

New College of Florida Career Center Expands Regional Internship Initiatives to Retain Sarasota-Manatee Talent

SARASOTA, FL, UNITED STATES, August 13, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA CAREER CENTER DRIVES REGIONAL ECONOMIC VITALITY THROUGH STRATEGIC INTERNSHIP PARTNERSHIPS

Following a highly successful spring Internship Symposium featuring approximately 45 regional organizations, the New College of Florida Career Center is actively expanding its efforts to keep top talent within the Sarasota-Manatee region. The College is calling on local businesses, healthcare facilities, schools, and nonprofits to partner in cultivating and retaining the next generation of skilled professionals through strategic internship programs.



Research from organizations such as the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) and the Cooperative Education and Internship Association (CEIA) consistently highlights internships as one of the strongest indicators of successful post-graduation employment. Meaningful, hands-on experiences allow students to develop professional skills, establish local networks, and envision long-term futures within the communities they serve.

"Every day, the Career Center meets with students seeking impactful experiences and employers looking to engage the next generation of talent," said Samantha Carmer of the New College Career Center. "Time and again, we see the exact same reality emerge: students are eager to invest their skills in the communities where they learn."

A New Era of Professional and Civic Engagement
For decades, New College has maintained a distinct presence in Sarasota as a rigorous academic hub. Today, that intellectual spirit is heavily paired with professional development and civic engagement.

Recent student presentations demonstrated projects across marine conservation, economic development, healthcare initiatives, and classroom education.

"These presentations represented far more than academic exercises," Carmer explained. "They demonstrated the incredible drive and talent of New College students: young professionals eager to contribute meaningful work and prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation. Through these experiences, they begin to see themselves not simply as temporary college-town residents, but as future educators, caregivers, innovators, nonprofit leaders, and engaged citizens."



Building Pipelines Through Targeted Partnerships

New College is actively building critical talent pipelines through intentional, community-focused initiatives. These targeted programs illustrate the profound potential of local partnerships:

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Samantha Carmer

Pathways to Health and Pathways to Education: By connecting students with healthcare programs, local schools, and community organizations, these initiatives support crucial sectors facing significant workforce needs while providing students with practical mentorship and hands-on experience.

The Community-Driven Internship Program: This initiative recognizes the expansive ecosystem of nonprofit

organizations that sustains Sarasota and Manatee counties. Through strategic partnerships, students contribute their talents to organizations addressing critical community needs while gaining experience in public service, advocacy, and civic leadership.

An Investment in Economic Vitality

As Sarasota and Manatee continue to grow, there is an increasing need to ensure that the

talented individuals drawn to the region have viable opportunities to remain after graduation.

"Internships are not merely resume-building experiences; they are critical pipelines that strengthen local industries, connect students to their communities, and help ensure that our region retains the talented individuals we have worked so hard to attract," said Carmer. "By investing in these collaborative opportunities today, we are investing directly in the future of Sarasota and Manatee counties."

Partner With Us to Build the Future

The New College Career Center invites local companies and organizations to invest in the local workforce pipeline. Whether by offering meaningful internships or making a financial investment to support college students in the community, local leaders have a direct opportunity to ensure the next generation of talent thrives right here in Sarasota and Manatee.

To explore partnership opportunities, please contact Samantha Carmer at scarmer@ncf.edu.

James Miller
New College of Florida
+1 850-445-0773
[email us here](#)

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