Economics Grad Finding Success at GM

Entering her senior year at Calvin, economics major Rebekah Kline '13 knew that her focus would be on securing full-time employment for post-graduation. Therefore, she put a lot of time and effort into attending job fairs (such as the Calvin in Chicago Career Fair and Job Pursuit), meeting with career counselors, filling out countless online applications, writing cover letters, and passing along her resume whenever and wherever possible.

However, Rebekah found that the most effective job searching came through networking. In previous summers, she had interned with Federal-Mogul Corporation, an automotive supplier in Southfield, Michigan. These internships helped connect her to the automotive industry, which ultimately led to an interview with General Motors.

“The core values instilled in me by Calvin faculty and staff have proved to be very important in my role at GM,” Rebekah says. “When interfacing with other buyers, engineers and suppliers, I have found that people respond positively to integrity and kindness. Above all, living by your values and morals will make you respected in the workplace.”

Not only have core values helped Rebekah in her position, but the skills she gained as a Calvin student have also been beneficial.

Although what you learn in college is important, it is the ability to learn and adapt quickly that will make you very marketable to potential employers,” says Rebekah. “With this in mind, focus more on developing skills (such as those related to research, communication, and analysis) rather than accumulating knowledge. Who knows, you may get your degree in history and end up working in marketing.

Cultivate the core set of skills that will allow you to succeed in numerous positions across different fields.”
A Photo Gallery of Fall Interns

270 Calvin students reported having a fall internship, giving them the opportunity to develop the professional skills employers are seeking in candidates.

(Students: report your internship at www.calvin.edu/career for a chance to win a $15 gift certificate to Calvin’s campus store!)

Felicity at the Grand Rapids Symphony.

Colton was an intern with Christian Reformed World Missions.

Kayla spent her fall semester working with the Arena District.

Miles interned with the Better Business Bureau.

Josh and his supervisor at SoundOff Signal.

Ashley gained video production experience with Deep End Films.

Danae had an internship with Townsquare Media.

Jessamyn and her supervisor at Tulip Time.

James gained social media marketing experience with Priority Health.

Additional internship photos are featured on Facebook: www.facebook.com/calvin.career.development
Fall Semester in Review

The career development office offers several events throughout the year as a way to help Calvin students compete in today’s job market. The fall semester proved to be busy, with the following events providing networking opportunities for students and employers.

- 169 students and professionals engaged in “speed networking” conversations during the annual Business Careers Networking Reception. This event also featured Dr. Phil Gardner, Director of the Collegiate Employment Research Institute at Michigan State University, who spoke about the skills and competencies that students need to prepare for the transition to the workplace.

- The Fall Career Fair, hosted by GVSU in collaboration with Calvin and other area colleges, included over 200 employers recruiting for internships and full-time positions. 64 Calvin students took advantage of this opportunity to connect with prospective employers.

- The 2nd annual Calvin in Chicago Career Fair was held on October 29, with 14 employers and 86 students participating. Photos from the event are included on the cover of this newsletter.

- The Michigan Colleges Foundation provides students from Calvin and other MCF member schools the opportunity to network and apply for internships or full-time positions with top-quality Michigan employers, through the MCF Corporate Concierge program. This fall’s Corporate Concierge program included interview days or networking receptions with Whirlpool, Spectrum Health, Gordon Food Service, and Stryker.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 1, 3:00-7:30 p.m.
GVSU’s downtown campus, Grand Rapids

Engineering and Computing Fair
Feb. 5, 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Prince Conference Center

Job Search Strategies for Nurses
Feb. 10, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Meeter Center Lecture Hall

GVSU Winter Career Fair and Health Careers Day
Feb. 11, 1:00-5:00 p.m.
DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids

Job Pursuit
Feb. 18, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Crowne Plaza Lansing West Hotel, Lansing, MI
*Pre-registration required

Out-of-State Teacher Fair
March 3, 3:00-6:00 p.m.
GVSU Kirkhof Center, Allendale
*Follow-up interviews on March 4

Teacher Search
April 29, 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Prince Conference Center

Find more details about these upcoming events on our website: www.calvin.edu/career/events-list.html
We offer a variety of services for students and alumni:

- Career counseling
- Major selection
- Career testing
- Internships
- Job search assistance
- Job fairs
- Practice interviews
- Resume and cover letter critiques
- Web-based job posting system

Career Development Staff

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Director</td>
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<td>Meredith Segur</td>
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<td>Laurie Lemmen</td>
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Questions or suggestions? Call or e-mail
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Available online at www.calvin.edu/career