To: College of Engineering alumni and alumnae living abroad  
From: Jean Landa Pytel, Assistant Dean for Student Services  
Subject: College of Engineering students abroad  
Date: July 28, 2011

The College of Engineering is dedicated to providing more opportunities for our students to study and work abroad. Our goal is to prepare students to become world-class engineers. To help us achieve this goal, I’m writing to enlist your help in identifying internship opportunities for our students and to help us establish contacts who would be willing to provide information and guidance to students planning to study or work in your country.

Specifically, if you know of engineering-related or computer science-related internship opportunities in your company or with another company or organization, we would like to advertise them to our students. We can post the position on our online “eCareer” system so that the application and selection process can be easily managed. Many of our students are very interested in working abroad and would love an opportunity to do so for a semester, particularly during the summer. If you can provide or know of such an opportunity, please contact Ms. Kim Baran, Coordinator of Global Engineering Education, at kbaran@engr.psu.edu. She will guide you through the process of promoting internship opportunities to our students.

Even if you are not in a position to provide student work opportunities, you can still help Penn State students while they are abroad. We’re looking for alums to serve as mentors to our students while they are in your country. It would be tremendously valuable and educational for our students to have an in-country contact person who can advise them about cultural norms and expectations during their time abroad. If you are willing to be a mentor to a student, please let Kim know. We will create a contact list and only share your contact information with students who have been approved for an international study or work experience.

Thank you in advance for considering our request to help provide and support high quality international study and work experiences for Penn State College of Engineering students. We think you’ll agree that such experiences are vital to their future success in the global workforce. I would be pleased to communicate with you should you have any questions, so please don’t hesitate to contact me with your questions or comments.

For more information about College of Engineering global activities, programs, and resources, please visit http://www.engr.psu.edu/global/.