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MVC American Humanics Leadership Interns Giving Back To Their Communities

Marshall, Mo. (January 21, 2009) — The Missouri Valley College American Humanics Student Leadership Association currently has five interns out in the field. The internship is a culminating experience during the student's academic preparation and is the bridge between academia and the professional nonprofit sector. This experience affords students the opportunity to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have acquired during the formal academic process and gain professional skills that will enhance their employability. The internship agency benefits from the student's expertise and abilities and the students benefit from exposure to a "real world laboratory" which allows her/him to apply theoretical knowledge and gain practical experience.

Ms. Christine Dittmer is currently completing her internship with College Option Foundation (COF) in Kansas City, Missouri. COF is an organization that is dedicated to enriching the academic development of high school students and assisting them in their preparation for higher education. They do this through using academic competitions, college exam study guides, college admissions tutorials and personalized counseling; they have assisted thousands of students to attain their dreams of attending college. "After taking a look at all of my duties I have realized the importance of the service learning projects we did in American Humanics. Each task is something I learned in American Humanics and I can now put everything I learned to work." says Christine Dittmer.

Mr. David Hams is currently completing his internship with Operation Breakthrough at St. Vincent's Family Service Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Operation Breakthrough's mission is to help children who are living in poverty develop to their fullest potential by providing them a safe, loving and educational environment. The organization also strives to support and empower the children and families through advocacy, referral services and emergency aid. "I have recently been faced with the challenge of inspiring and motivating the youth to serve their community. This is a challenge I am eagerly taking on, because I was once in their shoes and saw first hand how the involvement in your community helps instill pride and confidence in oneself." says David Hams. "I look forward to impacting the youth as my mentors did for me and showing them that the only limits to life are those you set on yourself."

Mr. Paul Harmon is currently completing his internship with the Missouri Valley College Office of Institutional Advancement. The Office of Institutional Advancement is dedicated to building lasting relationships between current students, alumni and the local community. Mr. Harmon's presence in the office opens the door for a collaboration with the American Humanics National Office. Utilizing the resources of both organizations will assist Paul in developing a comprehensive MVC American Humanics alumni database. This internship allows Paul to develop new and enhance current skills in the following areas public relations, fundraising, marketing, program planning and interpersonal communication.

Mr. Jermaine Solomon is currently completing his internship with the Mid-Missouri American Red Cross based out of Columbia, Missouri. Mr. Solomon's internship is designed to develop an American Red Cross Chapter in Marshall, Missouri. Jermaine will be working in conjunction with the Mid-Missouri Chapter in Columbia to make the American Red Cross a promenade force in the Marshall community. Mr. Solomon is also working with the Missouri Valley College students to get them properly trained to assist in disaster relief not only in Marshall, but around the world. "This new collaboration with Missouri Valley College and the American Red Cross is beneficial to all involved. I am excited to play an integral part in the development of the Marshall office", says Jermaine Solomon. "This is an opportunity for me to take the skills and knowledge from my academic courses and actually apply it to make an impact in my community."

Mr. Adam Mares is currently completing his internship with the Randolph Area YMCA in Moberly, Missouri. The YMCA is an organization dedicated to providing services for youth, families and individual within the community. The Randolph Area YMCA is committed to helping their community reach their fullest potential.

ABOUT MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE

Missouri Valley College is a liberal arts college that provides educational, social and cultural experiences in a decidedly Christian environment. Established in 1889, MVC offers 28 majors, 7 pre-professional programs, associate degree programs, and certificate programs. The legendary Viking athletic program consists of 12 sports and 20 varsity teams. The liberal arts heritage focuses on scholarship, critical thinking and academic excellence to prepare students to become members of a responsible citizenry. For more information, call (660) 831-4000 or visit www.moval.edu.

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