

# INTERN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## Emilee Baker

Emilee Baker was an intern with the Salem Chamber of Commerce during Winter and Spring 2010.



When Emilee Baker, a business major, found an internship with the Salem Chamber of Commerce, she realized immediately the value she could gain: networking, meeting influential Salem-area business people, and learning about the real world. Through her many tasks such as reorganizing both the membership directory and website, coordinating weekly luncheons, and event planning for the annual ShoBiz event, she learned how to interact in a professional atmosphere, all of the planning that goes into events, and how the Chamber helps local businesses.

“One aspect of my internship was to absorb information and observe interactions,” she explains, “It is amazing how well everyone works together, and all of this work benefits the organization and its business members.”

Specific highlights for Emilee were working with the people at the Chamber, and learning more about herself. She learned how to network and market herself better, and be proud of her accomplishments. She also learned how small and big businesses can work together and help one another as well as the community.

This internship also helped Emilee start narrowing in on her career path. “I didn’t really know what area I wanted to focus on going into this internship, and this helped me talk to people in many fields and learn what I might like or not like.”

Emilee says that she recommends anyone starting an internship to go in knowing what you want to get out of it, and dedicate yourself to accomplishing those goals. She realized that this experience could help her network and find a permanent job, so she worked extra hours because she wanted to attend events and committed herself to meet people and businesses.

***“This is something I can put on my resume for a long time”***

Overall, this was an extraordinary experience. “There was no part of my internship that I didn’t enjoy. I always had something to do and enjoyed each day I spent there.”

To learn more about internships or other career opportunities, please visit the Service Learning & Career Development website at [www.wou.edu/slcd](http://www.wou.edu/slcd)

To learn more about the Salem Chamber of Commerce, please visit their website at [www.salemchamber.org](http://www.salemchamber.org)