

UPIC NEWSLETTER

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IN THIS ISSUE

- Mentor Spotlight, Hope Parnell
- UPIC Reminders
- INT Course Information
- Intern Spotlight, Joseph James
- Important Dates

UPIC REMINDERS

Midterm Hours

All interns, remember to be mindful of meeting the hourly requirements:

- Full-time: 320 hours
- Part-time: 16 hours

UPIC Postings for Summer 2016 and Fall 2016 are now available on Clemson Joblink.

Mentors are reminded to make Summer hires by May 12th.

Mentor spotlight: Hope Parnell

Director of Undergraduate Student Engagement for the Spiro Institute

Hope Parnell currently serves as a Lecturer in the Department of Management and as Director of Undergraduate Student Engagement for the Spiro Institute. The Spiro Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership collaborates with entrepreneurial groups within the university and in the region to promote economic development through innovation and entrepreneurial activity. Hope has been a UPIC mentor for three semesters now, and mentors six different interns under the Regional Entrepreneurial Development Center internship. She chose to become a mentor after participating in a similar program as an undergraduate student intern with SC Bio in Greenwood. Hope felt her opportunity as an intern was one that was not only eye-opening and hands on, but helped her gain exposure and insights into all sorts of markets, industries and technologies. "I truly believe my experience in that internship was one of the things that set me apart as I interviewed {and got the job} at a startup pharmaceutical company," explained Hope. Hope saw the UPIC program as a way to allow her students to gain similar experience and skills as she did. "It has been truly rewarding to watch students gain so much through interactions with center directors and entrepreneurs all across our state." This semester alone, her team has worked on various projects and products in a variety of markets, including automo-

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tive, healthcare, apps, all natural pest control, food and beverage, lithium ion nanopowder and paint covers. Additionally, her team serves centers in Bluffton, Rock Hill, Hartsville, Conway and Pickens. Hope's interns have been diligently working on patent and lit reviews, as well as marketing research and various types of analyses. As a mentor, Hope believes in being part of the team. Hope ensures that she meets with her interns and joins them in

virtual meetings with directors and entrepreneurs. She also encourages her interns to serve as project leads. "I believe this level of responsibility and accountability is good for our students and will serve them

well as they begin their professional endeavors post Clemson," states Hope. Hope also explains that the process of mentoring is extremely important and suggests we should all seek to "pay it forward." When asked what encompasses a good mentor, Hope replies with, "In my mind, a good mentor is someone who not only teaches or explains, but it's someone who also inspires. Serving as a mentor to our REDC interns is a privilege and also a lot of fun. As mentors, I feel that we should provide guidance to students and help them fill knowledge gaps, while also helping them overcome challenges and grow individually and as a team."



Hope Parnell is working with her interns, Shannon Swikart and Mackenzie Cassady on a project for a company in the automobile industry based out of the Conway Innovation Center.

INT COURSE INFORMATION

A reminder to all interns...

All first and second rotation interns must complete a site visit and all third rotation interns must complete a mock interview and fourth/fifth rotation interns must schedule and complete a LinkedIn profile review with their site coordinator by **April 29**. Please use the UPIC Mock Interview form on Blackboard to schedule your appointment

If you have any questions regarding the course, email the course coordinator, Dr. Caren Kelly-Hall, at caren@clemson.edu

Intern spotlight: Joseph James

3D visualization intern

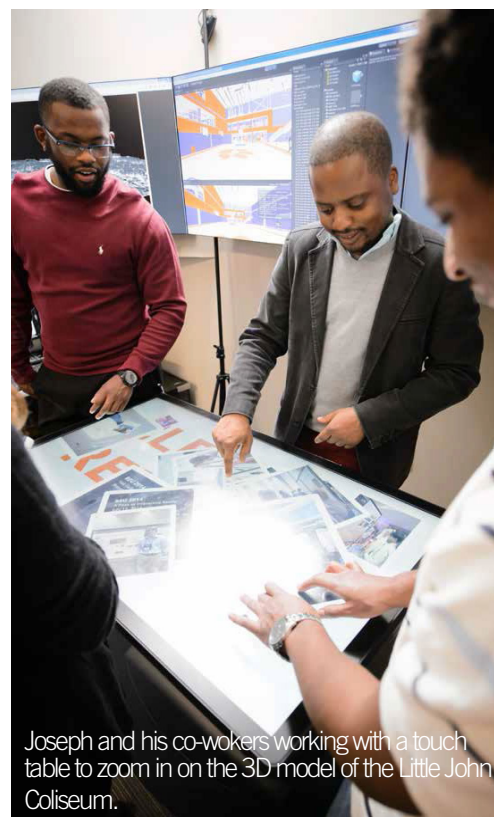
Joseph is a junior Mechanical Engineering major from Columbia, South Carolina. When he is not diligently working as a 3D Visualization Intern for CCIT, you can either find him studying, working out, mentoring or cooking. Joseph first began his UPIC career as an intern for the Faculty Senate. While he thoroughly enjoyed his time working there, he wanted something more applicable to his major. He accepted the 3D Visualization internship not knowing fully what the job entailed. “Ever since I was introduced to virtual reality I have become obsessed with it. I’ve been trying to incorporate it into some of my passions for life which are sports and automobiles,” explains Joseph. As an intern, his responsibility is to complete assigned projects in the visualization lab, research and develop new ideas to add to the virtual world, as well as assist any coworkers with their projects.

Joseph describes the best part of his internship as “showcasing my work by presenting at conferences or just places around campus.” He also enjoys meeting new people that have the same passion as he does. “Gaining experience in the field of visualization is also an enjoyment for me because I am becoming a more diverse person,” states Joseph. Joseph has worked on several projects since the beginning of his internship. His first project was creating a virtual

immersed model of the Strom Thurmond building with the use of Unity 3D and Oculus Rift. “Unity 3D is software that allows you to be immersed into that 3D virtual environment,” explains Joseph. “With the use of Oculus Rift goggles and Unity 3, you have the ability to feel like you are actually there walking throughout Strom Thurmond and seeing all it has to offer.” His next project that he is currently working on is a virtual driving simulator. With help from the Oculus Rift goggles, this simulator allows a person to immerse themselves into the front seat of any type of vehicle and use their own hands as virtual hands to control the vehicle. Joseph’s UPIC internship has given him the experience to become proficient with Unity 3D, Oculus Rift, and more virtual reality

software. Additionally, it has allowed him to meet numerous people and gain valuable professional relationships. “Now when I need a letter of recommendation it’s only a quick phone call or email away,” says Joseph. The advice Joseph would like to give to other current and perspective interns is, “Getting paid and gaining experience while being able to continue pursuing my degree is amazing and that is what UPIC offers you as a student at Clemson University. With other

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Joseph and his co-workers working with a touch table to zoom in on the 3D model of the Little John Coliseum.

internships/coops you have to wait for the summer or take off a semester to go work for the company and become behind in your academics. Since I have had this internship so many opportunities have opened up for me. When it comes to you thinking your GPA isn’t high enough to get an internship, I would say just apply because you never know what will happen unless you apply. Remember it’s not always what you know but it’s about who you know as well.”

4/16

next pay day

4/29

last day to log hours

5/12

deadline to hire summer interns

CLEMSON
INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS