Summer 2019

Gage Chancey
Over the course of my internship at The Scarlett Group, I learned a lot about sales and marketing. I was able to learn the basics of marketing and sales by starting out doing “grunt work”, which consisted of cold calling, prospecting online, entering data into a Customer Relations Management portal, and going through the sales process training provided by the company. My supervisor also tasked me with reading the book “Spin Selling,” which introduced me to the steps of a sale. Throughout the internship, I spoke to nearly 150 companies about the services that The Scarlett Group provides, and I was even fortunate enough to close a deal of my own. This allowed me to participate and learn how to effectively close a deal swiftly. Overall, the internship was a fantastic opportunity and I learned a lot about the business world.

Edwards Guerra
This summer I was fortunate to work with Dr. Gomez and Dr. Watson from the UF Horticultural Sciences department. Over the course of the summer we toured multiple controlled environment production facilities in order to generate content for future courses in said department. The purpose was to create educational and informative “virtual field trip” videos that will improve student education. The internship was a great opportunity to improve my communication, video, photo, and editing skills. Also, by touring these facilities alongside experts, my knowledge of hydroponic and controlled environment production has improved and now allows me to better communicate agricultural knowledge. Working closely with both professors and the farms we were able to generate valuable content and this internship has prepared me for working in the agricultural communication field.

Genaveve Henson
This summer I got the opportunity to serve Farm Credit of Florida in Alachua as their communications/marketing intern. This internship gave me the chance to see how Farm Credit’s system functions in each department, learn about their branding, create promotional material and build connections that will last a lifetime. I gained numerous skills in Adobe programs, photography, and leadership. This program allowed me to go on farm tours where I learned about Florida’s many commodities from the farmers and ranchers themselves. We attended a handful of conventions/conferences where I was able to network and build relationships within the industry. Through this program, I was lucky enough to get to experience more than the marketing and communication side. I am confident that through this internship I grasped valuable skills that will be a great asset in the future.

Samantha McKee
This summer, I had the opportunity to intern with More 2 Life Ministries as a media intern alongside their Media Director. This internship gave me the opportunity to hone my videography and digital media skills by creating testimonial videos, church graphics, and social media posts. Throughout the internship, I felt encouraged in my craft and was able to see the communication process within ministry. I loved getting to collaborate with the different ministries at More 2 Life and see the work that goes into their church. I was very grateful for this opportunity and the skills and experience I got from this Internship to take with me into my future in communications.
William Ramer
This summer, I had an opportunity to internship with InsideTheGators. As I transition into the real world upon graduation, this experience was perfect for the profession I am entering. I have great knowledge of sports and its history; however, I lacked experience in the industry. I had the ability to interview coaches, players, and recruits, along with attending practices. It was surreal being on this side of the media, and I believe the internship with InsideTheGators has allowed me to gain enough experience and training to take on this profession.

John “Jack” Paul Saboor III
This summer I had the opportunity to be the operations intern at Second Chance Wildlife Sanctuary in Orlando, Florida. Second Chance is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to saving the lives of all types of animals in need. Tragedy struck earlier this year when a fire wiped out a large portion of the facility along with 49 animals. My internship was based on the recovery process of the sanctuary. I was given the tasks of documenting the entire rebuilding process and creating new social media platforms to show the public the progress throughout the summer. The internship offered me various ways to exercise my communication skills attained through the AEC program such as networking, giving sanctuary tours, writing a monthly newsletter, and filing wildlife permitting applications with the FWC. I also had the opportunity to be interviewed on behalf of the sanctuary on a school news station while accepting a donation. Overall, this internship was a very conducive experience that has allowed me to practice what I’ve learned so far in my degree path. I had a great summer and really appreciate the experience Second Chance was able to provide me.

Jesse Shackelford
The internship I had at AgAmerica Lending was such a valuable learning experience. Having little experience in this field, it was so useful to have exposure to several different aspects of communications. The three main areas I worked in was social media where I was able to assist in the professional accounts and analytics, corporate events where I helped maintain a schedule events we attended and the preparation and finally online and print marketing where I assisted with online bios and marketing papers.

Nic Yacoboni
This summer I had the wonderful opportunity to intern with Helena Agri-Enterprises in Dundee, Florida. The branch did an incredible job of teaching me everything I needed to know to be a tremendous asset to the branch. I pulled a lot of soil and tissue samples for Citrus, Blueberries, and Sod. Scouted for pests, diseases, deficiencies, funguses, and weeds. Went on sales calls and meetings. While even gaining valuable experience in the Warehouse performing daily and monthly inventory counts, receiving in new products, pulling orders for customers and drivers, working the forklift, and keeping things neat and organized around the branch. My education in Agricultural Education and Communication helped me be successful in a few different sectors of this internship. Some of my best work, was demonstrated in my trial work documentation called Pictures of the Week, where all the interns compete against each other across the country and are graded from first to last. My education also gave me an edge on sales calls and finding the best and most reliable information when I needed to learn something quickly. I am very thankful for being able to work with an organization like Helena which is one of the best at what they do, are in tune with some of the best and most up to date practices in the industry, and use the newest and best technology to stand out from
their competition. But more importantly I thank everyone in the AEC department who put me in a position to succeed in this internship.

Summer 2018
Savanna Ogburn
This summer I had the opportunity to intern for Orlando Utilities Commission in Orlando, Florida. This internship has provided me with invaluable skills and opportunities within the communications field. I learned a lot about the communication process in the public utility industry. My internship was in the Corporate Communications team, where I worked alongside the director of Corporate Communications and the senior communications specialist in writing stories for internal and external outlets. Our team collaborated among other teams in the Marketing, Communications and Community Relations department. I was lucky enough to learn about electric, water production and delivery by interviewing employees across the commission. This internship and the OUC Emerging Student Program allowed me to network with OUC’s management and community leaders in Orlando. The information and skills I learned in my internship have greatly prepared me for future opportunities in the communication field.

Nic Yacoboni
This summer I was fortunate to intern at Farm Credit of Florida, in the Alachua location. Not only did the other interns and I learn so much more about the Farm Credit Association, we were able to see agriculture from a completely different light that is not easily shown in the classroom. We were able to meet professionals within the agriculture industry, see different farms and operations, as well as see all the wonderful opportunities the agricultural industry has across the state. The Farm Credit Internship Program went hand in hand with the Agricultural Education and Communication degree that I am currently seeking. Not only was I able to show and complete projects with the education I received at the University of Florida, I also noticed that there is even more to learn. What this internship really brought to light for me is that as a student at the University of Florida, I am receiving an incredible education that opens so many doors. However, it is up to me what I learn and how I can make the most of the opportunities the University of Florida is able to put in place, because it is what we do here that ultimately determines what we do in the future.

Spring 2018
Taylor Brown
I started my internship with the FFA Foundation in January 2018. It was a great opportunity and I learned much about the work environment. I was able to strengthen my print and web-design skills, as well as my communication skills. I was able to learn how non-profits run and how they operate large fundraisers. I was able to travel and attend events around the state. I would recommend this internship to someone looking to figure out what they want to do after graduation. This opportunity gives you a chance to grow and sharpen skill sets taught in the AEC department.

Abby Marion
Though I have been working with it since last fall, this semester I received internship credit for my work with the Junior Sheep Association of Florida, or "JSAF," doing the communications
and marketing work for it on via web, print and on social media. The purpose of the JSAF is to increase awareness and involvement in Florida’s sheep industry through youth activities, educational opportunities and promotion of sheep producers both young and young at heart. The JSAF is a new organization, as it only began in the fall of 2017, and I had the opportunity to create the logo, website and branding before it was launched, and now I handle all of the public relations work. Currently, my duties include managing the website and social media, producing flyers, paperwork and graphics when needed, compiling show results and handling online correspondence. I also attend meetings and help with collective tasks such as getting new members and sponsorships. As I graduate this semester, I am excited for the future of the JSAF as a whole and my involvement with it, along with a career combining my skills in these areas and working with youth in agriculture.

Fall 2017
Paxton Evans
This semester I had the opportunity to work as an intern for the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Polk County Extension in Bartow, Florida. This internship has been an amazing opportunity to learn about extension education and how beneficial it is to everyone, from homeowners to farmers. I was an intern with the Natural Resources and Conservation program where I was responsible for science writing, creating fact sheets, designing graphics, and creating social media content. In addition to this, I was also able to learn how to plan and give presentations, which allowed me to strengthen my public speaking skills. Having the opportunity to participate in various meetings, presentations, and webinars allowed me to have a “hands-on” learning experience. I am so thankful for having had the opportunity to learn more about extension and its role in the agricultural industry.

Summer 2017
Connor Brock
This summer I had the opportunity to intern for Dow AgroSciences. Over the course of three months, I travelled throughout Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, conducting a market research survey that I created to gain a better understanding of nitrogen use on different farms. The data collected from the survey was then compiled and presented to the sales district in hopes of giving the members a better understanding of the nitrogen stabilizer market and where it stands in different areas. I was able to use skills learned through communication classes that enabled me to effectively communicate with the growers on a personal. I was not prepared for the amount of work that would go into conduct a market research study but it was an experience that I am thankful for and truly gained a lot.

Taeler Dupre
My summer internship was spent working for In the Field Magazine. Through this, I was able to do a variety of things. I networked with agriculturists while attending events to both write articles and sell ads. I was involved in a limited amount in the editing process of the ads that I sold. While writing articles, I was also asked to take photographs in several instances. I was also tasked with coming up with new ideas for stories to write about. This is an internship I would recommend for someone who enjoys writing and talking to people.
Caroline Key
This summer, I had the opportunity to work as a communication/marketing intern for Heritage Farms Produce in Belle Glade, Florida. Interning with this produce/sales company was worth every minute of the experience. I was given the opportunity to create many design pieces with my favorite and most challenging piece being the brochure design. I was also in charge of social media posts and creating a short promotional video. The coolest experience was getting to film the harvesting process out in the fields and the packaging process in the packing house. Aside design, they allowed me to learn and practice the software used in sales and shipping. Overall, the internship not only challenged me, but helped me grow in certain areas. The information and skills I learned throughout this internship will play a vital role in preparing me for future agricultural communication and marketing jobs.

William Wolfson
This summer I worked for the UF/IFAS Nature Coast Biological Station as their fishing intern. My job was to prepare self-guided kayak fishing trips that individuals could follow to have a safe, successful and enjoyable day on the water. After scouting multiple locations, I eventually settled on six different areas that would ultimately be the locations for my paddle guides. For each paddle guide, I created an 800-900-word narrative describing the different spots within the area, the best baits to use, what to look out for (warnings) and the best times of the tide to fish the particular area. After completing these narratives, I created custom maps marked with numbered locations and tracks to guide paddlers during their outing on the water. This internship provided me with many important lessons, while also providing me some very valuable insight into what it is like to make your passion your work. I greatly enjoyed this internship and am very thankful to the U.F. Nature Coast Biological Station for giving me the opportunity to complete this project.

Spring 2017
Emily Clark
This semester I had the opportunity to work as an intern for the Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services in Tallahassee Florida. This internship has been an amazing opportunity that has taught me so much about the political process and how it affects agricultural policies and businesses. My internship was in the Legislative Affairs Department, and I had the opportunity to work with the Legislative Director and the Deputy Director. I have learned through them about the legislative process and what it takes to move bills through the Legislative system. The internship was a great introduction to what a workplace environment would be like in this field. had the opportunity to participate in multiple projects and meetings during the internship. This internship has taught me so much about the political process and how it affects the agricultural industry. This internship has been an amazing opportunity full of future possibilities.

Caitlyn Vaughn
This spring semester I have been interning with the Florida Cattlewomen’s Association as one of their social media interns. The Florida Cattlewomen’s Association focuses on fostering the well-being of the Florida beef industry and promoting beef consumption, educating the public, promote legislative awareness, and educate Florida Cattlewomen membership. Throughout this semester my duties as a social media intern was to manage the Florida
Cattlewomen Facebook page and my main focus was on promoting healthy living through beef, I did this by posting healthy beef recipes, workout tips, and more. The Florida Cattlewomen were a sponsor at Florida’s Savage Race in March and part of my responsibilities were to show consumers how beef can provide them with their daily nutritional value needed to stay healthy, at the Savage Race I was able to talk with consumers about Florida’s beef industry and answer any questions they may have surrounding beef. I enjoyed getting to network with Florida’s farmers and ranchers this past semester and learn more about the beef industry. This internship has provided me with knowledge on social media and how important of a role it not only plays in the agriculture industry but in the beef industry.

**Summer 2016**

**Katie Cardenas**

This summer I’ve been working as an intern for the University of Florida’s IFAS Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program, helping to create what will be their beginning farmer and rancher program. I traveled around central Florida interviewing local farmers to get their opinion on what they think is critical for the program to include. I also researched several different beginning farmer programs around the nation, narrowing it down to the Top 10. I was then in charge of scheduling interviews with the top programs to get an idea of what challenges we might face as well as advice from their experience. The communication and teamwork skills I’ve learned from the AEC department equipped me for this opportunity. I felt confident not only relating to farmers, but also talking to business professionals.

**Kate Douberly**

My summer working for Schmieding Produce company in Springdale, Arkansas, was a great experience. I was able to create new material for their Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn accounts. I was able to travel to neighboring states to visit farmers and get their story. I also created original material through the footage taken on these farm visits for posts in the future. Being able to share the farmers story is the foundation of the company, and now they are able to do this through the social media platform. The company has about 50 employees, but they were warm and inviting and made living so far away from home not too bad. I would highly recommend this experience to anyone!

**Sarah Edison**

This summer I was the communications intern for CropLife America. CropLife America is the trade association for the crop protection industry, based in Washington, D.C. I worked on six projects during my time at CropLife America. The most extensive projects were coordinating the DC Ag Intern Network, designing an infographic and putting together a book detailing the importance of pesticides in each state in the United States. I also enjoyed taking advantage of opportunities to go to the hill for hearings and seminars about different agricultural topics. Overall, CropLife America provided me with a great learning environment and invaluable experiences.

**Kelsey Fry**

This summer I had the opportunity to intern with AgNet Media, Inc. The company spans across Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and California. I was fortunate enough to work at the main location in Gainesville, Florida. I assisted in tracking down news leads, determining newsworthy stories, conducting interviews, and posting final stories to the company's
websites. AgNet Media Inc. has three different websites that cater to three different agricultural categories (Citrus, Specialty Crops, and Agriculture News). I was in charge of updating the social media accounts daily, and engaging with the following audience. I also composed two of their weekly e-newsletters, Citrus Industry This Week and Citrus Expo e-news. This internship allowed me to be apart of the team, and not just have a "shadow internship". I loved that my input was asked on multiple business decisions, and that I was considered an employee during my time interning. This internship allowed me to improve my social communication skills through professional lenses, learn radio industry knowledge, and utilize business softwares. I was offered to remain on staff as a part-time employee after my internship ended, which I gladly accepted. It was an excellent internship and I am grateful for the experience.

**Meagan Morgan**

This internship with the National Watermelon Association helped me to improve my skills in research, organization, photo captions and creativity. I was not prepared for the amount of deep research I was going to have to complete, but now I feel confident that I can complete a task involving extensive research. I used my photo captioning skills we practiced in my digital design courses to caption all of the photos for the Throwback Thursday posts. I have also used my web design skills to create this website that acts as my internship portfolio as well as a portal of information for the NWA to work from. This was an experience that I am thankful for and truly gained a lot.

**Samantha Schulz**

For the 2016 summer I was assigned as the on-site Quality Assurance inspector for the Majestic Yosemite Hotel’s kitchen. My project included covering all components of the QA: food safety, food management and labor management. This included self-audits, developing Prima Web to create menus and production sheets, and using the Labor Scheduling tool to track labor hours. Yosemite National Park was going through a transition year, meaning its previous concessionaire had been outbid by the current company, Aramark. It was my job to introduce the Aramark standards into the kitchen, not to mention the fact that I got to live in a National Park for 12 weeks.

**Michael Suh**

This summer, I interned at IFAS Communications as the social media intern. I worked under Tiffani Stephenson, the social media manager, and represented the official UF IFAS Solutions accounts for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. I also worked with the IFAS Extension Bookstore and representatives from UF’s Conference Service Department. During my internship, I scheduled messages on a daily basis for both UF IFAS Solutions’ official Facebook and twitter accounts, met up with Tiffani every week so that we could go over statistics, data, and analytics for all our social media accounts, and communicated with other IFAS Extension representatives who wanted to start new business accounts for social media. Thanks to this internship that lasted for three months, I learned valuable work skills and workmanship attitudes that I can carry with me for the rest of my life as I pursue many career goals and opportunities.

**Gordon Yoder**

My internship was with the University of Florida Diabetes Institute. Over the 10-week duration of this internship, I had a variety of responsibilities. The bulk of my work included
managing the website. I did everything from writing and uploading posts, creating new pages, reorganizing existing pages, creating graphics for the website and more. The other pieces of my internship work included creating content and graphics for our social media sites, communicating with researchers, scheduling meetings and helping with our strategic communications plan. This was a great internship opportunity for me and it put my skills to the test. I have learned a lot and feel much more comfortable and prepared to enter the field of communications once I start my career.

Spring 2016
Felicity Mejeris
This past spring I had the opportunity to intern with the Florida Farm Bureau Federation as their Field to the Hill Coordinator. Field to the Hill is a trip for Florida Farm Bureau members to sit down with their representatives and discuss priority issues for Florida agriculture. This year’s trip had 80 attendees. I planned almost every aspect of the trip, from arranging legislative meetings to choosing catering. I was able to use a wide array of skills I have learned through the AEC department. Some of these skills included written and oral communication, graphic design, and event planning. The AEC event planning course probably prepared me the most for this internship. Not only was I able to carry out the tasks of the internship, but this internship allowed me opportunities to network with agriculture industry professionals and travel. Opportunities I would not have gotten elsewhere. Thank you, Florida Farm Bureau for preparing me for my next steps after graduation!
Megan Stein
I worked as the communications intern for the University of Florida Alumni Association. My role with the UFAA allowed me to help develop the newly-formed communications branch of alumni association. My responsibilities included drafting of content for alumni membership campaigns, writing magazine articles, editing UFAA materials, creating web pages and working with social media. My experience as a student was very useful as I was able to revolutionize the student alumni communications over my internship. In addition to this, I was able to help develop the overall tone of all alumni correspondence. I am proud to be a student at UF, and now I look forward to being a UF alumna!

Summer 2015
Shelby Brooks
I interned with the University of Florida’s Department of Agricultural Education and Communication as the Marketing and Communications Intern. This internship allowed me to play an integral role in departmental marketing and recruitment efforts. I worked alongside the Coordinator of Educational Media & Communications to develop departmental promotional materials (including print design materials and faculty/student spotlight videos) as well as participate in Social Media Marketing (SMM) for the department.
Miranda Craig
I interned at Rock Hills Ranch, in Lowry, South Dakota. I assisted Mrs. Perman in running the ranch’s Facebook and contributed to blog on the RHR website. I also created promotional materials such as flyers and brochures to promote various enterprises on the ranch. Outside of the office I helped Mr. Perman with the Angus cattle operation. My duties included
checking the herd each day, identifying and addressing health issues, calculating stocking rates for rotational grazing practices and repairing the ranch fence that secures the operation spanning more than 10,000 acres. Through this experience I networked my way to a second internship with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture in Pierre, South Dakota. I was responsible for drafting press releases, correspondence on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture and agriculturally relevant proclamations. I also aided in coordinating the Governor’s Ag Summit and created the 2015 SD Ag Bulletin, a 100-page publication containing NASS statistics regarding South Dakota agriculture. The opportunities I have been privileged to have this summer have taught me the value of being confident during new endeavors, efficient networking and interpersonal skills, and have given me a first hand look at how a state department of agriculture operates.

**Morgan Davis**

At the beginning of this year, I would have never guessed that I would have gotten the chance to intern at the Georgia Department of Agriculture this past summer. I submitted an online application and after going through a series of interviews I was chosen in March to serve as the Communications Intern. My position as the communications intern consisted of writing stories and designing educational materials for the Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin. I participated in web design meetings and composed the daily social media postings. I assisted with the marketing campaign for Georgia Grown by attending farmers markets where I passed out educational materials and collected demographic data through surveys. Through this learning experience and people I have met, I know I have opened doors that could lead to potential jobs in the future.

**Ashley McLeod**

I worked as an intern for the Center for Public Issues Education at the University of Florida where I completed a range of tasks but mainly worked with the PIE Center’s Communication Specialist. I have learned many skills during my time as a student in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication. Through this internship, I was able to put those skills to the test in a real world experience as I developed research summaries, wrote news releases, helped manage social media sites, and created graphics. I attribute my design, videography, and writing skills that I learned in the department to my success in this internship role. I also gained a lot of professional and leadership experiences that I feel can only be gained in a real workforce position. Furthermore, the PIE Center gave me the opportunity to gain additional skills that will prove to be helpful in my future career and made me even more excited to contribute to the betterment of the agricultural industry in the future.

**Shelby Oesterreicher**

This semester I interned with the Florida Farm Bureau Federation as their Field to the Hill coordinator. The internship lasted the entire semester and culminated in the Field to the Hill trip in Washington, D.C. As the intern/coordinator I was responsible for almost every aspect of the trip and required to use the skills I have learned in my classes as an Agricultural Education and Communication major. Event planning was a major aspect of this internship and because of the Event Planning class I took in AEC I was completely prepared for it. Interning with FFBF really pushed me out of my comfort zone and showed me what a real job
would entail. I was able to network with legislative staff as well as cultivate personal relationships with men and women from the agriculture industry.

April Walker
This summer, I had the privilege interning in Kissimmee assisting with the planning and preparation for the Florida Cattlemen’s Association Convention and Allied Trade Show. This experience gave me the opportunity to apply the event planning skills that I developed in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication in a professional setting. During my internship, I had the opportunity to utilize communication skills such as the working with communication technologies, oral communication and design. I was also able to use newly learned leadership skills such as professional development and problem-solving.

Spring 2015
Raychel Rabon
I completed an internship at the Florida Museum of Natural History as a videographer in the marketing and public relations department. This internship gave me the opportunity to use the videography skills that I developed in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication in professional experiences. During this internship I had the opportunity to put to use communication skills such as visual communication, application of communication technologies, oral communication and writing. I also had the opportunity to use leadership skills such as professional development and problem-solving.

Fall 2014
Ashley Cook
After a summer spent with the sea turtle conservancy (STC), I decided to continue my internship with them until the following fall semester. My experience with the STC has been a positive and enlightening one. I got a sense for all of the work that goes into communications for a non-profit organization. Projects ranging from web development, blog posts, social media updates, marketing, and event planning were among the many responsibilities I held during my time at STC. Learning about the dangers we implement towards sea turtles and how to properly educate the public on such issues was far beyond what I expected. I grew passionate for sea turtles and will definitely take what I've learned and put it towards finding a future career in conservation.

Kevin Herzog
During the Fall semester of 2014, I had the pleasure of working for MyTime Schools. Throughout my internship, I was involved in local, regional, and national sponsorships sales for schools in multiple states. I led a team of 10-15 sales intern trainees that were responsible for school fundraisers in multiple states as well as serving as a mentor to become a reliable sales interns. I managed all of thier accounts as well as oversaw all of thier communication documents between them and thier territories. I also maintained a sucessfull client/customer relationship for months at a time for over 50 different states. At the end of my internship, I was confident that I could communicate succesfully in the business world. I also gained significant managerial skills and the ability to step up and put the leadership skills I've learned throughout my AEC courses into action.

Jessie Roberts
Interning at Congressman Ted Yoho’s office was a great opportunity to grow as a communicator. On a daily basis interns get to experience new things and are put in situations that require strategic and quick thinking as a communicator. Essentially, interns are on the frontline of the district and speak with constituents throughout the district. Interns also have the opportunity to work on events and handle constituent casework. This internship promotes growth in all aspects of being a communicator.

**Summer 2014**

**Fallon Curren**
During the summer of 2014 I had the pleasure of interning at the Highlands County Extension Office. I collaborated with extension agents on planning events, I designed logos and banners for youth programs, and I helped enhance the awareness of the programs through social media. While interning at the Highlands County Extension Office I was able to sit-in on interviews of extension agent positions, and I was able to work with members from the Master Gardeners’ Program. This internship was the determining factor for my future aspirations, and was also a good learning experience that will benefit myself in future my endeavors.

**Jenna Garrett**
This summer I was able to work for Clifton Seed Company as a marketing representative. Clifton Seed Company sells fruit and vegetable seeds all over the United States. During my time with Clifton Seed Company, I did many things from training the sales representatives in different marketing areas, to helping design the organic catalog. I learned many new skills this summer that will help me in any future career choices I decide to take.

**Collin McDougall**
As an intern for UF/IFAS Polk County Extension Services I was able to work closely with professionals dedicated to improving the quality of citizens’ lives. I spent a lot of time helping my supervisor plan educational events and analyze program impacts. As a natural resources Extension intern, I was able to educate interested people about wildlife habitat while kayaking on lakes, and I was also given the opportunity to take part in planning a statewide Extension program. Throughout my internship with Extension, I learned a substantial amount information, and gained skills that I will benefit from for the rest of my life. My internship was an incredible opportunity, and I would definitely recommend it to all of my peers.

**Rachel Morgan**
This summer, as an intern with the UF Water Institute, I worked to compile a document in which I would characterize the importance of agriculture in the Suwannee River Valley. With much help from regulators, stakeholders and farmers, I was able to get the information I needed to complete this task. Upon completion I passed the document on to UF Water Institute director, Wendy Graham, so that she could use my research to better write a USDA grant proposal which will help to work on agricultural water security in the Suwannee River Valley.

**Andrew Phillips**
This summer I interned for Florida Algae LLC, which is a company that grows algae meant for human consumption. This type of algae is considered an up-and-coming superfood because it is high in protein and contains many essential amino acids. I also helped FIT biologists with
research they were doing on a different type of algae which was being considered as a new potential biofuel. My responsibilities included collecting data, producing learning materials, aiding in logistics of shipping and packing as well as doing the manual labor of the production process. I relied heavily on Excel for data entries and organization for processing and shipping. Since this is such a new field there was a lot of on the fly problem solving and communication with my boss to ensure everything was done correctly. It was a really great experience learning about this new form of aquaculture and I am proud to be a part of it. For more information on nutritional algae, visit Spirulinalce.com.

Olivia Shelfer
This summer I have had two internships, the first one was with Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association and the second one was with BBDO New York. At the first internship I worked mostly with the communications manager. I redesigned their website, created publications for them in Illustrator, and wrote articles. I really enjoyed working there and getting more experience in the citrus industry. Working for them made me more passionate about the citrus industry and made me want to further my career in it. At the second internship I worked in New York City at BBDO. I spent most of my time with the FedEx Advertising Team. They gave me a project to work on for the 2 weeks that I was there. They told me to research and present my findings on how FedEx can get more involved with mobile advertising. So I researched and put together a presentation on my findings. I found two apps that they could advertise with to reach a younger audience. Working with BBDO also made me realize my love for agriculture and how I want to stay in that field. I also learned a lot about how large companies do advertising and I plan to apply my knowledge in the ag industry.

Alexis Stinson
I interned this summer at Crop Production services for 10 weeks. I took samples of soil, tissue, phytophthora, and rootmass in groves and watermelon fields, then built portfolios for each grower, meeting with them and presenting the portfolios to them so that they fully understand the information included. Also, I made connections, listened to the company reps, how they speak with people etc. It taught me so much about how the real business world works. Having had the opportunity to work with CPS this summer was the best thing for me, since the animal side of agriculture was all that I had knowledge in; it made it interesting to get out of my comfort zone.

Sydney Stone
This summer I interned for The Market Place-Agricultural Marketing and Communications. As part of the team, my job description varied from day to day. I attended five different conventions and expos where I acted as a photographer, videographer, worked the expo booth, and sold convention DVDs. I also attended two client trainings where I learned more about communications and was able to help train the clients on social media. This summer I also took part in several special projects such as logo design, e-newsletters, interviews, and securing exhibitors for the Florida FFA Convention. I learned a lot from The Market Place about being a professional in the communications field and even more so about the agriculture industry.

Summer 2013
Daniel Benjamin
During the summer of 2013 I had the pleasure of working with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry in Gainesville Florida. They were in need of someone who had social media and communication knowledge to help them with cultivating and growing their social media websites. I wrote blog posts, shared stories on our webpage’s, and used communication skills to improve the interaction and viewership of our social media page. I also assisted in video production and editing of videos. I enjoyed the work I did for FDACS and most of all I enjoyed the people I worked with. In conclusion I would recommend anyone seeking and internship opportunity to inquire about a job at FDACS.

Tory Boyd
This summer I worked as a videographer for Discovery Cove shooting videos of dolphin interactions. I was trained in every position within the photography department and gained many valuable skills over the duration of the internship. My time at Discovery Cove not only prepared me for my future as a communications employee but also offered me a once in a lifetime experience I will never forget. I was able to enhance my video skills while making memories for families that live all around the world.

Juan Concha
During the ten-week period of the summer of 2013, I held an internship with the Farmworkers Association of Florida (FWAF), which is a 30-year-old grassroots organization based in Apopka. It also has local offices in Pierson, Fellsmere, Homestead and Immokalee. As part of my internship, I developed educational materials for farmworkers to raise awareness of health and safety issues along with farmworker rights. These materials were in compliance with OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) and WPS (Worker Protection Standard- of the Environmental protection Agency) standards related to agriculture and farmworkers. The materials and methodology I developed for this training are in Spanish—the predominant language of the farmworkers. The training program and all of its materials have been submitted to and approved by OSHA as well as used in pilot trainings to receive feedback from farmworkers and organizers. After training are completed, the material will be translated from Spanish to English and will be available for educational purposes at OSHA’s website.

Morgan McKenna
From May through August, I served as one of Syngenta’s eight citrus scout interns. I was located on the East coast of Florida, specifically in the Vero Beach area. Here I worked under a sales representative and with Syngenta’s citrus grower customers. The intern position is used as a service to the customers that purchases at least one of three chemicals in Syngenta’s portfolio of products. These products are Agri-Mek, Agri-Flex, and Ridomil Gold. The interns are used to ensure the grower the product is working. If they purchase Agri-Mek or Agri-Flex they get the service of checking for the three pests those chemicals kill: Asian Citrus Psyllid, Citrus Rustmite, and Leafminer. The intern scouts the groves before the product is applied and then two weeks after the product is applied to show the drop in levels of the pests. If the grower purchases Ridomil Gold the intern pulls soil samples in the groves it was applied. Ridomil Gold is used to treat phytophthora and the soil samples, after being processed, will hopefully show that the phytophthora levels are nonexistent or below threshold.
Connor Seth  
During Summer 2013, I had the opportunity to work with ValleyCrest Landscape Company. ValleyCrest is the largest integrated landscape company in the United States, and specializes in landscape architecture, landscape development, landscape maintenance, tree care services, golf course maintenance, and tree growing & moving. My internship experience was comprehensive, starting in the field with landscape maintenance, and ending in the office with management and sales. All in all, I spent time with landscape maintenance, irrigation, tree care, agronomy, landscape design, enhancements, estimating, sales, and management. Throughout this internship, I was able to communicate with clients and examine management’s leadership philosophies which helped reinforce what I learned in AEC courses. I spent over 400 hours interning for ValleyCrest, and would strongly recommend the experience to any interested student.

Fall 2012  
Bree Stark  
My last two semesters at the University of Florida I interned with Florida Organic Growers and Consumers, Inc. (FOG), based out of Gainesville. I gained a lot of technical skills in my time there – working with programs such as InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator for design, WordPress for the website, and various social media outlets. I gained valuable insight into workplace relations and crisis problem solving, and made some wonderful friends along the way. I felt truly welcomed and appreciated at FOG, in everything that I did. I even got the chance to represent FOG at the Environmental Youth Summit, a tabling event for local youth, and talked to over 120 people about the programs and benefits offered. It is definitely a place I would recommend for anyone interested in organic agriculture and community outreach!

Summer 2012  
Arielle Claude  
I had the opportunity to work at Folds & Walker, LLC, a law firm in Gainesville, Florida. The firm works mainly on civil litigation cases with a focus on family law, commercial litigation, and land use litigation. My internship experience allowed me the opportunity to gain valuable communication and leadership experiences that directly relate to what I have learned the past three years at the University of Florida and our department. I edited documents for client’s files, created pleading indexes from court documents and was the file clerk for one partner and four associate attorneys. I put into practice different communication and leadership practices that I have learned in the classroom with daily tasks in the office, such as answering the phones when needed, recording detailed messages and paying specific attention to detail. I have really enjoyed this opportunity to learn so much and be exposed to the field of law.

Garnet Flecker  
During Summer A, I was given an IFAS funded internship with Dr. Glenn Israel. During this six-week internship I assisted with the 2012 Extension customer satisfaction survey. I helped compile the contact data and surveys and administer them through email and mail. I also analyzed the returned survey data. Dr. Israel and I put together a poster of data that will be presented at the SAAS/SRSA conference in Orlando.
Connie Montalva  
This summer I had the opportunity to work with B. Sustainable Consulting, a company designed to provide businesses with simple cost effective sustainable solutions. During my internship, I was given the opportunity to participate in multiple go-green projects involving the community of Miami, such as the “Grand Central Park Project” and the “Sustainable Music Festival.” My work also entailed writing blog entries on eco-friendly topics for the company website, directing all social media such as Facebook and Twitter, sending out e-mails, attending meetings and writing clip reports. Once I arrived in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, I participated in many recycling programs introduced by Rio+20, which was great exposure for B. Sustainable Consulting. Overall, this internship sparked my interest in sustainability practices that will be valuable to my future career, and served as an excellent learning experience.

Jordan Sonaglia  
My summer 2012 internship was five weeks at the UF/IFAS Jackson County Extension office and five weeks at UF/IFAS Washington County Extension office. Jackson and Washington counties were in a need for developing their horticulture website on Wordpress. My main objective for this internship was to help develop a user-friendly horticulture website for both counties. While developing a user-friendly Wordpress website for the horticulture section I also did various items including; a press release on the newly developed website, presentation on Wordpress to the Jackson County Master Gardeners, Wordpress training for Jackson and Washington County extension staff and Master Gardeners, taking pictures for the website, helping other website pages on the extension website etc. I thoroughly enjoyed my internship this summer because I was given free range to explore my creativity and develop a website for the Jackson and Washington Extension Offices and their clientele.

Hilary Webb  
My time spent as a special projects intern for the Florida FFA Association has given me lifelong experiences that I will carry into my future endeavors. I’ve been employed for nearly three years at Florida FFA, and during this time I’ve gained both professional development as well as hands-on experience in working for a non-profit organization. While interning this summer, I helped to coordinate several programs for the annual convention in June, these included; scheduling and hosting dignitaries attending convention, compiling a media room guide, coordinating the official delegate program, creating the language for convention fact sheets, and managing arena seating at convention. I also completed daily work necessary to the operation of the office during the summer months. Additionally, I worked with National FFA programs to facilitate the National Leadership Conference for State Officers (NLCSO), where I traveled to several different states to deliver conference curriculum to state FFA officers. Working for Florida FFA during my undergraduate career has most certainly been one of the most beneficial experiences I have had while in college.

Spring 2012  
Chris Dugosh  
HobNobGainesville is a community driven website designed to foster communication between the community and its members. By focusing on everything local, HobNobGainesville gets backs to the grassroots of Gainesville. Through this experience I was
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able to successfully start up a company. Through the usage of social media, and various routes of promotion, I managed to bring over 10,000 unique visitors to the website. Through this process I gained a better understanding of how to successfully run and manage a company. Furthermore, this experience allowed me to create a great foundation that I will be able to continue to expand the business once I graduate. My duties included: uploading articles and events, sending out e-mails, managing a social media campaign as well as scheduling and meeting with various local businesses. HobNobGainesville is a great resource that will continuously grow and help the great Gainesville community.

Tim Hall
During the last semester of my senior year, I was presented with the opportunity to intern at the Florida Museum of Natural History. Specifically, I was the videographer for the Marketing and Public Relations department. The internship entailed shooting, editing and producing videos for every and all events, research and public engagement. My main task was to produce video for the Web to display all the exciting happenings at the museum.

Colleen Kennedy
I completed an internship at a nonprofit located in Gainesville, FL called Cinema Verde. Being an intern for a nonprofit was everything I had expected and much more. Unlike other internships where students are restricted to one or two jobs, I had the opportunity to be a part of and oversee most of the projects that happened within my time as an intern. Such duties included helping create a new and updated logo for the festival, contacting past sponsors and helping find new ones, networking and building relationships within the Gainesville community, to working closely and vigorously with the marketing team. I had a different job every week and even as an intern, I had so much responsibility entrusted to me. I became a confident person and had gained real world experience. I also realized that I had a burning passion for nonprofits, and it was evident. I was driven, self-motivated and was always asking how I could do more for the organization. All and all, I am so thankful that I had the opportunity to be a part of a nonprofit such as Cinema Verde. The experience and knowledge that I have gained from it all will really help further me in my next chapter in life after college.

Tiffani Luckey
During the Spring 2012 semester, I had the wonderful opportunity of working as Non-Profit Intern at the American Red Cross North Central Florida Chapter right here in Gainesville, Florida. During my time at the Red Cross I was able to apply what I have been learning in my classes and see what it is really like to be in a professional setting. From launching a program to designing the collateral materials for our special events I walk away from my internship with the gain of a very valuable experience. The lessons I learned while interning will stay with me throughout my entire career and I am so grateful as to having the opportunity.

Candy Munz
My internship with the Florida 4-H Foundation, Inc. has provided me with experiences that have not only allowed me to develop professionally, but have also aided in gaining employment following graduation. I have gained extensive knowledge of the day to day functions of raising funds for a non-profit organization. I have solicited donors, managed relationships with existing donors, learned to plan fund-raising events and how to evaluate success of these events. Additionally, I have gained experience in managing a board of
directors. Through this involvement, I have established professional connections that have in turn led to my future employment with an organizational management firm in Tallahassee after graduation. Participating in this internship has undoubtedly been one of the most beneficial experiences of my undergraduate career.

Karen Onsager
I interned for the Ted Yoho for Congress campaign for the 6th Congressional District of Florida. The internship was a positive and educational experience for me and I would like to participate in campaigns in the future with a concentration on social media.

Kacie Pounds
This spring I was given an amazing opportunity to work for Bayer CropScience as a citrus scout. Bayer CropScience is one of the world’s leading agrochemical companies. As a citrus scout I worked with a Bayer CropScience sales representative and his clients. I learned how to identify and scout for citrus rust mites, Asian Citrus Psyllids and nymphs, and citrus leafminer. I was honored to work with grove and production managers for companies such as the Latt Maxcy Corporation and Ben Hill Griffin, Inc. I collected data from thousands of acres each week to keep growers informed about what is in their groves. I was also invited to educational workshops throughout the internship to represent Bayer CropScience. This internship allows interns to learn about the production agriculture industry, specifically citrus, while encouraging personal and professional growth.

Ashley Smith
My senior internship was with the University of Florida’s Department of Pediatrics ON PAR magazine as the assistant editor. I was responsible for the March 2012 issue and for two articles in April that will be submitted to ON PAR’s website. My duties during my internship included – but were not limited to – interviewing doctors, volunteers, directors and other professionals in the Gainesville community; creating and finding ads; editing and formatting; writing articles; conducting meetings; working with nonprofit organizations; public relations work; and creating a Facebook page. During my 14-week internship, I interned for over 200 hours. I worked in and out of the office. I gained so much from this internship experience and would highly recommend it to upcoming seniors looking for an internship.

Summer 2011
Coco Altman
Interning at PAPER Magazine was everything that you would expect from a large fashion, music, art, lifestyle publication based in New York City and then some. Besides the magazine and website, PAPER also has their marketing and events division called Extra! Extra! and I was lucky enough to work a great deal in that department throughout the extent of my internship. Extra! Extra! was just named one of the top up and coming event and production firms by Biz Bash. Over the course of four months at PAPER I worked with some of the most creative, prominent figures in the fashion, event and publication worlds. I did everything from assisting stylists on high-client photo shoots for upcoming issues, helping organize surprise birthday parties for fashion-gods like Alber Elbaz, of Lanvin, orchestrating a Beyoncé appearance for underprivileged children to creating Excel spreadsheets and decks recapping the marvelous Target Press Previews and parties we threw. I have learned more at PAPER than I could have ever dreamt. I’m so grateful for all my learning experiences and all the exquisite people I have
met and made connections with along the way. I know my future in the fashion world is auspicious and I am excited to wake up each day and see where my passions lead me.

Lauren Der
This summer I interned at Design4 Marketing Communications, a firm that serves national Christian ministries, pro-family issue advocacy groups and public policy organizations exclusively. I was given the tasks of writing press releases, reaching out to potential clients and assisting with video production. My supervisor took me to meetings with clients, allowed me to sit in on her conference calls and invited me to participate in all of her meetings to gain a better understanding of how to pitch ideas and how to strategize messaging with clients. I gained an incredible amount of knowledge in the process of carefully tailoring messages to reach a client’s desired audience.

Carissa Driggers
This summer I worked at IFAS Office of Conferences and Institutes. This internship experience was very eye opening. I can look back at myself three months ago, May 23rd, when I started at IFAS OCI, and truly see that I have grown in so many ways. Some of my duties at this internship consisted of making press kits, creating advertisements and program covers for conferences, forming biographies for the speakers at the conferences, ordering materials for the conference, and writing materials for the conference websites. I have learned so much this summer. Not just about event planning, but about work ethic, work environment, taking initiative, and much more. I got a great deal of insight on what I could be potentially pursing as a career, and I think that is important knowledge to have going into my last semester of college. I am very thankful for this internship because it was a very good “taste” of the real world.

Lindsey Rucks
This summer, I was able to gain real world experience that will be very helpful as I try to find a job after graduation. Interning at Purebred Publishing and the American Guernsey Association helped me build more connections with an industry that I am already heavily involved with. During my summer at Purebred, I was in charge of contacting breeders and members of the industry for advertisements in the three magazines that the company publishes. I helped to gather information and was part of the advertisement process from start to finish. I was also able to start designing ads and taking photos that were published in some of the magazines. My work with Purebred sent me to several farms, state fairs and two National Breed Conventions. Being the face of a company is something that I truly enjoyed and thrived off of. Working with people is not always the easiest task, but problem solving is something I love. My internship position was a great tool in helping me figure out what I would like to do after I graduate. Being involved in a breed organization would be a combination of all the things I enjoy and I am passionate about.

Spring 2011
Heather Nazworth
During the final semester of my senior year at the University of Florida I had the pleasure of interning with HOME: Magazine Living in the Heart of Florida. The magazine is Gainesville’s most highly looked upon and publication that brings the community information about local businesses, individuals and non-profits. I worked with Emily Davis on HOME’s main charity
event, Taste of HOME and all the planning that goes into that, such as auction, sponsorships, restaurants and event decorators. My main task was recreating the ‘Fashion Corner’ piece in each publication. It gave me the opportunity to put my multitasking, fashion eye, and planning to the real test. My first fashion piece is featured in the April/May issue of the magazine on pages 82-85. I picked all the models, coordinated with the photographer and boutique owners and arranged for make-up and tanning sessions. It was a wonderful experience and I learned the ups and downs of the magazine business.

Mary O’Reilly
During my internship at Florida Organic Growers I assisted in all public relations and marketing projects. The projects consisted of the promotion of events with the development of press releases and media planning, developing monthly e-mail newsletters that’s distributed to media locally and nationally, and creating project materials requiring graphic design skills. Throughout my internship I frequently learned how to work in an office environment and what challenge’s non-profits face on a regular basis. The entire experience was a wonderful way to put my knowledge to use and watch myself adapt and grow.

Fall 2010
Carly Barnes
The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant industry works to detect, intercept and control plant and honey bee pests that threaten Florida’s native and commercially grown plants and agricultural resources. I was able to intern with the division’s innovative and proactive public information section. I worked to develop a social media strategy for the division and implement that strategy through a variety of social networking sites. I was responsible for the appearance, content creation and management of the social media accounts. In addition to social media, I was involved with message testing research, publication revisions and consumer education. I was able to gain valuable experience working in public information with a government agency to meet the needs of consumers throughout the state.

Collin Roberts
I was able to intern twice with Shands HealthCare in the Marketing and Public Relations Department. This internship was exceptionally rewarding because I was given the opportunity to work along side a fantastic marketing and PR team on a broad range of projects. Some of my work included: Working on the production team for the "Do The Chomp" commercial featured at the 2010 Florida Gators home football games and served as a support actor/dancer in the advertisement, interviewing physicians/clients and writing news stories and blurbs for our employee news letter and website, taking photographs of photogenic nurses for the nursing recruitment site, designing and laying out monthly screen savers and electronic news letters for the Shands Green Team, setting up and shooting physician interviews and editing footage to produce videos, designing web banners and large print banners, and most memorably, making memories as the Shands Bear mascot at the children's Halloween pumpkin festival.

Jessica Southard
I’ve had the opportunity of interning with the National Watermelon Association. I was selected as the National Watermelon Queen in February and have been traveling the country
promotion the watermelon industry ever since. This internship has allowed me to communicate accurate and positive messages about the industry of agriculture. Now, more than ever, I am excited about my place in the AEC Department and my future as an agricultural communicator.

Jaime Spivey
I had the exciting opportunity of interning with State Representative Debbie Boyd on her campaign for re-election. Mrs. Boyd represented District 11, which is a mostly rural, yet diverse district which includes all of Gilchrist, Lafayette, and Suwannee counties and parts of Alachua, Columbia and Dixie counties. I was hired as the second campaign staff person with the title of volunteer coordinator. However, over the span of two months I aided the campaign manager with many tasks. My responsibilities ranged from being Mrs. Boyd’s travel aid, coordinating all volunteer events and designing and editing campaign mail outs among many others. Our campaign office was in Newberry, Fla. however as the candidates travel aid, I traveled all over the state of Florida. I am so thankful for the opportunity to have worked for such an amazing public servant. My internship has opened my eyes to a new found passion and career path. A unique and exciting experience it was to be apart of American history!

Summer 2010
Kevin Kent
For nearly five years, FFA members in Florida have seen a drastic evolution of their brand. The organization faced the stereotypical “cows, sows and plows” ideology, static home page and design-deprived leadership materials. Over the past few years, the new face of Florida FFA includes a social media rich website, efficient contest materials and inspiring leadership and marketing materials. I can’t help but take a small portion of pride knowing that I had the opportunity to be part of this evolution. In 2006, I began with the Florida FFA Association, as a special projects intern. My focus was on branding, marketing, and communication. At this point in the internship, I even had to supply my own computer. This first year was truly a learning experience for me and I learned what a brand is on my own. I realized how important it is to the integrity of an organization and the message that you wanted to share.

Jeff Langille
I did my internship with 1010XL Jacksonville Sports Radio over the fall and summer. My internship experience consisted of me working outside the station doing live radio broadcasts and working inside the radio station. I would work in the studio by reading scripts behind the microphone. I got to write and record my own local sports updates. I got some experience with promotions, productions, and sales.

Preston Nazworth
This summer I have had the opportunity to complete an internship at Quality Plumbing of Gainesville. My duties included construction project management, purchasing, and estimating. I attended construction management meetings pertaining to projects such as the Tolbert Hall Renovation, Lake Nona Middle School, Lowell Correctional Center and Osceola Regional Medical Center. I was responsible for reporting the status and progress of these jobs on a weekly basis to the president of the company. This was a great learning opportunity for myself and my future.

Avery Sams
I had the fortunate opportunity to intern with Florida Equine Publications. I worked mainly for the communications sector, creating and maintaining the organization's Web site and publishing communication documents for the organization's events. This internship allowed me to meet young emerging leaders in diverse fields from all across the world, as well as in the Jacksonville area. I was able to utilize the skills learned by the courses I took to illustrate leadership and communication skills for the organization. This internship experience was a unique hands-on experience for me to experience how the real-world office setting works.

Spring 2010
Barbie Garcia
During the duration of my senior year, I had the pleasure of interning with UF's Office of Sustainability. This proved to be an extremely valuable experience that gave me a hands-on look at all the sustainability-related projects and campaigns active on campus. During the internship I had the task of helping plan the first ever Florida Food Summit. I was constantly challenging myself by accomplishing tasks, such as coordinating all the volunteer efforts for the event and also helping to develop and execute a strong marketing plan that would reach our target audience. The event was held April 12-13, which featured the first-ever farmers' market on campus and was very well received by the public. I cannot express enough gratitude for the people I was able to come in contact with and the multiple networking and career enhancing opportunities this internship provided me with.

Holiday Griffin
I had the opportunity to complete an internship for Florida Agriculture in the Classroom. I created posters, newsletters, e-newsletters, a calendar, and advertisements. I also wrote the text for the newsletters, as well as two press releases. These materials were used to help promote FAITC's workshops, Agriculture Literacy Day, and our other various programs.

Katelyn Harris
When you think babies, do you think the March of Dimes? Well, you should. They are America's leading non-profit organization that uses funds to work on research to prevent premature births, birth defects, and infant mortality. Throughout my four-month internship with the March of Dimes, I was given the opportunity to work alongside the Community Relations Director in order to help with the March of Dimes's major spring events: March For Babies (in four local counties). I and a team of interns were able to see the work of a non-profit organization from start to finish. I was able to create press releases, work on a monthly newsletter, and maintain sponsor and volunteer relationships. Interning with the March of Dimes improved my communication and writing skills, allowed me to gain work experience, and allowed me to bond with a wonderful group of interns.

Hyunji Lee
This spring semester, I was very fortunate to intern with the International Visitor Corps of Jacksonville. I worked mainly for the communications sector, creating and maintaining the organization's Web site and publishing communication documents for the organization's events. This internship allowed me to meet young emerging leaders in diverse fields from all across the world, as well as in the Jacksonville area. I was able to utilize the skills learned by the courses I took to illustrate leadership and communication skills for the organization. This
internship experience was a unique hands-on experience for me to experience how the real-world office setting works.

Jessica Southard
I’ve had the opportunity of interning with the Florida Watermelon Association. The FWA is a commodity organization created for the purpose of networking within the Florida watermelon industry. My job within the organization focused on Public Relations. As the spokesperson for FWA, I traveled to various conventions and trade shows to promote our product. My target audience was vast. I dealt with consumers of all ages, industry leaders, and individuals within the government. Therefore, I learned how to tailor my messages to fit specific audiences. Being on the forefront of FWA’s marketing has taken me all across the United States and beyond. I have lobbied with the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association on behalf of farmers in Washington, D.C., learned about agricultural commodities from all over the world at the Produce Marketing Association Convention in California, and spoken to Canadian consumers about the nutritional, economical, and convenient benefits of watermelon. This internship has allowed me to communicate accurate and positive messages about the industry of agriculture. Now, more than ever, I am excited about my place in the AEC Department and my future as an agricultural communicator.

Fall 2009
Jackie Eager
I was able to intern with Alltech, one of the leading animal health companies in the world. I worked along side the marketing and sales team to survey and analyze the current and potential beef cattle markets. This internship required me to contact and survey key cattle industry professionals such as university professors, county extension agents, local county cattlemen’s presidents, state cattlemen’s directors, and large scale producers. The information I gathered was utilized to produce an efficiency marketing campaign. I was able to travel and attend many industry conventions. This internship was immensely helpful in allowing me to gain hands on experience and make key industry contacts.

Spring 2009
Tom Adams
The internship I participated in was at the St. Johns River Water Management District (sjrwmd.com) Florida Water Star program (floridawaterstar.com). The Florida Water Star SM program is a water conservation program for new home construction. My tasks were primarily program development which included the maintenance and compilation of electronic records for our certifiers and quality assurance providers along with participating builders and municipalities. Among other activities, I also participated in public outreach and training events along with home certifications. In addition, I helped to create support materials and designs for some of the District’s publications and media campaigns.

Aaron Kemmer
Grooveshark.com is changing the music industry as we know it. The Gainesville-based Internet company has various Web sites that allow users to listen to music faster, better and more efficiently. They are at the pinnacle of the “Web 3.0 revolution,” in which people rely less on their hard drives and start storing files online (in Grooveshark’s case, music files) for
constant instant-access. During my internship, I was able to apply several of the skills I learned from my communication and leadership development training. I used parts from assisting in coding a new Web site (this took training on Grooveshark's end), to creating flyers, to editing, to working on my team-based leadership skills. I am grateful for the experience I had at Grooveshark and will use the tools they’ve passed on to me in future endeavors throughout my life.

Stephen Noble
Over the course of four months I interned with a local-based media company called Escape Media Group, Inc. EMG employs two main products, Grooveshark and Twisten, that I had the opportunity to work with. Grooveshark is a massive online library of songs that can be streamed in real time to the user's computer. Twisten helps connect people on Twitter to Grooveshark's music. My job duties covered everything from writing CSS code from scratch, analyzing their products, analyzing the competition's products, checking for industry news, help edit and proofread blog posts and marketing material, and lastly being trained and learning on my own to work with more advanced CSS and Photoshop. On average I worked about 4-5 hours per day, 5 days a week at their downtown Gainesville offices. The corporate culture and atmosphere of EMG is very laid back and friendly. The company goes to great lengths to insure that the employees feel everything they work on is important, not only for the company, but for the individuals as well.

Micah Scanga
As an intern of the Scientific Thinking and Educational Partnership (STEP) program I worked with two colleagues and under one direct supervisor for a semester. The team's mission was to produce educational material to communicate scientific research to the general public though innovative media. The videographer position that I was assigned helped achieve this mission through video production.

Brittany Slossberg
Backspace Records & Also Ran Management is a record label company which has its home base located in Atlanta, Ga. Backspace Records is best known for representing the former local band Big Sky. Currently Backspace Records is responsible for the promotion of former front man Mark Gaignard (of Big Sky), Guitar Red and The Baby Grands. I have had the experience as working for Mark Gaignard personally as one of his interns. Working for a musician firsthand has allowed me to increase my skills in public relations, communications overall, writing publishable pieces of work and areas of advertising. This internship has allowed me to recognize both my strong and weak areas in this field of work.

Fall 2008
Rachel Berry
The March of Dimes is America’s leading non-profit organization who works to prevent premature births, birth defects and infant mortality. Through the North Central Florida Division’s many programs and events, such as March for Babies, GatorWalk and Mission Possible many lives have been changed for the better. I had the invaluable opportunity of working as a public relations intern for the March of Times. During my time with the organization I experienced the many aspects of working in public relations and non-profit organizations. From writing press releases, to creating publications, maintaining volunteer
and sponsor relations and event management. The internship expanded my skills, gave me valuable work experience and made me a better communicator.

**Amanda Burleson**

Seminole Feed strives to provide a world-class premium horse feed, producing over 36 different feeds at this time. Along with Seminole Feed, there is Seminole Stores and ec Magazine, all are owned by Branch Properties and are run by the same staff. I had the opportunity to intern and learn from all three companies. During my internship I was able to apply all aspects of agricultural communications. I was allowed to create advertisements, flyers and newsletters. I was also given the chance to work on the fall edition of ec Magazine, assisting in the editing and layout. I am very grateful for the things learned and the opportunity to work with such a great enterprise of companies.

**Toccara Shaw**

Throughout my three-month internship duration with the National Pork Producers Council in Washington D.C., I was given the opportunity to work with self-driven professionals who were the voices of U.S. pork producers on Capital Hill. They were passionate about their values and fought for what they believed was right concerning the 67,000 pork producers in America. This experience allowed me to view production and the field of agriculture in its entirety from a whole new perspective. I’ve found a new respect for farmers and heart of our nation, agriculture. Working with NPPC, allowed me to meet numerous congressmen and senators and it provided me with new skills and knowledge that will benefit me in the future. I know I was genuinely blessed for the opportunity to work with such awesome people. Most of all, it was an even bigger blessing to be able to complete my internship in our nation’s capital of Washington, D.C.

**Summer 2008**

**Shay Davis**

Throughout my time spent interning with Coldwell Banker M.M. Parrish Realtors & Associates, I became knowledgeable of many specialized programs and developed the skills to work with many people. The internship gave me the opportunity to work with real estate agents, attorneys, loan officers, and other real estate brokers throughout the United States. I also was able to assist in developing new ideas for office procedures and established a work flow that was efficient and beneficial to the company. Throughout the internship I was able to create several e-mailed flyers, work on Web site updates, and maintain a billing system for the Coldwell Banker Concierge program. Looking back, I would say that the internship was very beneficial to me and gave me great hands-on experience for the future. I will definitely be able to utilize what I have learned at Coldwell Banker M.M. Parrish Realtors & Associates in future career choices and life paths.

**Erica Der**

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a one-of-a-kind health care system of 22 hospitals dedicated to improving the lives of children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft and lip palate. The healthcare system is run by Shriners International, a fraternal organization with over 300,000 members in 191 chapters throughout the world. Each patient is provided treatment free of charge, regardless of financial status. I had the opportunity to intern in the public relations department at Shriners International which provides
communication efforts for both Shriners fraternities and Shriners Hospitals for Children. During my time at Shriners I experienced all aspects of communications from news releases, to radio advertisements, internal communications plans, design elements, interacting with fellow employees and much more. It was a rewarding experience that allowed me to learn more about a wonderful organization and communications skills.

Seth Rogers
Over the past few months I’ve had the pleasure of working for the Scientific Thinking and Educational Partnership (STEP) project. Throughout that time, I’ve learned a lot about video production. I was given the responsibilities of coordinating, taping, reporting, and editing. My duties included: communicating with interviewees, coordinating schedules for the videos, reporting/coordinating the video on location, creating a format for the video projects, and editing in an interesting/creative style. I feel like I’ve gained valuable experience as a result of having full control of the video projects. I appreciated that control because it gave me the ability to correct my own mistakes through a hands-on experience. And best of all, I now have a video series in my portfolio that I can use in job interviews after I graduate.

Morgan Taylor
My internship with Congressman Adam Putnam in Washington, D.C., was an experience I will never forget. Through my internship, my communication and leadership skills were greatly improved. On a daily basis, I interacted with Congressman Putnam’s constituents by giving tours of the U.S. Capitol. My other responsibilities included aiding the legislative assistants in completing their daily tasks and compiling research to be used by the staff that handled agricultural issues. This position gave me the opportunity to attend briefings by Fed Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, agriculture committees, and many others. I became better informed about agriculture issues, such as citrus greening, the energy crisis, funding for farmers, and the effects of the futures market on the oil industry, just to name a few.

Summer 2007
Kate Campbell
During my internship at The Florida Aquarium I was able to use many of the skills I’ve been taught in class and learn new ones. After going through animal training I became responsible for daily care and feeding of more than 20 different animals in the education department, which included turtles, snakes, quails, tarantulas, a three-tiered saltwater aquarium and an alligator. In addition to animal care I assisted in educational programs at the aquarium and on outreaches to local schools. I designed and mailed out fliers to promote preschool programs. I also re-designed their program brochure template. I had so much fun learning about animal education and working with kids.

Katelyn Crow
Interning with Scientific Thinking and Educational Partnership programs really helped to advance my writing, communication, interpersonal and leadership skills. The type of career development I experienced was corresponding with researchers, setting up interviews, conducting those interviews, writing news stories based upon those interviews and following up with researchers for edits. Interacting with my fellow colleagues on the productions team taught me valuable lessons on team building and healthy group interactions. Working for not only the university, but specifically in my department was a great way for me to make friends,
network and learn from my peers. My time with STEP was truly invaluable; I would venture to say it was one of the best internships I have ever had.

Michelle Diaz
My internship began on July 2, 2007 with IBM. I worked with my supervisor to put together the monthly newsletter and other published materials. I also had the opportunity to work with contracts and learn the new database. I got to meet some of the top executives at IBM who gave me valuable advice for the future. My internship helped develop my professional maturity, while having a good time at working place.

Megan Gagnon
Dairy Farmers Incorporated promotes milk, cheese and yogurt for the dairy farmers in Florida. I had a variety of tasks during my internship. I evaluated the Flodamilk.com web site, organized and participated in events statewide and updated image material. I also enjoyed the benefits Dairy Farmers Inc. has with the University of Florida as the longest running sponsor. I participated in creating the Gator’s Cereal Box, organized and participated in the sponsorship Dairy Farmers Inc. had with the Gator Women’s Football Clinic, and help develop advertisement campaigns that focus on a “Champion Breakfast with the Gators”. My internship allowed me to better understand the importance of industry relations, media relations, and the relations Florida dairy farmers have with dairy industries on a national level. This will prove beneficial in my endeavors after college.

John Gillette
The University of Florida Army ROTC has always taken an active part in recruiting cadets into their program. It takes an individual that is ready to speak face to face with people who you are trying to persuade to join the class. It is a very rewarding experience and a great opportunity to use and practice communication skills.

Patrick Hole
An internship out on the boat doing field research for the Marine Science Center in Ponce Inlet, Florida wasn’t the typical internship I had expected. The Marine Science Center is a county run facility that spends most of their time educating people about the wildlife, aquatic and terrestrial, through exhibits and hands on activities. My responsibilities were to design and implement a fish guide for the Ponce Inlet area through collections done on my own and with different groups. I was able to strengthen my public speaking skills by leading field trips and special guests in collections with seine nets. During my time collecting, I would record data specific to each collection, photograph fish of the collection, help identify species and use that same data to compile a field guide. This field guide will continue even when I am gone and new fish that are not in the field guide will be added, one day being a book that will help educate people on the native species of the area.

Pam Kight
I worked my agricultural communication (4948) internship in the UF/IFAS Development Office at the University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, which serves as the central fundraising unit to secure private support for UF/IFAS. Contributions help provide funding for academic, research and extension programs in the form of scholarships, fellowships, buildings, labs, equipment, etc. During the summer internship, with the help of IFAS Communication Services, I helped create a new brochure, a new office folder and an invitation for the IFAS annual donor recognition event. I also edited the 2006-2007 annual
Brittney Saranko
My internship with the Florida Turfgrass Association was a positive learning experience. I enjoyed working with the FTGA staff and gained insight to my personal likes and dislikes in a work setting. Interacting with FTGA members was my favorite aspect of the internship. My least favorite part was being alone in the office and working on several writing assignments. I learned that I am more extroverted than I imagined and in order to be happy at work it is important for me to network with others. The FTGA staff and Board of Directors provided me with the opportunity to take initiative on the projects I was assigned. This allowed me to prove to the employer and myself that I am capable of producing high-quality work with limited resources. I am confident that my internship with the FTGA heavily influenced the characteristics I will look for in a future job.

Christy Windham
Florida Farm Bureau is the state’s largest general agricultural organization representing almost 150,000 families. During my internship, I had the opportunity to work in the Agricultural Policy Division at Florida Farm Bureau. My main responsibility was to plan the annual member lobbying trip, “Field to the Hill”, to Washington D.C. My primary duties included: developing a schedule, creating promotional materials, working with congressional staff to set up speakers and appointments, acquiring information about legislative topics, and locating dining and transportation logistics in Washington D.C. Not only did I work in the Farm Bureau main office in Gainesville, but I also attended the conference in Washington D.C. This internship prepared me for the job market because it allowed me to prepare and plan for a major conference, as well as attend the conference and lobby legislators for important agricultural legislation.

Spring 2007
Kelly Aue
I had the opportunity to work for Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. It is a non-profit organization that supplies educational materials about agriculture to teachers. I had many different tasks while working for FAITC. Some of them included updating the database for mail outs, filling teacher material orders, and sending out promotional materials. I learned a lot about the dynamics of working with a board of directors. I enjoyed working for FAITC and would recommend it as a great internship. You will learn a lot about what it is like to develop educational materials and newsletters.

Jake Raburn
Farm Credit of Central Florida is a lending cooperative that serves 13 central Florida counties. My internship experience with FCCF has proven to be essential to joining the workforce. Throughout my internship I rotated through every division at Farm Credit. I had the opportunity to learn a little bit about everything from home lending, to small business lending, to big business lending. I worked with Farm Credit’s Marketing Division to create new brochures and advertisements that target an emerging public in the world or agricultural and rural lending. I also worked on several Farm Credit special events in the planning and
implementation roles. Farm Credit of Central Florida is a thriving company and would be a great place to work.

**Angelina Toomey**
I began working as an intern for AgCareers.com in January 2007. AgCareers.com is an Internet-based job-search engine that strives to be the leading job provider for the agricultural and natural resources industries. Ashley Warlick, the AgCareers.com educational coordinator, hired me to work as the campus liaison for the University of Florida. My responsibilities included speaking to campus organizations and students about the company, as well as visually promoting AgCareers.com across campus. The schedule was exceptionally flexible and the amount of public speaking experience I gained while working as a campus liaison was invaluable to me as an agricultural communicator. Overall, my internship for AgCareers.com was extremely rewarding and worthwhile.

**Summer 2006**
**Melissa Brown**
I did my internship at the March of Dimes North Central Florida Division office in Gainesville. My job included lots of graphic design. I made several newsletters; one was eight pages long, brochures, mailers, tent cards, and several others. Almost everything I did was in InDesign. I learned how to use other software such as Publisher, Excel, and Pagemaker. I also worked an elementary fundraiser, prepared awards, and arranged gift packets. The March of Dimes is a great learning experience and a way to get published.

**Julia Cates**
My internship was full of different tasks. I learned a lot about computer software, interpersonal control and organization, letter writing and retail sales. My internship was fun and I would definitely do it all over. My supervisor was very helpful and fun to work with. I learned more about something that I am passionate about, and that is guns! I learned a lot more than I ever could imagine! And I got two new ones while I was there. I would recommend Freedom Outfitters and Firearms to any one in the communications department looking for an internship in Plant City.

**Brittney Parrish**
For five weeks this summer I had the opportunity to intern at Hillandale Quality Feeds, LLC in Lake Butler, Fla. Hillandale, as referred to by customers, is a feed store that houses a variety of feeds, some of which are made on location each day. While interning, I was able to design, work with customers, learn about how a company operates, and participate in inventory and ordering.

**Jessica Rothering**
The Corto, Largo and Fino are all types of gaits of horses that embody the Paso Fino Horse, and this summer I was selected as the marketing intern for the Paso Fino Horse Association. As an intern I was introduced to the methods that the PFHA use to market, exhibit and enhance the Paso Fino Horse. During the summer I was able to use my computer, language and writing skills for an international equitation competition that took place, with exhibitors from seven different countries. Technical skills aside, I was surrounded by an office atmosphere that taught me how to work with co-workers in a professional manner, and how
to cope with different personality traits. As an intern at the PFHA I was able to learn, first-hand, unique skills only offered in the work place.

**Peggy Rudser**  
For my internship I was the campaign manager for a candidate for Hamilton County Court Judge. I was in charge of the entire campaign, from the platform and themes to the layout and graphic design as well as the finances. I had to design all campaign materials, work directly with various printers and vendors. My duties also included writing speeches, attending campaign events and going door-to-door with the candidate. This campaign was extremely time consuming and personal but also very rewarding.

**Melissa Stanley**  
For my internship for the Dept. of Agricultural Education and Communication, I interned at The Market Place for Erin Freel Best. The Market Place is a marketing and video company that specializes in providing services to agricultural commodities and businesses. Throughout the internship, I was able to complete professional networking through the various conferences that I attended, such as the State FFA Convention and the Young Farmer and Rancher Conference. I was responsible for the written communications for the FFA and provided marketing and video work for the Florida Farm Bureau. I was fortunate enough to intern with an amazing company that provided me with a foundation for an remarkable and educational experience.

**Angelina Toomey**  
During my internship at The Market Place, an agricultural communication firm, I worked as a graphic and Web designer, as well as a PR and marketing assistant. I created the Creative Sentiment Video Productions Web site in its entirety and edited the Web site for Madison Farms Pork. I also designed MFP's brochure and media kit and developed an in-store advertisement for the Florida Strawberry Growers Association, along with a t-shirt for the Florida FFA State Convention First Ever Concert Event. Finally, I designed a CD cover that TMP will utilize when sending promotional materials to clients. In addition to gaining design experience, I was able to travel to Georgia and Orlando, which greatly enhanced my internship. In Georgia, I met with a pork producer to discuss the MFP campaign and Web site, and I traveled to Orlando to attend the 2006 Florida State FFA Conference where I manned the concert ticket and video sales booths and assisted country artist Luke Bryan. My internship at The Market Place gave me the perfect glimpse into the realities of both the agricultural communication profession and the small business operation. It was truly a wonderful experience!

**Josh Williams**  
I had a great internship experience. I was able to make contacts with wildlife experts across the country. I also researched and wrote about the subject, wildlife issues in Florida. Software can be frustrating but thanks to other Agricultural communications classes, everything turned out great. I learned more from this experience about what I want to do as a career than I have in any classroom I have been in. If anyone does not know what a nutria is, just come see me.

Summer 2005  
Courtney Davis
AEC 4943/4948 CLD Internship Examples

I interned at the Suwannee County Extension Office in Live Oak, Fla. My main job was organizing, planning, and carrying out the 4-H Day Camps. We had three day camps: sewing, food preparation, and a general day camp in Branford. I also helped to start the 4-H After-School Initiative in Suwannee County. I was in charge of coordinating the meetings and presenting information at the training meetings.

**Chelsea Drake**

During my internship at Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association, I worked closely with those involved in the citrus industry. I updated information about the industry to the association’s membership. I did this through e-mails, faxes, phone calls and newsletters. I also communicated information to the media by sending out press releases about events the association was a part of and the industry as a whole. My time at PRVCGA taught me the importance of translating information to the target audience. It was a great opportunity for me to get my feet wet in agricultural communications.

**Katie Duley**

The Market Place is an agricultural marketing and advertising firm. Throughout my internship experience I worked under Erin Best and had the chance to learn web design, video production, public relations, and more. This summer, we worked hard at the state FFA convention, attended the Young Farmers and Ranchers leaders’ conference, produced the Farm Bureau newsletter, and more. Along with learning technology, I also wrote many press releases, shot video, took photos and sold FFA videos. This was a great experience, and I can never say just how much that I learned from The Market Place.

**Sorrell Vickers**

My internship was an all-around great learning experience for anyone who has a desire to pursue a degree in agricultural communications. I was very fortunate to work for The Market Place, an agriculture marketing and public relations firm. Over the summer I was able to perform various duties which included writing press releases, creating brochures and shooting and editing video. I was also able to travel and help with the State FFA Convention and the Farm Bureau's Young Farmer & Rancher Conference. This summer internship was a great opportunity and served me well to prepare me for what the real world of agricultural communications will be like.

**Jimmy Varvorines**

I interned at Florida Agriculture in the Classroom in the summer of 2005. I updated the Keeping Florida Green information package (which includes lessons for teachers to use in their classrooms), researched new office equipment, prepared certificates and takeaways for the state workshop, and worked the registration desk and led a tour group at the workshop. I also began planning for the next state workshop.

**Spring 2005**

**Cindy Herndon**

This semester, I worked as an intern for High Trek Adventures. High Trek Adventures is a nonprofit organization based out of Bryson City, NC. It is designed for middle school and high school aged students and is a wilderness adventure program focused on spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. While my job title was director of marketing, I ended up doing a little bit of everything. Some of my tasks included building a website, designing a brochure, filming a
promotional video, and planning, leading, and assisting with trips. Overall it was a great experience that taught me a lot.

**Summer 2004**

**Allison Eckhardt**
Allison Eckhardt interned at the Florida Farm Bureau during the summer of 2004. She worked with the Field Services and the Public Relations departments. Allison developed promotional material, web sites and videos for the Young Farmer and Rancher (YF&R) and Women's programs, in addition to assisting with the State YF&R Conference.

**Tamara Cooper**
I spent the summer of 2004 as the marketing and events intern at Gulf Citrus Growers Association in LaBelle, Florida. GCGA is a trade organization that represents 116 growers with more than 83,000 acres in Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, Glades and Lee counties in southwest Florida. During my internship I worked on the organization’s annual golf tournament, annual meeting, newsletter, the 2004 Citrus Expo and many other projects. Some of the tasks that I had included writing press releases, contacting the media, developing the newsletter, organizing sponsors and participants, creating a PowerPoint presentation and taking photographs of various events. My internship at GCGA was an experience of a lifetime and one that I will never forget.

**Matt Thompson**
My internship experience with Florida Citizens Bank was a productive one. Interning for a financial institution helped me to gain knowledge, which will be useful in whatever I do in life. Interning for a community bank allowed me to learn and contribute in many different areas from the “back room” to the main branch. Interning has also helped me to become a full-time employee of Florida Citizens Bank.

**Spring 2004**

**Dallas Farrell**
I worked for Sam Ard of Ard, Shirley and Hartman, P.A., for three and a half months. I was a legislative intern in Tallahassee. I was registered as a lobbyist for all of Sam's clients, including but not limited to the Florida Cattlemen's Association, Florida Agrichemical Association, Florida Agriculture Aviators Association, Gulf Power and Florida East Coast Railway. I learned a great deal about state politics and was able to get to know many legislators and their staff. To the right is a picture of me and Rep. Ralph Poppell from Vero Beach. My job required me to talk to members, sit in committees, attend meetings, write newsletters, and attend many social functions, as well as other tasks. I learned so much about the legislative process and made many good contacts and friends. It was a great experience for me.

**Fall 2003**

**Josh Brown**
If I could sum up my internship at Sparr Building and Farm Supply in a few words, I would say “real-world experience.” At Sparr, I worked first-hand on the everyday responsibilities that accompany a marketing office for a large independent farm and feed supply store. My
responsibilities included handling all ads for local publications and media outlets, writing radio commercials, producing sale flyers and circulars, co-op claims, working with vendors and sales representatives and all of the basic operations of our marketing office. In a long-term vision, I could really see myself working for this company after college.

**Bryan Beaty**
Indian River Community College, located in Fort Pierce, is a college that boasts an enrollment of 40,000+ students and 2,100 total employees. Recently, IRCC has undertaken an initiative to overhaul the current culture within the college environment. This initiative (Jumping the Curve) includes a strong emphasis on employee development and communication practices. Development of planned seminars, workshops and events that would assist in advancing the Jumping the Curve initiative served as the focus of this internship.

**Summer 2003**

**Ashley Craft**
I interned at the Okaloosa County Extension Office for six weeks during the summer of 2003. My job required me to do many different activities such as press releases, event planning, flyers, brochures and much more. The variety during this internship has helped me to narrow down what I would like to do in the future. It also kept every day exciting and different. I gained “real world” experience as well as made important contacts. I would recommend an internship with Extension to anyone in Agricultural Communications.

**Kelly Russ**
Working at Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc., was a great experience for an agricultural communication student. The internship gave me the opportunity to use skills I had learned in my classes, as well as learn new things. I developed a media handbook and produced two newsletters. I also assisted with the annual state teacher conference. The wide variety of tasks I completed will be a great asset to me in my career.

**Kyle Shaw**
For six weeks during the summer of 2003 I had the opportunity to live and work in Washington, D.C., as a congressional intern. I interned for my congressman, F. Allen Boyd Jr. Congressman Boyd and his staff represent Florida’s second congressional district, which spans from Panama City to Gainesville and as far south as Williston. With such a large district Congressman Boyd and his staff have their hands full. Handling constituent concerns was a big part of my daily routine. Whether it was in person, on the phone or in letter, I had the chance to help Congressman Boyd communicate with the people he represents. Other activities that I participated in included attending committee meetings and other briefings, giving tours of the Capitol Building, participating in intern seminars and workshops, and watching the live taping of news shows such as Watch on Washington and Crossfire. Working in a congressional office and having a firsthand role in the legislative process was an extremely rewarding experience. After interning in D.C., I believe that the only way that someone can truly understand the legislative system is to experience it firsthand. It was definitely a life-changing experience for me.

**Stephanie Stein**
I interned this summer for ten weeks with the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida. During my internship I assisted Barbara Miedema, vice president of communications.
Throughout my internship the major projects that I helped create were informational packets, a website and a display board. I also assisted in the planning of a leadership tour and a display case. I have learned many skills through my courses that have prepared me for a career in agricultural communications, but it was not until this internship that I was able to apply them. Now that I have some experience, I feel that I am better prepared for a future career in Agricultural Communications.

Julie Watson
I had the opportunity to intern at Florida Farm Bureau Federation in the Agricultural Policy division. My main responsibility was to develop a user’s manual for the new Environmental Services and Education Coordinator position. I wrote news releases, developed a newsletter, developed and gave PowerPoint presentations and much more. I also helped plan a workshop for 4-H Congress. This internship has been a great opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills that I have received through the Agricultural Communication department.

Summer 2002
Rebecca Ambrose
I interned at Florida Ag in the Classroom during the summer of 2002. FAITC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop an understanding and appreciation of Florida’s multi-faceted agricultural system and its relationship to our economy, environment, health and quality of life. During the internship I assisted the executive director, Deena Wright. The three major projects I developed were: a volunteer handbook, a guide to grants for teachers, and a make and take booklet. Throughout the internship I also helped develop and organize the FAITC state teacher workshop and the FAITC state volunteer workshop. Interning at FAITC was a great experience and I am sure it helped prepare me for my future career in Agricultural Communication.

Krystle Booth
This internship was, quite possibly, the most beneficial three months of my college career. I gained more experience at the Hillsborough County Extension Office than I ever thought possible through an internship. I used pretty much everything that I was taught through my course work, and then some. There was hands-on training in every facet of communications, ranging from video editing to designing Web pages to writing reports. I had the chance to meet many people in the industry, and these connections will undoubtedly be with me for the rest of my career. I had never even considered an Extension internship until a couple of weeks before I had to have my internship set up. It fell in my lap you could say. Although Extension is not the first choice for an internship for an Ag Comm major, it definitely should be up there. I had a wonderful experience, and I would highly recommend it to anyone who wants to have variety in his or her internship.

Sarah Joe Cannon
Working on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. was one of the most exciting educational opportunities I have ever had. I was able to experience our government in action, work side-by-side with a Congressional Press Secretary using my communication skills and investigate agricultural issues that pertain to my county, state and nation. I feel that I have learned skills that will help me in all of my future endeavors and I whole heartedly recommend this opportunity to other students.
**Jenny Dent**

During the summer of 2002, I had the opportunity to be a video producer for M-Fuge. M-Fuge is a summer camp for youth groups that want to accomplish mission work in a major city. I was stationed in St. Louis, MO, for 10 weeks. My job required me to tape the different groups every day and compile the footage for a 15-minute closing video at the end of the week. In addition, I made a short video every day that was shown as a recap of the previous day’s events.

**Aimee Huskey**

This summer I interned with Florida 4-H at the Youth Development Office with Ami Neiberger-Miller, Public Relations and Communications Coordinator. I worked extensively with youth programs and helped manage media relations at state events such as 4-H Legislature and the 4-H State Horse Show. I organized and indexed the entire photo archive for Florida 4-H. During my internship I also helped manage the crisis that occurred when funding for the 4-H Camping Program and centers was cut and the camping program was in peril. I also created slideshows for the Camping Center Web site, took and scanned many photos for the Florida 4-H Web site. I also worked extensively on the 4-H clip art project examples of the clip art I created can be seen below.

**Susannah Rich**

During the summer of 2002, I interned at the University of Florida’s IFAS Communication Services. My duties during the summer included assisting in statewide videoconferences, developing Web templates, restoring photographs and transcribing videotapes. I feel that my skills in Web design and in Photoshop greatly advanced this summer. I also feel that my internship provided me with great professional opportunities such as interacting with UF faculty, staff and administrations. I would recommend this internship to any student who is interested in Web design.

**Spring 2002**

**Keyatta Shade**

During my time interning as a communications assistant at the Alachua County Communications Office, I had the opportunity to work on public education campaigns, contribute to the county newsletter and make verbal presentations. Additionally, I worked on special projects, including writing for a national magazine and creating a public information guide. Future interns will also have the opportunity to assist in developing next year’s County services guide. This is an excellent opportunity for students to gain work experience in public sector communications and enhance their writing and communication skills. Alachua County government is a progressive organization with high professional standards and a strong commitment to teamwork and employee empowerment.

**Fall 2001**

**Steven Lands**

I interned at the St. Johns River Water Management District for 11 weeks this semester. I worked with Flagler County and its local government and several Putnam County offices as well. I was able to take skills learned in the classroom and put them to use in the “real world.” I worked with local governments, developing manuals for the district and Flagler County. I
was able to use skills in communication, both verbal and non-verbal, and leadership. I was able to gain real experience about the working world. This internship was a valuable experience that prepared me to go out and start a career in whatever I may choose to do.

Summer 2001

Kelli Dunn
I interned this summer for ten weeks with Florida Ag in the Classroom, Inc. (FAITC) I had a great experience there and practiced many aspects of a job in Agricultural Communications. I had the opportunity to write press releases, do some event planning, work on all the behind-the-scenes work for a big event and do all the normal office responsibilities that come with a “real job.” This internship provided me not only with skills, however, I also had the chance to get my face and name out there to ag professionals throughout the state through the FAITC Executive Board.

Luci Rogers
During the past 10 weeks at the State Attorney's Office, I have experienced the true meaning of life. Coming from a small town and traditional family setting, I had never been exposed to crime, criminals or the court system in its entirety. I also did not realize the value of an education until I worked with those who did not have an education. While in college, it is easy to look at the world and make assumptions about people and situations. Until being in the world as an employee and or even working with others, it is extremely difficult to understand individuals and their positions. My experience as an intern has not only helped me to further develop certain skills but has also helped me to become a person who is conscious of the working world. I am thankful to have had this experience and it has truly been the highlight of my college years.