It was a wonderful experience to be an intern at the Center of Technology and Innovations – TechWorks! I was constantly being pushed to learn a new environment, everything was transparent, people skills were being used, and overall, I was very happy at the end.

The contract was very straightforward, I had to help coordinate TechWorks! Game development group; I had to participate in the global game jam, collaborate with a partner to develop a stroke rehab application, and consult with advisory committee of medical, physical therapy, and software professionals in defining application requirements. Everything went just as planned. There was always some sort of meeting every week, whether it was getting together with the advisory committee, to getting together with my supervisor and partner. To me, every week there was some new challenge; exciting challenges that is. I had never used unity before, I also did not know how to program in a scripting language (C#). Since I was familiar with C++ and java, understanding how C# works was easy. It was very interesting and rewarding learning Unity, and it also pushed my problem-solving skills to a new level. There were many times that I did not know how to do something; I would ask around and after a few hours of trouble shooting I would be able to resolve the obstacles in the way. The technical skills that I learned out of my internship is not the most valuable thing that I took away, my people skills are.

I believe that confidence is one of the most important skills for any job or internship. I was a bit nervous when I first interned at TechWorks! I used to be a bit shy around groups of people, but since I was constantly at group meetings my shyness lessened. I feel like my public speaking skills improved greatly; they still need some work but much better than before. I became much more confident in myself with the help of my supervisors. Overall, I am very happy with the outcome of this internship.

I really enjoyed being an intern at TechWorks! There was something new every day and it always pushed me to new heights. I learned how to be more confident with myself and my problem-solving skills were enhanced. I cannot currently think of any ways to improve this program. I believe this is a great way to reward students by undergoing an unpaid internship. Many students shy away from unpaid internships but having this program is a great benefit to them.