

# REAL EXPERIENCE FOR REAL-WORLD SUCCESS

**R.I.T.** Rochester Institute of Technology  
 Undergraduate Admissions Office  
 Bausch & Lomb Center  
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 Rochester, NY 14623-5604

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## RIT cooperative education ...

- One of the oldest and largest in the world
- More than 3,500 student participants annually
- More than 5,200 work assignments completed each year
- More than \$30 million in collective student earnings annually
- More than 1,900 employer partners throughout the U.S. and in 40 different countries

Your career begins with us at RIT!

[www.rit.edu](http://www.rit.edu)  
[www.rit.edu/co-op/careers](http://www.rit.edu/co-op/careers)

### What Assistance is Available?

No matter what your experiential education or career interests, the Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services will be there to help you achieve your goals. Program Coordinators with the office are assigned to each academic program and will work with you individually throughout your entire time at RIT. The office provides state-of-the-art services, educational seminars and critical information to assist in developing and implementing your career and employment plans. A full-service website provides you with everything you need to prepare yourself for the workplace and apply to job opportunities with just the click of a mouse. Most critically, the expertise and knowledge of the staff will provide you with the insight and perspective essential to a successful job search or graduate school application.

### The Bottom Line

Co-op and experiential education at RIT offers you many advantages, but the bottom line is that employers and graduate schools prefer students with related experience. Organizations are eager to hire graduates who not only have strong academic preparation but also have developed their skills in real-world situations and on real-world problems and projects. RIT's graduating student placement rate is more than 90 percent one year after graduation, and 50 percent or more of our graduates begin their careers working full time for one of their co-op employers. Graduates with co-op and other experiential education experience also command higher salaries than those without, and starting salaries for RIT graduates often exceed national averages. Students with graduate school attendance plans have a competitive edge for admission and are desirable to those programs as a result of co-op and experiential education experience.

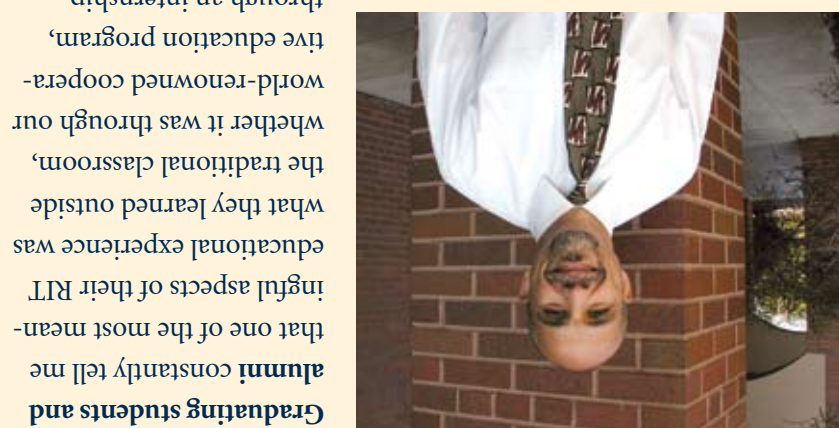
Your successful career begins with us at RIT!

# R.I.T.

A Category-of-One University

## Learn by Doing Co-op and Experiential Education

## The Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services helps you chart your career path:



**Manly Contomanolis, Ph.D.**, Associate Vice President and Director of Cooperative Education and Career Services at RIT, projects with an RIT professor or through any of the many opportunities we offer to learn by doing. I'm not at all surprised. Our model of experiential education really makes your classroom learning more interesting and relevant as you apply your knowledge in real-world settings or on real-world projects and problems. Not only do you learn more about yourself and your interests, but you develop important skills and acquire critical experiences that pay off in terms of job opportunities, salary offers or graduate school applications. The Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services is here to help you from the day you first step foot on campus. In fact, we'll be here to help in your job search and career planning even after you graduate from RIT. Offering a combination of state-of-the-art job search services and the personal, individualized attention and support you need, we're proud of how we can help you accomplish the career and employment goals you've set for yourself. Please visit our website, call us or stop by for more information and a preview of the services available to you as an RIT student.

[www.rit.edu/co-op/careers](http://www.rit.edu/co-op/careers)

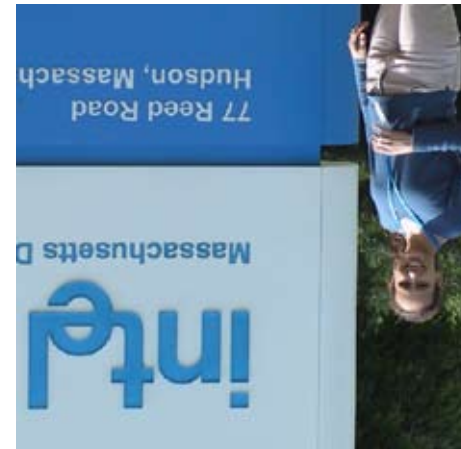
My co-op at the MGM Grand Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas was an incredible experience. Upon arriving, I fully realized the opportunity that was being presented to me—I would co-op in the largest hotel in Las Vegas (5,034 rooms) and in my department of choice (sales and marketing). Throughout the summer, I was given many different tasks. I attended numerous sales meetings, including managers' meetings (there are more than 800 managers at the MGM Grand and 8,000 employees total). This experience has made me exceptionally optimistic about my future in the hospitality industry. Not only will I have a sincere appreciation for the profession I will enter, but a remarkable property to add to my resume as well. I had an extraordinary time.



**Jeffery Dominessy, Ph.D.**, Associate Vice President and Director of Cooperative Education and Career Services at RIT, projects with an RIT professor or through any of the many opportunities we offer to learn by doing. I'm not at all surprised. Our model of experiential education really makes your classroom learning more interesting and relevant as you apply your knowledge in real-world settings or on real-world projects and problems. Not only do you learn more about yourself and your interests, but you develop important skills and acquire critical experiences that pay off in terms of job opportunities, salary offers or graduate school applications. The Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services is here to help you from the day you first step foot on campus. In fact, we'll be here to help in your job search and career planning even after you graduate from RIT. Offering a combination of state-of-the-art job search services and the personal, individualized attention and support you need, we're proud of how we can help you accomplish the career and employment goals you've set for yourself. Please visit our website, call us or stop by for more information and a preview of the services available to you as an RIT student.

### An Extraordinary Time

**Real-world experience empowers RIT's graduates with a marketable edge.** Co-op and experiential education allows you to put classroom lectures, text book theories, and your personal energy and initiative to the test in a real-world work environment or on real-world problems and projects.



**Jennifer Vitullo**  
 Microelectronic Engineering  
 Hometown: Rochester, N.Y.

### Valuable Insight



**Nichole Bolding**  
 Graphic Media  
 Hometown: Frederick, Md.

### From Concept to Production

This past summer I worked at Robert's Communications Inc. Even though I was a Communications intern, I learned the creative department's ins and outs from all the departments, including production, accounting, and the executives. On my first day my boss asked me to join a concept meeting for a Xerox project. With my understanding of digital products and workflow from RIT classes, I was able to provide a great deal of input. What's even more exciting was when I went to Graph Expo in Chicago. I saw all of the Xerox collateral that I had helped produce. Another major project that I became involved in was the production of a TV commercial. Better than seeing the collateral materials was seeing a variety of coworkers from different fields and different countries. This was the best co-op I could have ever dreamed of!

I really enjoyed working in an advertising environment. From concept to production, I loved this job!

My co-op experience gave me valuable insight into what opportunities were available to me after graduation, what kind of company I want to be a part of, and the personal goals I should set for myself.



**David Perez**  
 Mechanical Engineering Technology  
 Hometown: Wymewood, Pa.

### Well Prepared

I worked for EMPA, the Swiss National Materials Testing and Engineering Laboratories in Dubendorf, Switzerland, a suburb of Zurich. My job involved research and testing in the area of body kinetics. I used Optotrak 3D imaging equipment to model the human body during different motions and relate it to an advanced computer model to aid with new types of medical diagnosis. I was also fortunate enough to spend a week conducting spinal motion experiments at the University of Bern with its biomedical division.

On a professional level, I was given a lot of responsibility to work independently and use my initiative in solving technical problems. On a personal level, I enjoyed working with a variety of coworkers from different fields and different countries. This was the best co-op I could have ever dreamed of!

RIT will admit and hire men and women; veterans; persons with disabilities; and individuals of any race, creed, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age, or marital status in compliance with all appropriate legislation.

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## Learning by Doing

At RIT, cutting-edge academic programs, outstanding faculty, and first-rate classroom and laboratory facilities provide you with a great educational experience. But in today's world that's simply not enough. You need to be prepared for the real challenges and opportunities you will experience once you've graduated. Your total education must be comprehensive and relevant. It must be tested in real-world settings and on real-world problems before you graduate.

RIT's co-op and experiential education programs do all that—and more.

RIT offers a full range of experiential learning opportunities. You may, for example ...

- join a team solving business problems through industry-sponsored, class-based projects including senior capstone design teams.
- work on an interdisciplinary student team competing in international SAE Formula One and Baja events.
- work alongside a faculty member on an externally funded research project.
- work part-time on and off campus in assignments designed to complement your academic course of study.
- volunteer your time and experience through our Community and Service Learning programs.
- study abroad at one of more than 100 universities in more than 30 countries or travel abroad through RIT-sponsored group or class trips.
- gain valuable work experience through internship and paid cooperative education work assignments with corporations and organizations around the U.S. and abroad.



Every academic program at RIT offers something in the way of experiential education. Those opportunities are always specific to the educational goals of the course of study, reflective of what's available in the real world, and sensitive to your needs and interests.

## Experience That Pays

The benefits to participating in co-op and other experiential education opportunities are clear:

- Your classes and course work take on new meaning when you have related work and real-world problem-solving experience to help enrich the classroom discussions.
- You will be better able to clarify and assess your career interests and goals.
- You will gain valuable workplace and work-related experience.
- You will further develop and improve your job search skills.
- You will make important industry contacts and build your professional network.
- You can travel and experience new settings and new places.
- You can generate significant earnings to help offset your college expenses.



Ultimately, you will prepare yourself to be the strongest possible candidate for employment and graduate school opportunities upon completion of your degree and be far more knowledgeable about your interests and goals.

## The RIT Co-op Plan

Cooperative education (co-op) is the most extensive and intensive of RIT's experiential education opportunities. Co-op is full-time, paid work experience directly related to your course of study and career interests. Periods of full-time study are alternated with periods of full-time employment, offering the best way for you to immerse yourself in the real world and apply what you're learning and experiencing in your studies at RIT. Some academic programs require co-op while others make it available on an optional basis.

RIT has the fourth-oldest and one of the largest cooperative education programs in the world, annually placing more than 3,500 students in more than 5,200 co-op assignments with 1,900 employing organizations. Last year those students generated more than \$30 million in earnings through their employment with industry, business, government and the not-for-profit sector throughout the U.S. and in 40 foreign countries.



RIT's school year is divided into four 13-week study terms, or quarters. As a student here, you will complete four years (12 quarters) of college course work. That's the same amount of time you would spend in a bachelor's degree program offered by any other college or university regardless of calendar system. But that's where the similarity ends. RIT offers you the opportunity to integrate an additional two to five quarters of co-op work experience into your degree program. You may work on either a single quarter (three-month) or a "double-block" (six-month) assignment as your schedule and interests allow.

## Is Co-op Available to Everyone

Co-op eligibility and related requirements vary from RIT college to college. With very few exceptions, as an entering freshman, you spend your first two years on campus completing course work in the liberal arts and in your major field of study before you are eligible to begin the co-op component of your program. This period will give you the core academic background you will need to succeed in the challenging co-op assignments you will encounter in your next two to three years at RIT. If you enter as a transfer student, your academic adviser will take your previous course work into consideration when developing your co-op schedule.

Students majoring in, for example, the engineering, engineering technology or computing program areas are required to complete anywhere from three to five quarters of co-op work experience. Students in these programs typically earn their degrees over a five-year period as they alternate periods of full-time study with co-op work assignments during their third, fourth and fifth years. Students majoring in one of the business programs, for example, are required to complete just two quarters, or a total of six months, of co-op work experience. These students are often able to complete their degrees in four years.

Some programs such as engineering, for example, assign each student to a fairly set schedule that determines when you'll be in classes and when you're expected to be on a co-op work assignment. Students majoring in the computing fields, on the other hand, have more flexibility about when they can complete their co-op assignments and work closely with their academic adviser to establish their individual schedule.

While co-op is required in many programs, it is also available on an optional basis in others, including, for example, the BFA programs in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, as well as the Schools of Art, Design and American Crafts. Co-op is also optional for students in the College of Science. Students enrolled in majors with optional co-op may determine if and how they wish to participate.

For more information about specific co-op program requirements and opportunities as well as typical salaries earned, please consult the accompanying chart "Who can co-op?" included in this brochure, or visit our website.

Regardless of when or how long you are required to co-op, you pay tuition only during the periods you are enrolled in classes at RIT. There are no tuition or other fees charged during your co-op work assignment unless you are taking additional classes or living in RIT-operated housing. During your co-op work experience, your earnings not only help cover your expenses but can often help you offset your tuition and other living expenses when you return to campus.

## What About Internships?

As an alternative to co-op, some academic programs at RIT offer students the opportunity to gain career-related work experience through internships. Students in the medical science programs, for example, are required to complete a clinical internship in the fourth year that provides the experience necessary for professional licensing. Other academic

programs, including, for example, public policy and international studies, offer internship opportunities in addition to co-op. While co-op assignments are full-time paid positions, internships may not pay a salary or require a full-time work schedule. Also, in some instances, internship credit may be substituted for specific courses required in the academic major.

## Where Do Students Work?

Your RIT co-op and internship experiences will be as exciting and interesting as you make them. You may choose to work for one of more than 1,900 employers that hire RIT students, or you may develop your own co-op or internship work assignment with the support and approval of RIT. Literally every industry or business and every different type of employer you can imagine may be involved in co-op or intern hiring.

## A sampling of our co-op and internship employer partners includes:

- Adobe Systems
- Apple Computer
- Bausch & Lomb
- Boeing
- Bosch
- CIA
- Deloitte & Touche
- Eastman Kodak
- EJ Delmonte
- Ernst & Young
- ESPN
- General Dynamics
- General Mills
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Google
- Harris Corporation
- Hasbro
- IBM
- Intel
- Johnson & Johnson
- Lockheed Martin
- Marriott International
- Microsoft
- New York Times
- Northrop Grumman
- Paetec
- Paychex
- Standard Register
- Time, Inc.
- Toyota
- Walt Disney World
- Wegmans
- Xerox

Field of Study	Years to Complete Degree	Co-op Work Periods Included In Degree Program	Average Salary Range Earned Per Work Period*	Number of Student Placements Per Year
<b>College of Applied Science and Technology</b>				
Engineering Technology Civil, Computer, Electrical, Manufacturing, Mechanical, Telecommunications	5	5	\$5,265-\$13,265	900
Environmental Management	5	4	\$5,375-\$9,795	40
Hospitality and Service Management Food Management, Food Marketing, Hotel Management, Nutrition, Travel Management	4	3	\$3,900-\$7,280	100
Packaging Science	4	2	\$6,698-\$12,010	165
<b>E. Philip Saunders College of Business</b>				
Accounting, Finance, Management, Marketing, Graphic Media Marketing, International Business Management	4	2	\$4,030-\$11,008	260
Management Information Systems	4	2	\$5,720-\$10,920	75
<b>B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences</b>				
Applied Networking and Systems Administration	4	3	\$6,760-\$13,000	165
Computer Science	5	4	\$7,280-\$16,250	575
Information Technology (including Game Design and New Media)	4	3	\$5,200-\$13,000	450
Medical Informatics	4	2	\$6,760-\$8,970	3
Software Engineering	5	4	\$6,240-\$17,160	300
<b>Kate Gleason College of Engineering</b>				
Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering (all options)	5	5	\$6,500-\$16,120	730
Mechanical Engineering (all options), Industrial and Systems Engineering	5	5	\$6,240-\$13,780	800
Microelectronic Engineering	5	5	\$6,760-\$13,570	130
<b>College of Imaging Arts and Sciences</b>				
School of Art, School of Design, School for American Crafts School of Photographic Arts and Sciences	4	Co-op optional/internship	\$4,680-\$8,382	30
Biomedical Photographic Communications	4	1 co-op or internship	\$4,924-\$7,950	55
Imaging and Photographic Technology	4	2	\$5,200-\$8,450	20
School of Print Media Graphic Media, New Media Publishing	4	2	\$4,420-\$8,320	100
<b>College of Liberal Arts</b>				
Advertising and Public Relations	4	2	\$5,200-\$6,240	10
Criminal Justice	4	Co-op optional	Insufficient salary data	less than 5
Economics	4	Co-op optional	Insufficient salary data	less than 5
International Studies	4	1 co-op or internship	Insufficient salary data	less than 5
Public Policy	4	1 co-op or internship	\$4,160-\$7,465	6
Professional and Technical Communication	4	2	\$4,160-\$7,800	30
Psychology	4	1 or more	\$4,160-\$7,800	50
Urban and Community Studies	4	1 co-op or internship	(new program)	
<b>College of Science</b>				
Applied Mathematics, Applied Statistics, Computational Mathematics	4 or 5	Co-op optional	\$6,240-\$9,100	18
Biology, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Polymer Chemistry, Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics, Pre-med	4 or 5	Co-op optional	\$5,200-\$9,100	50
Bioinformatics	4 or 5	1	\$4,160-\$9,620	20
Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Ultrasound), Physician Assistant	4	Clinical Internship	Unpaid	
Center for Imaging Science Imaging Science	4	Co-op optional	\$6,240-\$14,040	5

\* Salary data computed from Co-op Student Wage Report 2006-07. Ranges are based on 40-hour work weeks and 13-week-long work assignments.

