

Career ConneXions

Students and Alumni Make Great ConneXions in Summer Internships

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...Beyond the Classroom

During the summer, Career ConneXions canvassed internship sponsors and participating students for comments about their experiences. Their responses showed that it was rewarding for both groups.

Dawson Adams '19 was a marketing intern this summer with LOTH Inc., a furniture, design and workspace full-service solutions company. Said LOTH's Kelly Schoembs: "Dawson exceeded expectations in all regards this summer. He demonstrated drive, initiative, flexibility and an interest in learning new skills. . . . Many people asked for Dawson to help collaborate or contribute to projects . . . because he offered value in such a broad way."

"Everyone here I spoke with had nothing but positive things to say about you and the effort you put forth," wrote to Anthony DeCarlo Jr., COO of TWC Concrete Services about intern Alex Wentzel '20.

Mike Prus '91, vice president of Prus Construction, sponsored several interns again this summer. The St. X students, he said, "have been involved in a variety of tasks. They are doing some good work. . . . Michael Sidenstick '19 has been doing a lot of data analysis, which should serve him well in the future. Overall, I am getting good feedback about the boys."

Added Michael Sidenstick: "My internship has been going great! I work alongside (students) Tommy Walters '20 and Andrew Gebhardt '20. We've been very productive and completed a lot of projects already. One task I've been working on is the creation of an Excel spreadsheet that can take in data from Prus's GPS systems and tell when an entry for a certain piece of equipment is running into problems. . . . The company Prus purchases GPS equipment from has already started to use my data to diagnose problems." "This was a great experience for me," said Matt Meyer, Director of Field

Service and Employee Owner for Melink Corporation. Meyer was the sponsor for Jack Dauenhauer '20 during his summer internship. Career ConneXions is "a really great program and you are developing more and more partners every year. . . . I am looking forward to being a part of it again next year."

The success of Career ConneXions has caught the eye of the school's Board of Directors. From Mike Ehrensberger '61, a member of the Board of Trustees, to the Board's new president, Gary Gruber '73.

"I believe that the Career ConneXions initiative is one of the more important and innovative programs that St. X now offers," Ehrensberger said. "It has evolved into a program that impacts the St. community in a number of ways.

My observations:

- It provides early experiential exposure for our students to the business world.
- It is an important differentiator for the recruitment of students and especially their parents.
- It offers an alternative way for the St. X alumni to give back and reunite with St. X.
- It exposes the St. X magic (students and mission) to key business leaders.
- The program's existence is significant to the Advancement Committee and Mission Promotion Committee."

Nearly 30 students landed internships this year. Many more are needed for next year. If you, your company or someone you know sponsor an internship, or for more information, visit stxavier.edu/academics/careerconnexions.

▼ Brad Hoeweler '87 of Pay Theory with interns Justin Finkelstein '20 and Vincent Thiemann '20.

▼ Max Starr '20 had a hands on internship working with Andy Beardslee '96 at Premier Physical Therapy.

▼ Kevin Sasson '93, Executive Director of the non-profit, SonLight Power and Career ConneXions intern Matthew Smeal '19.

