BEFORE YOU GO
Before you embark on your fall studies, consider updating your resume while your summer experiences are still fresh on your mind and while you have a few more days free before reading, paper writing, and cramming for tests! We also encourage you to ask your supervisor and/or other staff members to write you a letter of recommendation. Make multiple copies for safekeeping. You will continue to receive e-newsletters for a few more weeks. In the meantime, have fun, and don’t hesitate to call our office if we can provide any assistance or support!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
We have one more enrichment activity scheduled before your summer internship concludes. The July 26 presentation by the Office of State Human Resources will provide you information that will assist you with your future employment search, will and educate you about employment opportunities available with the State of North Carolina. RSVP by July 22 to Candace Dudley.

Central Region Enrichment Activity DATE CHANGE
Tuesday, July 26
Office of State Human Resources
Department of Environmental Quality, Raleigh - Room 1210
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE
On July 20, three of our interns, Madison Sampson, Collin Rountree, and Timothy Edelen, helped to present the first of a three-part lecture series Coming Home: The History of HBCUs in North Carolina. This two-hour event at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences Nature Resource Center focused on celebrating and understanding the history of HBCUs and where this all began. With NC State University Professor Dr. Blair Kelley and Shaw University President Dr. Tashni Dubroy as our keynote speakers, this event served as a remarkable chance for North Carolina citizens to engage and learn about these distinguished colleges and universities. From NC State’s Vice Chancellor Dr. Mike Mullen, to Rep. Mickey Michaux, to UNCG Student Body President, this event brought together
influential and well-known leaders within our state—all enthusiastic to learn about North Carolina HBCUs.

INTERN SPOTLIGHTS

**Emily Fender**  
*From Lynn Doll, Supervisor*

YAIO Intern Emily Fender is an Appalachian State University student studying in the field of Communication Science and Disorders. Her coursework in this area and in psychology, along with her positive attitude and initiative, has made her the perfect person to take on the Volunteer Program at J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center.

Volunteers are 12-17 year-olds who have undertaken the challenge of volunteering at a center for persons with intellectual and other developmental disorders. Emily’s role has been to provide orientation, guidance and administrative support to the 47 youth enrolled in the eight week program.

In addition to her interaction with the Volunteens, Emily has also had the opportunity to work one on one with residents and to organize special events. She has navigated the issues that sometimes arise when working with a large group of people and has been an invaluable asset to the Volunteer Services Department this summer.

In addition to group administration, Emily has been responsible for the direct service efforts of the Special Projects Crew. This group of Volunteers takes on a variety of tasks from washing facility golf carts, helping with clean up after a wind storm, and making ice cream for Ice Cream Day.
The Riddle Center is deeply grateful to the NC Internship Program for providing us with Emily this summer. We don’t know what we would have done without her.

Rachel Shoemaker
From Hope Sutton, Supervisor

Rachel Shoemaker, a rising senior at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, has been an important part of the summer team working to monitor and protect species of concern at the Masonboro Island Reserve. During her YAIO internship with the NC Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve, Rachel has gained hands on experience in protected areas and species of concern management. As a lead sea turtle monitor, Rachel has logged over 100 miles of patrolling the barrier island beach in search of sea turtle nesting activity. For the sea turtle monitoring program, Rachel is responsible for ensuring that sea turtle nest monitoring and protection protocols are implemented correctly, that samples are carefully collected and handled, and data is managed properly. She also maintains the photo records for the sea turtle monitoring program. She works directly with community volunteers, leading them during sea turtle patrols and watching out for their safety. As part of the shorebird monitoring program and in collaboration with the shorebird monitoring technician, Rachel has been working to better understand causes of nest failure for American oystercatchers utilizing wildlife cameras. She processes images from these cameras, looking for signs of disturbance and logging any unusual activity. This work will help to inform future shorebird protection and predator management strategies. Rachel’s supervisors and co-workers have been thankful to have such a bright, productive, positive colleague to work with in the office and in the field this summer!

Meredith Johnson and Hunter Edmisten
From Robert Walters, Supervisor

As the tenures of our summer internships are nearing a close, I want to thank the Youth Advocacy & Involvement Office for making it possible for our organization to experience the outstanding contribution that two highly motivated young people, Meredith Johnson and Hunter Edmisten, have brought to bear on our role as physical plant manager for the Department of Public Safety.

As has been the case in recent past years, the NCDPS Central Engineering office has sought to leverage the services of summer interns in furthering our agency’s goal of establishing and promulgating an energy conservation and sustainability culture. Our Department has annualized energy costs that consistently exceed $50 million. The sheer scale of this operation affords ample behavioral modification opportunities to better manage our energy consumption and reduce costs. Our Department uses a web-based database known as “Capturis” to document energy consumption and manage utility bill payment. The focus of our interns has been on training key facility personnel on how to access this energy consumption data via the Capturis database and promoting the desired cultural perspective that emphasizes conservation and sustainability. During the course of this summer’s 10-week internship, Meredith and Hunter have visited 56 prison facilities, trained 150 NCDPS employees, and traveled 75 counties logging approximately 7,000 miles. These interns visited as many as four prison locations daily and up to fifteen locations weekly, planning their travel routes and scheduling their time accordingly to meet with key facility personnel to conduct database training and sur-
vey staff on existing operational practices. By any measure, this is a daunting task even for seasoned professionals. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Edmisten have acknowledged that this experience has enabled them to become more confident in themselves; schedule and plan meetings; communicate with a variety of people; and save and organize data.

It has been our privilege to have these individuals be a part of our organization. We clearly believe that this has been a mutually rewarding experience and is a testament to the value of the summer intern program.

**Austin Brooks**  
*From Vickie Dudick and Thomas Morris, Supervisors*

Austin Brooks is a rising senior at NC State University majoring in environmental science and minoring in sustainable energy and renewable energy assessment. He is a great addition to the Environmental Management team within the North Carolina Army National Guard (NCARNG). Austin worked with the Construction Facilities Management Office (CFMO) to accomplish many goals. Working with the Director of Environmental Management, he is doing an excellent job re-evaluating the Environmental Management System (EMS). Recommendations and improvements are made for future success of the NCARNG’s goal of net-zero energy, water, and waste production. He is currently working on an awareness plan for the NCARNG’s environmental goals/aspects by developing new communication tools and awareness items for all of the soldiers and employees of the NCARNG. He has been of great assistance to co-workers to rewrite and update various environmental plans such as the Hazardous Waste Management Plan. The NCARNG is working diligently to update documents needed for the Environmental Performance Assessment System review in November 2016, which is conducted by an external contractor for the National Guard Bureau located in Arlington, Virginia. Austin is doing a great job of leading efforts to nominate the NCARNG for the Environmental Stewardship initiative (ESI) sponsored by NC Department of Environmental Quality. ESI has a great team in place to help organizations and companies meet and surpass their environmental goals.

Austin has been tremendous in bringing great energy to the work place; his motivation is contagious. “This internship is very beneficial to both the National Guard and me,” he stated. “I’ve learned valuable skills for a future career.” One of Austin’s many adventures was travel to Fort Bragg where an environmental compliance inspection was conducted for the NCARNG tenants at the base. The most interesting building housed the Tactical Unmanned Aerial Support (TUAS) team, home to the NCARNG drones. He learned about the TUAS as well as successfully conducting an inspection. We wish Austin luck with his final semesters of college and future endeavors!

*Stay cool and have a great weekend!"*