daily or weekly basis (i.e. can be transferable, knowledge-based and/or innate)? Can you summarize the top skills you’ve developed and would recommend that current students focus on developing while they are at Yale? Have you spent time inventorying your professional skills and can you make any recommendations regarding this process?
* **Job Search Skills** – can you offer general advice to current students who will be on the job and internship market this year? Can you talk about the interview process at your institution or general interview advice/experience? Advice on networking and informational interviewing? Any experience advice on internet social networking?