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Courtney Thurston

LinkedIn

Education

2011-2015 | COMMONWEALTH CONNECTIONS ACADEMY (CCA) | 4.36 CGPA, CLASS RANK: TOP 1%

Experience

ENGINEERING INTERN | NEAR EARTH AUTONOMY | JUNE 2014 –

Planned to work on the Mechanical Engineering team to add autonomy to existing systems by developing new, high-quality sensor and scanner packages for applications in aerospace.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & RULES LEAD | FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION | SEPTEMBER 2013 – PRESENT

Designing robots with Normality Zero as a competitor in the FIRST Robotics Competition. Presently serving as the Rules and Public Relations Lead for the team. 2014 Lenepe-Seneca District Event Champions.

TEAM LEAD, SYSTEMS ENGINEERING SME | REAL WORLD DESIGN CHALLENGE | SEPTEMBER 2011 – PRESENT

Designing airplanes as a competitor in the Real World Design Challenge. Presently serving as team lead for the CCA Innovators. Primarily responsible for research, systems engineering, requirements and technical documentation, and aircraft design. Utilizes Scrum, Creo Elements Pro, Mathcad, JavaFoil, and Windchill.

· 2011– 2012 Light Sport Aircraft – State Champions, 2nd at the National Championships. 2012 Cessna 2nd Place National Aviation award recipient. AIAA membership recipient.
· 2012 – 2013 Search and Rescue with Unmanned Aircraft – State Champions, 2nd at the National Championships. 2013 Cessna 2nd Place National Aviation award recipient. AUVSI membership recipient.
· 2013 – 2014 Precision Agriculture with Unmanned Aircraft – State Champions, National results pending.

TEAM LEAD, PROGRAMMING LEAD | FIRST LEGO LEAGUE | SEPTEMBER 2010 – JANUARY 2013

Designed robots with Robotron Robotics as a competitor in the FIRST Lego League. Served as team lead from 2011 to 2013 and lead programmer from 2012 to 2013.

· Body Forward Teamwork and Collaboration & Innovative Solution Award Recipient, Food Factor Team Lead & Research Award Recipient, Senior Solutions Team and Programming Lead & 3rd Place All-Around Award Recipient.

VOLUNTEER WORK & INTERNSHIPS

· Volunteering as a project contributor to OpenHatch, a non-profit dedicated to matching prospective free software contributors with communities, tools, and education. Currently working on bug tracking and resolution using Github.
· Volunteering to write grants for the World Affairs Council of Harrisburg, a non-profit organization that seeks to engage the public in global affairs discussions.
· Volunteered to develop components of a business case for the mathematics software startup Miyagi, which aims to teach children to solve one-variable equations through dance by using the gaming peripheral Kinect. Utilized Scrum with JIRA Agile for project management and development.

Other Awards and Honors

· January 2014 – United Way Leaders of Tomorrow Award Winner; 2013 – 2014 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award National Competition Winner; 2012 – 2013 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award Western & Central Pennsylvania Competition Winner; 2012 – 2013 Discus Awards National Finalist.