Many students do not realize the benefits of completing an internship as a part of their academic program here at Davenport University. Here is what Dan had to say about his experience.

**What are two benefits that you will take away from your internship?**

I think the biggest benefit in this situation is that in all the time I spent interning, it was spent in the real world. As opposed to a classroom or hypothetical situation, in the real world all of those ideas somehow have to be realized and applied in real time. That isn’t always easy. Situations arise where you really have to think about what to do. Sometimes you have to figure out what someone else has done first before you can take the situation forward.

Second, it is the introduction of technology. I had classroom experience with Word and Excel but not like I have had to use it in my internship. That was probably the biggest obstacle for me was learning my skill but also learning the technology to make it easier for me to do my job.

**What did you find was the most exciting part of the internship?**

Again for me, it was the fact that I was dealing in real world accounting. I was used to classroom experience and make-believe about situations and numbers that were all determined ahead of time. Not so in my internship! We had to research and look at older, previous documents (or couldn’t find) that may have contributed to whatever we’re dealing with at the moment.

**How has completing an internship prepared you for your career?**

Well I was fortunate enough to be asked to come back to the place I interned at on a part-time, contract-basis, which I have been doing. So I was lucky enough to go back to work at where I interned at. I have not worked elsewhere since my internship ended so I’m not really sure what I am prepared to do outside of where I work at the current time. My internship has helped me to work where I am working, but I don’t know about anywhere else.
I just would like to thank the staff at Davenport University’s Warren campus’ Career Services Department for finding this internship for me. Jennifer England found it for me and I am forever grateful to her and the department for their help.

If you would like to share your story please contact me at debora.crudele@davenport.edu or 586-620-4041.