BA CAREER PREPARATION: INTERNSHIP SITE SELECTION

One of the challenges of maintaining a robust internship program at the undergraduate level is locating organizations that will provide interns with high-quality, fruitful experiences. In a 2016 survey, department chairs were asked to indicate which of four approaches they used to identify internships sites.

The two most frequently used approaches were students self-identifying internship sites and students gaining internships with community organizations where the department had an on-going relationship. MA-granting departments were the most likely to report using ongoing relationships with undergraduate internship sites. They were also the most likely to say that community organizations contacted them seeking interns. More than half of the BA-granting departments also reported that community organizations contacted them. PhD-granting departments were the most likely to rely on ad hoc arrangements to secure internship sites for undergraduate majors.

![Bar chart: How Do You Identify Internship Sites?](chart)

Note: Percentages are weighted to adjust for survey nonresponse, based on the universe of sociology degree-granting departments (bachelor's or higher).

Source: American Sociological Association Department Survey, Fall 2016.