Avery Peiffer

Professor Reardon

ENGCMP 0400 10:00 AM

2 November 2020

Interview Candidates Write-up

1. Will Foran

Current Occupation: Data Coordinator/Analyst at UPMC (2012 – present)

Relevant Education:

M.S., Computational Biology, Carnegie Mellon University

B.S., Interdisciplinary Sciences, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Reasons for Interviewing: Will’s career has the most in common with the career that I am pursuing in data science. He works at UPMC’s Laboratory of Neurocognitive Development, modeling and visualizing data acquired from research studies on the brain. I worked as a volunteer at the LNCD, and Will was always very excited to share what he knew about the field of data science. I think it would be very interesting to pick his brain about his work, since he is using data science and analytics to draw conclusions from brain imaging results.

2. Lane Albanese

Current Occupation: Vice President of ASIC Physical Design and GPU Design at NVIDIA (2005 – present)

Other Experience:

Director, Design and Application Engineering at ReShape (2002 – 2005)

VLSI Design Manager at Philips Semiconductors (1996 – 2001)

Hardware Engineer/Manager at Number Nine Computer Corp (1989 – 1996)

Reasons for Interviewing: I have known Lane since I was in high school and he has always provided me with useful advice about the careers in Silicon Valley. As someone who started from a regular hardware engineering position and worked his way up to be a Vice President at NVIDIA, he would have a lot of insider information about what happens in the field.

3. Samuel Dickerson

Current Occupations:

Assistant Professor at University of Pittsburgh

President & CoFounder of NanoPhoretics

Relevant Education:

Ph.D., Electrical Engineering, University of Pittsburgh

M.S., Electrical Engineering, University of Pittsburgh

B.S., Computer Engineering, University of Pittsburgh

Reasons for Interviewing: I am not ruling out the possibility of pursuing a career in academia, and Professor Dickerson is one of the most resourceful people in the Computer Engineering department to ask about graduate school. He could answer some useful questions about the path to a Ph.D. as well as provide some specific information about Pitt’s graduate programs. I would also be interested in asking about the start-up company that he founded, NanoPhoretics. Start-up culture has always fascinated me, but I am not sure that I want to work at a start-up, given their infamous volatility.