TLS Newsletter: Beyond The Classroom

In The Know:
Join TLS, Prepare For The Future

By: Ben Richards

As an alumnus of the Transportation & Logistics Program and the Transportation & Logistics Society (TLS), I have first-hand experience that TLS is an exciting, fast-paced club that will prepare you for the workplace, expand your professional network, and provide growth through personal experience. Over the past year TLS members volunteered in over 20 community service related activities, professional networking events, and school related social events. This included 8 monthly meetings, 6 facility tours, at least 4 different non-profit events, 2 T&L Career Days, 2 Case Competitions, and numerous Market days, cookie drives, and donut sales.

A major priority of TLS is to create opportunities for networking and professional development. Each monthly meeting features guests from the community or provides information on upcoming tours, competitions, and networking events. TLS members serve as volunteers for the semi-annual T&L Career Day. The Career Day committee is a great way to get connected and kick start your professional career. Last spring 45 students and recruiters from 16 companies conducted 190 face to face interview sessions, which led to jobs and internships for students and recent graduates of the T&L program.

TLS has a strong commitment to community service. Last year TLS collected more than $8,000 in cash, toys and toiletries, for 3 non-profit organizations: Hubbard House, the American Cancer Society and the Healthy Start Coalition. Community service is a solid resume builder, a great way to get leadership experience and get to know fellow TLS members.

One essential component of TLS is life after graduation. The transportation workplace is a very close-knit community and to succeed you need to build and maintain a healthy professional network. It is important to start building that foundation at UNF. For example, I am employed in the transportation department for a large retailer and work closely with fellow alumni representing 3rd party logistics, ocean shipping, and trucking companies. It is nice to know the people you are collaborating with when you are trying to accomplish day-to-day goals, and it is fun to hang out after the job is finished.

After meeting with the new board I can confidently say the year ahead is going to be great. While the board is continuing many traditions, they are planning to make meetings fun social events designed to facilitate networking and relationship building. Membership in TLS is an investment in your professional future. You will be missing out on an opportunity of a lifetime if you don’t get involved!

Sponsored By: Mellow Mushroom

www.unf.edu/groups/logistics

PDF Designed
By: Matthew Bullard
**Life After Graduation: Maria Lugovets**

By Matthew Bullard

Maria Lugovets works at CEVA logistics, a third party logistics provider, as a demand-planning supervisor. Maria graduated in the Spring of 2009 and has been working for CEVA logistics for the last 16 months. Maria explains, “As the recruitment director for TLS I spent a lot of time talking to large diverse audiences that helped me develop confidence and communication skills”. Maria works 40 to 45 hours a week maintaining a 3-week buffer of auto parts in a centralized stateside warehouse for an auto manufacturer. Lugovets is the single point of contact for suppliers, freight forwarders, brokers and plants located in North America, Europe and Asia. She stated that one of her biggest challenges is protecting production when shipments from the origins are late due to issues such as, floods, customer issues, and even the occasional volcano eruption in China! The average starting salary for demand planning supervisors at employers such as CEVA range from $40,000 to $45,000 a year depending on your skill set. In closing Maria added, “I would strongly encourage students not just to join TLS but be active with the club. It will open doors for your career!”

**Get To Know TLS Recruitment Director: Joseph Finnigan**

My name is Joseph Finnigan and I am a senior at the University of North Florida with a double major in Business Management and Transportation and Logistics. I will be graduating in December 2010 and look forward to what the professional world has to offer. I was born and raised in Orlando and moved to Jacksonville to attend UNF after I graduated from high school. I am very involved in two clubs at UNF serving as Recruitment Director Transportation and Logistics Society and president of Delta Sigma Pi, a professional business fraternity.

Currently, I am an import/export intern at CEVA Logistics. I am engaged in the General Motors contract that CEVA is a part of, specifically the direct to plant shipments from all over the world to the GM plants in the USA. Working as an intern in a logistics company has certainly broadened my perspective on how important logistics is to the global economy. I look forward to working with a logistics company upon graduation that will challenge my abilities and provide me with opportunities to advance in the profession.

**Important Upcoming Dates**

- **October 5 or 6** Mandatory meeting for Career Day participants - 9:00 p.m. Bldg. 42, Rm. 1102.

- **Wednesday, October 13** TLS meeting - Young Alumni Panel - “Tales from the real world (a.k.a. Life after Career Day).

- **Friday, October 22** Facility tour of Henry Schein Distribution Center 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Register at TLSociety@unf.edu Transportation provided

- **Friday, October 29** T&L Fall Career Day

- **Friday, October 29** TLS Hubbard House Toy Drive Kick-Off

For more information contact: TLSociety@unf.edu Cole Norton: cole.norton@unf.edu