February 2024

Hi students,

While a lot of campus recruitment and professional development events occur in the fall, I can safely say there's no shortage of them this month.

There's the Spring Career & Internship Fair, as well as several events leading up to it, like Tech Resume Reviews conducted by employers and alumni from companies like, Google, UPMC, and BNY Mellon. There's also the Female & Non-Binary Technologists Networking the morning of the fair, which is a great opportunity to meet employers in a more casual environment.

For students still looking to secure a summer internship, there's a virtual event happening today that might be of interest. There's also self-guided resources available on the SCI Career Services website and students are encouraged to meet with Saya Jackson, the Career Consultant for SCI who works out of the Career Center.

There's still plenty of other ways to gain experience other than internships, such as research, co-op, and volunteer work. Research is highlighted below in this month's spotlight and for anyone who missed the co-op info session and wants to learn more about the program, please don't hesitate to reach out.

There's also opportunities to learn valuable industry skills from participating in training programs, like Deloitte's Saleforce Academy or to join a hackathon, like the Hacking4Humanity one happening this month.

There's also an exciting competition deadline coming up for our entrepreneural minded students with startup ideas, called the Big Idea Competition. Students work in teams and have the ability to win major prizes.

And lastly, for students on an F-1 visa, please keep an eye out in the weekly newsletter that Student Services sends out for an upcoming CPT workshop that OIS will be hosting this month.

If you have any questions about these events or my spring workshop schedule below, just let me know!

Have a great month,

Emily Bennett
Manager of Experiential Learning, SCI

Featured Events

Tech Resume Reviews

Have your resume reviewed by tech employers/alumni in preparation for the Spring Career Fair on February 6! Check out the schedule, as well as Resumania if you can't make this event, in Handshake.

More Info

Spring Career & Internship Fair

Meet with employers interested in hiring tech talent for both full-time and internship opportunities. Held on February 14; no advance registration is necessary and students are welcome to attend the other two fair days.

More Info

GLAM Virtual Career Fair

Meet with recruiters interested in library talent to fill positions in government, libraries, museums, and archives at this virtual fair! Held February 23; student registration opens on February 14.

More Info

Spotlight: Research

Getting involved in research can be a great way to delve into a topic of interest, as well as gain critical thinking and analytical skills. Fortunately, attending an R1 institution means there's no shortage of research being conducted at the university.

However, learning about opportunities at Pitt is largely via word of mouth. Start inquiring within the school by visiting the office hours of faculty

doing research you're interested in, or by emailing them directly. Even if the work starts out at a very basic level, it can progress over time or be useful in leveraging for more advanced research. It's also possible to be cited in a publication as an undergrad, which isn't always the case at other universities.

Within SCI, there are several labs and institutions, as well as faculty conducting research using grants and other funding. To better structure and promote the research activities happening within the school, SCI recently created a new position, the Associate Dean of Research. Dr. Walker has already started creating a directory of opportunities open to undergraduate students located here.

Consider reaching out to non-SCI affiliated labs or entities, like ones within the School of Medicine or the School of Engineering. Check out the list the Office of Undergraduate Studies compiled here. Consider how your technical interests might overlap with some of your other ones, such as sports, medicine, or the arts.

External opportunities, like summer research programs hosted at other institutions, or at REU sites funded by the NSF, typically have more formal applications. Feel free to search for them online in directory based sites and through Handshake. Many other universities have summer research opportunities, such as MIT and Carnegie Mellon University, so be sure to check them out as well.

If you're still unsure about research, keep an eye out for research focused events, such as poster sessions held around campus and fairs like the Undergraduate Research & Creative Expression Fair, which should have a spring date announced soon. You'll be able to learn more about various types of research, as well as speak to the individuals conducting it.

This is also a great topic to discuss with your advisor, especially if you're trying to earn credit for the experience.

Featured Resources

SCI Active Research Directory

Check out a list of faculty and active grants within SCI, as well as a directory of potential projects for undergraduate students.

More Info

Graduate Professional Development Resources

The Office of the Provost is committed to supporting the professional development needs of the graduate student population. Check out the resources they offer, such as the Versatile PhD and Aurora, as well as ongoing professional development programming.

More Info

Career Closet

Need professional attire for an upcoming career fair, networking event, or interview? Rent clothing from the Career Center's Career Closet to look your best!

Selected Opportunities

Software Engineering Intern - Spring at NOMA AI

Hacking4Humanity hosted by Pitt, Duquesne, and CMU

Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Summer Opportunities at Carnegie Museums & Science Center

Judy Cheteyan Collections Internship at Fallingwater

Salesforce Academy - deadline 2/13 hosted by Deloitte

Spring Workshop Schedule

Securing a Summer Internship | February 5, Noon - 12:45 p.m., Virtual

Succeed in Your Summer Experience | March 28, 1 - 1:45 p.m., Virtual

Salary Negotiation | April 4, Noon - 12:45 p.m., SENSQ 5317

Make the Most of Your Summer Break| April 12, Noon - 12:45 p.m., Virtual

Interested in volunteering?

SCI's Community Engagement Volunteer Form

SCI students interested in technical skills-based volunteer opportunities and programs within the Pitt and Pittsburgh community should complete this volunteer form each semester. Please note that due to staffing issues, the alternative spring break program is paused for this semester.

Sign Up Here

Experiential Learning Policies

SCI Career Services

Experiential Learning Courses

University of PITTSBURGH | School of Computing and Information

Emily Bennett, M.Ed., CMCS, CPRW
emb108@pitt.edu
Connect with me on LinkedIn