

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Madison Spahr



Graduation Semester & Year: Spring 2024

Semester & Year of Internship: Spring 2024

Major: Communication

Minor: Psychology & Healthcare Management

Hobbies: Taking walks, painting, listening to music, reading, learning new recipes

Campus Activities: Office of Community Outreach Student Leader, Admissions Media Volunteer, Pitt PAL, Lambda Pi Eta, Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, Into the Streets

Future Plans/Career Goals: I have plans to achieve a position in Higher Education at the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Education. I want to work for Pitt within the scope of Higher Education to gain valuable experiences. I am hoping to relate the admission counseling internship to my future work opportunities.

Hometown: North Versailles,
PA

- **Internship (company/your title):**

Pitt-Greensburg Admissions/ Admissions Counseling Intern

- **How did you find your internship?**

I found my internship through the help of Career Services and social media efforts.

- **What were your duties?**

My duties throughout my internship were to learn how counselors functioned while also assisting the Campus Visit Coordinator with events. I attended college fairs and spoke with families and students about Pitt-Greensburg.

- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**

16 with some weekend events or college fair attendances.

- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**

I enjoyed connecting professionally with the staff in admissions. I also enjoyed being able to talk with families and prospective student about opportunities that Pitt-Greensburg has to offer whether this was at college fairs I assisted at or at admission event.

- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**

The most difficult part was the fast changing aspects of higher education. As the counselors are learning about the ever changing scenarios such as new rulings, different aspects of FAFSA, and overall administrative changes, I was also learning this at the same time with less experience.

- **How did your experience at UPG and in the Communication Department prepare you for your internship?**

Within the major of Communications, there is a wide variety of options to choose and pick from with internships. Admission counseling falls under the category of a business but there is much connecting with families/students. This occurs on a level of understanding that is necessary for effective communication. Asking questions is key to effectively gaining knowledge that can relate back to classes as well as future experiences.

- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**

My internship has prepared me for a career in many ways such as being ready for change at any moment, and knowing that a backup plan is always necessary. I have also learned that outreach is an important aspect no matter where you go in a career.

- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**

I recommend students to do an internship early if possible! This can help scope what you potentially may do or not do after college. Internships are great because you can network with people that you develop professional connections with. Keeping your mind open to different opportunities is super important!

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