Greetings from the Experiential Learning and Career Development Center!

Experiential learning is a hands-on approach to education that personally relevant and connected to your academic learning objectives. Whether you want to complete an internship or participate in a research project (or all three!) we can help you find a meaningful opportunity that will enable you to apply and connect theories from the classroom to real-world situations. Please read on to learn about how to enhance your education.

Experiential Learning Kick-Off

Albright’s inaugural Experiential Learning events were held September 28 to October 11. Over the course of the three weeks, we focused on the experiential learning opportunities available on campus and how to take advantage of them. We kicked things off with the Experiential Learning Fair, which featured your friends and classmates who have already done exciting things such as internships, study abroad and undergraduate research. If you were able to come to see their pictures and hear their stories, chances are you were inspired to start planning your own experiences! We were also delighted to offer the Study Abroad Info Session, Internship-to-Career Panel Discussion, ACRe Presentation Nights and much, much more. Check out photos here.

Study Abroad/OFF Campus News

Did you know that students receiving Pell Grants are eligible to apply for significant funding to study abroad through the Gilman Scholarship? This comparatively generous funding is available to Albright juniors and seniors who are U.S. citizens and who have a globally-minded attitude. Students must be current sophomore or junior standing to apply. The deadline is January 24, 2012.

Northern Ireland Exchange

This scholarship is open to current sophomores and juniors with at least a 3.2 GPA. Students pay regular Albright tuition for the semester of study in Ireland and have a chance of five top institutions. Students must be current sophomore or junior standing to apply. The deadline is January 24, 2012.

Southern Africa Scholarship

Did you know that you can still become a part of the Honors Program as a senior? Yes! Our senior capstone project requires a strong focus on the special interests and strengths of each individual student, and the program offers many opportunities to study abroad and participate in research and internships. To learn more, visit www.albright.edu/academics/honorsguide1.html.

Study Abroad Scholarships and Opportunities!

Selected students study for a full year in Scotland at one of the following universities: University of Stirling, Stirling University, Edinburgh University, and St. Andrews University. Students must be current sophomores or juniors with at least a 3.2 GPA. Students pay regular Albright tuition for the semester of study in Scotland and will receive a scholarship of up to $5,000 will be awarded this academic year, with the average award being approximately $4,000. To find out more visit the website and then visit the Experiential Learning and Career Development Center at Geiser House.

Study Abroad/Off Campus News

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St. Andrews’ Society: Selected students studied for a full year in Scotland at one of the following universities: University of Stirling, Stirling University, Edinburgh University, and St. Andrews University. Students must be current sophomores or juniors with at least a 3.2 GPA. Students pay regular Albright tuition for the semester of study in Scotland and will receive a scholarship of up to $5,000 will be awarded this academic year, with the average award being approximately $4,000. To find out more visit the website and then visit the Experiential Learning and Career Development Center at Geiser House.

Undergraduate Research News

Two students completed Albright Creative Research Experience (ACRE) projects this summer. Projects ranged from Comparative Tax Systems to Ultrastructural Studies of Embryonic Development in Zebrafish. Students presented their findings at the annual ACRE Presentation Nights earlier in the month. Interested in participating in an ACRE project? contact Kim Justeson at kjusteson@albright.edu for details. Maybe you too can gain valuable research experience with a professor and get paid for it.

Honors News

The Honors Program welcomed 63 new freshmen and transfer students this semester. The group was treated to a pizza and ice cream extravaganza on September 8 in the O’Keefe House.

Did you know that you can still become a part of the Honors Program as a freshman? You may join the program if you have an Albright cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher. If you are in your first semester at Albright, you may join the program as long as your middle grade point average is 3.5 or higher. Simply contact Kim Justeson, kjusteson@albright.edu, or Julie Heberle, Ph.D., jheberle@albright.edu, for more information. More information about the program can be found on the web at www.albright.edu/academics/honorprog1.html.

International News

Want to explore a career or gain experience? Securing an internship is the best way to do just that. Go to on your Ask JIM account (from our website, www. albright.edu/alcidc) and search for opportunities using the Ask JIM database, the Going Global database, and the Resource Library, which lists numerous opportunities. “Berks Works” is an excellent local resource that includes opportunities for all disciplines (www.berksworks.org). You can also approach an organization of interest and simply ask if they offer internships; sometimes asking the question will get you the response you want!

Calendar of Events

For a complete calendar of events check us out on FACEBOOK.

Student Spotlight

Gabby Fundyga, a junior, spent her summer interning with PBS Sprout, a channel designed for 2- to 5-year-old children. Gabby describes the unique feel of Sprout as earthy, crafty and homespun. To support this image, Sprout uses props that look as though they were made by 2-year-olds, and the network tends to stay away from the digitalization that is common among children’s programs today.

Working with Sprout gave Gabby a great opportunity to connect her internship to her field of study. She is co-concentrating in Digital Media and Theater, a combination of her favorite areas of study. As an internship expert, Gabby has lived through the process and understands the value of an internship and the effects it can have on your education.

The internship also gave Gabby opportunities beyond experience and skill building. While interning, Gabby experienced a different side of the entertainment industry. Gabby was able to teach herself basic web design in order to create a webpage for the company. This feat was both artistically and technically challenging for Gabby, as she had to use her artistic eye while finagling complex computer programs.

A third memorable experience Gabby shared was her appearance as a farm hand on the Sunny Side Up Show. For this part, she wore a flannel shirt and a gardening glove to flip a sign while riding around in a cart. The sign was green on one side and red on the other, determining whether children actors started or stopped dancing during the show. The show’s dependence on Gabby’s performance added an aspect of pressure that is not uncommon in the TV business.

All in all, Gabby’s internship was an invaluable experience that will help her transition into the real world. The internship taught Gabby that acting is not about how you see yourself, but about how others will see you. Gabby also saw acting theory put into action. This opportunity has reinforced her knowledge that acting is a skill that can be improved.

Gabby had the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills that she gained from the experience to other aspects of her work at Sprout. Gabby was able to develop a more technical side of her studies, Gabby gained experience through editing and using computer programs during live shows with Sprout. With this skill set, she believes she will have a great advantage when she takes more technical classes due to the knowledge and skills she gained through her internship. On the theater side, Gabby experienced first-hand how producers write shows and how actors prepare for shoots. She also got the chance to see acting theory put into action. This opportunity has reinforced her knowledge that acting is not about how you see yourself, but about how others will see you.

While on a shoot for Sprout’s show Lazy Town, Gabby was given the task of instructing and choreographing a group of children as they ran playfully around the set. This demanding task gave Gabby simultaneous experience in creativity, leadership, and working people in ways that she has never seen them look before. The fact that they were young children simply added a little extra challenge to the task.

Gabby was serving as a producer’s assistant, or PA, for the Sunny Side Up Show, she had to analyze frames of children dancing for the show’s Barnyard Bopper segment to make sure the frames were visually appealing to children, parents and the company. This task was both artistically and technically challenging for Gabby, as she had to use her artistic eye while finagling complex computer programs.

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