14th Annual
RTI Internship Showcase
Welcome to the 14th Annual RTI Internship Showcase

The Internship Showcase is a celebratory event that places interns center stage to honor their individual and collective experiences, including professional growth and accomplishments. The University Collaboration Office hosts internships virtually and in-person, welcoming high school, undergraduate, and graduate students, including doctoral candidates, as well as recent degree recipients to RTI year-round. The showcase is the largest intern event of the year.

The program contains:

- University Collaboration Office Overview
- RTI Outstanding Mentor Awards
- Showcase Presentations
- Intern Spotlights
- Internship Program Information
RTI Summer 2022 Interns

Eighty interns from more than 30 institutions participated in internships, contributing to domestic and international projects. RTI summer interns were based all over the globe, including the United States, India, Costa Rica, and the United Kingdom.

Interns are supported through intentional mentorship, including professional development workshops. This summer, interns received training on working inclusively, career development and marketing, research, and professional writing. On Tuesday, July 26, 2022, interns participated in the Workplace of Future—RTI Campus Tour. For the first time in two years, as a group, interns and staff convened in-person in Research Triangle Park at the institute's headquarters to learn history, talk innovation, and connect.

Staff Pictured

Joanna Wyllie Haynes, Senior Administrative Assistant, University Collaborations
Jacqueline Olich, PhD, Vice President, University Collaborations
Spencer Collins, Operations Assistant, University Collaborations
BriAnna Walker, Senior Program Specialist, University Collaborations
Lalonna Griffin, Senior Space Planning Specialist, Facilities Strategic Services
Harold Hicks, Vice President, Real Estate and Facilities Strategic Services
University Collaboration Office

The RTI University Collaboration Office builds upon the organization’s strategy to advance RTI’s growth in impact, stature, and financial strength through collaborations with leading academic institutions. The University Collaborations team promotes awareness of RTI’s services and capabilities on university campuses and facilitates connections that lead to relationships and research that improve the human condition.

The team administers:

- Bilateral and multilateral partnerships, including Forethought: RTI’s $5M+ Research Collaboration Challenge
- RTI Internship Program
- RTI University Scholars Program

Jacqueline Olich, PhD
Vice President

Katie Bowler Young, MFA
Operations Director

BriAnna Walker, MA
Senior Program Specialist

Joanna Wyllie Haynes
Senior Administrative Assistant

Spencer Collins, MSc
Operations Assistant
2022 RTI Outstanding Mentor Awards

Mentorship is one of the most essential components of the RTI Internship Program. The mentor and intern relationship encompasses encouragement, respect, transparency, and promotion.

Each year, interns nominate mentors who have made an influential impact on their internship experience. The UCO administers a blind judging process that involves concealing intern and mentor names as well as pronouns. Nominations are scored based on the following categories:

- Communication
- Collaboration
- Inclusivity
- Innovation
- Talent Development

The 2022 Outstanding Mentors are Aimee Bryant, Bradley Layton, and John Patterson.

The UCO is honored to congratulate this year’s awardees and extends sincere gratitude for their contributions to the program and the experiences of RTI interns. The awardees and nominees reflect why RTI is a great place to learn, grow, and work.

Awardee
Aimee Bryant
Manager, Proposal Development | SSES
Nominated by Chiara Brust and Octavia Goodman

“The most impactful change I’ve noticed in myself since the start of this internship is the confidence I now have to manage proposals on my own. Through Aimee’s encouragement and attention to detail, I’ve been able to learn so many important processes and concepts that have given me the knowledge to manage proposals on my own. I came into this internship feeling so worried that I wouldn’t know what I was doing, but now I’m half-way through and I know that I can do this job well. I think this is primarily attributed to the very detailed and thoughtful training curriculum that Aimee had us follow. I’ve never had this level of investment in my training despite only being a summer intern, and I can’t thank her enough.”

Chiara Brust
Emory, 2023

“My mentor encouraged and motivated me to meet my personal goals and accomplishments this summer by tapping into my experiences and interests. From day one of the internship, Aimee was not only interested in how we could benefit the proposal development team during the summer, but she was also equally interested, if not more, in what we were looking to gain from our experience working at RTI. While my interests were related to research, the other interns that I worked with had interests relating to project management and international business. Aimee was able to tailor each of our experiences to fit our interests. This helped us develop goals and accomplishments related to the internship. A personal goal of mine was to learn more about the grant writing and submission process at RTI. With Aimee’s support, I shadowed the proposal development process for various types of grant submissions and took the lead on a number of proposals that align with my research interests.”

Octavia Goodman
Old Dominion, 2023
Awardee
Bradley Layton, PhD
Senior Research Epidemiologist | HS
Nominated by Timothy Feeney

“Bradley is without a doubt outstanding. He is an excellent scientist and able to handle many different things with poise. But beyond just being a good scientist, he is a good person. He is kind, helpful, and reassuring. He has made the transition into my internship smooth and comfortable. Further he has assured that I am always supported and being challenged. I cannot think of a better mentor to have and am extremely lucky to have this brief window to work with Bradley.”

Timothy Feeney
UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023

Awardee
John Patterson
Manager, Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence | GTS
Nominated by Nicholas Kraemer and Bryce Phares

What makes John outstanding is that he is a true, understanding, smart, helpful, funny, and positive leader. There is another intern in my department and John has made room in his schedule to meet with the other intern and I every week to see how we are doing and what we are up to, always asking if we need help in any way. I’ve never had a mentor/leader who has cared so much about interns before. John is someone who cares about his interns and will do whatever it takes to help them achieve their goals.

Nicholas Kraemer
Wake Tech, 2022

“John does more than give work. He is someone who I can go to if I ever have a problem with my work. I’m not scared to ask him for help; John encourages me to ask him questions because he wants to make sure I understand the material that is put in front of me. I was scared I wouldn’t contribute to the team at all, but John went out of his way and made sure I felt like I was needed on this team. He introduced me to people that will help me on later in life and provided learning material. John is just a great guy to be around and work with. John Patterson is a great mentor and deserves some time of recognition for it.”

Bryce Phares
Virginia Tech, 2022
# 2022 Internship Showcase Presenters

## SESSION 1

### Breakout Room 1
- **Corbin Case**, Liberty; **Luke Sales**, UNC Charlotte, Pre-award Finance Analyst Interns
- **Julianna Sterling**, Washington College, Pre-award Finance Analyst Intern
- **Max Bigelow**, NC State, Financial Analyst Intern

#### Presentations
- Our Experience as RTI Interns
- Local Capacity Development (LCD) Practices in International Development
- My Internship Experience

### Breakout Room 2
- **Caroline Ha**, UNC-Chapel Hill, Biostatistician Intern
- **Brittany Heikke**, UNC-Chapel Hill, Shelton Jones Statistics Intern
- **Sofia Pozsonyiova**, Duke, Biostatistician Intern

#### Presentations
- My Internship Experience
- Record Linkage at RTI
- A Glimpse into Biostatistics

### Breakout Room 3
- **Charisma Daniel**, UNC-Chapel Hill, Innovation Consulting Intern, Science Communication
- **Michelle Elezaj**, Appalachian State, Design & Space Planning Intern
- **Aishah McTell**, UNC Greensboro, Project and Quality Management Intern

#### Presentations
- Innovation Consulting, Science Communication Internship Experience
- Internship Experience & NEXUS Space Project
- My Internship Experience

### Breakout Room 4
- **Sharanya Ananth**, NC State, Air Quality Engineering Intern
- **Stephen Lee** and **Sean Timothy Navarro**, UNC-Chapel Hill, Software Engineer Interns
- **Varun Atree**, NC State, Chemist Intern

#### Presentations
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting and Air Pollution Control
- Facets of Software Application Development within CAES
- Hydrophobic Coatings for Metal-Organic Frameworks
## SESSION 2

### Breakout Room 5

- **Erin Wolter** and **Collin Yates**, NC State, **Wolter**: Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Research Intern; **Yates**: Electrification in Developing Countries Intern
- **Jon Barley**, NC State, Climate Change and Renewable Energy Intern
- **Razaan Abnowf**, UNC Charlotte, Electrification in Developing Countries Intern

### Presentations

- **Value of Earth Observation Data**
- **Working Toward a Model for U.S. Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) Supply Estimation**
- **Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) dSIF**

### Breakout Room 6

- **Thekla Ketcher**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Policing and Investigative Science Research Intern
- **Savannah Boone**, NC State, Policing and Investigative Science Research Intern
- **Christina van Hal**, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, GET PHIT Intern

### Presentations

- **My RTI Internship Experience**
- **My Internship Experience**
- **Same-Sex Couple Hotspots and Coldspots in the U.S.**

### Breakout Room 7

- **Elizabeth Kimmel**, UNC-Chapel Hill, Global Noncommunicable Diseases Intern, Neglected Tropic Diseases
- **Tanvi Sapra**, George Washington, Medicare Implementation Practicum Intern
- **Abigale Hughes**, UNC-Chapel Hill, ACO Shared Savings Program Practicum Intern
- **Sam Johnson**, UNC-Chapel Hill, Vice President's Office Intern

### Presentations

- **Neglected Tropical Disease Investment Case**
- **Medicare Alternative Payment Models**
- **ACO Shared Savings Intern**
- **AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting Review**

### Breakout Room 8

- **Nicholas Kraemer**, Wake Tech, Data Warehouse Intern
- **Ashlee Long**, NCCU, Technical Writer Intern
- **Jayen Lare**, Florida State, Software Developer Intern

### Presentations

- **The World of Data Science**
- **Changing the Face of Learning Using Thermal Imaging**
- **My RTI Internship Experience**
Intern Spotlights
Take a moment to connect with our interns on LinkedIn. Learn more about their work and congratulate them on a successful summer.

Razaan Abnowf, UNC Charlotte, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Sharanya Ananth, NC State, 2022
Learn more on LinkedIn

Varun Atree, NC State, 2024
Learn more on LinkedIn

Eli Bach, George Washington, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Max Bigelow, NC State, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Savannah Boone, NC State, 2022
Learn more on LinkedIn

Jessica Bryant, NC A&T, 2025
Learn more on LinkedIn

Emma Coram, NC State, 2024
Learn more on LinkedIn

Charisma Daniel, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Caroline Frisch, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Camryn Grizer, University of South Carolina, 2024
Learn more on LinkedIn

Caroline Ha, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Brittany Heikke, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2022
Learn more on LinkedIn

Abigale Hughes, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn
Intern Spotlights

Sam Johnson, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Thekla Ketcher, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2022
Learn more on LinkedIn

Elizabeth Kimmel, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Jayen Lare, Florida State, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Aishah McTell, UNC Greensboro, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Sean Timothy Navarro, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2022

Sandeep Priyadarshi, NTPC School of Business, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Callyce Tucker-Reves, Bennett College, 2024
Learn more on LinkedIn

Tanvi Sapra, George Washington, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Haarica Singireddy, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Austin, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Julianna Sterling, Washington College, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn

Christina van Hal, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 2024
Learn more on LinkedIn

Erin Wolter, NC State, 2023
Learn more on LinkedIn
Learn More

RTI International is an independent, nonprofit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition. Clients rely on us to answer questions that demand an objective and multidisciplinary approach—one that integrates expertise across the social and laboratory sciences, engineering, and international development. We believe in the promise of science, and we are inspired every day to deliver on that promise for the good of people, communities, and businesses around the world.

For more information, visit www.rti.org.

RTI

Science for a Better Tomorrow | Annual Report 2021

University Collaboration Office

NCCU and RTI celebrate new partnership and shared lab space supporting health and environmental justice research

UNC Gillings-RTI “PHield Trip” highlights institutional partnerships, global health

Forethought: The RTI $5M+ Research Collaboration Challenge

Forethought Challenge Finalists