



Theme: ***Students First!***

Vision: *Southwestern Leads and Inspires Lifelong Learning*

Mission: *Southwestern Provides Quality Learning Opportunities!*

**SOUTHWESTERN**  
Oregon Community College

**Measure of Achievement 14**  
**Structured Work Experience Programs**  
**2008-09 Academic Year**

**Presented By:** *Tom Bennett, Cooperative Work Experience Coordinator*

**Date Presented:** September 14, 2009, Board of Education Meeting

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this measure is to show the level of student involvement with structured work experience opportunities we call internship. The strategic plan goals in the ESPS area include a focus on job placement and career planning. Internship is a strong contributor to these goals and, in turn, positively impacts College wide goals in the areas of retention and providing quality learning opportunities. Students engaged in Internship routinely report that their horizons are broadened and their commitment to career is bolstered by real time experience in their selected career area. An added benefit from a vibrant internship program is the strong partnerships that develop between the employer community and the college.

**BACKGROUND**

Tom Bennett coordinates the internship program which includes faculty support in several disciplines. Many professional technical programs require work experience or field experience credits in order to achieve an Associate Degree. Students in transfer degree programs utilize internship to get a clear view of their chosen path while building their resume with relevant experience.

**PROCESS**

This report is based on information from the Colleague information system and internship records extracted from course records. Documentation is located on the website at:

<http://www.socc.edu/ie/pgs/research/measures/index.shtml>

Documents are also contained in the Institutional Effectiveness, Planning and Assessment TracDat system accessed from the Documents Tab and located in the Measures of Achievement folder .

**SUMMARY OF RESULTS**

There were **185** work experience/field experience/practicums performed in '08 – '09. The unduplicated headcount of students in the internship program was **136**. (Students in Human Services, Criminal Justice and Athletic Training, for example, tend to gather their required credits by doing multiple placements over several terms.) At least **53** different work sites partnered with the college to provide learning opportunities for our students. A full list of these companies, organizations and agencies will be available soon. A number of sites hosted multiple students, sometimes several during the same term. Our preferred sites include NBMC, Bay Clinic, Bay Area Hospital, ORCCA, Bay Area First Step, school districts, our own Southwestern departments, and so many others. The 185 internships generated **458 credits**, which translates to **29.64 FTE**. A breakdown by term shows the following:

Term	Students	Credits	FTE
Summer	30	95	6.15
Fall	50	114	7.38
Winter	43	102	6.60
Spring	62	147	9.51
2008-09 Totals	136 - unduplicated	458	29.64