# PARENT NETWORK

## CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE



# Could the Silicon Valley Program Be Right for Your Student?

By KK Streator P'18

Every spring and fall for the past three years, a select crew of up to 19 students has headed to Silicon Valley for CMC's Silicon Valley Program (SVP). An offshoot of the highly successful Evans ITAB (Information Technology Advisory Board) networking trip, SVP gives students who aren't engineers or coders the opportunity to explore careers in technology. Participants work at full-time internships, take CMC courses on the weekends, and get the opportunity to immerse themselves in the unique

culture of Silicon Valley. Think of it as a domestic semester abroad program.

Stephen Siegel '87, director of the Silicon Valley Program, provided us with answers about the program and some common questions parents might have.

#### How does SVP work?

Like the Washington, D.C. semester, SVP is a combined work/study program. Students receive academic credit for full-time internships, which also are generally paid positions. In addition, they take seven hours of intensive CMC classes on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### What type of internships do students usually have?

Jobs vary, but all are designed to give students substantive experiences. The vast majority of internships are in marketing (66%) but opportunities exist in new product development, customer support, data analytics, HR, and finance—as well as technical roles, when students have the requisite skills. It really depends on the needs of the companies and the interests of the students. Read more.



#### Parents: Stay Involved in Your CMCer's Semester in D.C.

By Dana DeBeaumont P'16

CMC affords students opportunities where they can attend college while concurrently earning

invaluable internship and life experiences. Each semester up to 18 students are accepted to a semester in Washington, D.C., where they complete three classes, a government-related internship, and learn to live on their own.

"I'm director and professor," explains Elizabeth Spalding, director of CMC's Washington D.C. program. "But it ends up



### Ask a CMC Parent: Internship Edition

By Melanie Mace P'18

Brian Lillie P'17 is the proud father of Nick Lillie '17 and the CIO of Equinix, a Silicon Valley-based interconnections data center offering global co-location services. Roger Cole P'14 is the proud father of Julia Cole '14 and the consulting service manager for Mars & Co in Greenwich, Conn.

Here, Brian and Roger answer questions regarding their experience with offering internships to CMC students.

What kinds of work do student interns do at your

that I'm really a counselor, advisor, and mentor. We talk about company? professional development, but also about life." Read more.

**Brian:** The CMC students do everything from project management office work, to accounting and finance, to software engineering and soon data science. Read more.

## Top 5 Things to Know about Commencement Day

The 2015 Claremont McKenna College Commencement Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th at 2:00 p.m. Here are the top 5 things you need to know about the day:

- 5. The Ceremony will be broadcast into a viewing room for families with small children and other guests who prefer to view the ceremony indoors. Pickford Auditorium will be open from 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.
- 4. If you have family members who would love to see your student graduate, but are unable to attend in person, direct them to the CMC homepage. The Ceremony will be live-streamed on our website beginning at 2:00 p.m.
- 3. Flower leis are available for pre-order. Follow this link to if you would like to order a flower lei for a special graduate: http://www.collegelei.com/claremont-mckenna-commencement-flowers/
- 2. Due to other commencement activities occurring at neighboring colleges, please allow for extra time for parking and walking to the ceremony space. If someone in your party has a disability that requires extra assistance, please notify CMC in advance so that we may accommodate your requests. Click here for disability services and information.
- 1. Tickets are not required, but seating for the Ceremony is on a first-come basis. Seats may not be reserved but may be held if a family member remains with the seats.

### Help Wanted: D.C. and Silicon Valley Parents

Parents in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area are needed to enrich the experience of CMC programs by providing internships, acting as mentors, hosting dinners, and offering advice on activities, housing, and networking.

Elizabeth Spalding, director of CMC's Washington, D.C. program, says that parents can fill a critical role since they are usually mid-career path or higher, and have invaluable career advice and connections.

"I believe in personal connections," says Spalding. "CMC is a personal school, but Washington is also a small and personal town."

To volunteer and provide connections, parents are encouraged to contact Jeannie Scalmanini, assistant director of alumni and parent relations, at <a href="mailto:jscalmanini@cmc.edu">jscalmanini@cmc.edu</a> or (909) 621-8098.

### Chapter and Regional Events

**Asia Chapter** Wednesday, May 27

From Land to Sea: Nature, Culture, and Asia's Ecosystem

Singapore

**Chicago Chapter** Wednesday, May 13 Professor Wendy Lower at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Chicago, IL

**Europe Chapter** 

June 19-21 **Euromeet XXVI** Berlin, Germany

**New York Chapter** Friday, June 5 Yankees vs. Angels Game Bronx, NY

**Campus Event** 

Friday, May 15

Last day to pick up packages from the CMC Mailroom. Email mailroom@cmc.edu with questions.

Saturday, May 16 68th Annual Commencement Claremont, CA

Sunday, May 17 Students must be moved out of the residence halls by 12 noon.

Pictures from Parents Weekend 2015 are available for online viewing.







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