Taylor Larrechea

Dr. Gustafson

Math 365

Career Fair Report

For this year’s career fair, I talked to several venders and there were some that were more receptive to my questions than others. The three companies that I want to talk about are Rocky Mountain Health Plans (RMHP), West Star Aviation, and Capco. All three of these companies have mathematics that are involved in how they operate. For instance, RMHP has to model how much to charge companies when they sell them healthcare. The lady who I talked to said that they don’t necessarily aim to sell Healthcare to the individuals but instead to companies. When a company has more employees the cost to the company is less when buying Healthcare. When a company has less employees the cost to they company is greater. I thought this made sense since Healthcare is being sold like a necessity to businesses so of course it is going to cost less when there is a greater volume of people. The second company that I talked to who had really good use of mathematical models was West Star Aviation. West Star had the problem of engineering planes that were strong enough to withstand the elements of flying and whatnot. One thing that was modeled in their company was stress and material analysis using Solid Works. This is really on the more complicated side of mathematical modeling because it is more like engineering than anything rather than modeling. But nonetheless this stress analysis requires a lot of modeling and mathematics from what the representative said. The third company that I talked to during the career fair was Capco. This company designed weapons for the government and had a lot of math involved in their company. Aside from the engineering and analysis from Solid Works, they have to model how long it takes to make weapons according to the demand that they are receiving for them. The physics people of these companies are in charge of designing explosives where the representatives said they have to model a lot in designing these explosives. There is a lot of other engineering that goes into these weapons designs where a lot of complicated math is involved.

I enjoyed going to the career fair and seeing what jobs around me that I can potentially apply for when I graduate as well as seeing how much math is used in these companies. I wish that I could have gone more mainly for looking for careers rather than for mathematical modeling because there was a lot of career choices at the event. Nonetheless, I was still able to talk to some vendors about careers and if they do internships and whatnot, so it was still a fun time. I think for me personally it was a little too early for me to be going to a career fair. I still have a minimum of two years before I can graduate so talking about careers at this point might be a waste of time actually. Once I become a Junior, it might be more advantageous to go to a career fair for looking for internships and whatnot.