

## Intern/Co-op of the Year Award, 2019-2020

### College of STEM | STEM Professional Services

**Eligibility:** completion of an undergraduate co-op or internship experience **registered** with the STEM Professional Services program during Fall 2019, Spring 2020 and/or Summer 2020 (September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020). Alumni also qualify.

Definition of intern and co-op is based on the Cooperative Education and Internship Association (CEIA) for potential nomination for awards outside of YSU. These definitions differ from YSU.

- **INTERNS** must have completed at least one semester of experience during the Fall 2019, Spring 2020, or Summer 2020. Nominated student must be affiliated with an internship program that is recognized by the college through a transcribed experience. The college or university must support the internship in some capacity.
- **CO-OP** participants must have completed at least two or more semesters or be in the process of completing two semesters of full-time experience during the Fall 2019, Spring 2020, and Summer 2020. Fall 2020 may be included if it is the second Co-op experience. (This award may not be given if an insufficient number of students apply)

One award will be given in each category. **Award recipients will receive** a spotlight in the STEM newsletter and on the STEM webpage, recognition at the College of STEM Honors Convocation, and a nomination for the national CEIA Student Achievement Award and the state-level OCEA Cool Co-op Award (interns eligible to apply)!

### ***National Award Winner!***

Kalliope Zembillas, won the **2020 Intern Student Achievement Award from CEIA!**

- A ***national*** recognition with a cash prize!
- Only winners of the award through STEM Professional Services are eligible.
- We help you submit everything!

**Application pack must be returned to Moser Hall, Rm. 2095 or submit [HERE](#), no later than Thursday, October 1, 2020.**  
Questions? Contact Quan Tran (Moser 2095, qgtran@ysu.edu, 330-914-2152)

#### Student Information

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Banner: Y00 \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Semester Worked: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization 2 (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

I have registered (select one):                  Internship                  1 Co-op                  2+ Co-ops

*(Note: Upon completion of multiple experiences, information and a statement from only 1 supervisor is required.)*

## Employer Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**To be considered the student's resume, student statement, and employer statement MUST be attached.** All bullet points must be addressed in the statements to be considered. Applications that do not address all points WILL NOT be considered, per CEIA guidelines. Each letter should include some sort of header.

## Student Statement

The judges will be reviewing each nomination to see how well the student integrated the experiential learning experience into his/her academic and career pursuits.

- 1000 word maximum
- Emphasis on reflection and application vs. nature of work or industry where you participated
- Examples and descriptions of insights you gleaned into company, industry and/or occupation/profession you would not have had without this specific experience
- How did you grow from this experience?
- Did the experience confirm or shift your intended career plans?
- Any awards, achievements, and honors received during experience

## Employer Statement

The judges will be reviewing each nomination for details/examples of how the student's work-related duties as well as both the quantity and quality of their work positively impacted the company/organization.

- 1000 word maximum
- Specific examples demonstrating the student's initiative and creativity in approaching their assigned work tasks/projects
- Commentary on student's drive, professionalism or attitude
- Detailed description of what makes this student outstanding
- Any awards or recognition or extended offer to continue employment (internship/co-op/full-time) with company or organization

Details about the content of each item above can be found in the **Judges Ratings Form**. Please to use this rubric as a guide when organizing your section.

**Youngstown State University | College of STEM**  
*Intern & Co-op of the Year Award Judges Rubric (Adopted from CEIA)*

Student Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Key for Awarding Points** (Circle the appropriate number)                      0 – Not Completed, 1 – Poor, 2 – Fair, 3 – Good, 4 – Excellent

**Student Statement**

Projects: 0   1   2   3   4

- explained primary responsibilities and projects assigned in easy to understand, simple breakdown
- clearly articulated specifically how individual contributions positively impacted the organization

Learning: 0   1   2   3   4

- identified what new skills, abilities, and understandings were attained through work-integrated learning experience
- explained how they sharpened existing skills through this work-integrated learning experience
- articulated most significant success/proudest moment through the work-integrated learning experience
- touched on biggest learning moment through the work-integrated learning experience
- detailed how the work-integrated learning experience specifically aligns with academic coursework
- described how this student reflected on intern/co-op contributions, projects and performance
- addressed that this student utilized classroom concepts on-the-job

Career Readiness: 0   1   2   3   4

- addressed that the student was able to articulate knowledge, skills and abilities gained through this specific work-integrated learning experience
- indicated that the student is able articulate how this work-integrated learning experience prepared them for post-graduation success
- detailed how this student grew in organizational knowledge through identifying priorities of the organization and social dynamics in interpersonal and professional interactions
- explained how student grew in professional and industry knowledge

**Site Sponsor Support Statement (must be on organizational letterhead)**

Experiential Learning Description: 0   1   2   3   4

- detailed why the work-integrated learning experience is critical to the organization
- described how this student exceeded expectations and went above and beyond normal intern/co-op contributions and performance
- described student growth in soft skills needed to succeed in the world of work

Organizational Impact: 0   1   2   3   4

- shared specific examples of this student’s outstanding work, touching on initiative, creativity, professionalism, or original work – related to the assigned projects
- detailed if/how this student made a positive impact on their department, organization or operations, such as but not limited to: cost savings, process or quality improvements

Professional Growth: 0   1   2   3   4

- provided examples of how this student specifically grew professionally throughout this work-integrated learning experience

**Overall Comments** Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments on how to improve application for submission to national and state award:**

**Cooperative Education and Internship Association (CEIA)  
Internship Student Achievement Award Recipient, 2020**



Kalliope Zembillas is a fourth-year undergraduate student at Youngstown State University. She is majoring in Chemical Engineering and minoring in Mathematics. During the winter of 2019, she interned with Simon Roofing, a commercial roofing company. Kalliope worked in the research and development laboratory, where she was responsible for supporting application testing of architectural coating with emphasis on coating batch mixing and testing, as well as quality control testing. One of her main projects included the research of rheology modifiers, and how they affect water-based coatings. Kalliope returned to Simon Roofing for an internship in the fall of 2019, and this time she worked in the manufacturing facility instead of the R&D lab. In her role of process engineering intern, she optimized processes to decrease waste, and also worked closely with operators to develop detailed written process and troubleshooting manuals.

While Kalliope was interning with Simon Roofing in the winter of 2019, she also worked for Youngstown State University as an undergraduate research assistant. The research grant was awarded to Kalliope and two other students by NASA-OSGC. The goal was to develop continuous fiber reinforced composites using a 3D printer. Kalliope worked with a team to create and test different thermoplastic composites reinforced with aramid fibers.

During the summer of 2019, Kalliope visited the island of Kalymnos, Greece where she worked at ARGO S.A. a Greek oil and petroleum company. There, she assisted with organizing, processing, and recording daily orders for diesel and marine gas oil.

At Youngstown State University, Kalliope is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and has made multiple appearances on the Dean's List. She received first place in an engineering competition for OH WOW! Children's Museum. Kalliope worked in a team to create an interactive exhibit pertaining to an engineering discipline. After graduation, Kalliope plans on attending graduate school before pursuing a career as a process engineer.

**Cooperative Education and Internship Association (CEIA)  
Cooperative Education Student Achievement Award Recipient, 2020**



Alex Wilson is a Senior at La Salle University pursuing a B.S. in Business Systems & Analytics and Finance. Alex has been recognized seven times for Academic Excellence by being named to the Dean's List every semester of his undergraduate studies. He has challenged himself in two highly selective academic programs at La Salle –the University Honors Program and the Business Scholars Co-op Program.

Alex has completed three co-op experiences during his time at La Salle University. His first two co-op roles were with SAP America as a Value Assurance Delivery Associate, and as an Analytics Cloud Presales Associate. He was responsible for technical systems implementation presentations and building Dashboards for C-Level financial analysis and decision making.

His co-op education continued with DePuy Synthes, a Johnson and Johnson Company, from January 2019 until August 2019. As a Credit and Returns Project Coordinator, he reconciled \$700,000 in account discrepancies using process improvements. Through managing error reports, he increased team compliance to nearly 100%. Working with upper management, Alex created a monthly team performance dashboard to directly improve customer engagement efficiency.

Expanding his impact, Alex developed a pricing tool for the Inventory Exchange Team to automate pricing adjustments and inventory tracking. His tool shaved a four-hour process down to less than 15 minutes, with an annual dollar savings valued at over \$15,000. Through his efforts, he achieved his Six Sigma Yellow Belt Certification, eventually mentoring 5 other Co Ops and 3 full-time associates to their certification as well. During his time with DePuy Synthes, he received five Encore Awards. He is excited to return to Johnson and Johnson full time in their Finance Leadership Development Program in June 2020.

Beyond these experiences, Alex serves as La Salle's Analytics Club President, is participating in the Templeton Business Ethics Case Competition, and is serving in his sixth year as a volunteer firefighter.