11-3-2017

A Leg Up on the Competition

University of Dayton

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A Leg Up on the Competition

Big Four accounting firm EY is partnering with the University of Dayton to prepare students for the corporate world and provide them internship opportunities.

Working with EY representatives, UD faculty are delivering mini-courses in what EY executives see as the most in-demand skills — robotics, autonomous systems, data analytics and Lean Six Sigma — for future professionals, especially consultants. Students also will hear from EY guest lecturers during the mini-courses.

"Expertise in data and analytics is a significant differentiator for today's organizations," said Craig Marshall, a managing partner in EY's Columbus office. "Our investment will help prepare the next generation of Flyers in this continuously-evolving field."

Open to second- and third-year students in engineering, business and computer science this year, the courses also provide four technical elective credits and a Lean Six Sigma yellow belt certification. The mini-courses will be open to other majors in the future.

Students completing the curriculum receive preferred status for opportunities to interview for EY internships.

"There is a broad transformation throughout the business world in robotics, autonomous systems, data analytics and Lean Six Sigma, so it's important our students develop basic knowledge of these areas plus 21st century creative analytic skills," said Eddy Rojas, dean of the University of Dayton School of Engineering, who helped arrange the partnership. "This is an opportunity to provide our business, engineering and computer science students these skills in an interdisciplinary fashion so they can also learn from each other's disciplines."

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The University also is a General Electric Co. executive school, selected on how well graduates serve the needs of GE businesses and leadership programs and fit with GE's culture; academic excellence, diversity, historical relationships in research with GE, and proximity to a GE facility.

For nearly 40 years, Emerson has supported scholarships for students and the Innovation Center where nearly 3,000 students have conducted more than 1,200 projects for more than 200 companies. Many of them — more than 100 alumni holding more than 150 degrees — have gone on to jobs in Emerson companies.

Both GE and Emerson have multimillion-dollar research facilities on the University of Dayton campus where students also can receive hands-on research opportunities.

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