



**OBTC 2015 at University of La Verne
June 17th – 20th, 2015**

Submission Template

SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

- * Remove all identifying properties from this document **
- * All files must be saved in PDF format **
- *Please include ALL supplementary text at the end of this document**
- *Only one document should be submitted**

Submission Template for the 2015 OBTC Teaching Conference for Management Educators

1) Title of Proposal:

Non-profit Board Experience

2) Abstract:

We present a specialized internship program which gives students the opportunity to sit on a non-profit board of directors and to participate in executive-level committee work for a full academic year. Program goals include exposing students to strategic-level decision making, facilitating the growth of students' professional networks and building university-community relationships. The program has been in use at a small New England university for the past 5 years and 21 students have successfully finished the program. Preliminary results indicate that program goals have been met and many of the expected benefits of the experiential learning approach have been realized.

3) Keywords:

Internship, Non-profit board

4) Format

- Activity or exercise
- Discussion roundtable (60 minute only)
- General discussion session

5) Time Requested:

- 30 Minutes
 60 Minutes (*Roundtables must select 60 minutes*)
 90 Minutes

6) Planning Details:

No special requirements

7) Learning Objectives or Goals for the Session:

- Understand how to implement a non-profit board experience in in your university or college.
- Describe the students, the college/university and community expected benefits.
- Understand how to articulate the program benefits to non-profit executives to entice them to pilot the program.
- Learn about the positive student, college and non-profit organization outcomes realized by one University over the past 5 years while running this program.

8) Management or Teaching Topics:

The following are the management topics that differentiate this program from other internship programs:

- Corporate governance – this program allows students to directly observe and participate in the corporate governance system of a long-running, successful organization.
- Corporate strategy – while participating in board meetings, students gain an understanding of how corporate strategy is developed, implemented and managed.

In addition, this program relates to teaching topics that are typical in other kinds of internships such as:

- Team behavior
- Professional dress and communication
- Emotional intelligence
- Leadership

9) Session Description and Plan:

This session will include a 20 minute presentation which describes the program and benefits and also the materials that can be used by participants to implement a non-profit board experience in their schools such as the internship contract, syllabus and grading rubric. The final 10 minutes will be used to field implementation questions from the audience.

10) For Activities and Exercises:

We will bring all of the materials needed for this session.

11) Implications for Teaching or for Teachers:

Attendees will leave the session knowing how to implement this successful program in their institution. They will also understand how to set and measure reasonable goals associated with this activity.

12) Application to Conference theme:

This proposal relates directly to the following two conference topics:

- “Connecting with the broader local and global community to inform and deepen student learning”.
- “Community engagement that is mutually beneficial through service learning, community partnerships, field explorations, etc.”

This program facilitates student learning in the community and creates ongoing working relationships between local non-profit organizations and the school. The program is a win-win for both the school and the community. Students benefit in many ways including deepening their understanding about strategy and organizational behavior as well as developing networking and professional communication skills. The organizations benefit by gaining the viewpoint of a college student with recent theoretical training, securing committed volunteer hours and the opportunity to form a relationship with a young person that can last decades.

13) Unique Contribution to OBTC:

This project has not been presented before and is not currently under review.

14) References and/or Additional Materials: