Growing Success of Career Fair

This spring’s College of Engineering Career Fair held on February 26, 2014 proved to be very successful. The amount of networking and employment opportunities for both co-op and full time positions was nothing short of remarkable, with 125 employers and approximately 600 students in attendance.

“The Spring Career expo was our largest to date,” said Dr. Vickie Kuntz, director of the Engineering Career Development Center. “It allows students to meet employer representatives and present themselves to the representatives with the intent of securing positions.” Companies that attended the career fair had the opportunity to meet potential co-ops face to face throughout the day.

Recruits from multiple companies were impressed by UT students and their attributes. “They have an understanding of what it takes to work in a challenging environment,” said Will Hogan, Staffing Specialist for CSX Talent Acquisition.

Returning companies were pleased with the continual success of their co-ops from the College of Engineering. A representative of Midmark spoke of the unique qualities UT students have to offer. “They’re ready to work. They know what’s expected.” Midmark has used the success of the career fair to grow their own co-op program, which hires 13 to 14 co-ops per term.

Rashadd Humes, Human Resources Recruiter for Marathon Petroleum Company, was overwhelmed by the passion expressed by students. After experiencing plenty of one-on-one interactions, he was impressed by their knowledge base. “The University of Toledo is very active and hands on with their students, and they support a lot of technical assignments that they have out there. They give their students real time projects and real assignments, which other schools don’t do.”

The career fair, in harmony with the values of the College of Engineering, is centered on the success of UT students. “This is a very important event. It is a great opportunity to learn about these companies, what they do, and where they see themselves when they graduate” said Kuntz.

Chemical Engineering Senior Laura Kay, who is currently on co-op with Anderson Development Company, expressed her appreciation for the Career Fair and all it brings. “As a student, my experiences here, in coming through the career fair and my program and UT, got me to where I am now.”

The success of the career fair speaks to the College’s passionate faculty, success-driven students, and the growing national prominence of its mandatory Co-op program.