

WTAMU Experiential Education Program Summer 2008 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 1,634 individual placements to date (56 in Summer 2008)
- Placed 700 students in paid internships (unduplicated count)
- Average GPA of the Summer 2008 class – 3.19
- Average wage for the Summer 2008 class - \$12.42 per hour
- Total dollars earned by the Summer 2008 class - \$303,245
- Total dollars earned by all internship students to date - \$5,539,625

To date in the 2007-08 academic year, the Experiential Education & Career Services program helped 1,677 students through both online and in-person résumé workshops. Additionally, our counselors have provided career counseling to 208 students so far in this academic year. This counseling and guidance helps students determine their best career path.

Selected Intern Comments

“The internship was definitely a slap in the face as to all that is required of accountants. I guess I was truly naïve when it came to my career choice. Nevertheless, this experience only confirmed what I want to do with my life. Even in times of stress and chaos, I was confident that I want to remain in the accounting field, and as I learned more and more, it became obvious to me that I enjoyed it...”

*Jennifer Choate Zachary, Accounting Major
Intern at Kathy W. Boozer, CPA- Canyon, TX*

“...I’ve started to believe that I can succeed in the business world and that I have the competence to go far in whatever field I end up pursuing.”

“Had I not done this internship...I would probably have no idea as to what I would do after graduation.”

*Matt Chamberlain, Economics Major
Intern at FirstBank Southwest- Amarillo, TX*

“I really recommend the internship program... The internship is going to help your working skills and make you understand more about the working environment.”

*Bruno Paoliello, General Business Major
Intern at Attebury Grain- Amarillo TX*

“This experience has given me a chance to better define what I am looking for in a job and as a result, shown me what items are important to me when researching and interviewing for jobs.”

*Michelle Wright, Engineering Technology Major
Intern at Bosch Braking Systems- St. Joeseph, MI*

Intern to Full-Time for Summer 2008

This semester 4 of our 56 interns graduated or accepted full time positions. Two graduated and found full-time positions with their internship employers. Two took full-time positions with their internship employer while they finish the last semester of their degree.

Graduate	Major	Intern Employer	Current Status
Lee, Shannon	Equine Industry & Business	AQHA	FT with AQHA
Sabrina, Ivonne	Finance & Economics	Metro Spire	FT with Metro Spire
*Terrell, Lance	General Business	Herring National Bank	FT with Stewart, Herring National Bank
*Watanabe, Ryoichi	Accounting	General Electric	FT with General Electric

* accepted a full-time position while continuing to pursue degree. Both are scheduled to graduate in December 2008.

Participating Employers

The full list of employers we have worked with are online at <http://wtcareer.wtamu.edu/coop/coopemp.htm>

SUMMER 2008 INTERNS

3.6% graduated

- 100% of these students have full-time positions

3.6% have taken a full-time position while they finish their degree

- 100% are scheduled to graduate in December 2008

37.5% are continuing their internship

55.3% are seeking another internship and/or pursuing their degree full-time

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