

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

SWANSON SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT JOHNSTOWN

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

FALL 2008

Co-op Student of the Year, Co-op Employer of the Year

It is time once again to think of nominations for both Co-op Student of the Year and Co-op Employer of the Year for 2008. We appreciate any and all nominations.

The criteria for Co-op Student of the Year are:

1. Excellent academic record
2. Outstanding work contributions with co-op employer (students must have three rotations completed)
3. Volunteerism or contributions to co-op or University community

Ideally, we would like to have one nominee from each department.

The University of Pittsburgh can select one candidate to represent us in the National Co-op Student of the Year competition, which is sponsored by the Cooperative Education

Division of the American Society for Engineering Education. The winner will be sent to Orlando, Fla., in February 2009 to receive recognition at our annual conference along with a plaque and check for \$500. We have won this award twice and have had many outstanding finalists.

The criteria for Co-op Employer of the Year are:

1. Sustained commitment to cooperative education at the University of Pittsburgh
2. Quality of projects and assignments

The Co-op Employer of the Year and all Pitt Co-op Student of the Year nominees will be honored at our annual dinner scheduled for Friday, December 5, 2008, at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association.

We look forward to accepting your nominations. Nominations must be received by Monday, October 20, 2008.

Interview Skills Presentation by Tony Mobley

We are pleased to announce that Tony Mobley (from ANSYS, Inc.) will be presenting his interviewing skills workshop again this fall. Mobley always has many valuable interviewing suggestions for students who are interested in obtaining co-op positions through our office. Also, Mobley gives our students a company prospective regarding the merits of co-op. Students who wish to attend may contact Maureen Barcic at paub2m@pitt.edu for the event, which is being held Monday, September 29, 2008, from 5 to 7 p.m. in 1175 Benedum Hall.

Cooperative Education Fall Job Fair

The Cooperative Education Program of the University of Pittsburgh Swanson School of Engineering, the Department of Computer Science, and School of Arts and Sciences is pleased to announce our 13th annual fall co-op job fair on Tuesday, September 30 in the William Pitt Union.

8:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Job Fair Open House

Students and employers meet informally. Employers will answer questions and review résumés. Employers may set up interviews for the afternoon or contact students later in the term. Employers will be considering students for spring and/or summer 2009 co-op positions.

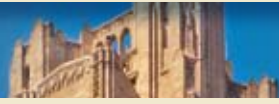
1–5 p.m. Optional Interviews

Employers may conduct one-on-one interviews, which they have scheduled throughout the morning.

We are welcoming approximately 70 employers to our fair this year. You can view our companies at our Web site: www.engr.pitt.edu/coop.



Eddie Halusic (middle) completed his third work rotation in summer 2008 with BMW Manufacturing Co., located in Spartanburg, S.C. He began work at BMW in January 2007 and worked mainly in the quality management area located in the analysis center of BMW. He was honored at a ceremony of appreciation to co-op students who had completed the co-op program and received a gift and certificate of completion. Halusic described his co-op experience with BMW as “a fun introduction to the real world.” A BMW spokesperson said, “We appreciate his contribution to our company and wonderful positive attitude that he displayed.” Halusic is in the mechanical engineering department at the Swanson School of Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh.



Roman Tkachev Accepts Position with ACUTRONIC USA



Roman Tkachev (BS '08) signed with ACUTRONIC USA Inc. for full-time permanent employment after completing his third rotation as a co-op student.

Three years ago ACUTRONIC got involved with the University of Pittsburgh co-op

program and has found it to be a great resource for engineering talent. In the summer of 2006, Tkachev started his first rotation, and now after graduating in April 2008, he will start at ACUTRONIC as a software/systems engineer.

ACUTRONIC designs and manufactures high-precision servo controlled electro-mechanical motion platforms for testing inertial guidance packages for the aviation, space, and maritime industries.

Tkachev earned the acceptance of the ACUTRONIC engineering staff by demonstrating his ability to work independently and responsibly on task assignments.

During his assignments, he worked on interesting projects such as maintenance of the Windows XP embedded operating system, the development of manufacturing/test utilities, and support of hardware maintenance of the ACUTROL®3000 digital motion controller.

Tkachev said, "ACUTRONIC is a great place to work. While there I was able to acquire a great deal of experience in the field of computer and software engineering, along with very important experience of working in the industry, something that no one can teach or learn in school. I also grew personally, in developing relationships within the company which will last for many years to come."

The University of Pittsburgh co-op program has provided an excellent opportunity for Tkachev and ACUTRONIC to establish a solid long-term relationship. ACUTRONIC is very committed to this program and continues to involve other students in interesting projects that offer opportunities for growth and mutual evaluation.

“The tasks which I have been assigned to have corresponded to my knowledge of the system with which I was working. Initially, I was given easier tasks that helped me gain a better understanding of what was going on. As time has progressed and I have become more comfortable and familiar with the system, I have been given more challenging tasks and have always received help if there is a problem that I can't solve on my own.”

—Nathaniel Buck
Computer Science Co-op Participant
Vocollect, Inc., Penn Hills, Pa.

Accenture

Accenture Co-op Consulting Position

Students looking to gain meaningful work experience before graduation can do so at Accenture. Through a unique partnership with the University of Pittsburgh, Accenture is offering a paid co-op consulting program for students to build consulting skills serving our products-based clients.

Previously launched by H.B. Maynard and Co., Inc., a privately held consulting, software, and training firm Accenture acquired in 2007, this cooperative education and internship program has helped more than 100 graduates jump-start their careers. Many of them go on to receive a formal offer from Accenture after demonstrating their ability to excel in the program. Accenture, a global leader in management consulting, technology services, and outsourcing, is proud to continue this program at Pitt as a way to find the best new talent.

Become Part of the Accenture Team

You will begin your co-op experience by participating in training that will teach you the tools and techniques to prepare you for consulting work. Once trained, you'll participate in actual client projects along with a full-time Accenture consulting team. Co-ops typically alternate terms between working and attending school, so over the course of your rotation you may have a chance to work on multiple client projects, providing more exposure than other fields. You also will be matched with an Accenture mentor who will provide you with a thorough introduction to the company, direct you to the resources you will need to be an effective consultant, and teach you about Accenture's core and company values. You will receive performance feedback from your mentor, who will observe your performance and provide you with guidance and advice that will help you grow into the confident, successful consultant that both you and Accenture are looking for.

Products Consultants at Accenture

Every day, products consultants are learning new, practical business skills and are helping clients achieve innovative ways to take their businesses where they want to go. It is with these skills and the constant desire to provide the client with positive results that not only are products consultants some of the best consultants at Accenture, but some of the best consultants in the world.

The Real World: Moon Township

Although it's not exactly like the MTV reality show, the electrical engineering co-op program at Eaton Electrical Inc. headquarters in Moon, Pa., does provide real-life work experience for second-year engineering students. Eaton's human resources department has relationships with many of the regional engineering schools, especially the University of Pittsburgh, and annually recruits anywhere from 10 to 18 engineering students to work in its co-op program.

According to Shane Jakubovic, recruiter for Eaton, sophomore-level engineering students in mechanical, industrial, computer, and electrical with grade point averages (GPAs) of 3.0 or better are eligible to apply to the co-op program. The co-op provides the student with three, semester-long, paid rotations. Co-op rotations are interspersed with terms where the students return to the campus and classroom study.

Carly Tobin, an electrical engineering student who has just completed her first rotation at Eaton, said, "My time at Eaton really impressed upon me how important a solid foundation in mathematics is to be successful and efficient in my field. I'm very motivated to build and strengthen those skills when I return to school."

U. S. Steel: Where Co-ops Can Make a Difference

For the past several years, United States Steel has been recruiting students from the University of Pittsburgh Swanson School of Engineering to participate in our cooperative experience program. This year is no exception. During the 2008–09 school year, we will be looking to hire more than 300 co-ops and interns nationwide, and the majority of the positions will be in engineering disciplines.

These co-ops and interns will join a high-tech, sophisticated company, one that has undergone a major transformation in recent years. Since the turn of the century, we have acquired both domestic and international operations, invested in state-of-the-art process and product technologies, and emerged as a strong, technologically driven corporation.

U. S. Steel is positioned as a highly competitive leader in a revitalized industry, and we're looking for the next generation of engineers to help us lead the way as we seek to continue our tradition of excellence. Incoming engineers will enter a corporation that maintains a worldwide presence while never losing sight of the employees who create and produce cutting-edge,

Tobin continued, "What I appreciated the most was the depth and clarity that my mentor could explain the technical concepts and answer my questions about the products we were working on."

The co-op program has been in existence as part of Eaton's talent acquisition strategy for 15 years. Students are encouraged to participate in all three rotation opportunities and maintain their 3.0 GPAs with bonuses paid when they return to Eaton.

Eaton Engineering Manager Bill Murphy interviews candidates for the co-op positions. "It's a great opportunity for the students," he said. "It puts them way ahead of their peers who may spend their summers working in unrelated fields. Plus, Eaton looks to this pool of candidates when we hire for entry-level engineers. We know their skills and work style, and they know our products. We've found that the entry-level engineers we hire from the co-op program are ready to contribute the first day on the job."

Co-ops are a growing trend in higher education with students anxious to enter the workforce and get a feel for the "real world" and what to expect, day to day, in the career they've chosen.

value-added steels that make life safer, better, and easier for consumers around the world.

At U. S. Steel, we have always considered our people to be our greatest strength, and we invest in their development. We provide our co-ops with in-depth training and relevant work experiences to further their education and prepare them for satisfying full-time employment.

"Participating in our co-op program is a great way for students to apply their academic experience in real-life work environments and to establish professional relationships," said Jinnyn Tata, manager of college recruiting for U. S. Steel. We also offer competitive salaries, the opportunity for permanent employment with U. S. Steel, a signing incentive if you decide to begin your career with U. S. Steel, and other important benefits.

For more information on how you can make a difference from day one at U. S. Steel, contact the University of Pittsburgh Swanson School of Engineering co-op office.

Crane Co. to Participate in Pitt Co-op Program

“I am resolved to conduct my business in the strictest honesty and fairness, to avoid all deception and trickery, to deal fairly with both customers and competitors, to be liberal and just toward employees, and to put my whole mind upon the business.”

—Richard Teller Crane, July 4, 1855

- » A culture of high integrity
- » Revenue doubled since 2002 to almost \$3 billion
- » Acquisitions and organic growth
- » World-class business system
- » International opportunities

Does this sound like a company you want to be a part of?

Crane Co. is a diversified manufacturer of highly engineered industrial products. Founded in 1855, Crane provides products and solutions to customers in the aerospace, electronics, hydrocarbon processing, petrochemical, chemical, power generation, automated merchandising, transportation, and other markets. The company has five business segments: aerospace and electronics, engineered materials, merchandising systems, fluid handling, and controls. Crane has approximately 12,000 employees in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

Crane Co. is committed to the principle of lean manufacturing embedded in our world-class operational excellence program. Our commitment is to provide a challenging and educational experience with the objective of identifying full-time Crane Co. employees after graduation.

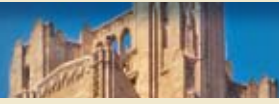


ABB Honors Steve Biedrzycki

On August 8, 2008, Steve Biedrzycki thought his ABB colleagues were just taking him out to lunch to say good-bye at the end of his co-op rotation. He was surprised when the group presented him with a Quality Salute award and a check for \$500 for his outstanding contributions during his three rotations at the Natrona Heights facility. This is the first time a cooperative education student has been nominated and won this prestigious award.

Biedrzycki was a team member with the Global PRU Group of ABB for all three rotations. During that time, he had the opportunity to be involved and contribute firsthand to many projects having a global impact.

As an employer, we can say that one of Biedrzycki's greatest contributions was utilizing his classroom experience at Pitt to help solve challenges in the research and development group. He brought a fresh perspective, unique ideas, and a strong work ethic to his cooperative education experience with ABB.

“This experience so far has been extremely rewarding, and I now have a better idea of what is expected of engineers in the real world. The assignments have been challenging yet possible. I have learned a lot thus far.”

—Bryan Gielarowski
Computer Engineering Co-op Engineer
GE Fanuc, Charlottesville, Va.

Upcoming Event

Our annual Co-op Certificate Reception and Dinner will be held on Friday, December 5 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. This year's reception will be held at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association in Oakland. We will be sending invitations to all graduating students who have completed the co-op program, company representatives, and faculty and staff members who have been instrumental in making the co-op program a success. We also welcome parents and family members to attend.

This annual reception is our way of honoring our co-op students and saying “thank you” to everyone who has given support to our students.

Dean Gerald Holder will present each co-op student with a certificate and also will present an award to our Co-op Employer of the Year.

“NOVA is a great place to co-op, and the people here have a good attitude toward co-ops. I would recommend the employer to any chemical engineers looking to co-op, whether or not they have any intention of working in the plastics industry in the future. I'm always kept busy doing applicable work but never feel too overwhelmed or like I have to meet unrealistic expectations.”

—Megan E. Boerio
Chemical Co-op Engineer
NOVA Chemicals, Beaver Valley, Pa.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

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