INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Amanda Ross

Graduation Year: Spring 2018
Semester of Internship: Spring 2018
Major: Management Accounting
Minor: Psychology
Hometown: Rector, PA

Hobbies: Hiking, bowling, scrapbooking, volleyball, watching movies
Campus Activities: Women’s volleyball team, bowling club, PICPA Campus Representative
Future Plans/Career Goals: Pass the CPA Exam and the Enrolled Agent Exam

- Internship (company/your title):
  Gary W. Breckley Associates, Inc.

- How did you find your internship?
  One of the accounting professors (Professor Turchick) recommended me and passed my resume on to them when they contacted her about interns.

- What were your duties?
  I did general accounting and bookkeeping work: journal entries, balance sheets, profit and loss statements, bank reconciliations. As well as prepare payroll returns, corporate, partnership, and personal tax returns.

- How many hours per week were you at your internship site?
  Around 20

- What did you enjoy most about your internship?
  I enjoyed learning more about my field. I liked putting the information I learned at school to real use, and feeling like a real accountant.

- What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?
  The most difficult part was managing the internship on top of school work, volleyball and other obligations.

- How did your experience at UPG and in the Accounting Department prepare you for your internship?
  Overall college has taught me how to manage my time better. The accounting courses that I took provided me with the general information that I needed to succeed. The tax classes also gave me a base to build on as the tax laws change.

- How has your internship prepared you for a career?
  I learned a lot more about accounting and taxes. I also got to experience what working in an office environment felt like. Additionally, it gave be a better understanding and feeling of what it would be like to do this kind of work every day as a career.

- What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?
  First of all, if you do not get an internship right away, do not worry about it. I did not get one until my last semester here. I was worried I would not get one and have no experience to use to apply for a job. Everything worked out though. Also, ask questions at your internship. Your bosses know that you are still a student and do not know everything, so don't be afraid to ask. This is where you will learn the most, so take advantage of it.