



CIMT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM COMPLETES ITS FIRST YEAR

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The Careers in Manufacturing Technology Program (CIMT) completed its first internship session on August 15, 2003. Six of the seven interns hired by local manufacturing companies successfully completed the program.

The internship consisted of working full-time during the summer in the student's field of study at a Central Valley manufacturing company as well as attending the Water Cluster Training Academy. The academy was set up so that students would have an opportunity to merge academic coursework with practical experience gained through their internship.

The classroom portion of the internship consisted of five, four-hour seminars on topics identified by the industry as skills that are needed for success on the job. The courses offered during summer 2003 were Workplace Safety, Manufacturing Flow Process, Basic Shop Math, Precision Measurement and Basic Employment Skills. The training academy classes were held in classrooms at Grundfos Pumps, Fresno Valves and Casting, American AVK, Claude Laval Corporation and Floway Pumps.

Gene Evans, instructor at Reedley College, was the lead instructor, with guest speakers at each session.

Floway Pumps hosted the final training academy course on August 7, 2003. During this session, the students gained insight about the importance of the Manufacturing Flow Process from Guest Speaker Brian Gudel. Manjit Muhar-Atwal, program coordinator of the SJV water technology cluster workforce demonstration grant, coordinates the CIMT program.



Pictured from left to right, Gene Evans (Instructor Reedley College), Renne Peralta, Lor Vang (left front), Justin Buchanan, Brian Gudel (Floway Pumps), Jesus De La Cruz, Ricardo Morales, not pictured Chris Blair and Jose Lopez.



ICWT UPDATE

Mr. Bogosian of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce speaks with University President Dr. John Welty during his visit to Fresno State.

See story page 4!

Workforce Committee Members, Host Company Supervisors and Community College Representatives Meet to Evaluate the CIMT Internship Program.

The Careers in Manufacturing Technology (CIMT) Internship Program gained momentum at a recent meeting of the 2003 internship program participants. Attendees at the meeting included workforce committee members, host company supervisors and educators representing the community colleges. The gathering was primarily an opportunity for supervisors, who were responsible for overseeing the students during the three-month internship, to share with educators their evaluation of the students' knowledge, skills and abilities when performing their internship duties.

Each supervisor advised the group on the overall performance of their intern. By and large, they were impressed with the students' commitment to gaining valuable work skills needed to be successful on the job. The students were described as hard working, team-oriented, and very productive. This meeting also gave the supervisors an opportunity to openly discuss with the instructors their concern that a few students did not possess basic language, math and measurement skills needed for job success in their field of study.

Instructors appreciated the feedback, and in addressing basic math and measurement skills. They disclosed

that most of the interns had completed coursework in those areas. They will continue to emphasize the importance of those basic skills needed for job success. Faculty members invited supervisors and other company leaders to help carry the message to students by visiting the colleges as guest speakers.

The motivation for internships was summarized at the meeting: Internships offer many advantages for both student and employer. They help companies identify and assess a potential candidate for employment, and students greatly benefit from the "hands-on" work experience these opportunities provide.

If you would like more information about the internships and/or other programs offered by the Careers in Manufacturing Technology Program, please contact the Office of Community and Economic Development at (559) 278-8460.

Special thanks to the following companies who participated in the inaugural program.



Nursery Maid hosted Fresno City College student Chris Blair who interned as a CNC programmer.



American AVK hosted Reedley College student Jesus De La Cruz who interned as a machinist.



Fresno Valves and Casting hosted Fresno City College student Ricardo Morales who interned as a welder and Reedley College student Renee Peralta (above) who interned as a CNC operator/set-up operator. Fresno Valves and Casting hosted Fresno City College student Ricardo Morales who interned as a welder and Reedley College student Renee Peralta (above) who interned as a CNC operator/set-up operator.



Floway Pumps hosted Fresno City College student Justin Buchanan (above left) who interned as a welder's aide and Reedley College student, Lor Vang (above right) who interned as a CNC machinist trainee.

MARKETING/ ADVOCACY COMMITTEE DEVELOPING PLANS

The Marketing/Advocacy Committee, chaired by Jolene Polyack, has met twice to identify a path for future plans. Discussion included possibilities related to the development of the PAC (Political Action Committee), 501 (c) (3), and 501 (c) (6).

A PAC may raise money to contribute to candidates for local, state or federal office, other political action committees and political parties. Contributions to a PAC are not tax deductible. Examples include the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the Sierra Club PAC.

A 501 (c) (3) is a corporation organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes, such as education, scientific research, or community improvement. The organization must not be organized for

the benefit of private interests. Contributions are tax deductible. Examples include the United Way and the National PTA.

A 501 (c) (6) is a corporation designed to promote a specific trade or industry. It must not be organized for profit and no part of its net earnings may benefit any one individual. It must have a common business interest, be organized to promote that interest, and not engage in the type of work ordinarily carried on for profit. Activities must be focused on the improvement of conditions of one or more lines of business rather than the performance of a particular service. Individual contributions are not tax deductible; however, businesses may deduct contributions. Examples include the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the American Medical Association.

In addition to the advocacy element, the committee is beginning to develop a Marketing Plan for the Water Cluster. They are currently identifying the message(s) and target audiences that should be addressed in the first stages of a campaign. The Committee is also looking into the development of an

International Conference over the next 1-2 years.

The committee will report on its activities in more detail at the next Water Cluster meeting.

CALIFT Update

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CALIFT, Fresno State's export development program targeted to support the water technology industry, will be participating in three shows this fall:

- ExpoMineria (Mining Show) in Acapulco, Mexico, October 22-25
- ExpoAgoAlimentaria (Farm Show) in Guanajuato, Mexico, November 13-16.
- Expo Agro (Farm Show) in Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico, January 29-February 1.

Participation in these shows is available at no cost to Water Cluster members. If you are interested, contact Laura Ramos by phone at 559.278.2066 or by email at lramos@csufresno.edu Assignments are made on a first come first serve basis.

Commerce Department Joins Forces With Fresno State Center for Water Technology

Joseph H. Bogosian, deputy assistant secretary for Transportation and Machinery in the U.S. Department of Commerce, visited California State University, Fresno on October 22, 2003 to lend his agency's support for the International Center for Water Technology (ICWT), currently in development on the campus.

Bogosian and university officials signed a Memorandum of Understanding to encourage and support the work of the new center, a partnership between the ICWT and 40 water technology manufacturers, to develop and promote new technologies that will improve water conservation and water quality while reducing energy use.

The memorandum calls for the agency and the ICWT to work jointly to develop an export opportunities program for U.S. water and fluid science technology firms to identify and pursue worldwide markets and trade opportunities.

The agreement creates an organized joint approach for export promotion that will use such activities as conferences, video conferences, exhibitions, seminars, site visits, trade missions and other trade events.

The ICWT is a collaborative venture between the university, industry, and public agencies. Dr. David Zoldoske, the center's director, said a state-of-the-art center will break ground in spring 2004 at Chestnut and Barstow avenues on the Fresno State campus. The first construction phase includes new testing and certification laboratory and a solar powered water pumping demonstration and training



WATERCLUSTER MEETING

December 11, 2003
9 – 11 A.M.

Tulare AgTAC
4175 S. Laspina Street
Tulare, CA 93274

Please RSVP to kathem@csufresno.edu
or (559)278-8460

Join the “Water Cluster” and make things flow!

From the North: Take Freeway 99 South to the Paige Avenue Exit. Turn a slight right onto the frontage road. Turn left onto S. Blackstone Street. Turn Left onto E. Paige Avenue. Turn Right onto S. Laspina Street.

From the South: Take Freeway 99 North to the Paige Avenue exit. Bear right onto the frontage road. Turn Right on Paige Avenue. Turn Right on S. Laspina Street