Students Intern at 232 Employers in 37 States

Mines students reported working this summer in internships, co-op or undergraduate research experiences with more than 232 employers in 37 states and the District of Colombia.

South Dakota led the way with more than 75 employers from 16 communities across the state hiring students as interns.

South Dakota employers included manufacturing companies Daktronics, Raven Industries, RPM, RESPEC, Littelfuse, Trail King and Worthington Industries. Students were drawn to software companies and engineering firms, as well as several state and federal agencies.

“The integration of study with professional work experience prepares our students to succeed,” said Heather Wilson, President of SD Mines. “Over the past 15 years our internship program has grown so that it is now a signature part of a Mines education. Of last year’s graduates, 78 percent had at least one paid internship.”

Students not only gained valuable job experience but earned a living too. The average hourly wage was $17.57 per hour, with some employers also providing housing allowances, bonuses and relocation expenses. In all 523 students gained valuable career experience in their field of study, and students in all 16 undergraduate majors reported doing internships this summer.

Mines students contributed to high-profile companies like 3M, Cargill, Microsoft, Polaris, Ford, Garmin, Kimberly-Clark and ExxonMobil, as well as NASA and the Sanford Underground Research Facility in Lead.

Bennett Prosser, a senior mechanical engineering major from Sturgis, spent the summer working at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Mich., his second internship with the company.

“I was assigned to the Vehicle Energy Management Engineering group where I worked on performance

Black Hills Brawl to be Live on ESPN3

The historic rivalry between the South Dakota School of Mines Hardrockers and Black Hills State Yellow Jackets, the longest-running in NCAA Div. II college football, will receive national exposure this year with a telecast through ESPN3.

As many as 5,000 people are expected to attend the Sept. 12 game, SD Mines President Heather Wilson announced during a news conference held jointly with BHSU.

“I was assigned to the Vehicle Energy Management Engineering group where I worked on performance

The game at O’Harra Stadium in Rapid City, S.D., (6 p.m. start) will be broadcast on ESPN3 and will be the kickoff game for the NCAA Div. II Game-of-the-Week Series.

Support the Hardrockers at a pep rally to be broadcast live on NewsCenter1 Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 6-7 am at O’Harra Stadium.

SD Mines will play host to BHSU in the 130th meeting between the two programs which has been dubbed “The Black Hills Brawl – The Battle for the Homestake Trophy.” The rivalry is the oldest in NCAA Div. II and the third longest in all of college football.

The game between SD Mines and BHSU first started in 1885. The all-time record currently has the Hardrockers leading the series: 60-58 with 11 ties.

“This truly is one of the best rivalries in all of college football,” said Hardrocker football head coach Stacy Collins. “There is so much history between these two programs and it culminates into a great game that is worthy of this type of attention.”

ESPN3 will work with the NCAA to stream
Royal Gold Donates $500K to Minerals and Energy Industries Center

The South Dakota School of Mines & Technology has received a $500,000 donation from Royal Gold, Inc. (“Royal Gold”), to advance the university’s minerals and energy industries programs, bringing a total of $1.5 million raised this year for the project.

Royal Gold is a precious metals royalty and stream company engaged in the acquisition and management of precious metal royalties, streams and similar production-based interests. Based in Denver, Colo., Royal Gold owns interests on 198 properties on six continents, including interests on 38 producing mines and 25 development stage projects.

The gift will be dispersed over a five-year period and will support renovation of the current Mineral Industries Building that houses the Departments of Geology & Geological Engineering, Mining Engineering & Management and Materials & Metallurgical Engineering. The project is estimated at $17 million and is expected to be completed in 2022.

“This is a very generous donation from an industry leader. Mines prepares exceptional graduates in a facility that needs to be refurbished. We appreciate very much the commitment of industry to help with that effort,” said South Dakota Mines President Heather Wilson.

“The South Dakota School of Mines provides an excellent technical foundation to students entering the mineral and energy industries, as evidenced by its strong placement record and numerous alumni serving critical roles in our business,” said Royal Gold President and CEO Tony Jensen. “Royal Gold is pleased to assist in enhancing the school’s core infrastructure to ensure that its technical leadership continues well into the future.”

Airbus Americas Donates $500K Aircraft Part

Airbus Americas has donated an A320 elevator valued at $500,000 to the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. The 20-foot-long part designed for flight control on the aircraft’s tail will be used to support education and cold-spray research at SD Mines.

The university is a leader in cold-spray technology, which accelerates metal powders through a supersonic nozzle at rifle speeds to build up metal onto surfaces. Elevators damaged during operation are not always cost effective to repair. Christian Widener, Ph.D., director of the university’s Arbegast Materials Processing & Joining Laboratory, says his research team will help address this need by identifying projects geared toward researching cold-spray repair of aircraft flight control surfaces.

“Airbus is proud to donate this A320 elevator to the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology,” said Barry Eccleston, president of Airbus Americas. “Because the elevator will be used for teaching and research at the school, Airbus views this donation as an investment in our future, and in the future of engineering and science in South Dakota and the U.S.”

Widener, who serves as an associate mechanical and metallurgical engineering professor, says the donation will also be used as a teaching tool, so students gain familiarity with industry equipment. He plans to make a demonstration piece out of part of the elevator to show students the components of a finished aircraft part.

“The South Dakota School of Mines & Technology has been a leading institution in science and engineering for more than 100 years,” said U.S. Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.), whose office helped facilitate the donation. “This generous donation is an example of how public-private partnerships can help educate young men and women for careers that meet the demands of today’s rapidly evolving economy.”

“Mines has done exceptional work for the Air Force, developing new techniques to repair expensive metal parts rather than replace them. We appreciate Senator Thune making this connection so that we can expand opportunities for research,” said Heather Wilson, president of South Dakota Mines.
Doug Tabbert has been named interim volleyball head coach for the 2015 season, returning to SD Mines from Cameron University, Okla., where he served as head coach for three seasons.

“It’s great to have Doug step up and fill the head coaching role,” said Hardrocker Athletic Director Joel Lueken. “Doug has experience as a head coach and as a former Hardrocker head coach. I am confident he will do a great job.”

Tabbert previously the head coach of the Lady Hardrocker volleyball team from 2003-2006. The program improved steadily during his tenure, culminating with a 16-win season in 2006 that represented the program’s second-highest season winning percentage in the previous decade.

“I appreciate the opportunity to lead our volleyball program, and I especially appreciate the faith that Joel Lueken has shown in me as we undertake this transition,” Tabbert said. “I also greatly appreciate the support that I have received from our players as we head into the season.

Tabbert will become the first volleyball coach to compete in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference as 2015 marks the first season of competitions for the Hardrocker program.

Overall, Lady Hardrocker players during his tenure earned one-third team All-American selection, one conference Most Valuable Senior designation, four all-conference selections, eight conference Player-of-the-Week honors, three region Player-of-the-Week awards, five All-American scholar-athlete awards and 25 conference scholar-athlete honors.

Tabbert is a native of Perry, Kan., and has coached 17 all-conference and 12 all-academic conference players, 10 all-region players and seven All-Americans.
Nichols Hired as Director of New Wellness Center

Seth Nichols has been hired as director of the new Wellness Center at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. The position was newly created after construction of the Stephen D. Newlin Family Student Wellness & Recreation Center and Harvey Fraser Gymnasium was completed this past spring.

Nichols joins SD Mines after serving two years as recreation coordinator for the Williston Parks and Recreation District in North Dakota. At SD Mines, Nichols will oversee the programming and facilitating of youth and adult programs, leagues and camps.

Prior to his time with Williston Parks and Recreation District, Nichols interned with the Rapid City Parks and Recreation Department.

“I have a passion for health, wellness and athletics,” Nichols said. “I am extremely excited to come here to SD Mines and become part of the Mines Team.”

Nichols graduated from the University of North Dakota with a bachelor’s degree in recreation and tourism studies. Nichols also played for the UND Football team.

Nichols is CPR/First Aid Certified and is working to become NETA Certified and Kettlebell Certified. He is originally from McVille, N.D.

The new 24,750-square-foot Wellness Center, which adjoins the King Center, has added two basketball courts, a new group fitness room, a low level rock climbing wall, new student locker rooms and expanded cardio and weight training areas. A dedication will be held Sept. 26.

Junior Paulsen Takes First at Statewide Research Symposium

Mines student Bo Paulsen took first place at the Undergraduate Research Symposium hosted by SD EPSCoR. The mechanical engineering junior was selected from among 150 other students nationwide who were conducting research in South Dakota through National Science Foundation-funded programs, including Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) sites.

Paulsen’s research involved laser glazing and heat treating cold-sprayed alloy 718 with the goal of developing a cold-spray repair process for components made from this alloy.

“Alloy 718 is a very expensive metal, so finding a way to repair parts made from it would provide a substantial cost savings to industry,” Paulsen explained. His research was conducted as part of the REU Back to the Future site at Mines, which combines metallurgical engineering research with historical, social and artistic themes.

Paulsen, a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, is also the operations lead for the Aero Design team, a Tisopaye Scholar and member of the American Indian Science & Engineering Society at SD Mines.

McC Campbell Promoted to Associate Athletic Director

SD Mines women’s volleyball head coach Tiffany McCampbell has been promoted to Associate Athletic Director for Internal Operations.

“Tiffany was the Acting Athletic Director for a year at Mines and is ready for this new responsibility,” said SD Mines President Heather Wilson. “Our athletes do exceptionally well academically and we want to keep it that way. With this appointment and her expanded responsibilities, the athletic department is reinforcing its commitment to student success.”

In addition to heading up internal operations for Hardrocker athletics, McCampbell will become the Title IX Coordinator and the Athletic Student Success Coordinator. She will also retain her duties as the Senior Woman Administrator (SWA).

“I am very pleased to have Tiffany step into this role of athletic administration,” said Hardrocker Athletic Director Joel Luken. “It will be extremely beneficial not only to me, but also to the institution and Hardrocker athletics to have Tiffany as a member of the administrative team. Her drive, work ethic and vision will keep SD Mines and the Hardrockers moving forward.”

McCampbell, a 1998 graduate from Taylor University (Ind.), took over as the Lady Hardrocker head coach from 2009-2014 and amassed a 79-89 overall win-loss.

“I have really enjoyed my time as the Hardrocker volleyball coach,” McCampbell said. “This is a great opportunity for me and something I am excited to undertake. I am really going to miss coaching the sport of volleyball. However I am looking forward to the challenges this new position will offer.”

McCampbell has had previous experience in administration when she was named the Interim SD Mines Co-Athletic Director during the 2013-14 school year after the previous AD announced his retirement.

“It was difficult to be both a coach and administrator,” McCampbell said. “But to be placed in that position has really helped give me valuable experience to take on this new role.”

During her Hardrocker coaching career, McCampbell led the Hardrockers to a 27-5 overall record in 2011, finishing with the second highest win-percentage (84 percent) in Hardrocker volleyball program history. In addition, the 2011 team produced a 15-match win streak and was a vast improvement over the 2009 and 2010 versions in which the team finished with records of 9-19 and 10-18 respectively. Also during McCampbell’s time at SD Mines, her teams have been awarded the AVCA Team Academic Award six years in a row.

The SWA role was added to McCampbell’s duties in 2010 followed by assistant AD in 2011. Hardrocker volleyball assistant coach Doug Tabbert has been named the interim head coach for the 2015 season. A nationwide search will be conducted for a head volleyball coach at the end of the 2015 campaign.
Nearly 500 South Dakota School of Mines & Technology freshmen took part in this year's Day of Service Aug. 23, heading to neighborhoods and service organizations to clean, restore and assist with projects. Volunteers served 14 locations in the Rapid City and Black Hills area, completing 1,141 hours of community service before the first day of class.

It’s a day organizers hoped would not only serve the community but also jumpstart a successful collegiate career at Mines for new students.

SD Mines President Heather Wilson started the university’s Freshman Day of Service three years ago. “Mines prepares leaders in engineering and science. Leaders serve the community,” Wilson said. “Our students are not only in this community, we are of this community, and we will serve this community.”

The initiative, part of orientation and Welcome Week activities on campus, comes as part of a larger university effort to develop professional skills to complement the challenging academics at Mines. The Mines Advantage professional development program, started in 2013, is rapidly becoming a signature part of the Mines experience and includes career preparation, cultural and global diversity, personal development, leadership and teamwork, communication and community involvement.

Students spent time at a variety of locations in the community this year, including Corner Stone Rescue Mission, Feeding South Dakota, Wilson Elementary School, Girls Scouts and Outdoor Campus West. Projects included everything from painting to food sorting and event tear down. Some students also cleaned up and helped with landscaping projects on campus.

and fuel economy for the Super Duty pickup. My primary project focused on benchmarking four-wheel-drive drivetrain components and determining how those components impact vehicle energy consumption and fuel economy,” Prosser said.

He plans to pursue a career working full-time with Ford following a December graduation.

Cori Christensen, a senior geology major and Rapid City native, worked at Barrick Gold at Cortez Hills Underground in Elko, Nev., as a member of the Ore Control group this summer.

Brenna Mollet, a sophomore computer science major from Chanhassen, Minn., and Brooke Robinson, a sophomore computer engineering major from Cloverdale, Calif., worked as engineering interns at SDN Communications in Sioux Falls, a telecommunications company that serves over 80 percent of the state of South Dakota with phone and internet services.

Mollet and Robinson said their main project involved working with different software and creating engineering diagrams for a Verizon Wireless fiber optic cable project.

The most recent placement figures compiled by the university’s Career & Professional Development Center show 98 percent of 2013-2014 graduates landed jobs in the field for which they studied with an average starting salary of over $63,000 or enrolled in graduate school. Twelve of the university’s 16 majors had 100 percent placement rates for 2013-2014 graduates.

To see Mines interns in the field, visit https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdsmt/sets/72157656460647140
Welcome Week

The 2015-2016 school year began Aug. 24, with students returning to a new 24,750-square-foot Wellness Center, additional academic programs and planned infrastructure improvements. Students now have new minors offered in global engineering, computational statistics/big data, environmental science and military science, as well as a graduate certificate in petroleum systems. Construction will soon begin on a new residence hall and $6 million in renovations to laboratories and classrooms in the original part of the Chemical and Biological Engineering/Chemistry Building.
Main Street Square Hosts Hardrocker Night

SD Mines faculty and students made liquid nitrogen ice cream, hosted a chemistry magic show and guided interactive activities such as gold panning at Hardrocker Night at the Main Street Square Concert Series Aug. 20. A variety of student-designed vehicles were also displayed. Student athletes and university mascot Grubby interacted with families and distributed game schedules.

Apex Gallery Hosts Local Artist


As the name suggests, “What Might Have Happened” offers scenes of unreality, juxtapositions of images arranged into scenes, which viewers can enter and make their own. Animals may appear, often cast as villains. Children are a frequent motif as well, evoking childhood fables. These images, often in conversation with one another, suggest a kind of wildness that contains the unknown and the mysterious, a delicate balance of disparate components woven together. Gorder’s method involves collecting images from family photos, magazines, and random Google searches, assembling these into collage and finally painting the image in oil on canvas.

Gorder received his B.F.A in art from the University of Wyoming in 2008, and an education degree from Black Hills State in 2012. Currently, he teaches drawing and painting at Central High School in Rapid City.

About Legacy News

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To submit news or story ideas or to subscribe to the email distribution list, please contact Dani Mason, public relations officer, at 605.394.2554 or at Danielle.Mason@sdsmt.edu. For more Mines news, visit news.sdsmt.edu

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