

**EIP** EXECUTIVE  
INTERNSHIP  
PROGRAM  

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**Pinellas County Schools**

**31 Years of Program Excellence**

*Nationally Recognized  
by the  
U.S. School-to-Work Office  
as  
One of Five Best Practices*

To Our Sponsors:

It is our pleasure to compile and distribute the Executive Internship Program newsletter for the 2004-2005 school year. The entries in this newsletter have been developed by the high school interns who participated in the Executive Internship Program throughout the school year.

This school year has been very successful for all involved. We would personally like to thank all of our wonderfully supportive sponsors for taking the time to teach these students what professional life is really all about. There is no greater challenge than to face the unknown, and these students have all taken that risk and grown from the experience.

As always, the Executive Internship Program coordinators thank you for your continued support and for the meaningful experiences that you allow our students. We know how much of a responsibility it is to have an intern, and we are greatly appreciative that you are willing to take the time to enable students to experience the professional setting. We look forward to successful and exciting semesters to come.

Dr. Mary C. Black, Program Coordinator  
Mrs. Sandra T. Irvin, Program Coordinator  
Mrs. Diane N. Lops, Program Coordinator

**Experience is the key.**

**Executive Internship Program  
A Dual Credit, Experiential Education Success**

The Executive Internship Program was introduced into Pinellas County high schools in 1974. Today, the Executive Internship Program is affiliated with a national organization of experiential education programs and has been nationally recognized as a model program by the U.S. School-to-Work office. Over 3,500 students in Pinellas County have participated in the program.

The program represents a unique blending of the business community, the local junior college and the public schools. It is available to eligible high school students during their senior year. The students spend an average of 10 - 15 hours a week working with a professional at decision-making levels in their future career field. Students are not paid by their sponsors, but they do receive high school elective credit and college credit from St. Petersburg College for their participation. The serious educational nature of the program requires that interns maintain analytical logs of their activities; participate in seminars; prepare college-level coursework and presentations demonstrating what they have learned during the internship; and submit a program evaluation.

*Internship placements include but are not limited to:*

Law  
Computers  
Medicine  
Advertising  
Communications  
Archeology

Banking  
Public Relations  
Law Enforcement  
Social Services  
Accounting  
Physical Therapy

Engineering  
Business  
Fire and Rescue  
Environmental  
Education  
Media Productions

Dentistry  
Government/Politics  
Architecture  
Marine Science  
Cultural  
Veterinary Medicine

# Back Cover

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## **Executive Internship Program**

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida  
301 Fourth Street, S. W.  
Largo, FL 33770

an equal opportunity institution for education and employment

## FALL 2003 – 2004

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### **BOCA CIEGA HIGH SCHOOL**

When **Juanita C. Banks** met sponsor **Pat Ritter** as she began her internship at **Bayfront Medical Center's Operating Room**, she intended to confirm her decision to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. As she was interning, she observed many different surgeries: caesarian sections, surgery for broken bones, hysterectomies, and even brain surgery. During these surgeries the surgeons and CRNA's carefully informed her about everything that they were doing. In the short time she interned the O.R. staff taught her an amazing amount of information. Witnessing all of these surgeries confused Juanita about her choice of becoming a CRNA. She realized that there were many opportunities in the medical field open to her.

### **CLEARWATER HIGH SCHOOL**

While being guided by **Melody Baran** of the **Clearwater Marine**

**Aquarium, Alex Brown** found out that being a marine biologist is not just playing with dolphins all day. There are multiple tasks that must be done to help rehabilitate and release sick animals back into the wild. There are also very sad times that go along with being a marine biologist. Alex watched Spirit, a calf bottlenose dolphin, die right in front of him. It was probably one of the saddest moments of his life. He also found that being sanitary was very important, because if you weren't then a lot of the sick animals would get even sicker. Alex assisted in giving presentations on sea turtles, and in the kitchen, by sorting out the food for the dolphins. Due to the sadness and the strict sanitation rules, Alex's experience has convinced him that a career as a marine biologist will not be one of his main goals.

By working with **Vic Morelli** at the **Eckerd Drugs** on Curlew Road, **Simone Bridges** learned that there was a lot more work that goes on behind the Pharmacist counter than appears. From the time a

customer enters the pharmacy, several steps must be taken to oblige their needs. Simone learned a lot from her observance of the employees at Eckerd. Employees such as, **Patricia May** and **Jody Bower**, taught Simone how to work with customers effectively and with patience. Simone also learned skills such as running the front register and drive thru area from working with and observing Patricia and Jody. Pharmacists, such as **Joanne Tiglio**, taught Simone all the specific skills she needed to learn how to refill a prescription accurately. Simone's overall experience at Eckerd was truly and exciting learning experience and helped her to realize that a career in pharmacy is what she shall pursue.

Local high school student **Shelly Delisle**, under the supervision of **Ken O'Leary** at **Bright House Communications**, discovered that television production isn't as fun and games as she'd predicted. There is a mass amount of hard work and dedication

that goes into a single production. She has set up sets, taken phone calls, worked audio, run camera, and assisted with tape. While with all the valuable information she has obtained and the extensive hands-on approach she was able to foresee that television production is a high interest in her future career goals.

While working through **Caring Partners**, a volunteer organization at **Morton Plant Hospital** headed by **Karin Williams, Charlotte Gillett** has seen but not performed many medical procedures. Charlotte has interned, or shadowed, under several hospital employees including the Medical Director of the Emergency Room, **Dr. Brian Cook**. Charlotte finds the environment and variety of medical specialties of the emergency room to be exciting and extremely interesting. Although people have told her otherwise, Charlotte strongly feels that medicine is a career field she would love to pursue.

After being taken under the wing of **Dr. Danuta Jackson-Curtis** of **Better Health and Medical Center**, **Brandi Gwin** has realized that a career in

pediatrics, although hectic, is where she wants to be. Brandi has check-in procedures from the medical assistant **Angie Collins**, the different stages a child goes through from birth until 18. where important materials are kept, learned where important materials are kept, and is now able to stand the crying of a child who has been given a shot! Although maybe Brandi would prefer to be in the "hustle and bustle" of a hospital, she's decided that nevertheless that a career in pediatric is right for her.

Having the opportunity to work with **Mrs. Lynn Roberts, Art Teacher**, at **Paul B. Stephens Exceptional Student Education, Michella Hicks** is certain that pursuing a career in physical therapy would be a great thing for her to do. Interacting with many of the physical therapist located at the school has been quite the learning experience for her. She found out that you have to be physically fit in order to perform many of the tasks associated with the job. Michella's experience at Paul B. Stephens has given her that extra "push" she was looking for.

**Cortney La Belle** experienced hands on, what athletic trainers and physical therapists do on a day-to-day basis. Working under the wings of **Scott Anderson, Athletic Trainer at Clearwater High School**, and **Larry Dominie, at Morton Plant Mease Hospital**. Cortney assisted the trainers at the school and helped in any way possible. At the hospital, she observed Larry, a Physical Therapist and other assistant physical therapists. Cortney realized that an undergraduate degree in Athletic training and a master's degree in Physical Therapy is her goal and what she is going to strive for in the years to come.

The evening news is viewed by thousands across the Tampa Bay area. Over the first semester of his senior year at Clearwater High School, **Bobby Lewis** got to experience the evening news first hand at **WFTS Channel 28 News Station** in Tampa, Florida. Under the careful watch of **Linda Wisniewski, WFTS's Assignments Editor**, Bobby learned all about the necessary procedures needed to get all of the day's news to the screen at 5 o'clock. Bobby went out with reporters, photographers, and met

with many on-air personalities such as **Al Keck**, and **Brendan McLaughlin** on a daily basis. The experience was inspiring and has prompted him to pursue a career in broadcast journalism. One day, he hopes to become a news anchor and work in TV news. The semester long internship was life-changing and extremely motivational.

**Jennifer Love** has spent her internship at **All Children's Hospital** in the **Neonatal Intensive Care Unit** under the guidance of **Tina Spagnola**. She has learned that the road of nursing is very long and bumpy. Jennifer spent her time in the unit helping nurses with feedings, diaper changes, and crying babies. She was also able to connect with several nurses about their journey through the nursing process. Jennifer's experience has convinced her that a career in neonatal nursing might not be what she wants but a career in pediatric nursing is definitely her goal.

Under the guidance of **Michael Samarkos** at the **Eckerd Drug Store**, located on Clearwater-Largo Road, **Moiya Mitchell** discovered that being a pharmacy technician is a task.

Working in retail pharmacy requires a lot of patience and understanding, when dealing with the stores customers/ patients. **Moiya** has been filling and filing courtesy refills for the prescribers at Eckerd's. She has also been making doctor calls and faxing their offices, in order to confirm the patients refill authorizations. She has also worked under the care and administration of **Lily**, another one of Eckerd's fellow pharmacists. She has also assisted **Melissa**, and **Matthew**, two other **pharmacy technicians**, with un-packing the overnight, on-order prescriptions. **Moiya** found that retail pharmacy is fascinating, but she would like to do some further research into the pharmacy representative aspect of this career Field.

As an intern at **Sun Coast Hospital** in Largo, Florida, **Claude Pearson** has discovered his calling as a medical professional. With the aid of his sponsor, **Registered Nurse, Michele Haynes**, **Claude** has assisted physicians, nurses, and medical technicians in various hospital departments, such as Pediatrics, Recovery, Rehab, Pharmacy, and Phlebotomy. Although he finds all the departments he

has visited very interesting, **Claude** found the most gratification from the Pediatric Health Clinic. As a result of the Executive Internship Program, **Claude** has decided to first get into nursing and then pursue his dream of becoming a physician. Being a nurse first will allow him to gain another prospective of the medical world before he enters into the medical practice. **Claude** is aware that there is a great deal of work involved in both the professional and educational processes of health care and is doing all the things necessary, including the internship, to make sure that he accomplishes his goals.

Under the supervision of **Chaila Restall** of the **State Attorney's Office**, **Ashley Robinson** found that being a State Attorney is very demanding and it takes dedication and perseverance. There is a great deal of time invested in the jobs of a State Attorney. **Ashley Robinson** was able to review police reports, view arraignment calendars, watch trials, and wrote checks. She found that the process of the court system was time consuming, interesting, and captivating. After **Ashley** had the chance to intern for the State Attorney's Office

she has decided not to pursue a career in law due to the stress level and the complexity of the job.

At the **Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority**, under the supervision of **Loi Trien**, intern **Amberly Taylor** has learned many valuable concepts for her future. She realized that being a graphics coordinator is a lot harder than she thought. She mainly works on the computer assisting with designing the new website or working on the company newsletter. Amberly assisted with assembling awards entries for the Southwest Transit Association. She also goes to meetings with the marketing department to review and revise prints and presentations. She found the job interesting and fun. Amberly's experience at PSTA had opened a new career possibility she never thought of before.

With the guidance and assistance of **Mary Crosby of Morton Plant Hospital's Barrett Center**, **Megan Walsh** discovered that being a **Speech Pathologist** isn't just teaching people how to speak correctly. There is a lot of paperwork and organizing. Megan also received help from

**Elizabeth Gaetz and Diana Goodwin, Speech Pathologists**. She helped prepare the paperwork for evaluations, observed therapy sessions and evaluations, made copies, participated in the therapy sessions, and observed swallow- studies. She found that voice therapy and swallow- studies were the most fascinating. Megan's experience has convinced her that Speech Pathology is definitely what she wants to do as a career.

### COUNTRYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

**Jessica Munn**, owner, designer, and dressmaker of **Jess K Clothing**, has been **Alisa Castagna's** mentor for the past few months. For decades, magazines, television, photographs, etc. have romanticized the fashion world. The spotlight hasn't been focused on the incredible efforts put into the processes of finding fabric suppliers, making patterns to fit all sizes, choosing the right material, staying up to date with trends, purchasing various sewing machines and the proper equipment/supplies, and producing and promoting the clothing line and the business. Alisa has attended a Women's

Entrepreneurship seminar, designed, learned how to make and price a skirt, purchased a sewing machine of her own, made Allison Lovell's Halloween costume, and contributed to promoting Jess K Clothing. She has become more and more intrigued and motivated to further herself with a career in the fashion world.

A wise mentor can determine the outcome of an experience. Through **Beth Rawlins**, a very wise mentor, **Emily Freeman** was able to truly grasp what it means to be a **Political Consultant**. Emily took on a number of campaigns and watched the tedious process unfold. She met numerous people and took an in-depth look at the art of Political Consulting. Although Emily is not sure what her future will bring, she is positive that Political Consulting is a very possible career choice.

**Blair Keller**, a student at Countryside High School had the opportunity to do her internship at **Oldsmar Elementary School** with **Carole Bates**. Blair has been able to perform a wide range of activities. She has taught students one-on-one, in a small group setting and a math lesson to the whole class. Her internship at

Oldsmar has been full of learning experiences. The students always brought joy to her day. Before she began her internship, she was unsure if she still wanted to enter the teaching profession. After her internship, she found that she is in love with teaching profession and would like to pursue a career in education.

At **Countryside Country Club, Kathleen Nolan** worked with **Catering Director Deana Cale**. She learned all the steps involved in putting together a successful event. She also had the opportunity to sit in on many appointments with clients discussing the details of their event.

Kathleen also attended several bridal shows and business luncheons.

Interning at the country club has proved beneficial but convinced her a country club atmosphere is not her ideal career.

Within the **Tarpon Springs Police Department, Ryan Ohr** learned the intricate tasks that occur within this hectic environment under the supervision of **Captain Ronnie H. Holt**. Captain Holt allowed Ryan to see all aspects of the T.S.P.D. Ryan was able to spend time with the

detectives and the **crime scene investigator, Max Sanchez**. Ryan was even able to go out on patrol with various officers, including **Officer Reggie Harris** and **Officer Jonathan Lord**. Ryan also helped with different responsibilities like answering phones, copying materials, and filing reports. Throughout this experience Ryan has gained a new respect for what goes on within a police department and hopes to convey his experience to others.

While interning with **Mary Gorniak, Countryside High School's Certified Athletic Trainer(ATC), Jo Anna Pompeii** realized that pursuing a career in any Sports Medicine field is very time consuming. An ATC, on a daily schedule may work from six in the morning until eleven at night. Jo Anna assisted Mary in tasks including, taping and wrapping for specific injuries, preparing for football games and practices, and she has learned various information about the care and prevention of injuries. She thought this experience was amazing and would recommend a chance at an internship to anyone. Jo Anna has learned that there is a lot of time and work put into this job and is still

indecisive on whether or not she wants to pursue this career.

While interning at the **Tampa Bay Devil Rays, with Rays Vision**, the graphic and video department of the Devil Rays, under the supervision on **Jason Rundle, Abby Shultz** learned that a lot of work goes into putting on a show during a baseball game. It is not all just putting some graphics on a screen. Abby learned that a lot of planning goes into the video that goes on the big screen during a game and that there are also lots of elements that have to go right as well. For example, the wireless camera people get to go on the field for the pre-game and tape it. That is one of the most interesting things that happened to her during her internship. Abby's experience made her realize she does not want to go into sports broadcasting, but news broadcasting.

While interning for **Victoria Wilhelmi, a Kindergarten Teacher at Oldsmar Elementary School, Kourtney Thurber** has discovered what she wants to do with her future. After working in a kindergarten class for a few months, Kourtney has really had the chance to see



how a classroom works from the other side. It's not as easy as it looks, but it is something that makes you feel good about yourself every day. She has taught mini-lessons, worked with small groups, and even attended field trips with Victoria Wilhelm's class. Kourtney's time at Oldsmar Elementary School has really influenced her to follow the path of becoming a teacher.

**Melody Baran** of the **Clearwater Marine Aquarium** guided **Donna Ulbrich** in ways she never imagined. Donna learned how to adapt to all kinds of sights and smells of fish. Not much can disgust her anymore. Throughout the internship, she learned different techniques of handling animals. Donna also began to develop wonderful public speaking skills by giving presentations to the public about various displays. Furthermore, she learned interpersonal skills by working with different people each week. She came to realize that a career in marine biology sounds like a great way to be happy on the job.

While studying with **Chris Pace, Steve Murray, and Craig Battinelli** at **Lokey Volkswagen**, **Andrew**

**Winqvist** learned that going into a career at a car dealership is interesting and labor-intensive work, but it is not what Andrew wants to pursue. Andrew has studied under Service Managers and Service Writers. He has worked hard at what he has done and has enjoyed his time at Lokey, but Andrew has decided to further investigate career choices before making decision on his future path.

### DUNEDIN HIGH SCHOOL

With the help of the staff of radiology at **Northside Hospital and Heart Institute** and the assistance of **Liz Kaye, Director of Medical Education**, **Maria Riccardo** is learning all parts of the intensive career area. **Dawn Parados** is a radiologist technician who works in x-ray and CT scan and allows her to assist with everything. She is extremely excited about the special procedures she has witnessed. Maria has realized that a career in radiology is where she wants to be.

**Aimee Sheire** assisted **Sandi McKenna**, owner of **McKenna PR**, with many different promotional projects. Aimee worked

with many people including charity workers, news anchors, and eager citizens longing for a career in show business. She has helped in receiving donations from the community in order to help fund the Homeless Emergency Project and has been able to voice her creative opinions in order to help Sandi with all her efforts. The hectic schedule of this profession is only minor compared to the feeling Aimee received from helping out as much as possible. This experience has solidified Aimee's decision to pursue public relations after high school by going to the University of Central Florida to obtain a Bachelor's degree in public relations.

Supervised by **Karen Balsanek** of the **Morton Plant Mease Dunedin Hospital**, **Laci Smith** figured out that being a nurse isn't a walk in the park. From day to day a nurse's job is very hectic. Laci met with LPN nurse and RN nurse, **Lu Mathey** and **Christa Axley**, she would get the info about each child everyday, and she would help out with the activities for the day. She learned that the best feeling is when you know that you made a difference is a child's life. Laci's is

convinced that nursing is not her career choice because of the internship experience.

### **GIBBS HIGH SCHOOL AND GIBBS HS BETA**

Working in the **Information Systems Department of the Northside Hospital and Heart Institute** has been both a learning and personal growth experience for intern, Nicholas Craig. **Liz Kaye, Director of Medical Education**, placed Nicholas with **Steve McDonald**, to make the work experience positive, rewarding and self-esteem building. Working with **Rick Marotto** and **Joe Parise** has been not only enlightening but enjoyable. There are new lessons to be learned on each workday, some more important than others. The most valuable lesson learned has nothing to do with computer skills but more so with people. This group takes the Information Systems Department seriously and they treat each employee's computer issue as if it were the most important thing they have to work on that day.

**Chase Dafnis** with the great assistance of **Wendy**

**Tara Miles** has greatly improved the efficiency of the **Information Technology** department at **Raymond James Financial**. Chase has learned that the real computer field in a high demanding job can be a lot harder than the everyday home computers. Chase has helped and been helped on emergency calls, allowing users on the network, and enabling email rights on work orders with **Wendy Tara Miles, Dan Trimpey,** and **Robert Potthast**. The one thing that has impressed Chase the most about himself is the fact that he is helping the thousands upon thousands of employees nation at Raymond James Financial get their job done to make the company a better place. Chase has found the job to be challenging but understands that practice makes perfect and that every problems brings him more experience of the real work force.

### **LARGO HIGH SCHOOL**

Under the direction of **Heather Broadbent** at the **University of South Florida's Center of Ocean Technology, Kate Kohlier** has realized that it takes many different jobs to sum up the entire field of marine

science. She has worked with **Mark Holly**, a supporting engineer, to design projects, and has worked with **Stan Ivanov** in doing electrical testing. She has also worked in a chemical lab with **George Stelmie** in order to fabricating Microsystems. She has been able to see a project go from start to finish, and watched how it passed through the hands of many different people in order to make the finished product. This experience has been able to show her that the possibilities in this field are endless and helped her recognize this as a career that could be a future possibility.

**Paul Rankin**, under the direction of **Jim White** and **Jason Powers** of **White Development Company** has had the opportunity to experience some of the best local developers at work. Paul Rankin was able to see development in action. Paul was able to see first hand the accumulation of many months of hard work and its benefits at the Carillon Town Center Publix grand opening. Paul assisted in the multiple aspects of the real estate development process. Paul was giving the opportunity to participate in very crucial meetings that were to determine the direction of a

project. Paul's career path will definitely lead to the development industry mostly because of the incredible educational experience he had through his internship.

With assistance from **Karin Williams of Volunteer Services at Morton Plant Hospital, Jessica Segui** discovered that nursing in the emergency room is nothing like expected. The cases and patients that most find difficult to handle are nothing to those in the environment. Jessica saw nurses from the Emergency Room confine and restrain a ninety year old "Baker Act" patient, she has worked with the hospital database to find the location of patients, and she has witnessed an intubation procedure done by family practice resident doctors. Jessica learned a lot of helpful information in making a career choice.

## SPRING 2003-2004

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### **CLEARWATER HIGH SCHOOL**

For the last semester of my senior year at Clearwater High School, **Bobby Lewis** has studied as an intern under the watchful eye and careful tutelage of **Linda Wisniewski** at **WFTS-ABC Action News Station** in Tampa, FL. While at the television station, I have learned how to edit news tapes and critique video newscasts. I have mastered the teleprompter and other in-studio skills. Since the beginning of my internship, I have had the privilege of making two videos in the studio and having one of my major league baseball highlight films shown on the live evening newscast. After graduation, I plan on attending the University of South Florida and hope to obtain a job at the television station.

For the spring semester at the **Dunedin Fine Arts Center**, **Moiya Mitchell** has been mainly giving exhibit talks and assisting with show displays. The exhibition features The Pastel Society of America, and a local nationally known artist by the name of Brooke Allison. She is also

an instructor at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center. The exhibition also features some of the students that are attending classes at the center. Overall this week at my internship site has been a very insightful experience.

Under the guidance of **Sun Coast Family Care Clinical Manager, Patte Stiff, Claude Pearson** has discovered that being a physician is not all its cracked up to be. There is a lot hard behind-the-scenes work involved in having a successful career in medicine. Under the aid of family Practice Intern Andy Clark, Claude recently was able to remove some stitches from a patient of the clinic. Claude is learning a great deal about medicine that he didn't know. He can honestly say that the time he has spent in the program has allowed him to experience the spoils and hardships of medicine. Now he'll what to expect in the future.

Under the supervision of **Terry Parks of Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority's Marketing Department, Ashley Robinson** discovered that

the Marketing Department was full of interest. There is a lot of hard work and dedication involved in the Marketing field. Ashley was able to experience the marketing techniques that PSTA uses to market their bus company. She also was able to work with a graphics designer at PSTA. Although, Marketing seems like a great career field, Ashley is convinced not to pursue a career in Marketing.

Under the supervision of **Doctors Grahame and Jennifer Bell** of the **SkyCrest Animal Hospital, Brittney Sprout** learned that being a Veterinarian is not all it is cracked up to be. There is so much time in the operating room and in the office dealing with patients. Brittney saw few passings of loved pets, and saw the heartbreak of what it meant of losing a pet. Although Brittney has seen the doctors as well as the assistants **Mike Scanton, JerriAnn MacDonald, and Lacy Neimer** also help saving the lives of their clients' pets. She assisted in the helping of restraining animals, holding off veins, clipping toe nails,

cleaning teeth. She found the career of being a Veterinarian or a Veterinary Assistant very interesting. Brittney's experience has convinced her that a career in veterinary medicine is not for her but to become a Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse.

Under the guidance of **Mary Crosby, of the Morton Plant Mease Barrett Center, Megan Walsh** discovered that being a Speech Pathologist isn't just paperwork. There is other important factors than just the paperwork. Megan met other therapists, **Diana Goodwin and Elizabeth Geatz**, helped Mary with paperwork for screenings and evaluations, observed therapy sessions and evaluations, and helped all of the therapists make copies and clean toys. She found the little kids to be the most exciting. Megan's experience has convinced her that a career in Speech Pathology is what she really wants to do.

## COUNTRYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

As a past intern at the **Worship Television Network, Ivy Bryan** has learned more about the fields of accounting and production. **Patricia**

**Niedzielski**, the Network's Comptroller and Director of Human Resources, led her in managing the finance department. The production manager, **Greg Tope**, also showed her how to use the production equipment and the types of projects they work on. By working with the finances, Ivy was able to oversee all of the departments and how they work. She realized that she wishes to pursue a career in accounting.

Under the guidance of **Martin Smith**, of the **Bellevue Biltmore Resort and Spa, Keosha Byers** has discovered that the field of hospitality and management is a lot of work, and can be very stressful, yet a rewarding experience. Being a manager of a hotel is overseeing all departments in a hotel and solving problems in all areas. A manager of a particular department solves problems in his/her department. Keosha has interned with the permission of managers Michael King (Magnolia Cafe), and Lesley Allen (Reservations), but sat under supervisor, Donna Djurkavich (Magnolia Cafe) and Reservation agent Shelly Regis where she assisted in seating guests and taking room

service orders as well as imported important data into the computer for future use. She found out that a hotel is a lot more complicated than it appears to a guest. Keosha's experience has only widened her imagination to becoming a manager of a department in the hotel, than the hotel itself, but she is still contemplating this decision.

While interning at **Beth Rawlins, Inc., Emily Freeman** learned numerous skills. Emily not only learned about politics, but about life as well. She learned about being organized, about how to use her time well, and about how to interact with businessmen and businesswomen. Emily has propelled herself way beyond her years with the help of Beth Rawlins. Her internship has focused her career goals and she now knows exactly what she wishes to do with her life and where politics fits in it.

**Melody Baran** of the **Clearwater Marine Aquarium** has magnificently mentored **Donna Ulbrich** for the past eight months. Donna has explored various aspects in the field of marine biology. She has learned more at the aquarium than she would

have learned in a classroom. The experiences at the aquarium have shaped and molded Donna in ways that she would never have imagined. Through her internship at the aquarium, Donna has seen the ups and downs of a real career in marine biology. This experience has prepared her well for the future.

### DUNEDIN HIGH SCHOOL

While interning under the supervision of **Capt. Ronnie Holt** of the **Tarpon Springs Police Department**, **Amy Bure** has gained a very valuable experience. She learned that being a police officer is not as easy as it looks. It takes hard work and dedication to do police work efficiently. Amy patrolled with officers including some of her favorites, **Officer Simmonds**, **Officer Osarczuk**, and **Officer Montforti**, while learning valuable skills in the process, for instance, how to write a ticket and to read radar from a radar gun. She found this experience necessary for her future career decision, and has convinced her to have a career in law enforcement.

With the approval of **Liz Kaye** at **Northside Hospital and Heart institute**, **Ivy Bure** was able to intern and discover that being a pharmacist is a big responsibility. Keeping up with the amount of medications and fast pace of a hospital pharmacy is hard work. But the hospital has a great director of pharmacy, **James Demmy**. She was able to meet a great staff of pharmacists and technicians who helped her form daily filling of the medication carts to making intravenous solutions. She found the process of filling a units medication cart interesting and very helpful to learning the layout of the pharmacy. Ivy's experience at Northside has re-enforced her goal of becoming a pharmacist.

Under the supervision of **Emil Marone** and **Dennis Fata** at **Eckerd Drugs Pharmacy**, **Maria Riccardo** learned that there is more to pharmacy than she thought. The work is very hard and tedious. She has learned many new things and met exciting people. Her favorite part is the actual counting of the drugs. Thanks to the staff at Eckerd Drug's Maria is positive that a career in pharmacy is what she wants.

**Aimee Sheire** aided **Sandi McKenna**, owner of **McKenna PR**, with many different promotional projects. Aimee worked with many people including eager citizens, television personalities, and employees of Ruth Eckerd Hall. She has been able to voice her creative opinions in order to help Sandi with all her efforts including special assignments such as organizing a media relation's list for the greater Tampa Bay area. The hectic schedule of this profession is minor compared to the feeling Aimee received from helping out as much as possible. This experience has solidified Aimee's decision to pursue public relations after high school by going to the University of Central Florida to obtain a Bachelor's degree in communications, with a minor in public relations.

### EAST LAKE HIGH SCHOOL

Over the past three months **Megan Chase** has been getting a better grasp of the real estate profession at **Realty Executives Suncoast**. She has observed in great depth the administrative side of the profession, noticing that a

lot of paperwork is involved. She has **assisted office administrator Cat Lanier and Broker Owners Phil and Linda Rogers**. Megan's involvement has given her more insight into a possible career in real estate and, although it is not her first choice in a profession, it is a viable option.

Under the guidance of **Dr. Jill Poorman, Pinellas County Court Psychologist, Jillian Pavlak** discovered that working with defendants is not always a pleasant experience; being in the jail and face to face with rapists and murderers can provide a chill on anyone's shoulder. Jillian shadowed with Dr. Poorman, visiting the jail and watching her testify. She was also able to spend time with various other courtroom professionals including attorneys, Judicial Assistants, and other individuals involved with mental illness. Jillian found her experience to be extremely enlightening, and it has helped her to decide that a Doctorate in Psychology is one of her future goals.

Under the guidance of **Libbey Flynn, and the Emergency Room Staff of Helen Ellis Memorial**

**Hospital, Hilarie Reinders** was offered an opportunity to obtain an inside grasp of the medical field. Hilarie was able to shadow doctors and nurses to gain first hand knowledge of what a career in medicine entails. Hilarie observed various procedures and was most fascinated by watching **Dr. Geno Romano** intubate a patient. She was also able to see radiology reports, patient doctor interactions, and the technical side of health care. After being exposed to a real life experience in the medical field Hilarie has decided to continue on her path to becoming a part of it.

Under the guidance of **Anne T. Brzezinski, R.Ph., at Eckerd's Pharmacy of Boot Ranch, David Zepf, ELHS**, learned that the pharmacy requires lots of communication. You have to talk to customers, doctors, and fellow pharmacy workers. Some of the pharmacy technicians, **T.J Nobnit and Aby Baldwin**, have taught David a lot about being in the pharmacy. He worked on learning the computer system, and he learned how to fill prescriptions from beginning to end. He finds making compounds very fascinating. David's experience has made up his

mind that becoming a pharmacist is for him.

## **GIBBS HIGH SCHOOL AND GIBBS HS BETA**

**Chase Dafnis** has become a critical part for his Internship's site taking over a fourth of his department's daily work. His current title is a **Network Administrator at Raymond James Financial's Home Office in St. Petersburg**. This is Chase's 3rd semester Interning and racking in a total of 2 job sites. He plans on double majoring in Computer Science and Computer Engineering using his computer skills and work experience to help drive him down the path towards success. Through his leadership skills and his will to make computers work together, he has transformed his school's computer network into an ideal business class system. He is glad to have found the Executive Internship Program and having Dr. Mary Black as his coordinator for her hard effort in finding Chase's placements. He hopes that others can have as good of an experience as he has when they joined EIP.

With the help of **Sergeant Cynthia Mazyck** of the **St. Petersburg Police Department**, **Nicholas Craig** has been able to view the role of “cop” from the inside and has found it to be even more interesting than what the reality television shows depict. While there may not always be that same level of drama and excitement that goes along with what television viewers feel, it is amazing how much behind the scenes work is done to track down the necessary details to deal with everyday issues and events. Nicholas is finding many areas of interest in the law enforcement field that would help him make a future career choice.

## **LARGO HIGH SCHOOL**

Under the supervision of the guidance counselor, **Christine Stuckey** at **Nina Harris Exceptional Student Education Center**, **Kathy Lertsuwankul** was able to experience a new outlook on life in the physical and occupational therapy room. Working with handicapped children with mental and physical disorders, Kathy learned that sympathy is not greatly endured at Nina. Kathy assisted and observed eleven therapists

in the room working with kids in group and sensory activities. She found the methods of therapy and sign language to be wonderfully fascinating. To Kathy, the physical and occupational therapy room at Nina Harris ESEC became an environment of warmth and friendliness due to therapists like **Carolyn Gibson**. The experience gained at Nina Harris ESEC by Kathy has given her a big consideration of physical therapy as a career choice.

**Paul Rankin** has continued to have an awesome time working with some the most prominent developers in the city of Clearwater. Under the supervision of **White Development Company C.E.O. and President Jim White**, Paul has been able to see multi-million dollar deals be created. There is a high degree of creativity required to create and development a new kind of shopping center called life style centers. Paul has decided that a job in real estate would be great for him.

Under the guidance of **Stacie Vereb** of **Paul B. Stephens Exceptional Student Education Center**, **Ami Rukkarnpatega** has

learned that being an adaptive physical education teacher is nothing like being a P.E. teacher at a typical school. Working with disabled children takes patience and hard work, but the joy that comes from knowing that she made a difference in their lives is incomparable to anything she’s ever experienced. Ami saw teachers and assistants work on life skills with the students that taught them how to follow a routine and feed themselves. Ami participated in every activity with the students during P.E. like visiting the sensory room, working on fine and gross motor skills with the students, and aiding in aquatic therapy. Ami’s experience during her internship has really given her a perspective to considering a career in special education or physical therapy.

Under the guidance of **Pharmacist, Michael Samarkos** of **Eckerd Drugs**, **Jennifer Schobel** has gained insight into the career of a Retail Pharmacist. Many steps are necessary in order to make sure that customers are in and out of the pharmacy quickly and efficiently. Jennifer worked alongside Pharmacy Technicians Melissa Watkins and



Matthew Erick to type prescriptions into the computer, pull drugs from the shelves and make sure the drugs matched up with the original prescriptions in order to fill the prescriptions as quickly as possible. Jennifer found that the responsibility of being a pharmacist in the retail industry brings an excessive amount of stress upon the individual. Jennifer's experience has led her to the choice of pursuing a career in hospital pharmacy in order to stray away from retail.

Under the direction of **Karin Williams at Morton Plant Hospital of Volunteer Services, Jessica Segui** has discovered the real life that takes place in a hospital Emergency Room. There is a lot that has to be put together to run an ER smoothly. Jessica worked with **RN's Becki and Jena** and saw Becki work with a patient with full-blown cancer that had not been diagnosed as well as watching Jena work with a patient who overdosed on Methadone. She worked with the hospital computer tracking system and assisted in beginning steps of patient care. She found the process and steps to working with a code patient very fascinating. The

experiences that Jessica has encountered have held her goals strong towards a nursing degree.

As an EIP student **Michelle Stonecipher** has had the privilege of interning at **PARC, the Pinellas Association for Retarded Children**, for the past three months under the direction of **Mary Mahoney and Elliott Rakofsky**. Michelle gained an insight on the career of public relations as well as how a non-profit agency is run. She worked on several publications for different events that PARC held, as well as assisting many people throughout the office. She was able to meet and interact with several people doing various jobs throughout PARC, as well as attending two of the large special events. She is glad that she was able to have this experience to learn about PARC and meet all of the great people who work there. Because of her internship Michelle knows that a non-profit is just the place she would like to one day work.

**Coley Westerberg** was able to watch what goes on behind the scenes in the **Athletic Training department at Largo High School**, by interning **Athletic Trainer, Jaime Pirone**. A responsibility of

an athletic trainer is that student depend on them for there everyday need. An athletic trainer has to be fully alert and ready to deal with any injury any day of the week. Coley was able to experiment what the average day of an athletic trainer is like, and was able to learn many skills on the way. Coley learned how to treat athletes when injured, and got an idea of how to approach and take care of the injury. Coley also was given the opportunity to learn numerous rehabilitation methods that could become useful to her future in sports medicine. Coley Westerberg was awarded a great opportunity to be able to experience hands on, what an athletic trainer really does, and Jaime has helped open her views on what to expect, and the responsibilities that come along with the job.

### **PALM HARBOR UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL**

Mentored by **Mandy Green** and the staff at **Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital's Maternity Ward, Naomi Ardjomandkermani**, PHUHS, realized that her dream of becoming an Obstetrician and Gynecologist may need

further consideration. There is more than medical malpractice insurance and long hours to let one's dreams down, but death as well. Naomi observed **nurses, Judy Scollo and Diane Maida**, care for the newborns and deal with stress on a daily basis. Naomi's agenda consisted of dispersing diet trays, stamping charts, and babysitting in the nursery. She found the nurse's job of handling the patients on a more personal level to be how she would like to work as a future doctor. Naomi's experience has prompted her to put more thought into her future specialty, but has not swayed her from her dream of medicine.

During the past semester **Jennifer Behm**, PHUHS, has been interning at the **Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital** under the guidance of **Joyce Short, Nurse Educator**. Jennifer has seen many different types of surgeries in the hospital's main operating room. **Dr. Keisel, Dr. Emerson, and Dr. Arnold** are three doctors that have been particularly good teachers for Jennifer. Jennifer has found this experience very interesting, and it has reinforced her desire to pursue a career in medicine.

Under the leadership of **Jill Holcombe, Lex Poppens** and the rest of the marketing staff at **Ruth Eckerd Hall**, senior **Jeff Gussow** from Palm Harbor University High learned the back stage secrets of marketing, as well as planning the acts for the performance hall. Organizing files for acts along with learning budgets were just some of the items Gussow learned. He has not decided whether marketing is for him, but attending Florida State University in the fall leaves the option wide open.

Nearing the completion of her third semester in the Executive Internship Program, **Brooke Kane**, PHUHS, strongly believes her instructor Mrs. Lops has saved the best for last. After Brooke's first two semesters, she had decided on pursuing a career in Physical Therapy. Having previously had her placements with Physical Therapists, Brooke was pleasantly surprised when Mrs. Lops suggested interning with an Orthopedic Surgeon for her third and final semester. Brooke was placed with **Dr. Sullivan at Orthopedic Specialists**. Brooke was impressed with Dr. Sullivan's great enthusiasm and utter elation with his

profession. Dr. Sullivan gladly allowed Brooke to shadow him through the office and in surgery at Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital. Immediately, Brooke realized that she had found her passion. She looked forward to attending her internship everyday, and truly enjoyed her time as she learned how an Orthopedic Surgeon's office operates. Because of her mentally stimulating and exciting internship with Dr. Sullivan, Brooke now knows that she is going to pursue a career as an Orthopedic Surgeon.

At **Sutherland Elementary School, Kayleigh Mataluni**, PHUHS, has met many unique and bright students. With Katie Mara as a mentor, she has discovered the rewards of being a teacher. She has discovered that being a teacher is also being a mentor. You must be patient and understanding. Being a teacher also includes lots of paperwork. There is a lot of grading of papers that must get back to the students quickly. The one thing she has learned is that every student has a different way of learning, and it is the teacher's job to discover and use this knowledge to aid the student in growing as a person and as a student.

Interning at **Tampa Bay Magazine**, under the guidance of **Home and Garden Editor, Martha Margolis, Tamara Myers**, PHUHS, was given the opportunity to experience the magazine publication process first hand. Tamara experienced many areas that are involved in the publishing of a magazine, including the editorial and advertising process, as well as graphics. Tamara dealt with everyday tasks that help lead up to the final publication. Tamara reorganized sections of the magazine on the layout board for new issues, attended sales meetings, proofread editorials, searched the archives for particular items that were to be used, filed advertisement contracts, copied and collated, along with an assortment of other social tasks. Tamara's hands-on internship not only reinforced her aspirations in the profession of Magazine Journalism, but also offered her a chance to meet an amazing group of people, while learning vital skills she will use to accomplish her professional goals in the future.

Since January of 2004, **Kevin Reilly**, PHUHS, has had the privilege to work first hand with the **Board of**

**County Commissioners for Pinellas County**. Under their guidance, and with the assistance of **County Volunteer Coordinator, Tim Closterman**, Kevin has been given a once in a lifetime opportunity to see firsthand the inner workings and behind-the-scene-action involved in county government. Kevin was also blessed with the ability to travel with two of the **Commissioners, John Morroni and Calvin Harris**, to Tallahassee for a day and lobby for passing of a voter registration bill. Kevin's experience with the Commissioners has enhanced his desire for a career in government and politics.

#### **TARPON SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL**

At **Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital** under the supervision of **Mandy Green, R.N., Sarah Jansen**, TSHS, has realized that working with the babies as a Nursery Nurse isn't all fun and games. Being a Nursery Nurse is much harder than Sarah thought. Sarah saw **Debbie Ausse, Judy Scollo**, and Diane have to draw the baby's blood, stick them with IV's which was really sad to watch, and work very long hours, being very

stressed. Sarah's experience, although very interesting, has shown her that she is not sure if she still wants to pursue a career in nursing.

Under the guidance of **Linda Wisniewski of ABC Action News, Amanda Kern**, TSHS, discovered that being in the news business was all she thought it would be. It's a crazy, high-stress career that you need to be ready for. Amanda got to see many everyday news things such as the microwave room and shooting and editing a news package. Amanda found the life of a reporter to be quite interesting because of the, "What's next?" lifestyle. Amanda's experience has convinced her that a career in broadcast news is still her first choice, and the reporter's occupation may be the way to go.

**Krystle Lecaroz**, TSHS, interned under the guidance of **physical therapists, Ruby Vasquez and Joanne Carney, at the Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital**. Here, Krystle experienced different diagnoses of in-patients, such as sciatica, Parkinson's Disease, total hip and total knee replacement patients, patients with low back pain, and cellulitis of the arm and the leg. Krystle always

loved to see a patient progress well. This internship convinced Krystle to pursue the profession of physical therapy.

her that a career in orthopedics is her goal.

Under the guidance of **Becky Hart, Lake St. George Elementary School teacher, Rachel Riley**, discovered that being a teacher is what she always thought it would be. She has been assisting Mrs. Hart with working one-on-one with some of the kids and tutoring them, too. She loves going to her class everyday because she enjoys helping the children and observing Mrs. Hart teach because she is a phenomenal teacher. Rachel cannot wait to see what the future holds for her in this career.

Under the guidance of **Marquis Hopkins of Florida Sports Orthopaedic and Spine Medicine, Sara Willi**, TSHS, has found that being a Physicians Assistant is exactly what she expected. There is a lot of care that goes into treating patients. Sara saw patients from start to finish. She also learned how to read x-rays and how to cast. She found watching a total knee replacement surgery fascinating. Sara's experience has convinced