

# INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

## Sam Shadle

**Graduation Semester & Year:** Spring 2021

**Semester & Year of Internship:** Spring 2020

**Major:** Information Technology

**Minor:** Visual and Performing Arts: Music (2<sup>nd</sup> Major)

**Hometown:** Butler, PA

**Hobbies:** Composing/performing music; Learning about new IT trends/concepts

**Campus Activities:** Christian Fellowship Club; Habitat for Humanity; Distinct Voices Acapella

**Future Plans/Career Goals:** Up to 2 of the following: Music teacher; IT technician; lawyer; Catholic priest



- **Internship (company/your title):**  
Website Development and IT Intern at Diocesan Rosary Congresses, Inc.
- **How did you find your internship?**  
I had developed a website for the Pittsburgh chapter of the Rosary Congresses. Members of the board of the national organization saw this site and asked that the Pittsburgh coordinator connect me to them so I could also help develop the national website.
- **What were your duties?**  
At first I was only updating and maintaining the website, but with the COVID-19 crisis I was tasked with converting the organization's main event into a virtual livestream which was both challenging and very rewarding.
- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**  
My hours varied based on the workload for that week—anywhere from 2 hours in a week to over 40.
- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**  
I most enjoyed getting to see a streaming event through from start to finish. I always found the technical side of live performances to be fascinating and am grateful to have been part of a few through this internship.
- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**  
The most difficult aspect was the final hour of the Virtual Rosary Congress where I had to juggle multiple live feeds, and mix them together along with different audio sources. The timing also had to be exactly right, since the final Mass was starting on time whether I had the stream to that point or not.
- **How did your experience at UPG and in the Information Technology department prepare you for your internship?**  
The website development required both programming and design skills; the Java Programming and Human Factors in System Design were instrumental in helping me be able to know how to navigate unfamiliar programming languages and design the site's pages in a user-friendly way.
- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**  
One of the most educational and beneficial aspects was that I had to work with many different types of speakers across a wide range of agreeableness and with all different personalities. This is a much-needed and under-represented workplace skill that will benefit me greatly in my career.
- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**  
I would say to push yourself to produce the most excellent work you possibly can, and you will exceed the expectations of both your employer and your own self.

*By checking this box (or initialing next to it) and emailing this document to the campus Internship Coordinator, I give permission to University of Pittsburgh Greensburg to utilize this document along with the photo provided in media publications such as the UPG website, campus bulletin boards, and additional media outlets.*

