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Internship Hiring Continues at Brisk Pace

March 19, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Illinois Wesleyan University students continue to report spring **internships** at a brisk pace. The 152 student-hires are consistent with the number of internships last spring and indicate students' continued interest in gaining work experience and further defining their career interests.

The largest number of nursing interns to date lead the group of 78 students receiving academic credit for their internship experiences. Other programs with academic interns include: accounting, business, political science, psychology, environmental studies, physical education, history, sociology, health and Hispanic studies.

Students are interning at 88 locations this semester, ranging from Fortune 500 companies to congressional campaigns to local nonprofits and small businesses. Several students are interning outside the Bloomington-Normal area through enrollment in affiliate programs such as Georgetown University's **Semester in Washington Program** and the **Washington Semester program at American University**, including Anne Kehler '15, a political science major interning at the Human Rights Campaign in Washington, D.C.

Laurie Diekhoff, assistant director and internship coordinator at the Hart Career Center, noted internships for Illinois Wesleyan students would not be possible without the employers willing to invest in the next generation of workers. First-time intern sponsors for Illinois Wesleyan students include the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Brady Homes and the Illinois Reading Council.

"Employers value the role interns play in their organizations," said Diekhoff. "Interns can provide a specific technical skill, assist with special projects or contribute new ideas and insight."

IWU students and others should see increasing opportunities this year for internships. A **national study** indicates 56 percent of the companies surveyed plan to hire more interns in 2014 than they did last year, and both employers and students overwhelmingly reported the internship experience was a positive one.



Anne Kehler '15 is interning at the Human Rights Campaign through the Georgetown University Semester in Washington, D.C.

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