TLS NEWSLETTER: BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

In The Know: On Tour with the Transportation & Logistics Flagship Program

By: Lynn Brown

If you aren’t taking advantage of Transportation & Logistics facility tours you are missing a great opportunity. Here are just a few reasons why you should get on board:

- Tours are FUN and transportation is provided.
- It is a great way to see logistics in action and learn about the industry.
- Most facilities are not open to the public. Tours organized through the T&L program may be the only opportunity to go behind the scenes and see the operation.
- Seeing different facilities will provide a better understanding of the coursework and may help determine your career path.
- It is a great opportunity to network with business professionals and fellow students.
- The experience will provide great talking points while networking or on an interview.
- Attending facility tours shows recruiters you have a genuine interest in the profession.

What are students in the T&L program saying about facility tours?

“It was fascinating! This tour highlighted so many of the areas being covered in the logistics program at UNF. It is amazing to see the curriculum so in-sync with the real business world.”
Pat Graham, Swisher tour.

“ ‘The tours are an invaluable resource to see how the industry actually works. It is one thing to learn about it in the classroom, but seeing it all first hand is how transformational learning really happens.’
Tom Branning, BMW tour.

“The greatest benefit is to see things I learn about in class play out in the real world. The tours are a great way to learn about the culture of an organization, and you get to meet people you would not have an opportunity to meet.”
Colin Brewster, PenserSC tour.

“It was a great view into the company, and I feel like I am much more in-tune to the operations of a large scale manufacturer. The gentlemen were great hosts and overall it was a wonderful experience.”
Eddy Fernandez, Swisher tour.

Join us for the next tour of the Winn-Dixie Distribution Center on Friday, February 11. The bus will depart at 9:00 a.m. from UNF Hall (bldg. 53, lot 53) at the corner of Kernan Blvd. and First Coast Technology Parkway. We return at 12:30 p.m. Email: TLSociety@unf.edu by Friday, February 4 to RSVP.

Be sure to mark your calendars for Big Sea Day on Friday, April 1. Big Sea Day is a full day of excitement starting with a Crowley tug boat voyage up the St Johns River to JaxPort’s Blount Island. We will visit 3 marine terminals, watch crane operators load and unload containers and enjoy lunch on a Horizon Lines ship. Big Sea Day is sponsored by the Propeller Club and space is limited.

TLS needs volunteers for the Career Day committee. This is a great opportunity to get to know different employers and a great way to learn what to expect. Please contact Tom Branning, Career Day committee chair at BranningT@hotmail.com.

www.unf.edu/groups/logistics
By: Kyle McNamara

Continuing our look at UNF alumni from the T&L Flagship Program and what they are involved in after graduation, we now have a chance to meet Benjamin Richards.

While Ben was a student at UNF he served as vice president and social director of the Transportation & Logistics Society and logistics chairperson for the UNF Relay For Life organizing committee. He graduated in the spring of 2010 with a bachelor's degree in Transportation & Logistics. Ben says that the leadership positions and volunteer work he did with TLS prepared him for his current career as a Transportation Coordinator for Stein Mart.

Ben has been a Transportation Coordinator at Stein Mart for the past seven months. His work duties include verifying transportation invoices, working with the inventory control department, developing claims processes, initiating claims against carriers, issuing charges against vendors for shipping incorrectly, arranging fixture deliveries for new stores and relocations, and tracking cartons through the network. Ben works an average of 45 hours per week and credits much of his success to the great opportunities offered by TLS and the T&L Flagship Program in the UNF Coggin College of Business.

By: Holly McNally

Tour of Winn-Dixie Distribution Center: Friday, February 11, 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tour is free and transportation is provided. Limit is 20 participants. RSVP to TLSociety@unf.edu.

TLS Meeting: Wednesday, February 16, 9:00 p.m. (42/1020)

Interview Techniques – “Beyond the Basics” with Marilyn Feldstein, Career Coach and CEO of Career Choices Unlimited

This program is a good warm-up for Career Day and an awesome opportunity to get advice from a real expert. Ms. Feldstein's presentation will go far beyond the basics and address how to:
- Open the interview using an effective process
- Communicate effectively using both verbal and non-verbal skills
- Answer both traditional and behavioral questions
- Negotiate salary and benefits
- Handle small details that will make a big difference
- Close the interview and get a job offer (or maybe multiple offers)!

Transportation & Logistics Spring Career Day: Friday, February 25, 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. It is one of the most successful placement programs at UNF with many students and graduates receiving offers for full-time employment and internships. Career Day participants are required to attend a planning meeting on February 8 or 9 at 9:00 p.m. in 42/1111.

Did you know that the T&L Flagship Program hosts the only discipline specific Career Day at UNF? T&L Career Day is an opportunity for multiple face-to-face interviews with recruiters who are hiring from: All Fr8 Logistics, Beaver Street Fisheries, Cognistics, Inc., Corporate Traffic, Crowley Maritime, CSX, Gexpro Services, Interline Brands, JCPenney, Michael’s Distribution, NYK Logistics, PSS World Medical, ShipXpress, Suddath Companies, Target, Tennessee Commercial Warehouse, US State Department, US Transportation Services, and Winn-Dixie.

Join members of TLS on Wednesday, February 16 at 9:00 p.m. in 42/1020 for “Interview Techniques – Beyond the Basics” with Marilyn Feldstein, CEO of Career Choices Unlimited. The program is for anyone who wants to develop the skills, strategies and confidence to master the art of interviewing. Information at www.unf.edu/groups/logistics.

Holly McNally is a junior enrolled in the UNF transportation and logistics program in the UNF Coggin College of Business. She chose transportation and logistics as her major because of the extremely high demand for graduates with skills to succeed in the profession. Once Holly started taking classes and going on facility tours, she realized that logistics affects almost everything we do on a day to day basis.

Holly started off by attending TLS general meetings. She wanted to get more involved and inquired about other opportunities to volunteer. She decided to help out by joining the Career Day committee and writing articles for the spring 2011 TLS newsletter. Volunteering has opened doors for further opportunities, and now along with her writer position, Holly serves as the assistant marketing director on the executive board for TLS.

Being active in TLS is a great way to network and learn about the profession. Holly says that being involved with the Transportation and Logistics Society has helped her earn scholarships and build a professional network, which is the foundation for a successful career after graduation.

By: Holly McNally

Life After Graduation: Ben Richards

Get To Know: Holly McNally

Transportation & Logistics Career Day: Friday, February 25