INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Marris Sobotka

Graduation Semester & Year: Spring 2026
Semester & Year of Internship: Summer 2025
Major: Political Science & Applied Math
Minor: Computer Science
Hobbies: Calligraphy
Campus Activities: Chorale, Theater, Student Government Association (SGA), Pitt-Greensburg Democrats

Hometown: Bay Shore, NY

Future Plans/Career Goals: I'm interested in working in policy research after graduation, and I'm looking forward to gaining more experience and seeing where it leads.

- **Internship (company/your title):**
  National Labor Relations Board via The Washington Center/E-Litigation & FOIA Intern

- **How did you find your internship?**
  I found my internship through The Washington Center's internal GradLeaders application system.

- **What were your duties?**
  My responsibilities ranged from legal research and writing to building and testing AI tools for document processing. I worked on both the technical and legal sides of several projects.

- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**
  I worked around 36 hours per week.

- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**
  I loved that I got to combine coding with legal and policy research. It was exciting to apply both sides of my academic background in one place.

- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**
  Learning how to code in a new environment and figuring out when and how to ask for help was definitely a challenge, but it pushed me to grow.

- **How did your experience at UPG and within your major prepare you for your internship?**
  My computer science classes gave me the technical foundation I needed, and my experience with TWC seminars helped me feel prepared for the professional environment.

- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**
  I now have hands-on experience with tools like Azure AI, real-world coding projects, and legal writing, all of which I can build on in both tech and policy careers.

- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**
  Apply early and often and know that what you get out of an internship depends on what you put into it. Don't be afraid to ask for meaningful work.

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