

RIDE YOUR WAVE

INTERNSHIPS

PRESENTED BY
100+ WOMEN STRONG

APRIL 10, 2026



SESSION FLOW

- CO-LEAD INTRODUCTIONS
- LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION
- SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY
- WRAP UP



Coach Janet Lavender
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**Coaching
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Samantha Villa-Fioran
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*Space Systems Modeling
And Simulation Engineer*



Victoria Bravo

Universal Creative - Associate Engineer and Engineering and Safety



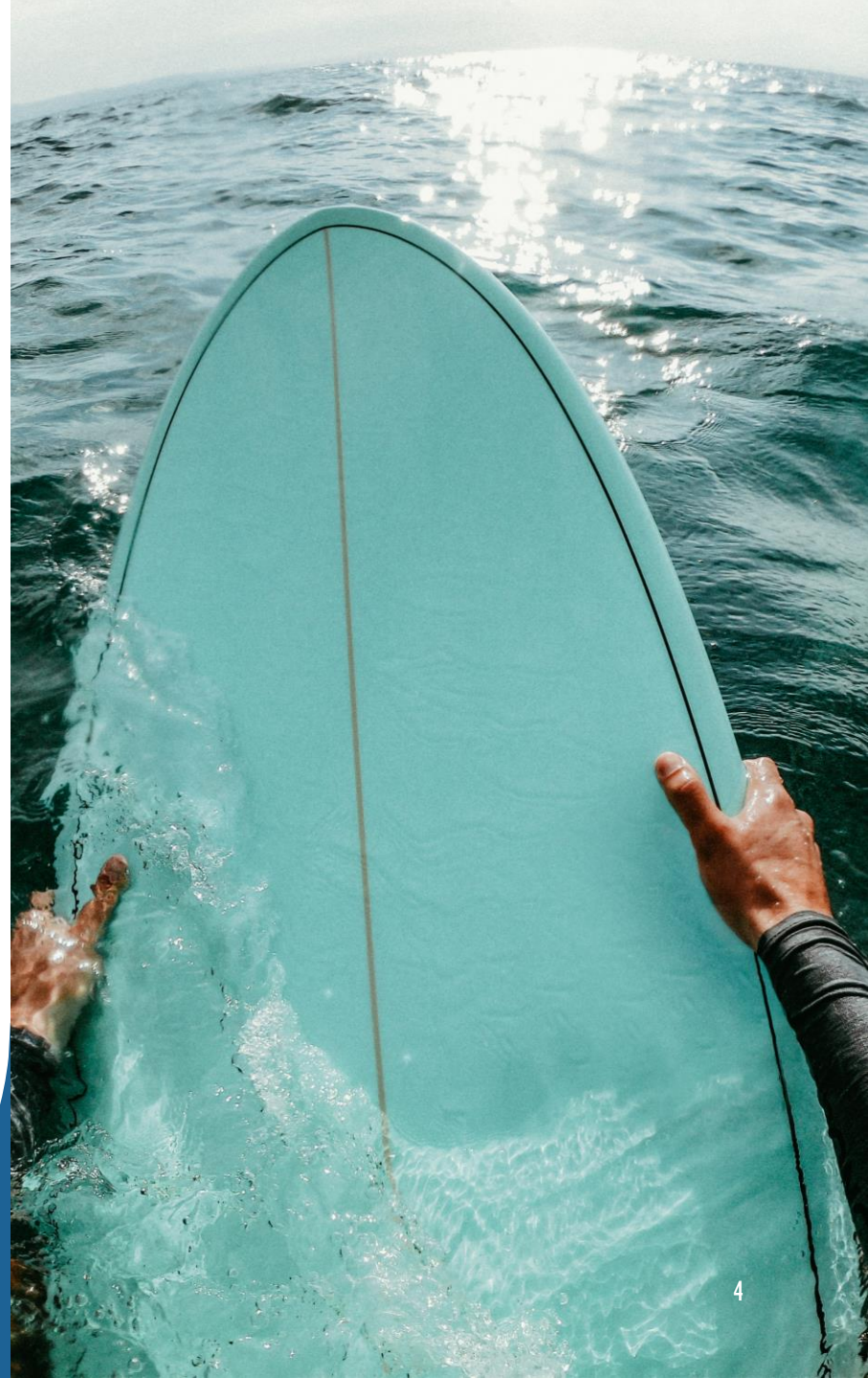
Dr. Elhami Nasr
CSULB
*Professor Construction
Engineering
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EVOLVING INTERNSHIP & HIRING LANDSCAPE

- ❖ **In 2026, est. 4 million US-based internships- representing $\approx 87\%$ of all employers***
 - With 50%-60% of interns converting to full-time roles
 - Significantly reducing employment seeking upon graduation
- ❖ **GPA Matters Less Than you Think**
 - Less than half (42%) of employers plan to screen by GPA*
- ❖ **Hands-on Experience matters most**
 - Focus = skills-based hiring, nearly 70% of employers (Eng Hiring Trends)**

* National Association of Colleges and Employes (NACE), "Market Trends Every Student Should Know", December 8, 2025

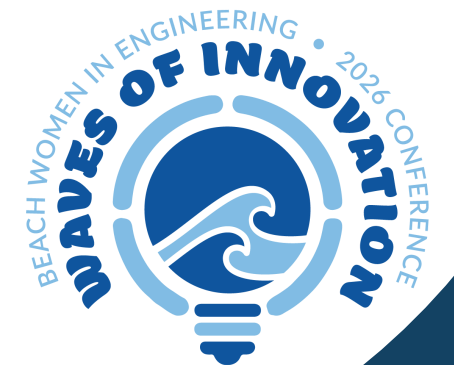
** "Engineering Hiring Trends", July 29, 2025, Taylor Graf



STEP INTO IT



It is less about what you do & more about what you learn; about yourself, a role, an industry or company



UTILIZE THE COE

LANDING AN INTERNSHIP REQUIRES A BIT OF EFFORT TO ACQUIRE. THIS IS WHERE THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & INTERNSHIPS (OPD&I) CAN HELP!

Resume Preparation

Interviewing tips

Jobscan

OPD&I Workshop

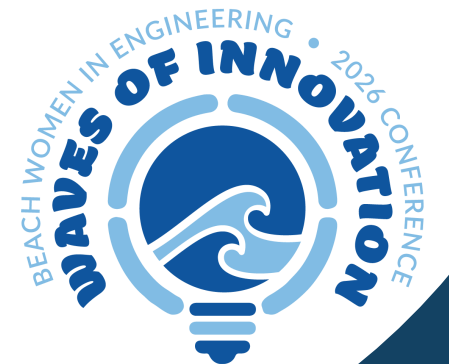
Career & Job Fairs

Virtual hands-on

Posted Internships



**OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT & INTERNSHIPS**



BROADEN YOUR THINKING – EVERY COMPANY NEEDS AN ENGINEER!

Think beyond the obvious employer, many companies employ engineers even if they aren't “tech” companies

Consider tangential roles which might lead to a more technical/engineering opportunity

Primary & secondary relationships are equally viable paths

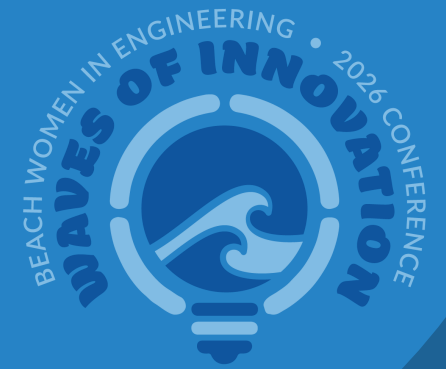
- Family, friends, neighbors, school, church, community, alumni
- Ask for a coffee meeting to just chat, even without an obvious path
- Cold call = message thru LinkedIn Glassdoor, etc... follow-up....**be**

the squeaky wheel

- Look around your city and community for local companies



SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY



LET'S GET TO WORK

A. Take out your phone – look up CSULB COE OPDI student web page, book mark it, scroll around through it, check out the various tabs and types of resources

B. Find 1 person in this room that you do not know – go sit next to them, introduce yourselves, each take a turn to explain your current trajectory through college and beyond – like this (major, interests, obstacles, career ideas) [The 60-second Internship Pitch – 3?, The Hook, The Proof, The Goal]

C. Exchange contact information, agree on a cadence for your communications – weekly, monthly, etc – now put it on your calendar, at least the first 3 face to face meetings

D. Set your goals – as they relate to getting an internship

E. Now take a moment and individually brainstorm how you can cast a wide net to find contacts and opportunities

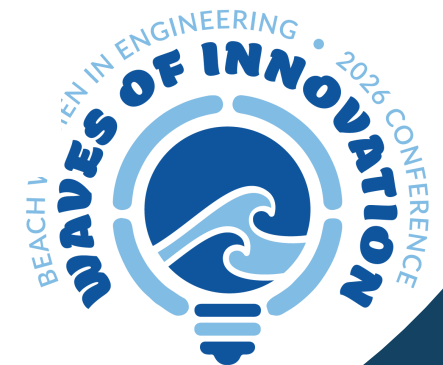


HOLDING YOURSELF ACCOUNTABLE

Share your brainstorming ideas with the rest of the group to leverage our thinking collectively



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100+ Women Strong want to thank you for attending!

Post Event Survey

We need your feedback!

**Complete the survey on the
Whova App**

Review ALL

Coaching Circle Slide Decks

<https://www.csulb.edu/college-of-engineering/coaching-circles-2026>

Connect with speakers on LinkedIn

Introduce yourself, exchange information & ask questions.

Connect with us on Linked In

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14238580/>

The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. Lao Tzu