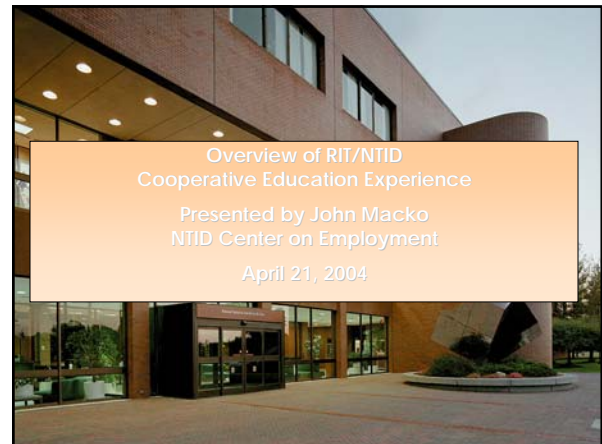


Overview of RIT/NTID Cooperative Education Experience



Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) & National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) Background


NTID is one of the 8 colleges of RIT

Approximately 1,100 deaf and hard-of-hearing in NTID/RIT, 15,000 total in RIT

Academic programs: NTID - Associate; RIT - Bachelor and Master degrees

Almost half of the deaf students are enrolled in other RIT colleges, supported by NTID


RIT has one of the oldest and largest cooperative education programs in the world, almost all academic programs require one or more co-op



Cooperative Education


Definition: Cooperative Education at RIT/NTID is defined as full-time, work experience directly related to the student's field of study.

History of NTID (i.e. why and how it was established on RIT campus)



Student Benefits of Cooperative Education

- Enhances classroom learning by integrating academic curriculum and real world work experience
- Confirms career decision-making through on the job experience
- Enhances affordability of college through employer-paid wages
- Improves job opportunities after graduation
- Teaches valuable job search skills (i.e. resume writing and interviewing techniques)



Employer Benefits of Co-op Education

- Provides an excellent pool of well-prepared employees
- Increases cost-effectiveness of recruitment and training (Studies show employers save money by using co-op to identify and train personnel)
- Improves workforce diversity
- Increases retention rates among permanent employees recruited and hired through a co-op program
- Strengthens company relations with colleges and students (i.e. advisory boards and evaluations)

Overview of RIT/NTID Cooperative Education Experience



College Benefits of Co-op Education

- Assists in the recruitment and retention of students.
- Improves student and faculty access to state-of-the-art equipment and technology
- Builds a positive relationship between the institution and the business community
- Keeps college curricula up-to-date with changes in industry through constant input from the employment sector.



Society Benefits of Co-op Education

- Builds a globally competitive workforce
- Fosters respect for work and increases personal responsibility
- Provides financial resources for college to students from all income levels. This is particularly important for low and middle income families
- Saves federal dollars by providing student paid wages to help with college expenses



Issues to Consider When Setting Up a Co-op Program

- Involving faculty
 - a) The willingness to consider a co-op program
 - b) Co-op can be part of successful curriculum
- Involving administrators
 - a) The willingness to hire staff to operate the co-op program
- Involving co-op requirement
 - a) A minimum of 35 hours per week is considered full time
 - b) A minimum of 350 hours is required in order to get credit for 1 quarter of co-op



Issues to Consider When Setting Up a Co-op Program

- Involving co-op credits
 - a) Required
 - b) Optional
- Involving cost
 - a) Human
 - b) Physical
 - c) Financial
- Involving status
 - a) Faculty
 - b) Professional Staff



NTID Center on Employment Services

- Assists deaf NTID/RIT students with job searches
- Offers orientation and training programs for employers
- Arranges for employers to recruit on-campus, post-jobs, and request resumes
- Loans TTY and phone signalers to deaf students on a short-term basis for co-op
- Is available for consultation before, during, and after the hire
- Coordinates faculty and staff visits to selected co-op students and their employers



NTID Annual Job Fair



Overview of RIT/NTID Cooperative Education Experience

