



DEOMI

DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



NEWS RELEASE

A BIG DAY FOR DEOMI'S STEM STUDENTS

Aug. 8, 2016

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute held a symposium for six Science, Technology, Engineering, Math interns displaying their research projects of the past several weeks on various STEM-related topics. The three high school, one undergraduate, and two Ph.D. graduate student interns discussed their projects to more than 100 spectators.

According to Navy Lt. Erica Harris, DEOMI STEM Program Manager, the students worked on a variety of topics that supported the DEOMI mission.



Research areas including anti-hazing, anti-bullying, culture, diversity, equal opportunity, sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender, race, disability, and toxic leadership. Projects range from experimental design, data collection and analysis, film creation, solutions development, literature reviews, manuscript development, and creating surveys.

“The STEM internship was different than what I was expecting but it was better,” said STEM intern Abi Dandapani, a senior at Holy Trinity Episcopal School. “When you hear STEM you think of hard math and science but here I did social research and it’s just as important as the others.”

The Office of Naval Research sponsored the DEOMI STEM Program. The STEM Internship Program encourages students to pursue science and engineering careers through completing an internship within a Department of Defense or Department of the Navy research laboratory.

“It’s been an amazing experience, definitely a great opportunity to further my own research interest and expand upon others that have been worked on here at DEOMI,” said Sebastian Hernandez, a recent graduate of the University of Central Florida and DEOMI STEM intern.

Although, summer internships are coming to a close, the summer 2017 competitive application period opens Aug. 22, 2016. All applications are reviewed by a three-person panel.

“I got a great experience, I got a great thing to put on my resum’e, I made a lot of new friends here, I got a lot of information, and in the field experience,” said STEM intern August DeBickes, a senior at Vera High School. “My application is already getting ready... If I’m accepted, I’m coming back.”

For more information, please see below, or contact Navy Lt. Erica Harris, DEOMI STEM Program Manager, at erica.harris.7@us.af.mil.

- 30 -

DEOMI PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**MR. CHRISTOPHER CALKINS (321) 494-6208 or SFC JOSHUA BRANDENBURG (321) 854-2853
366 TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DRIVE · PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 32925**

DEOMI.ORG

christopher.calkins.1@us.af.mil

joshua.brandenburg@us.af.mil