

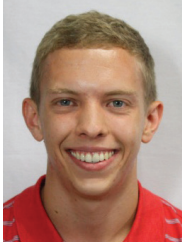
# INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Undergraduate Program

## INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

### Tyler Randel



**DECEMBER 2013 GRADUATE**

International Business

ConAgra Foods, Inc.

Sales Finance Intern

#### *Briefly describe your role and responsibilities as an intern.*

ConAgra Foods is a Fortune 200 company along with being one of the largest food companies in the U.S. Popular items made include: Orville Redenbacher, PAM, Chef Boyardee, Marie Callender's, and many more. My internship is at the corporate headquarters in Omaha, Neb. In a nutshell, I am a "co-pilot" to the numerous sales teams. Many of my reports help direct sales reps to reach certain sales targets or gain efficiency in a certain area. Specifically, I send daily/weekly/monthly reports that involve sales team performance and recording daily sales for the company. I also do miscellaneous projects to improve company systems and make reporting more efficient. This is necessary because in a corporation with many functions, each sector uses certain tools or systems and collaboration is a constant battle. ConAgra Foods is great about truly investing in interns' future success. Executives spend time conducting "Lessons from Leaders" to give great career advice and help put a "face to the name." I have scheduled numerous lunches with upper-management employees which reflects the overall genuine, transparent company culture. Surprising to my expectations, my internship experience has been both a great learning experience and really fun.

#### *What has your internship taught you about this career field?*

Finance is heavily involved in Excel. Having advanced Excel skills and learning how to analyze what the numbers mean is crucial to being successful in finance. I wish I would have known the importance of Excel in business and I plan on taking Excel programming courses in the future.

#### *What impacted your selection of this major?*

I chose International Business because I have a passion for learning about different cultures and how business relates to it. One of ConAgra Foods main goals involves doubling the size of its international business. With my International Business background and an understanding of global markets, I am now an asset to achieve this goal.

#### *What about your academic program or training proved valuable in facilitating your career development or attainment of professional opportunities?*

My personal and professional growth came mostly from my relationships with OSU staff. Having a good relationship with my career services advisor helped with the following: build a quality resume, contacting businesses prior to the career fair, and discussing the importance of involvement in my personal passions. Building friendships with professors was crucial to having references, recommendation letters, and having mentors guide me with successful career choices.

#### *Please highlight any extracurricular activities that are a meaningful part of your collegiate experience and what they taught you.*

I am mostly involved with The Wells Project and The Vine. The Wells Project raises money to build wells in Africa while The Vine is a student-run clothing distribution center located on The Strip that directly helps those in need.

#### *Is there anything else you could share with students considering this area of study that will encourage success or allow them to maximize their collegiate career?*

This major gives you a wide view of all the business functions. It gives you a distinct advantage for applying to international companies. In terms of overall success, I have found that networking and building relationships has been the most important part of college. Outside of GPAs and extra-curricular activities, businesses are looking for people who genuinely care and are willing to make an effort in the interview process.

## WHY INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS?

If you choose to pursue an International Business degree from the Spears School of Business at OSU, you will enjoy a well-balanced overview of business disciplines and obtain a special focus on issues facing the business world today. International business careers often arise through an initial position within a traditional field such as finance or marketing, so this degree is perfect if you want to pursue a career domestically with an organization with global ties or if you want to work abroad.

To earn an international business degree, you will complete 120 hours of undergraduate coursework. In addition to coursework in accounting, economics, finance, management, management information systems and marketing, you will have the opportunity to take 15 hours of upper division, internationally-focused business courses.

### Internships

The Spears School encourages participation in internship opportunities prior to graduation to gain work experience, improve your competitiveness in the labor market, and discover through real world experience whether the career you are pursuing is a good fit. One of the best places you can find internships and begin interacting with employers is through the OSU Career Services website, [hireosugrads.com](http://hireosugrads.com).

### Student organizations

There are more than 20 student organizations associated with the Spears School of Business. Many of these are specifically related to majors, while others are honor societies. Each has a designated faculty member serving as an advisor as well as elected student officers within the club. Joining a student organization can begin a process of networking that will lead you to a more enjoyable and successful college experience.

### Study abroad and travel programs

The Center for Executive and Professional Development in the Spears School provides a number of short-term, study abroad and travel programs to expose you to different cultures, experiences, and business views. Courses within these programs are designed specifically for the setting within which the travel experience takes place and allow you to advance your academic and professional education.

## DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING

## CAREER SPOTLIGHT

### Lorrin Province



#### MAY 2013 GRADUATE

International Business and Marketing

Minor: International Relations

Cerner Corporation

Application Services Consultant

#### *Briefly describe your role and responsibilities as a new hire with your current employer.*

I am an Application Services Consultant for Cerner, which is a global health care IT company. Following an extensive training course to learn everything about the company and the different solutions offered, I will work with ambulatory systems to streamline information for out-patient procedures. This means working with hospitals to ensure that the software we give them is set up the way they wanted. It's all about ensuring the hospital's satisfaction, and then being able to help them troubleshoot issues or change the software due to hospital changes. One thing I enjoy is the relevancy my career has to every person, young or old. Health care is a continuously changing process and the knowledge I learn is not only applicable to me but can be used to educate my family members and peers.

#### *When you were choosing a major, what factored into your selection?*

When I chose my major I wanted to have a degree that could be useful in a wide array of venues. I wasn't sure what I wanted my profession to be but I knew I wanted my degree to help take me anywhere around the world. The best experiences I had were the ones I gained while abroad. These were true life experiences that test reactions to stress and change. In my profession where the job is constantly changing, I draw on these experiences.

#### *What about your academic program or training proved valuable in facilitating your career development or attainment of professional opportunities?*

I mentioned how vital my study abroad experience was to opening my eyes and broadening my horizons. The other thing that really helped me was making good connections with professors who have great insight into the corporate world. One of my marketing professors gave me great advice as to what type of corporations were hiring and which companies I would add the most value to.

#### *Please highlight any extracurricular activities that were a meaningful part of your collegiate experience and what they taught you.*

My study abroad experience in Dijon, France was absolutely the best thing I did in college. I made friends across the globe and got to learn from people with perspectives far different from mine. The other thing that I did was be a House Tour Day Head for my sorority. This role taught me so much about time management and how to design and maintain a budget.

#### *Is there anything else you could share with students considering this area of study that will encourage success or allow them to maximize their collegiate career?*

I hate the word *networking* but this process is vital! Talk to as many people as you can and learn something from every person you meet. Even if you have no idea what you want to do, ask people. Ask your professors what they see as your best skills and where they see you having a professional career. Also don't be upset if you don't start in your ideal career path. I wanted to work in fashion and now I am working in health care, and I really like the career I am in. The best advice I can give is to be open and adaptable to anything.

## CAREER SERVICES

Spears School of Business  
Oklahoma State University  
103 Business Building  
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078

phone 405.744.2772 fax 405.744.5180

web spears.okstate.edu/careerservices



# CAREER SERVICES



## Scholarships

Each year, the Spears School grants more than 275 individual awards for a total of nearly \$500,000 in scholarships to both undergraduate and graduate students. These numbers continue to grow as donors recognize the value of providing assistance to college students.

## International business career areas

Foreign export manager  
Customs manager  
Congressional/legislative aide  
Foreign information officer  
Marketing educator  
International account manager  
International consultant  
National security agent  
Overseas personnel manager  
Foreign sales manager  
Customs inspector  
Export development manager  
Market advisor  
Diplomatic officer  
Foreign exchange dollar trader  
Project manager  
Consultant

## Career resources for international business majors

OSU Career Services [hireosugrads.com](http://hireosugrads.com)

The Big Guide  
[www.workingoverseas.com/user/issi/5923](http://www.workingoverseas.com/user/issi/5923)

Jobs Abroad [goabroad.com](http://goabroad.com)

International Nonprofit Information  
[idealist.org](http://idealist.org)

Indeed [indeed.com](http://indeed.com)

USA Jobs [usa.jobs.gov](http://usa.jobs.gov)

Intern Match [internmatch.com](http://internmatch.com)

Internships [internships.com](http://internships.com)

Partnership for Public Service  
[ourpublicservice.com](http://ourpublicservice.com)

U.S. Department of State [state.gov](http://state.gov)

The United States Agency for International Development  
[usaid.gov](http://usaid.gov)

U.S. International Trade Commission  
[usitc.gov](http://usitc.gov)

International Trade Administration  
[ita.doc.gov](http://ita.doc.gov)

World Bank Group [worldbank.org](http://worldbank.org)  
Peace Corps [peacecorps.gov](http://peacecorps.gov)