

CEAT highlights Summer Intern at O'Hare

2012 O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) Intern - Zorina Disheva



at the O'Hare International Airport

Zorina Disheva is an undergraduate student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This Fall 2012 is her senior year at Illinois where she is majoring in Civil and Environmental Engineering with a primary concentration in Construction Management. Zorina interned at the O'Hare Modernization Program this past summer 2012. Below is a summary on her experience.

O'Hare Modernization Program: Internship Summary

My summer at the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) was a wonderful and extremely beneficial experience. I was an intern in the Program Management Office (PMO) for DMJM Aviation Partners. This is a joint venture partnership hired by the Chicago Department of Aviation to manage the multi-billion dollar runway modernization project. I spent 10 weeks rotating within the PMO and getting involved in as many aspects of this extremely large-scale project as possible.

Throughout my internship, I had the opportunity to shadow the project managers to numerous design and construction meetings. This allowed me to observe the coordination between entities such as the owner, the designers, the contractors, and the end-users. I also got involved in the design coordination and bid document preparation for a new \$500million facility. This facility is designed to combine a consolidated rental car center, a public parking structure, and a transportation transfer station. Additionally, I spent time with the program controls team, where I had the opportunity to update the project schedule, created a model schedule for a small project going out for bid, and learn about the budget control process. Also, I shadowed the environmental team on erosion and sediment control inspections and helped them to assemble a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan

for O'Hare Airport. Furthermore, I spent time in the on-site Quality Assurance and Material Testing Laboratory running Proctor tests, concrete compressive and fracture strength tests, and sieve analysis tests.

It still fascinates me how much I was able to learn in this short time frame. This wide range of experiences helped me to form a clear idea of the path which I want my career to take. The guidance I received from the experienced project managers and engineers whom I had the opportunity to work with was indescribably valuable, and I cannot wait to continue my education and career with this experience under my belt.

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More photos from the 2012 O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) Intern - Zorina Disheva



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