

# Career Connections

A UNG Career Services Publication



## Spring into Success!

Happy New Year! As we kick off a new semester, we are excited to continue the journey of equipping students with the skills needed to thrive in the workplace. To support your efforts of connecting classroom learning to workplace success, the following services are available:

- **Industry Insights:** Stay up-to-date on industry trends by attending one (or more) of our career fairs. We are also happy to help you connect with area employers for information sessions in your class.
- **Classroom presentations:** Arrange a career-focused presentation for your class. You can view a list of possible topics on our [website](#).
- **Curriculum Integration:** We're here to collaborate with you in integrating the [NACE Career Competencies](#) into your courses. Let's work together to enhance our students' career readiness.

Please feel free to contact us with other ideas for collaboration at [careerservices-dah@ung.edu](mailto:careerservices-dah@ung.edu) or [careerservices-gvl@ung.edu](mailto:careerservices-gvl@ung.edu).

## In This Issue:

**Employer Spotlight on Syfan Logistics**

**Celebrating UNG Interns!**

**Request an Employer Guest Speaker**

**Spring Career Fairs & Events**

# Employer Spotlight: Syfan Logistics

---



**Syfan Logistics**, a transportation logistics company in Gainesville, GA, is a steadfast supporter of UNG students. Syfan's ongoing commitment to excellence, integrity, people, and service has played a pivotal role in the professional development of many students at UNG.

We recently talked with Dan Bacus, Director of Community & Academic Relations, about Syfan's successful internship program and the value of workplace learning and mentorship.

**Q: Tell us about the Syfan Logistics Internship Program.**

A: Syfan's Academic Relations program facilitates Fall and Spring individual internships, a team-based summer internship experience, and a Spring virtual mentorship. These opportunities serve as an introduction to the transportation logistics industry and the functions required to support our core business operations. We focus on providing students real-world learning and work experiences across all areas of Syfan. We have learning pathways in Logistics Operations, Accounting and Finance, Information Technology (Data Analytics and IT operations), Human Resources, Sales, and Marketing & Media Communications. Our summer internship also provides opportunities with Turbo Terminal Tractors at our Savannah, GA office and with our freight factoring company, Trilogy. As part of our internship team's training, we provide Lean Six Sigma workshops for students to become familiar with the methods and tools they will need to successfully complete quality improvement projects within our operations.

**Q: Can you share a Syfan-UNG success story?**

A: David joined the 2023 summer internship team to have third-party logistics operations experience. David did a great job in his logistics operations role and successfully led our first internship operations quality improvement team in completing process mapping with one of our expedited automotive freight divisions. Approximately halfway through the internship, David expressed having an interest in organizational development as part of the Human Resources team. We provided David a micro-internship rotation in organizational development that validated his curiosity and interest in that career direction. As a result, David was offered a Spring 2024 internship with our Learning and Development team and his performance as a classroom facilitator and course content developer was outstanding. David completed the 2024 summer internship as a learning and development post-graduate intern team member and joined Syfan in his first-career opportunity as a learning and development specialist. It is extremely gratifying to know that David's first-career destination is the result of his initial interest in logistics as a UNG logistics student. David's story is a testimony to the different pathways, possibilities, and opportunities that an internship can provide UNG students.

# Celebrating UNG Interns!

## ***Camille Jennings- Musical Arts***

### **How did you hear about your internship?**

I received an email from a classmate, Catherine, with information about the new **Therapeutic Musician Certification Program at Northeast Georgia Hospital Health System**. She graciously shared the program director's information with me, and shortly after I had an interview for an internship position. I love playing piano, and bringing music to patients, visitors, and staff in a clinical setting spoke to me.

### **What has been the most valuable (or favorite) part of the experience?**

One of the most valuable parts of my experience has been all the music I have learned and the improvisation skills I have acquired working with the music. I also have compiled classical, folk, and pop music in my repertoire. Along with gathering and learning all this music, I have learned to improvise and be able to segue between songs.

Another part of the experience that I enjoyed was meeting the different departments within the hospital and learning about what they do. I was able to meet employees from the Foundation, speak with the head of Spiritual Care, and have a conversation with the director of hospice. As a therapeutic musician, we will be touching almost every department with our music and being able to have connections will be beneficial in the future.

### **How will this help you in the future?**

I hope to become a therapeutic musician and work in the hospital system. This internship will give me experience within the field, as well as make me certified for it. Within the internship program, I will have completed levels 1 and 2 of the certification, played over 40 hours within the hospital, and trained in the hospital's 'Work Day' program. This program has been a wonderful growing experience so far and I hope to continue to learn more in the second half of this program.



---

## ***Susana Olivo Sandoval, East Asian Studies & Spanish Modern Language***



### **How did you hear about your internship?**

My Japanese professor, Dr. Nishio, told me about the internship opportunity with **International Charter Academy of Georgia**. She thought I was a good candidate for the internship, and I applied for it.

### **What has been the most valuable (or favorite) part of the experience?**

I enjoy teaching the kids and also learning from them. I am helping elementary school students learn Japanese, but I also learn from the international students who are learning English. I love the energy of the students and how they make teaching a fun experience.

### **How will this help you in the future?**

In the future I want to work as a Public Diplomacy Officer, and I am sure my experience sharing languages and cultures with the students will be helpful. During my internship I get more exposure with Japanese language, so I continue improving my communication.

# Celebrating UNG Interns!

## **Christopher Hale, Film & Digital Media**

### **How did you hear about your internship?**

I used the platform Handshake to acquire a paid role as a digital marketer for **BreakOut Music (BOM)** where my job was to obtain film, screenplays, and music submissions by advertising their film and music festival.



### **What has been the most valuable (or favorite) part of the experience?**

The most valuable aspect of my internship with BOM was the networking and connections with the other student interns from across the country that had the same film ambitions as me. Together, we teamed up and created content, short social media reels, and mini commercials to help other filmmakers know about what our festival offers.

### **How will this help you in the future?**

I know more people in the film/music industry through my time with BOM and their connections will be most useful when we need help on future projects within the entertainment industry, along with the experience of conversing ideas in a writer's room setting and editing our final masterpieces!

---

## **Emma Hechavarria, Psychology**

### **How did you hear about your internship?**

I began volunteering at **Community Helping Place** in Fall of 2023 as a requirement of my leadership class. I immediately knew that this was a very special organization, and I wanted to find a way to continue my involvement after I fulfilled my class assigned community service hours. On a whim, I asked if they would be interested in having an intern – they were so excited to have another helper!

### **What has been the most valuable (or favorite) part of the experience?**

I have really enjoyed getting to be involved in middle school girls group counseling through CHP! Getting to know these girls, seeing them come out of their shells and connect through art has been incredibly impactful. I have seen so much growth in them already and am looking forward to seeing them continue to grow.

I am also deeply impressed by the selflessness and helpfulness of the CHP staff. They truly do everything they can to help with any client issue that may arise. I have learned so much from them. From all things little to large, the staff has celebrated my victories and supported me through my personal challenges, which is an experience I will never forget.

### **How will this help you in the future?**

This internship has been extremely beneficial for my goal of a career in counseling. I have deepened my professional communication and organization skills, but also have undergone a lot of personal growth by growing closer to the staff – they have become mentors to me over the course of this semester.



# Bridging Education and Careers

---

Engaging with employers is essential for students to gain insights into various industries and current workplace trends. In addition to fostering student/employer connections at career fairs, Career Services aims to support faculty by facilitating employer guest speakers in the classroom. These presentations can provide students with the opportunity to learn about the speaker's career path, their business/organization, in-demand workplace skills, and the broader industry. These educational sessions help connect the dots between the classroom and the workplace.

**To request an employer speaker, please complete the form at this link:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/2FJK6CdQ49>

Contact Lisa Walker at [lisa.a.walker@ung.edu](mailto:lisa.a.walker@ung.edu) with any questions.



---

## Spring Career Fairs

*Encourage your students to connect with employers at the career fairs!*

<b>1/28</b>	Teacher Recruitment Fair	4 pm-6 pm	Hugh Mills Center- GVL
<b>2/12</b>	Nursing Career Fair	11:30 am -2:30 pm	Health Science Building- GVL
<b>2/13</b>	DAH All-Majors Career Fair	12 pm-3 pm	Convocation Center
<b>3/5</b>	GVL All-Majors Career Fair	3 pm-6 pm	Hugh Mills Center- GVL

# Career Chats & Events

Students can Register on [Handshake](#) or [UNG Connect](#).

---

1/15	WOW: Style & Smile- Career Services, Rm 333 Stewart- DAH	11 am-2 pm
1/15	WOW: Style & Smile- Nigel's Career Closet, Student Center-GVL	11 am-2 pm
1/22	Finding your Why Chat	4 pm (zoom)
1/29	Writing a Resume Chat	4 pm (zoom)
1/30	Crafting a Resume Statement Mini Chat	4 pm (zoom)
1/30	Meet & Greet w/ Career Services - Student Center-GVL	11 am-1 pm
2/10-2/11	Career Fair Polish & Prep- Rm. 333 Stewart Center-DAH	10 am-3 pm
2/11	Ace the Interview Chat	4 pm (zoom)
2/18	LinkedIn: Making Meaningful Connections	4 pm (zoom)
2/21-3/7	IRIS AIR Photo Booth on GVL Campus	
3/4	Etiquette Dinner-Dining Hall Banquet Room-DAH	TBD
3/6	Breaking Barriers: Women in Tech Chat	12 pm (zoom)
3/19	Negotiating Salary & Understanding Benefits Chat	4 pm (zoom)
3/19	From Service to Civilian: Resume Boot Camp	12 pm (zoom)
3/25	Etiquette Lunch- Robinson Ballroom- GVL	11:30 am-1 pm
3/25	Internship Panel Discussion	4 pm (zoom)
4/1	Leveraging AI in Career Development	4 pm (zoom)
4/2	Alumni Chat	4 pm (zoom)
4/9	Graduation Bootcamp: Navigating Life after College	3 pm (zoom)
4/16	Graduation Bootcamp: Moving On/Moving Out	3 pm (zoom)
4/23	Graduation Bootcamp: 401K & Salary Negotiation	3 pm (zoom)
4/29	Career Signing Day- Gainesville campus	11 am-1 pm
5/6	Career Signing Day- Dahlonga campus	1 pm-4 pm