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SRNS Welcomes Its Summer 2016 Intern Class

AIKEN, S.C. (July 8, 2016) - The Department of Energy's managing and operating contractor at the Savannah River Site, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), hired 145 summer interns to increase their experience in the workplace, while also benefiting the company with fresh eyes and new ideas.

"We're actively trying to get ahead of the curve and other companies to secure the best talent that we can," said Nate Diakun, SRNS internship coordinator. "I think this year has shown a great result of that effort, and I am extremely impressed with the caliber of interns that we are hiring."

The 145 interns for the summer of 2016 shows a positive growth rate of 34 percent when compared to the 108 interns that SRNS employed the previous summer.

The University of South Carolina (USC), Clemson University and USC Aiken boast the largest amount of interns represented; however, students are present from institutions all around the country, such as the University of Georgia, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Worcester, MA), Oklahoma State University and the University of Arizona.

"I believe the program is growing in both quantity and quality," said Diakun. "Positive word of mouth is being generated due to recent growth, and it provides both SRNS and interns with an increasingly valuable experience."



SRNS interns and executives pose for a group photo after the Intern-Executive Drop-In event.

News from Savannah River Nuclear Solutions

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Hiring interns is beneficial to both SRNS and interns. Managers get the opportunity to mentor while also gaining a valuable set of hands to help with special projects.

SRNS internships also provide an avenue for students to explore certain disciplines in a real-world setting.

“I hope what the interns experience in class comes to life before them,” said Diakun. “Our goal is for them to make an impact in their workplace, such as tangibly working on a system in engineering or going out and doing field work in the national lab or putting finance and business practices into an actual work scope. We also hope they recognize how their daily work activities affect other groups on site.”

Although SRNS interns are typically undergraduate or post-graduate students with experience in a specific field, their position at SRS is not limited by their concentration. The SRNS internship program offers positions in a wide variety of disciplines, while still allowing employees to work within the same company.

“Much like a city, Savannah River Site requires the expertise of many people in a variety of disciplines,” Diakun said. “If an intern desires to explore different career options, they may do so while remaining confident in the same safety procedures and employment practices at SRNS. We are vetting the student as much as the students are vetting us.”

Of the 108 interns employed in the summer of 2015, approximately 35 accepted offers to become full-time SRNS employees.

SRNS’ continued commitment to interns and desire to incorporate their fresh ideas reflects its commitment to fulfill the company’s strategic goals: Deliver Results Safely and Securely, Meet DOE National Needs, Advance the Savannah River National Laboratory and Make SRS a Compelling Place to Work.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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