

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Successful Internship becomes Full-Time Career**
- **What can Cerner do for you?**
- **Feeling SAD?**



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## Rodrigo Neri

By: Sean Crellin

Rodrigo Neri, a senior at Park University, has a bright future ahead of him. It started back in his sophomore year when he decided that he wanted to work for Cerner, a health care information technology systems company. Rodrigo credits his prior IT experience as the reason he received the internship over the other qualified applicants. Rodrigo worked for Park's IT department for two years and had an internship with The National Golf Club as an IT intern. He also had experience in building websites, and programming iphone applications. Rodrigo first heard about the chance to work for Cerner as

an intern during the 2007 career fair held by the Career Development Center at Park. From there he had to go through the different stages of the hiring process including phone interviews and what they call, 'interview day', which is actually two days – the second day consisting of a tour of the Cerner campus. By the time April rolled around he had been offered the intern position and had accepted enthusiastically. Although he has yet to finish the internship, he already has many fond memories of the experience. One such memory is a time when Cerner was having a company outing where Rodrigo got to participate in a softball tournament, where his team managed to clench the

victory. On a more professional note, he had the privilege of presenting a project that he had been working on to the CIO (Chief Information Officer) as well as other executives, which is a rare occurrence for interns. Upon completion of his internship, he was offered a job with Cerner when he graduates college as a Software Engineer which, needless to say, he is extremely pleased about. The internship with Cerner helped to show Rodrigo the business aspect of software engineering such as getting approvals and working and communicating with others. And he would absolutely recommend an internship for other students, saying it leads to great experience and networking.



## Cerner



Although Kelley Woods has been with Cerner, a healthcare IT company, for less than one year, she has made a name for herself on many campuses in the Kansas City area. Kelley started working for Cerner in July 2008 as one of six campus recruiters, and is exclusively in charge of the Kansas City area as well as Cerner's 2009 summer

internship program. Cerner offers two kinds of internships, technical and non-technical. They look for candidates with a wide variety of majors including: computer information systems, computer engineering, computer science, finance, accounting, and business administration. In total, Cerner hires 150 Interns per year, 77% of which result in job offers. Since Cerner is a global

organization, recruiting international students provides a global perspective to add to their already diverse culture. Presently, Cerner is located in 14 US cities and 13 international countries. As many international students know, it can be hard for them to find a job in the United States. It can require lengthy paperwork from both the student and the employer.

Continued on back

## Computer Science Faculty - John Dean

By: Danielle Green

Sydney J. Harris once said, "The real danger is not that computers will begin to think like men, but that men will begin to think like computers." I think John Dean, Department Chair of the Computer Science at Park would tend to disagree. With a Bachelors Degree in Electrical Engineering and a Masters in Computer Science no one can deny that John knows his stuff. When asked his personal definition of computer science he replied, "It is the study of how computers operate and how to write the instructions to make them perform properly." To be in this field having a knack for math, puzzles, and problem solving is to your advantage. John Dean knows our feature student, Rodrigo Neri. In fact, he was the reference contacted by Cerner during Rodrigo's interview process. A degree in computer science opens many career possibilities. You could be a Systems Analyst, who designs projects and modules, OR a Management Software Engineer, dealing with the business side of computer resources. Other opportunities include Database Manager, Web Developer, and positions in Networking and Security, just to name a few. The salaries of these positions range from \$47,500 to \$116,000.



## Feeling SAD?

By: Danielle Green



Ever wonder why the Spring Semester is so hard to jump into? Do you tend to sleep more, skip class, or keep to yourself in these chilly months? No, it's not just that school is starting up again and your days are filled with deadlines and projects. Many of us silently suffer from Seasonal Affect Disorder, or SAD. It's true that in winter months we tend to eat and sleep a little more due to longer nights and colder weather; it is biological. But for a number of students the effects of this time of year are severe. The symptoms of SAD are: hopelessness, anxiety, loss of energy, social withdrawal, oversleeping, loss of interest in beloved activities, craving foods high in carbs, weight gain, and difficulty concentrating and processing information. Treatment for SAD can come in the form of medications or light therapy. If you are experiencing these symptoms please do not brush them off and certainly DO NOT resort to drugs or alcohol! See a doctor to help you get back into the swing of things. You may also schedule a confidential appointment with the Counseling Center at 584-6237.

Information in this article about Seasonal Affect Disorder was provided by the Mayo Clinic. To find out more visit - <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/seasonal-affective-disorder/>.

## Cerner - continued

In spite of this, Cerner continues to hire international students for both internships and full time career opportunities.

Cerner is always looking for qualified candidates to apply for their internships and full time career openings.

Cerner looks for candidates who are flexible, self motivated, innovative thinkers, and have an entrepreneurial spirit. Cerner likes hiring Park students because they possess the skills necessary to be successful in the Cerner culture. They have hired 139 Park students in the last 5 years.

To apply for an internship or full-time opportunity, go to

[www.cerner.com/campus](http://www.cerner.com/campus), and apply or contact Traci Klasing in the Career Development Center, via email at [traci.klasing@park.edu](mailto:traci.klasing@park.edu).

**DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE INTERNSHIP WORKSHOP!!!**

**Thursday, March 5th 2009**

**2:30pm - 4:00pm**

**Parkville Campus**

**Contact Traci Klasing at [traci.klasing@park.edu](mailto:traci.klasing@park.edu) to sign up**