Welcome

Clarion readers recognize relationships between faculty, students and the Gwen M. Greene Career and Internship Center. Those we profile echo how we address issues students face. Experiential learning and career exploration complement our Rochester Curriculum as faculty motivate advisees to research career options as they would academic topics; collecting data to test hypotheses associated with varied fields, job functions as well as graduate and professional schools. Mentors promote department sponsored internships and refer students to the Career and Internship Center to inspire broader searches for career focus and internship opportunities. Introspection is no longer enough. Experiential exploration must become our Clarion call.

Students like Nate Mulberg, a sophomore English major, transform words of Professor Curt Smith into goal-focused actions. Through internships Nate is taking giant leaps on a path destined for a successful sports broadcasting career. His story illustrates that internships are not only done in summer. A recent survey revealed that 42 percent of sophomores, juniors and seniors had career related experiences last fall and 19 percent assisted faculty with research or special assignments, proving mentors offer more than words of wisdom.

Teaching and learning at Rochester often takes place beyond classrooms, libraries, and lecture halls. Career and internship center counselors regularly host seminars on goal setting, internships, networking, and interviewing. Progeny of meliora must seek experiential learning options. Internships today are truly imperative!

-Smith Finds Joy In Helping Students

Senior lecturer in English Curt Smith says he considers his role as a director of the English Department internship program an important part of helping his students succeed.

“Internships are a chance to see your field ‘up close and personal,’” he says.

“Finding out whether this career is for you at such a precocious age is so valuable. It is equally valuable to find out whether a career is not for you.”

Along with his codirector Professor Russell Peck and their colleagues, Smith has helped build the program from two or three internships per semester in 1999 to eleven internships last fall.

Students in any department can apply for an internship in the English department. Smith and his colleagues maintain contacts at about 40 local organizations on and off campus, including WXXI, the Democrat and Chronicle and the Rochester Broadway Theater League.

It is up to the student to make contact with the organization they are interested in, apply and interview.

Smith advises his students to meet with counselors at the Gwen M. Greene Career and Internship Center for help focusing their goals, preparing applications and résumés and to conduct practice interviews.

“I know how vital the career center is to student success,” he says.

Once they have obtained their internships, students work ten to twelve unpaid hours per week. They must submit a portfolio of their work and an essay reflecting on their experience at the end of the semester to receive academic credit.

Smith says there is no substitute for working in the field. “Yes, GPA matters but, all things being equal, what may set you apart is the fact that you have been there.

“You have done work in the field. An internship can get you that first job.”

Before coming to the University of Rochester Smith worked as a reporter and spent four years as a speechwriter for George H. W. Bush.

“I always loved politics but I knew I didn’t want to make it my life. I wanted it to be chapter in my life,” he says.

Smith has authored thirteen books, including one about Fenway Park coming out in May, and hosts a weekly radio show for WXXI.

He says he always felt drawn to teaching, and joined the English department at the University of Rochester in 1999. “This has been one of the great joys of my life,” he says.

-Smith Finds Joy In Helping Students

Senior lecturer in English Curt Smith says he considers his role as a director of the English Department internship program an important part of helping his students succeed.

“Internships are a chance to see your field ‘up close and personal,’” he says.

“Finding out whether this career is for you at such a precocious age is so valuable. It is equally valuable to find out whether a career is not for you.”

Along with his codirector Professor Russell Peck and their colleagues, Smith has helped build the program from two or three internships per semester in 1999 to eleven internships last fall.

Students in any department can apply for an internship in the English department. Smith and his colleagues maintain contacts at about 40 local organizations on and off campus, including WXXI, the Democrat and Chronicle and the Rochester Broadway Theater League.

It is up to the student to make contact with the organization they are interested in, apply and interview.

Smith advises his students to meet with counselors at the Gwen M. Greene Career and Internship Center for help focusing their goals, preparing applications and résumés and to conduct practice interviews.

“I know how vital the career center is to student success,” he says.

Once they have obtained their internships, students work ten to twelve unpaid hours per week. They must submit a portfolio of their work and an essay reflecting on their experience at the end of the semester to receive academic credit.

Smith says there is no substitute for working in the field. “Yes, GPA matters but, all things being equal, what may set you apart is the fact that you have been there.

“You have done work in the field. An internship can get you that first job.”

Before coming to the University of Rochester Smith worked as a reporter and spent four years as a speechwriter for George H. W. Bush.

“I always loved politics but I knew I didn’t want to make it my life. I wanted it to be chapter in my life,” he says.

Smith has authored thirteen books, including one about Fenway Park coming out in May, and hosts a weekly radio show for WXXI.

He says he always felt drawn to teaching, and joined the English department at the University of Rochester in 1999. “This has been one of the great joys of my life,” he says.

-South Adelphi Road

The Clarion
GWEN M. GREENE CAREER & INTERNSHIP CENTER
SPRING 2012 EDITION | WWW.ROCHESTER.EDU/CAREERCENTER/

Did you know...
Help For Interviews

As students schedule interviews for summer jobs and internships you may be asked “What should I wear?” or “What will they ask me?”

Career and Internship Center Associate Director Kellie Hernandez recommends students with upcoming interviews schedule a “mock interview” at the career center.

“One thing I do is help students prepare answers to questions that they hope the interviewer doesn’t ask,” she says. “Better to work with me on an answer than struggle during the interview.”

Hernandez says she encourages students to fully research the position and employer or graduate program including connecting with alumni who are in the field, and using the many resources available in the career center:

One-on-One Interview Prep
Appointments available by calling 275-2366.

“Interviewing Basics” Seminar
Students learn how to use a pre-interview worksheet to prepare for the interview and their resume and cover letter as focal points during the interview. Seminar schedules are available online.

UR Guide to Interviewing
Available at our website, www.rochester.edu/careercenter/students/interviewing/ in .pdf form.

Career Center Resource Library
Books, catalogs, “guide to interviews” handouts and online resources are available during regular career center hours, 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

--Hernandez, with the career center for 25 years, specializes in law, government, policy and international relations.--

Nate Mulberg: Focused on Sports Broadcasting

Sophomore English major Nate Mulberg is building a résumé focused on sports broadcasting experience he hopes will eventually lead to a position as the host of his own sports radio talk show. Mulberg is the sports director and a talk show host for WRUR, and a sportswriter for the Campus Times. This fall he interned for a local sports radio show, and he has secured another related internship for this summer.

“Doing an internship gives you a taste of whether this is really something you want to do,” he says.

Working with Rochester radio host John DiTullio on 1280 WHTK this fall, Mulberg arranged weekly guests and managed the Twitter page during the show.

“I’d interact with fans” he said. Mulberg would get the opportunity for on-air experience when DiTullio would turn to him and ask “What’s going on on Twitter Nate?”

He gained less tangible work experience when the station experienced a round of layoffs. Seeing first-hand the effect on the work environment and on his coworkers “was a valuable lesson,” he said.

Mulberg advises his peers to start looking for internships early, “There are so many opportunities, you just have to put in the work to find them.”

He says he used a network of professors and coaches including English Professor Curt Smith, Head Baseball coach Joe Reina, and Head Golf Coach Dan Wesley to connect with DiTullio.

Once he’d made contact, he sent a résumé and then shadowed DiTullio for a day before being offered the internship. Mulberg credits his Gwen M. Greene Career and Internship Center Counselor Dale Leyburn with helping him focus his goals and write his résumé.

Mulberg says he is looking forward to interning at Comcast SportsNet Philadelphia this summer, where he will interview professional players in the area and write articles for the website.

“It’s fun,” he says of the field. “It might not be the most lucrative, but you can make a living doing what you love.”

Career-Related Activities of Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors, Fall 2011

- Paid internship off-campus, not for credit
- Unpaid internship off-campus, not for credit
- Rochester-based internship for credit
- Non-local internship for credit (such as Art New York or Washington Semester program)
- Assisted a faculty member or graduate student in research or in lab work
- Short term project or special assignment for a professional in field of interest
- Short term project or special assignment for professor or graduate student
- Shadowed or observed a professional in field of interest
- Did not complete any career-related experiences listed on questionnaire