

END OF THE SEMESTER NEWSLETTER

End of the Semester Update

Hi! We hope that you were able to enjoy this past holiday with the love of your friends and family. The ambassadors at the SEA have been busy wrapping up projects with their beloved clients, putting on community events, and finalizing last minute in-house tasks. The SEA is proud to highlight some of our clients, recap our events, and showcase the ambassadors as they reflect on their experience here at the SEA. The SEA ambassadors wrap-up on December 6th and will forever cherish their time here at the SEA.



W&J Recap

In early November, 3 SEA ambassadors had the chance to travel to Washington & Jefferson to network with other colleges that are apart of the ELC and they were able to meet and talk with professionals in the field. This event gave the ambassadors great opportunities to meet and network with successful entrepreneurs and professionals that support entrepreneurs in their endeavors. This event allowed the ambassadors to meet some fantastic individuals and it educated them on some fantastic opportunities in the entrepreneurial space.

December 6, 2024



SEA Client: MAPS Technology

MAPS Technologies, a local technology innovator based in Franklin, PA, provides end-to-end business management solutions and sales automation tools for various sectors. Their cutting-edge platforms are continually enhanced, reflecting their dedication to delivering the best tools and services for clients' success.

This semester, the SEA Ambassadors had the privilege of collaborating with MAPS Technologies to support the company's business goals, resulting in a highly productive partnership. According to the client the ambassadors excelled in mastering financial metrics and building models in Excel, exceeding expectations. Additionally, they actively contributed to the development of my Fantasy Sports App, F2MX, demonstrating enthusiasm and valuable input during weekly meetings. Their impressive contributions have led me to invite them to continue participating in meetings next semester.



December 6, 2024

SEA Client: North Country Brewery

After opening in 2005, North Country Brewery was an instant success in the community. The Slippery Rock community had a demand for good food and great craft beer, and North Country Brewery more than met that demand. In fact, their popularity doesn't end in Slippery Rock, as their brews are shipped to every county in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

North Country Brewery is a cornerstone in the Slippery Rock community, as well as a sustainability leader in the town. This year, North Country Brewery was generous enough to sponsor the SEA for the semester, and we were able to collaborate with their team to make our Pack the Pantries event possible. We want to give a huge Thank You to Bob and Jodi McCafferty and their team for everything they have done for the SEA this semester.



December 6, 2024

Pack The Pantries Overview

The Pack the Pantries event on November 23rd was a massive success. We were able to raise over 200 items for Feed My Sheep Food Cupboard and Rock Pantry+. We could not have done this event ourselves, and we want to give a huge thank you to all the local businesses that donated to the event or helped advertise it. This event really showcased what we can accomplish when we work as a community for the greater good, and the amazing results are proof of what we can all accomplish. We would also like to thank Brian McCafferty and Rooster's Coffee for all the help during the event.



December 6, 2024

SEA Photos



December 6, 2024

SEA Ambassador Wrap-Up



Ben Porto

One of the most valuable lessons I've learned during this internship, which I will carry with me throughout my career, is that effective communication and building strong relationships with colleagues are essential for a successful operation. When everyone communicates openly and collaborates, it creates a more efficient and harmonious work environment. Even during times when we couldn't meet in person, maintaining clear communication was critical to the success of our internship. Engaged staff meetings and a strong team dynamic allowed us to work together seamlessly and achieve our goals.

Jayden Linder

One of the skills I have gained this semester is event planning. Before starting my internship at the SEA I had no idea how difficult it was to plan events and gain community participation. Throughout this semester I have had practice with different events, including the Salsa event and the Pack the Pantries event. I also got mentorship from a friend of the SEA, Dr. Ross, which really helped me along my path. I think that this skill will be very important in my future, as it is always a great accomplishment to be able to bring people together for a collective goal. After graduation, I plan to get a job at a media production company.



December 6, 2024

SEA Ambassador Wrap-Up



Maria Sippel

My internship here at the SEA holds and will forever hold an immense amount of value to me. I had the rewarding opportunity of consulting directly with unique and ambitious SEA clients, assisting in various assignments, and working to develop sustainable project goals, objectives, and initiatives. This internship experience has allowed me to foster a problem-solving, entrepreneurial, risk-taking, and sharpened mindset centered on sustainability effectively intertwined with business success. Moreover, working with my project team under the mentorship of Dr. Golden has permanently instilled attributes of kindness, understanding, strong work-ethic, and determination into my future career. I am looking forward to my internship with EY this summer and earning my CPA, CFE, and MBA after graduation.

Madeline Bundy

Being an intern at the SEA this semester has been a valuable experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with clients and collaborate with fellow interns. This role allowed me to refine my time management skills by working with multiple clients, in-house tasks, and staying on top of my course work. Further development of my writing skills was done by drafting lesson plans and creating social media content calendars, and I accepted the challenges of working in a hybrid work environment. This internship has also provided the avenue for me to further grow my networking skills via community events and professional interactions. As I go ahead in my multimedia journalism career, I hope to carry these skills into other projects, whether that be solo or in a team.



December 6, 2024

SEA Ambassador Wrap-Up



Ethan Edkins

My time at the SEA was a period of significant growth and learning, where I gained valuable experience in the business world. I had the privilege of collaborating with esteemed clients like Steve Sweismann of MAPS Technologies and F2MX, and Jamaur Law of the Jamaur Law Foundation. Working with Steve deepened my understanding of the SaaS industry, teaching me how to analyze key business metrics for informed decision-making. With Jamaur, I applied my financial knowledge to create impactful lesson plans on financial literacy for students of all ages. Beyond client work, I managed the SEA's X account, crafting engaging content to promote sustainability initiatives and organizational events. This role strengthened my communication skills and ability to align with branding goals. My time at the SEA equipped me with practical skills, diverse experiences, and meaningful connections, for which I am profoundly grateful.

Madison Petrosky

Being an intern at the SEA this semester has taught me a lot and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with the clients and connect with all the other interns. Throughout the semester I had the chance to refine my time management skills. I had the pleasure of working with multiple clients on various goals, which required me to learn how to prioritize tasks and plan meetings accordingly with both of our schedules. This internship has taught me how to juggle numerous different responsibilities while still delivering high quality work. As I progress in my career, I hope to apply this skill to future projects, whether working alone or as part of a team.



December 6, 2024

SEA Ambassador Sustainable Holidays

The holiday season is mostly associated with joy, celebration, and togetherness, but it can also be one of considerable waste and great energy use. By adopting sustainable practices, we can enjoy the festivities while being responsible to the environment. Here's how the SEA ambassadors make their holiday celebrations greener.

For **Ben**, one of the most effective practices his family adopts during the holidays is being mindful of their energy consumption, especially with Christmas lights. "We turn off our Christmas lights during the day and make sure the tree lights are off when no one is home. It not only reduces energy use but also enhances safety—leaving lights on all day can pose a fire hazard," he shares. This little yet very important habit is a good addition to safer and greener holidays.

Meanwhile, **Madison** has made sure her energy consumption is at a bare minimum, using only a few Christmas lights and that when she's present in the room to account for its view. "The tree could appear nice for the passersby, but let us save energy, please. It's still Christmas even when all the lights in the house are turned off when nobody's around us," she says. **Maddie** echoes these sentiments, explaining how her family minimizes decorations and uses lights sparingly. "We keep our decorations simple and only turn them on when people are around or when neighbors might be looking at displays," she notes. This mindful approach not only reduces waste but also maintains the charm of the season.

Ethan approaches sustainability in relation to Thanksgiving from a much broader perspective: everything about the celebration has to speak to environmental responsibility. We avoided things like paper plates and plastic utensils and used only reusable dishware and silverware. Cleanup took longer, but it was satisfying to know we were reducing landfill contributions," **Ethan** says. He also emphasizes the importance of not overcooking through careful meal planning and creatively reusing leftovers, such as making turkey sandwiches and vegetable soups. He further encouraged guests to bring in reusable containers to take leftovers home in, further reducing waste.

Maria says that sustainable holidays involve more than just decorations and dining. She recommends using reusable materials for wrapping presents, making homemade decorations and ornaments, and giving experience gifts, such as concert tickets, rather than material items. "Other ways to make the season more sustainable include planning nature-themed winter activities, reusing or planting a Christmas tree, and eating leftovers during the holidays," she says. **Jayden's** family extends sustainability one step further to include giving within his holiday traditions. "When we have large family gatherings, there's usually a lot of leftover food. We package to-go plates with a little bit of everything and donate them to a local food pantry or shelter the next day," he says. This considerate practice not only reduces food waste but also helps people in need.

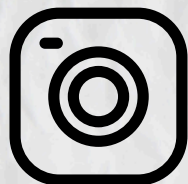
These are some practices that prove even the smallest, most intentional actions make a big difference. We can all conserve energy, reduce waste, or find other creative ways to celebrate towards a more sustainable holiday season. In addition, by embedding these habits into our traditions, we are protecting the environment while making memories that are in spirit with the holidays.

December 6, 2024

Newsletter Editors:



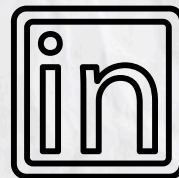
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SEA Ambassador

**Interested in doing an event at the SEA?
Reach out to Dr. John Golden at
John.golden@sru.edu.**

December 6, 2024