



SHRM Student Chapter News

Regional Case Competitions

By: Tiffany Gayman

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) student chapter at Athens State University once again attended the student case competition. On April 24th and 25th, 2015, Jacklyn Cooper, Tiffany Gayman, Emma Mizell, Diane Hammond, and Pamela Parker traveled to Covington, Kentucky to participate in the SHRM Student Case Competition and Career Summit for the Central Division. The students worked very hard throughout the spring semester and practiced previous cases to better prepare themselves for this year's competition. The student members were given the case on April 6th, and only had four days to complete the case and submit it. The students answered the case questions by creating a power point presentation and executive summary. The students collaborated with and worked very hard on the case that was given. On Friday, April 24th, the students presented their case to two HR professionals, including our SHRM advisors who came to Kentucky with student members, Dr. Kim LaFavor and Professor Gary Valcana. The students were given fifteen minutes to present their case. After the students presented their case, the conference held mentoring sessions with HR professionals from across the nation. Attendees were given the opportunity to sit with a HR professional and have a one-on-one conversation about Human Resources or questions that the student may have. The HR professionals that worked at the mentoring sessions reviewed students' resumes and gave exceptional advice. Although the students did not place in the finalists, we were all very proud of ourselves for the work that we had accomplished. The good news is that we received third place out of twenty other undergraduate schools in the Central Division! We were all very enthused about the news and cannot wait for next year to win the grand prize, first place!

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Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's

By: Diane Hammond

The SHRM student chapter of Athens State University chose to host a pancake breakfast at Applebee's Restaurant in Athens as one of their fundraising endeavors. Applebee's schedules these popular fundraiser breakfasts on Saturday mornings and provides the cook and the food. At the end of the event, they charge the group for the amount of ingredients used. SHRM was responsible for providing the rest of the staff including a hostess, wait staff, a dishwasher, and an assistant to the cook.

The breakfast was scheduled for Saturday, April 4th from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Tickets were sold for \$5.00 each, in advance and also at the door. Those who participated included Jacklyn Cooper, Alicia Lux, Pam Parker, Emma Mizell, Kelsey Terry, Tiffany Gayman, and Diane Hammond. After paying for the food ingredients and providing a tip to the Applebee's cook, the chapter realized a net profit of \$300.00. A certificate of appreciation was prepared and signed by Jacklyn Cooper, chapter president, to present to Applebee's management.



Valentine's Bake Sale Fundraiser

By: Diane Hammond



In preparation for the Valentine's Bake Sale, SHRM members met at Diane Hammond's house on February 10th for a major bake fest! Jacklyn Cooper, Pam Parker, Tiffany Gayman, Emma Mizell, Diane Hammond, and Austin Ramsey spent a long, fun-filled, and productive day preparing delicious treats to sell for Valentine's Day. After all of the baking was completed, the treats had to be decorated and packaged attractively. In addition to all of the pre-sales, chapter members set up tables of baked goods at Athens State University on February 11th and 12th. All of the hard work paid off very well as the chapter coffers received almost \$900 from the sale!

About Athens State SHRM

The Society for Human Resource Management is the leading voice of the HR profession. The Athens State Student Chapter allows students to gain access to an immense information resource at the local, regional, state, and national level, and to have opportunities to meet HR practitioners so as to develop personal contacts and networks. The organization also offers professional development workshops, access to HR conferences, and creates visibility for recruitment for HR internships and permanent HR opportunities.

Merit Award Up Close with Hindsight 20/20

By Alicia Lux

Vice President of Merit Award

This was my first year participating in Athens State Student SHRM. I had a great experience as Vice President of Merit Award. I must disclose that at first I had not familiarized myself with the Merit Award pamphlet and all of the valuable content that was inside. It was not until I accepted the officer position that I really took the time to go through it and became fully aware of the challenge that came with it. We dedicated several meetings to developing strategies to complete the requirements for Outstanding Student Chapter. As a group, we were striving not only to achieve the high bar set for us, but also to supersede. It was important to put together events that were well rounded and an educational benefit to students. After all, our Student SHRM chapter is an important tool meant to prepare us for the world of Human Resource Management. We developed a space for officers to collaborate by uploading screenshots, documents, and information required for submitting at the end of the year. Jacklyn Cooper, Student SHRM President, was excellent at locating the documents that were lost in the busy shuffle of demanding student schedules. She devoted an

incredible amount of time to our chapter by volunteering at every opportunity.

We had a great time attending conferences and workshops that taught us valuable skills. I realize how important it is to stay on top of keeping track of the required documentation, but time escapes even the most determined overachiever. As students, we all have demanding schedules in both school, work, and family. Our seniors have the arduous task of completing graduation requirements and internships while staying devoted to chapter activities. It is important to recognize that and compensate to avoid the pitfalls of procrastination. Some of our documentation in the end we had to scramble to find. In the end, we were able to get the Merit Awards uploaded successfully by the required date. Going forward we are going use hindsight vision to mold our future goals for the 2015-2016 Athens State University Student SHRM Chapter.



TVC-SHRM Professional Chapter

The TVC SHRM Professional Chapter is the Professional Chapter Sponsor of the ASU SHRM Student Chapter. This is a terrific venue to network with current HR professionals and develop lasting professional relationships. ASU Students/ASU SHRM Student Chapter Members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Cost: First time guests free (must contact Dr. LaFavor in advance at kim.lafevor@athens.edu), after second visit \$10 for lunch-meeting.

Second Wednesday of Each Month

Decatur Country Club -Decatur, Alabama

Come join us for lunch and informative sessions on relevant HR issues!

For information about TVC-SHRM:

<http://tvc.shrm.org/>



TVC~SHRM

TENNESSEE VALLEY CHAPTER OF SHRM - ALABAMA

SHRM Website Resources:

Society for Human Resource Management website

<http://www.shrm.org/Pages/default.aspx>

SHRM certification website

<http://www.shrm.org/certification/pages/default.aspx>

SHRM Foundation website

<http://www.shrm.org/about/foundation/pages/default.aspx>

SHRM Student Awards & Scholarships website

<http://www.shrm.org/about/awards/pages/default.aspx>

SHRM Student Career Center website

<http://www.shrm.org/communities/studentprograms/pages/careers.aspx>

TVC-SHRM Professional Chapter website

<http://tvc.shrm.org/>

National SHRM Conference website

<http://annual.shrm.org/>

Benefits of SHRM Membership website

<http://www.shrm.org/about/memberkit/pages/default.aspx>

Case Competition Photos



Business Etiquette Dinner

By: Emma Mizell

On Friday, January 30, 2015, Troy University's Student Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management presented their 4th Annual Business Etiquette Dinner at the Montgomery Campus. The dinner began at 6:00pm and included two keynote speakers, Mrs. Janice Hawkins and Dr. Ping He.

Three Athens State University students, Jacklyn Cooper, Emma Mizell, and Cecelia Vance, along with Dr. Kim LaFevor, attended the three-course etiquette dinner. The meal included: house salad, chicken bruschetta on a rice pilaf with green beans and rolls, followed by chocolate layer cake.

Janice Hawkins began her presentation guiding the guests through the process required for proper etiquette while the guests were feasting on the meal provided. Mrs. Hawkins believes having proper etiquette helps make a wonderful first impression, whether in a business or personal setting. Furthermore, having good manners makes you more confident of yourself in situations that may otherwise be more difficult to relax. Mrs. Hawkins has composed a list of students' frequently asked questions, and these questions can be accessed on Troy University's website by simply searching "etiquette".

During dessert, Dr. Ping He, "he who is a she," gave an entertaining presentation on the nuances of Chinese business etiquette. Since China is currently the world's largest economy, aspiring business executives should be educated on the culture's differences. In Dr. Ping He's presentations, she advises conservative attire for both men and women. Also, it is suggested that women not wear high heels. Also, the Chinese do not speak with their hands and they find it distracting. The most surprising etiquette in the Chinese culture would have to be that guests should not finish everything on their plate. If a guest eats all of the meal, the Chinese believe the guest did not receive enough food and is still hungry.

Troy University's Business Etiquette Dinner is quite informative and entertaining. Tickets to the event are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door; however, in the past Athens State's SHRM members have been offered free tickets to the event. Tickets for door prizes are sold for \$1, and the proceeds go to Troy University's scholarship fund.



SHRM Workshops

By: Diane Hammond

Monday, March 16th proved to be a very productive evening as the student chapter of SHRM sponsored two workshops back to back. The first workshop was held in one of the computer labs in Waters Hall and featured Juanita Phillips speaking on “Legislative Advocacy: YOUR Opportunity to Make a Difference in the Lives of Employees and Business.” Ms. Phillips spoke on the importance of being involved in the legislative process and guided the participants to the SHRM website and then through the process of sending emails to state representatives on a variety of issues that affect Human Resource Management. Ms. Phillips is the Director of Human Resources at Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation in Huntsville, Alabama.

The second workshop of the evening featured Athens State University alumnus, Ben Eubanks. His topic, “Skyrocketing Your HR Career with Blogging” was held in the Classroom Building. Mr. Eubanks graduated with a degree in HR, and decided to blog about his experiences with obtaining a position in HR. His blog is *UpstartHR*, and after five years it is visited by 20,000 people per month. Following graduation Mr. Eubanks worked in HR at a Huntsville-based government contractor and is now employed as an HR research analyst.



Juanita Phillips, Director of Human Resources at Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation in Huntsville, AL.



Ben Eubanks, Athens State alumnus, speaking about his popular blog, *UpstartHR*.