



NJCEIA

Thriving Through Partnership in a New Professional Paradigm

NJCEIA and NJACE Co-host Spring Conference

Meet the New Executive Board

President

Christian Uhl
Stevens Institute of Technology

Vice-President for Programs

Barbara Raido
Middlesex County College

Vice-President for Membership

Amie Donahue
Seton Hall University

Vice-President for Communications

Tammy J. Samuels
Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Vice-President for Awards and Recognition

Christine Cervelli
New Jersey Institute of Technology

Vice President for Finance

Laszlo Pokorny
NaturaSource International, LLC

Parliamentarian

Flore Dorcey
Drew University

By Christine Cervelli
NJCEIA and NJACE co-sponsored the 2nd Annual Mini-Conference at The John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development in New Brunswick, NJ on March 26, 2010. The Heldrich Center program included an overview of the center, updates on the job market for both the US and NJ, an overview of key skills NJ employers are seeking, an overview of Bioscience jobs, Transportation, Logistics, and Distribution jobs, as well as a presentation about Green jobs in NJ.

Presenters from the Heldrich Center included Kathy Krepcio, the Executive Director of the Heldrich Center; Jeff Stoller, Director of Communications and Outreach; Robb Sewell-Wolff, Senior Writer and Editor; Aaron Fichtner,

Director of Research and Evaluation; Maria Heidkamp, Senior Project Manager; Laurie Harrington, Project Manager; Jennifer Cleary, Senior Project Manager; and Carl Van Horn, Professor and Director.

These experts delivered statistics and labor market trends that can be used by Career Centers in developing their strategic plans to help their students in their career development and job search strategies. NJCEIA member Dominique Clarke commented, "I learned a lot about current labor market trends and can now bring that information to the students and alumni that I advise."

The afternoon panel presentation focused on serving clients with Asperger Syndrome. Panelists included Karen Carroll from

DVRS, Bob Franco and Sheila Steinbach from Jewish Vocational Services, Jen Kunert from West-Bergen - Asperger's Related Services, and Mary Meyer from ASPEN. The panelists discussed the many services and programs available to students with Asperger Syndrome and how we can help our clients prepare for the job search and succeed on the job.

NJCEIA member Sharon Gilbert stated, "This conference was jam packed with information on topics that are relevant to my job working with students and alumni. It is extremely important to stay updated on workforce trends. Also, learning about programs for students with Asperger Syndrome will help our office better serve clients with those needs. I look forward to implementing new programs during the upcoming semesters."



The Heldrich Center staff at the NJCEIA and NJACE 2nd Annual Mini-Conference.



Expert panel who spoke on Asperger Syndrome at the Mini-Conference.

Have an Idea for a Program?

The NJCEIA Executive Board is currently planning programs for 2010-2011. If you have a topic that you would like to see included in next year's schedule or at the mini-conference, please e-mail Barbara Raido, VP for Programs at BRaido@middlesexcc.edu.

Join the New NJCEIA LinkedIn Group

This group is a forum for idea exchange and discussion as well as a place for event announcements related to the field of cooperative education and internships. The group is open to professionals working within the fields of career services, cooperative education, recruiting and hiring, university relations, as well as college and university faculty.

[Join Our Group](#) 

Got News?



NJCEIA is always looking for news and announcements from members. Is your office working on a new program? Has anyone been published, promoted, or honored? Is anyone retiring? If so, we want to hear from you. Please e-mail the information to Tammy Samuels, VP for Communications, at janese@echo.rutgers.edu to be included in a future Spotlight or eCommunique Newsletter.



Thriving Through Partnership in a New Professional Paradigm

NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE EDUCATION & INTERNSHIP ASSOCIATION

Awards Ceremony Honors Students and Practitioners

By Tammy Samuels

NJCEIA held its annual awards banquet at the Rutgers Club in New Brunswick, NJ on June 10, 2010. Stevens alumnus and 2009 NJCEIA four-year student of the year award winner, Keith Cassidy was the keynote speaker. He was also honored as the 2009 American Society for Engineering Student of the Year. Keith now works as a Senior GIT Analyst for the Movado Group and shared his perspectives and values of cooperative education along with his global “real world” experiences at Movado.

The awards presentations began with the two-year school award winner, Virginia Borough, a Fashion Merchandising major from Middlesex County College. She completed her internship in the summer 2009 as a Merchandising Intern with Phillips Van Heusen, IZOD in Bridgewater, NJ.

During her internship, Virginia completed a marketing proposal that was presented to an audience of over 80 people, including company executives and the CEO. Her creative ideas included an interactive golf website for the IZOD brand, a text message sent to their audience, a profit gain analysis, and reusable shopping bags which advertised their new marketing campaign. She also coordinated a community service event in which school supplies were collected for needy children in the Somerset community. Because of Virginia’s hard work, the office collected twice as many donations compared to the previous year. Her supervisor notes her achievements by saying, “Virginia worked well with all members of our team, and she was completely dependable, communicated effectively and

could follow directions quickly and explicitly. Virginia’s performance was everything we expect in our interns and more.” As a result of Virginia’s accomplishments throughout her internship, she was offered a full-time position with PVH. Now a May 2010 graduate, she is currently working as a Customer Service Representative.

The four-year school award winner was Nicole Spagnolia from Seton Hall University. Nicole, now a rising senior, interned as an IT Programmer with Beacon Healthcare Communications during the summer of 2009.

During her internship, she completed a database design project. As a result of being a quick learner, she had the opportunity to work on two live websites, participate in client meetings, and create a proposal of a mock website used to pitch to a client. The proposal was quickly accepted by the client. Nicole not only excelled in her internship but also in leadership. She served as a Director of Marketing for her sorority, where she launched an award-winning website. Her internship supervisor acknowledges Nicole and her notable achievements by saying “Nicole’s experience was not ordinary. She didn’t live at the periphery of our tasks, but because of her energy, her talent, her intelligence, and her character, was right in the thick of it with the rest of them.”

The Practitioner of the Year award was presented by Amy Donahue, NJCEIA VP for Membership. The recipient of this year’s award went to Tammy Samuels, the Assistant Director for Internships at Rutgers University – New Brunswick.

Tammy was nominated by a graduate intern along with her supervisor.

Tammy has been the principal architect and coordinator of the university-wide Rutgers Internship & Co-op Program, having designed its infrastructure, including policies, procedures, and documentation. She created the syllabi and teaches the online internship course. Tammy took initiative in developing, implementing, and managing a comprehensive marketing plan as well. She brings her organizational, project management, teamwork skills to the program and all of her endeavors.

The respect Tammy has earned and the professionalism she embodies extends to her role in professional organizations as well. While serving as the VP for Awards and Recognition for NJCEIA, she has assisted with benchmarking, survey design, and programming. One member of the board notes her contributions by saying, “She possesses initiative. It is one thing to present an idea, but another to follow through on it.”

The NJCEIA Awards program provides an opportunity for students, employers, college practitioners, and families to celebrate the enlightening experiences that await students involved in cooperative education and internships. As with every year prior, we celebrated just that along with the notable recognition of our peers and students.

Full article available at:
[www.njceia.org/
studentoftheyearwinners.htm](http://www.njceia.org/studentoftheyearwinners.htm)

Get Involved with NJCEIA

NJCEIA is an organization that depends on an active membership to facilitate programs and coordinate events. If you are interested in volunteering, the following committees are looking for members to help with planning events and setting the goals for the future of NJCEIA.

- 1) Archives
- 2) Awards
- 3) Programming
- 4) Public Relations



2010-2011 Executive Board. If you are interested in becoming involved on a committee, e-mail Amie Donahue, VP for Membership, at amie.donahue@shu.edu