Internship Success – Engler
Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program

There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs.
Time is Short in an Internship so......

HIT THE GROUND RUNNING!
4 Stages of internship growth – get through stages 1-3 ASAP!

1. Excited to get started but have no clue as to what to do

2. I’m confused and wandering

3. Starting to figure it out but I need a mentor/advisor

4. Got it – I am on it like a duck on a June bug!!!
The Five Ps

Prior Preparation Prevents Poor Performance

The 5 P's
Proper Planning Prevents Poor Performance
DEMONSTRATE EXCELLENCE!

“BE A YARDSTICK OF QUALITY. SOME PEOPLE AREN’T USED TO AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE EXCELLENCE IS EXPECTED.” - STEVE JOBS
ASK QUESTIONS

“I learned that if I didn’t start asking questions no one was going to help me out.”

Engler Intern
LISTEN WITH ALL OF YOUR SENSES!

"When people talk, listen completely. Most people never listen."

Ernest Hemingway
“The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into manageable tasks, and then starting on the first one.”

MARK TWAIN
FOCUSED CURIOSITY

I HAVE NO SPECIAL TALENTS. I AM ONLY PASSIONATELY CURIOUS.

- ALBERT EINSTEIN
TRY SOMETHING NEW

LIFE BEGINS AT THE END OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE
— NEALE DONALD WALSCH
Professionalism

• GO THE EXTRA MILE!
• TAKE ALL CRITICISM AS CONSTRUCTIVE NOT AS A PERSONAL ATTACK!
• RADIATE POSITIVITY!
• PAY ATTENTION TO THE DETAILS!
• DO YOUR HOMEWORK!
• LEARN FROM EVERYONE YOU ENCOUNTER – YES, EVERYONE (INCLUDING THE JANITOR)!!!!
Dress the part – if you want to be taken seriously then you have to ‘walk the talk’!

No matter how you feel. Get up, dress up, show up, and never give up.
Texting, social media, personal calls – these belong in the space **before or after the work day ends.**
Be early to work and forget the clock at the end of the day. If you are watching the clock then you are missing opportunities to learn, deliver value, and grow your capacity.

"Entrepreneurs are willing to work 80 hours a week to avoid working 40 hours a week."

-Lori Greiner
• Use appropriate language - ALWAYS!
• Ask questions!
• Seek feedback!
• Work hard at your written and verbal communication skills!
Demonstrate initiative – if your project for the day is over then find someone who needs help, do the research for the next meeting or project so you are prepared, tackle something that adds value to the organization.

“Formal education will make you a living; self-education will make you a fortune.”

-Jim Rohn
“Learning without reflection is meaningless.”

Journal diligently for a few minutes at the end of each day – what did you learn, what insights were gained, did you find undervalued assets, did a business idea pop into your head, what hard skills do you need to develop (accounting, project mgmt, etc), what did you see you want to emulate in the future, and what did you observe that you NEVER want to replicate?
What we need from you.....

• Every two weeks a short summary of your experience – (tfield2@unl.edu)

• We will send both a mid summer and end of internship evaluation to your cooperator.

• Submit a final paper to Tom Field – rubric will be sent to you.

• Hold a final meeting with Tom Field (15-30 minutes to discuss the experience) after the internship has ended.
Contact Information:

Tom Field, PhD
Director
Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program
University of Nebraska
103 K Miller Hall
402-472-5643
tfield2@unl.edu
LIVE EACH DAY WITH COURAGE.

Take pride in your work.

Always finish what you start.

Do what has to be done.

Be tough but fair.

When you make a promise, keep it.

And always ride for the brand.