

New Initiative Being Rolled out by The Orange Chamber of Commerce

September 11, 2017, Orange, CT – The Orange Chamber of Commerce is introducing a Student Membership and Internship program in partnership with the University of New Haven, College of Business. “The College of Business at the University of New Haven is proud to partner with the Chamber on this important initiative,” said Dean Brian Kench. “Our College of Business programs are designed to produce successful, confident, creative 21st century citizens with the imagination, drive and skills that students need to tackle the complex problem-solving they will be tasked with in the world. The partnership with the Chamber expands our internship program, which affords our students the chance to put their skills to the test prior to graduation.”

The Student Membership program is being made possible through the generosity of Neil Feigl of the GEICO Local Office in Orange, CT. Both the Chamber and GEICO are committed to help bridge the gap between higher Insurance Company. Both the Chamber and GEICO are committed to help bridge the gap between higher education and the business world.

Neil Feigl wanted to increase the insurance company’s involvement with the Orange Chamber and recognized the student membership offering as an ideal opportunity to support emerging leaders. “GEICO engages in ongoing efforts to recruit the best qualified talent,” says Feigl. “Getting college students involved in real-world interaction with the business community struck us as a practical way to help grow the local talent pool”.

Through this initiative the Chamber is offering university students an exclusive opportunity to get connected with the business community. The Chamber encourages the growth and development of students as they prepare to enter the workforce as well as a head start on their networking and professional development. Students will experience the benefits of chamber membership, networking events and relationship building activities in this innovative program. GEICO will initially sponsor ten students identified by Darell Singleterry, Director of the University’s MBA program.

Through membership with the Orange Chamber, college students will be afforded the opportunity to meet professional members, get involved in committees, community initiatives, share information, gain personal visibility and gain personal, professional and leadership skills through their involvement. Additionally they will be promoted through the Chamber's online membership directory under categories of "Student" and "Job Seeker".

At the September Board meeting Charles (Pete) Peterson, Director of the college's internship program speak about the value of participating in the program. Both the business community and the student interns will benefit. Richard Zorena, President of the Chamber, said, "We already have members who have expressed an interest and we look forward to a great relationship with the University of New Haven."

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Incorporated in 1962, The Orange Chamber's mission is to promote business, enhance economic and community development and serve as a catalyst for improving the overall quality of life in the community and region. The Chamber provides programs and services that improve economic prosperity and sustainability.

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