

WTAMU Experiential Education Program Spring 2010 Executive Summary

The Experiential Education program (formerly Cooperative Education) began in the spring of 1994. A Title VIII Department of Education grant started the program, and we placed the first students in the spring of 1994. Our vital statistics to date include:

- Monitored 1,832 individual placements to date (47 in Spring 2010)
- Placed 819 students in internships (unduplicated count)
- Average GPA of the Spring 2010 class – 3.14
- Average wage for the Spring 2010 class - \$10.63 per hour
- Total dollars earned by the Spring 2010 class - \$197,902
- Total dollars earned by all internship students to date - \$6,362,329

To date in the 2009-10 academic year, the Experiential Education & Career Services program helped 1,058 students through both online and in-person résumé workshops. Additionally, our counselors have provided career counseling to 134 students so far in this academic year. This counseling and guidance helps students determine their best career path.

Selected Intern Comments in Response to “What Did You Like Most About the Internship?”

“My favorite thing was that I was allowed to start out with a new company and was really put in control of the whole accounting process, of course with it being checked by my supervisor.”

*Berklye Dominguez, Accounting Major
XF Enterprises- Amarillo, TX*

“That they trusted me enough to give me big projects to produce. And they let me experience every aspect of being on a creative team.”

*Catherine Meck, Mass Communications Major
Trinity Fellowship- Amarillo, TX*

“I most enjoyed the opportunity to work with newer technologies and overcoming difficult challenges.”

*Josh Grisham, CIS Major
Bell Helicopter Textron.- Amarillo, TX*

“I was able to get real world experience while I was still going to school. It is hard to know what all a job entails unless you are able to try it out.”

”

*Nathan Sechrist, Finance Major
Western Builders- Amarillo, TX*

“The environment of Disney. I enjoyed waking up every morning and driving to work realizing that I work for Disney, The WALT Disney. It is an amazing feeling indeed.”

*J'Rhea Wise, Mass Communications Major
Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL*

Intern to Full-Time for Spring 2010

This semester 15 out of our 47 interns graduated. Three took full-time jobs while they finish their graduate work. All of these students are listed on the chart below.

Of these students, 56% have full-time jobs—5 with their intern employers and 5 with other employers. Seventeen percent (17%) are pursuing graduate or law school and 28% are seeking full-time employment.

Graduate	Major	Intern Employer	Current Status
Adams, Blake	Accounting	Welch Law Firm	Texas Tech Law School
Bass, Dallas	Mass Comm.- Broadcasting	West Texas A&M University	Graduate School
Baxter, Jill	Accounting	David Eck & Associates P.C.	FT with Defense Contract Audit Agency
*Booth-Raburn, Rachel	Accounting	Brown, Graham & Co.	FT with Brown, Graham & Co.
Compton, Joshua	Marketing	B&W Pantex	Graduate School/ Continues Internship
Davis, Amanda	Finance	FDIC	FT with FDIC
Favila, Yvonne	Accounting	David Eck & Associates P.C.	FT Seeking
Garcia, Amanda	Mass Comm. – Journalism	First Presbyterian Church- Amarillo	FT with The Navigators
Gerber, Toni	Marketing	West Texas A&M University	FT Seeking
Jones, Andrea	Mass Comm.- Ad/PR	Amarillo Globe News	FT with Glazers
Meyer, Mitchell	Ag Business & Economics	Great Plains Ag Credit	FT- self employed
*Miller, Brandon	Accounting	Brown, Graham & Co.	FT with Brown Graham & Co.
Park, Brian	Finance	Great Plains Ag Credit	FT Seeking
Ross, Fred	Computer Science	McCoy Myers	FT with McCoy Myers
Schick, Clay	CIS	Pantex	FT with Hastings
*Waldrop, Collin	Accounting	Canyon Exploration	FT with Canyon Exploration
Williams, Krista	Accounting	Hudgins, Crosier & Sumpter P.C.	FT Seeking
Ysaguirre, Melissa	Accounting	A to Z Tire	FT Seeking/ Intern continues while she searches

* - FT while they are pursuing their graduate degree

Participating Employers

The full list of employers we have worked with are online at <http://www.wtamu.edu/student-support/cs-emp-participating-employers.aspx>

Spring 2010 INTERNS

38% - Graduated

(3 took full-time jobs while they pursue their graduate degree)

- 55% of these students have full-time positions
 - 17% are pursuing graduate school
 - 28% are seeking full-time employment

38% - Continuing Their Internship

23% - Seeking Another Internship and/or Pursuing Degree Full-Time

Internships continue to be an effective way for students to gain major-related experience and in many cases, a professional position upon graduation!
