Analysis of Student-Athletes and Summer Internship Experiences in the Construction Management Department

Student-Athlete Survey Results

- Students that find it difficult to train and work full-time: 18% (NO), 82% (YES)
- Students that feel at a disadvantage in gaining experience: 28% (NO), 72% (YES)
- Students that feel they have sacrificed internship experience: 48% (NO), 52% (YES)

Abstract

Summer internships are a valuable way for implementing practical knowledge in the construction industry. Students can apply what they have learned during the school year and visualize the reality of how construction is managed. This project will research what student-athletes typically invest their time in over summer and the construction companies connection to the student-athlete department. The analysis will identify if there is a need to propose a program that can improve the relationship between the construction management and student-athlete departments. Two surveys were conducted to collect information about student-athletes summer activity history and their perspective of internship experience, as well as gathering the view point from construction companies on student-athletes participation in internship programs.

Keywords: student-athletes, construction management, summer internship

Results Summary

40 student-athletes Survey:
- 82% find it would be difficult to train and work.
- 72% feel at a disadvantage in gaining experience.
- 52% feel they have sacrificed internship experience for sports.

16 construction Companies Survey:
- 69% have never had a student-athlete as an intern.
- 69% encourage implementing a student-athlete program.
- Only 1 uses resources specifically for recruiting student-athletes.

Conclusion

- There is a desire from companies to hire student-athletes as interns.
- Student-athletes need accommodations in order to both train and intern over summers.
- Recommendation to develop a program that connects student-athletes with construction companies willing to balance their internship and training schedules.
- BALI Construction would be the suggested company as a resource for developing a program for student-athletes and construction companies connection.

Construction Company Survey Results

- Companies Interested in Implementing a Student-Athlete Internship Connection Program: 31% (YES), 69% (NO)

BALI Construction

Kevin Balestrieri is a Cal Poly student-athlete alumni who has successfully built BALI Construction and was named one of the Fastest-Growing Private Companies for 2015, 2016, and 2017.

He also promotes the Cal Poly Construction Management Department by educating students about his experiences and success. BALI Construction gives internship opportunities to Cal Poly student-athletes and develops a flexible schedule that considers time for sport training.

In addition, Balestrieri will take the time to train with student-athletes through out their summer training.