Emily says her favorite part about working at Siemens Energy is the work-life balance and that she approaches her career choices and roles strategically to allow her to grow in her current engineering expertise. Also asked for advice for students entering the work force, Emily shared that she recommends networking, being persistent with your interests, and always staying as up to date as possible in your field. Emily now works for Siemens Energy as an Electrical Construction Management Intern. She initially landed a co-op role that fell through due to COVID and used the co-op office to find another position. Emily says that she seeks out as much input as possible from her mentors and friends, and wants to continue her leadership and involvement in her current engineering expertise. Emily also wants to continue to choose rotations that align with her goals and interests, and knows that the location and company type are important. 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Chandra Colarossi, MA, ABPM
Global Engineering Pro/Fessional Development Consultant

Chandra (also known as Libby) and Global Engineering Pro/Fessional, Development Consultant

Her passion is to inspire and evoke excitement in the people she serves. From the moment a student walks through her door, she wants them to feel empowered, seen, and heard. Libby is known for her positive energy and willingness to go above and beyond to ensure her clients are set up for success. Her goal is to help individuals achieve their professional goals, no matter where they are in their career journey.

She has extensive experience in recruitment, onboarding, and professional development. Libby has worked with clients of all levels, from entry-level professionals to senior executives, and has helped them develop their skills and advance in their careers. She is committed to providing personalized and effective solutions to meet the unique needs of each individual.

Libby believes in the power of mentorship and networking, and she is an active member of several professional organizations. She is also a certified leadership coach and has helped countless individuals improve their leadership skills.

Libby’s expertise in recruitment and professional development is highly sought after, and she is dedicated to helping her clients achieve their professional goals.

Emily Kern, Program Administrator
Valerie Kern, AB, ABD
Global Engineering Pro/Fessional Development Consultant

Emily is a Program Administrator with a passion for helping professionals navigate the complexities of the engineering industry. She has a background in communication and project management, which she uses to support the Global Engineering Pro/Fessional Development Consultant program.

She is highly organized and detail-oriented, ensuring that all aspects of the program run smoothly. Emily has excellent interpersonal skills, which enable her to effectively communicate with clients and stakeholders.

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Emily’s commitment to excellence is evident in her work. She is highly regarded by her colleagues and clients, and her contributions to the program are invaluable.

And the Winners are…

Each year the Co-op program awards a Co-op Student of the Year and a Co-op Employer of the Year. Here are our winners in 2022.

Co-op Student of the Year

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STUDENT EXPERIENCES

At the 2023 Automate Conference in Detroit, Michigan, one of the largest manufacturing events in the world, several engineering students showcased their experiences. Whitney (left side) and Michaela (right side) both attended the conference, along with their team, to present their work on Power Electronics and Energy Systems. Whitney worked as a co-op at Acutronic, from the projects she completed during her co-op rotation at Acutronic this past spring. "I would say that it was an amazing experience. I quickly learned about the fast-paced culture of our company. Thank you for taking a part in the opportunity to be a valuable team member, like us.

Kirby Witte, the VP of Engineering at ESTAT, commended the company’s co-op students. "Our co-op students are key members of our team. They take on challenging projects and contribute significantly to the success of our projects. Thank you for helping provide this opportunity to both co-op students and to companies like ours."

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Emily Kern is a Program Administrator, Co-op and Internship Division, Office of Experiential Learning and Professional Engagement.

Each year the Co-op program awards a Co-op Student of the Year and a Co-op Employer of the Year. This year, the Co-op Student of the Year is Emily Kern, a program administrator at ELPE. Congratulations to Emily Kern on being named Co-op Student of the Year for 2023!

Emily Kern is a Program Administrator, Co-op and Internship Division, Office of Experiential Learning and Professional Engagement, at The University of Pittsburgh. Emily is a proud alumnus of the Swanson School of Engineering and the Katz Graduate School of Business at Pitt. At Pitt, Emily earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering and a Master of Business Administration in Strategic Management. Throughout her career, Emily has been involved in many co-op and internship programs. Her passion for helping students find meaningful and impactful experiences has led her to her current role at ELPE. Emily is a valuable asset to the ELPE team and has been instrumental in shaping the co-op and internship experience for students.

Emily Kern’s nominator, Valerie Kerr, noted that Emily is a key person in the ELPE office, and her efforts have had a significant impact on the organization. Valerie stated that Emily is a great resource for students and alumni, and her dedication to helping others is evident in her work. Emily is known for her positive attitude and her willingness to go above and beyond to ensure that students have the best possible experience.

In addition to her role at ELPE, Emily is also involved in the Office of International Services at Pitt. She has been instrumental in helping students navigate the complexities of international co-op opportunities. Emily’s passion for helping students is evident in her work, and she is a valuable contributor to the ELPE team.

Emily Kern’s impact on the PEP community has been significant, and her dedication to helping students has not gone unnoticed. As Co-op Student of the Year, Emily has demonstrated exceptional leadership and a commitment to excellence. Her nominator, Valerie Kerr, stated that Emily is a role model for other students and that her work ethic and dedication to helping others are truly inspiring. Emily is a true asset to the PEP community, and her award is well-deserved.

Congratulations to Emily Kern on being named Co-op Student of the Year for 2023!

ELPE is looking forward to continuing its partnership with Emily Kern and supporting her in her future endeavors.