

MOSO CAPS Monthly

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A Message From Your MOSO CAPS Director



We are excited to welcome 55 Student Associates to MOSO CAPS!

It has been a fast paced first six weeks of the semester. CAPSPrep was a huge success, which would not be possible without our phenomenal guest speakers and industry partner tours. Associates learned about their top five attributes through the Clifton Strengths assessment, etiquette training, created their resume, LinkedIn profile, and identified what they cared about the most with Rikki Smith which will provide guidance for their CAPStone Project that will give back to the community in some form or fashion. A few weeks ago, there was a news segment on a local news station that focused on the Joplin Public Library's new Butterfly Garden. This project was spearheaded by three MOSO CAPS Student Associates, Stella Helm, Paili Dobbins, and Ashlynn Sargent, last year as their CAPStone Project and it was great to see it come to fruition. The team of three recognized the need to have something along the 20th street corridor serve as a place to remember those lost during the 2011 tornado and tie it back to the butterflies that is now associated with that horrific event. Stella and the team made all of the contacts to get plantings for the garden and worked with the library to identify a location that would work best. Unfortunately, our Associate projects do not always get the credit they deserve when a project is completed, so I would like to give a huge SHOUTOUT to Stella, Paili, and Ashlynn for having the vision and for their perseverance in seeing this project to the end.

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Morning MOSO CAPS Student Associates

Introducing the 2023-24 Cohort of **MOSO CAPS** Student Associates!



Afternoon MOSO CAPS Student Associates

Five weeks of fun, fast-paced professional learning!

A CAPSPrep Recap

Each fall, the MOSO CAPS program begins with a five-week CAPSPrep professional learning course for first-year Student Associates that starts with a handshake and campus tour, and ends with individual career presentations and a CAPSPrep celebration.

This year we were able to include second-year Student Associates (aka: MOSO CAPS Ambassadors) as mentors during the first two weeks of CAPSPrep to lead various group activities before beginning their 14-week fall internships with various Industry Partners.

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from August 21-September 22, first-year Student Associates met to explore and expand their professional skills.

During the fourteen 2.5 hour CAPSPrep sessions, students:

- Set class norms
- Wrote and practiced their 30-second elevator pitches
- Attended MSSU's Community Day and networked with dozens of event participants
- Went on a behind-the-scenes tour of MOSO CAPS Corporate Sponsor Mercy



ABOVE: Morning MOSO CAPS Student Associates paused for a group photo during their tour of Liberty Utilities where they learned how the CAPS Corporate Sponsor implements safe operating procedures for its personnel, the public and area community.

Hospital and learned about the medical provider's services and cutting-edge tech that went into the design of the facility

- Talked about resume-writing techniques and created professional resumes with the help of Alex Gandy, Southern's Career Services Director
- Took professional headshots with Brian Mehrens, communication faculty member, and Tanav Gandhi, MOSO CAPS Ambassador
- Explored LinkedIn and how to use the social media platform to build their

network and find like-minded professionals with Lynsee DeGraw, Talent Acquisition Specialist at Midwestern

- Went on a facilities tour of MOSO CAPS Corporate Sponsor Liberty Utilities and learned about the safety measures the utility provider takes to protect personnel, property, and patrons of the electrical company
- Learned various study tips and techniques along with the array of tutoring and student services offered by the Student Success Center

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LEFT: Andrew, Human Services strand student associate, visits with one of the 140+ vendors that participated in this year's Community Day, a free event hosted by Career Services that showcases what the Joplin area community has to offer students, faculty and staff.

ABOVE: Mercy Hospital personnel, Angela Kennedy and Randy Dixon, spoke to afternoon MOSO CAPS Student Associates about the medical provider's communication system during a behind-the-scenes tour of the facility.

CAPSPrep Recap (continued)

- Took the student version of the Clifton Strengths Assessment and learned about their top five strengths with StrengthsFinder Coach Dr. Lynn Coffey
- Completed a small group Sprint Design Challenge using only the random items each member of their team brought to the table
- Discussed service-oriented passion projects and possible CAPStone Project ideas with Rikki Smith from Freeman Health System
- Uncovered their love of networking by exploring pro tips borrowed from Alana Mueller, CoffeeLunchCoffee founder and CEO
- Reviewed and practiced interviewing skills by first discussing interviewing dos and don'ts, then pairing up to conduct mock interviews with peers
- Participated in etiquette training hosted by University Executive Vice-President Dr. Hodson and the Missouri Southern Foundation
- Learned about project management and design thinking by completing LEGO build activities that included the use of SCRUM boards to track their team's progress



LEFT: Members of the “Space Wars” LEGO build team are busy constructing their design based on the project management activity’s required deliverables. Prior to building, team members had to select a SCRUM Master to lead the project and create a backlog of tasks to complete to ensure they met all of the project’s goals in a timely manner.

RIGHT: Having already created resumes to help secure interviews, MOSO CAPS Student Associates spent time practicing their interviewing skills during the final days of CAPSPrep by participating in three mock interviews, each time playing the role of the interviewee and then interviewer to improve their skills.



- Explored the power of gratitude and created personal gratitude lists with Doug Hunt, Director of Entrepreneurship at the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce

CAPSPrep helped ensure Student Associates had the core competencies needed to succeed as they began their Industry Partner rotations on September 25th.

The prep also provided students the opportunity to form relationships with fellow MOSO CAPS peers and strand coordinators, enabling them to build capital within their professional network.

Careers of Interest

When applying for the MOSO CAPS program, Student Associates are asked to identify a career of interest, or at least a strand they would like to explore.

Following are some of the careers MOSO CAPS Student Associates are interested in and the fields they are currently learning about at their Industry Partner experiences.

Aerospace Engineer
Accountant/Finance Director
AgriBusiness
Business Administration
Child Psychiatrist
Clinical Psychologist
Counselor
Corporate Lawyer
Crime Scene Investigator
Criminal Defense Lawyer
Dental Hygienist
Dietician
Entrepreneur/Small Business Owner
Funeral Director/Mortician

Healthcare Administration
International Business
Marketing/Public Relations
Nanotech/Computer Engineer
Nurse/Neonatal Nurse/Pediatric Nurse
Physical Therapist
Physical/Personal Trainer
Psychologist
Property Management/Development
Radiology/Ultrasound Technician
Real Estate Agent
Surgeon/Neurosurgeon
Teacher/Preschool Teacher
Veterinarian/Vet Technician

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A Message (continued)

First-year Student Associates have just completed week one of their first industry partner experience. Our second-year Associates have been in the industry partner setting since September 6. We have added many new industry partners this fall. Our goal is to always provide our Associates with individualized experiences no matter what their career aspirations might be. Last year we had the very first student in the United States to be placed with the USDA that was still in high school! This year we have two students who are interested in becoming Funeral Directors. Our program and incredible industry partners provide opportunities for our Student Associates to learn alongside the experts in the field. We are always looking for new industry partners and our program would not be successful without them. We are truly building the industry partner pipeline one Associate at a time. Many thanks to all who support our program!



ABOVE: At the September Third Thursday hosted by Missouri Southern, Nathan, MOSO CAPS Human Services Student Ambassador, was interviewed by a Joplin High School videographer as part of a project for the school's multi-media class. Nathan was one of several MOSO CAPS Student Associates who participated in the Downtown Joplin Alliance event, sharing his experiences with attendees while helping out at the MOSO CAPS informational booth.

Upcoming Events

Save the date and join us at our next MOSO CAPS event!

Wednesday, January 17

Interviews & Expectations

MOSO CAPS and NEWcaps will be hosting a 1-day mock interview event for our CAPS Student Associates! Volunteer interviewers will be needed. More details and a sign-up form will be available soon.

Wednesday, April 17

CAPStone Project Pitch

Come see how MOSO CAPS Student Associates are giving back to their communities! The purpose of the CAPStone Project is for Student Associates to showcase their project management skills by designing a project that positively impacts or supports their school, community or region. Specific event details will be shared in January.

THANK YOU MOSO CAPS Industry Partners

The MOSO CAPS program would not be possible without the support of our Industry Partners. These experts in their fields offer guidance to student associates, helping them explore career options relating to each student's identified profession.

Thank you to our first rotation MOSO CAPS Industry Partners!

Academy Animal Hospital
Access Family Care Pediatrics
Access Family Care Women's Health
Big Charlie's Fireworks
Central Pet Care
City of Joplin, Human Resources
City of Joplin, Planning, Development & Neighborhood Services
Diamond Elementary
Downtown Imaging
Ferguson Real Estate
Freeman Health Dietician
Freeman Health System
Freeman NICU
Freeman Operating Room
Freeman Population Health
Freeman Radiology
Freeman Yellow Pod
The Glenn Group
Golden Paws Pet Rescue
Hardy, Wrestler & Associates
Johnson, Vorhees & Martucci
Joplin Elementary
Joplin Humane Society

Joplin Police Department
MAPP Technologies
Mason Woodard Funeral Home
Mercy Behavioral Health
Mercy Critical Care
Mercy Emergency Department
Mercy General Surgery
Mercy Neurosurgery
Mercy Orthopedics
Mercy Pediatrics
MSSU Athletic Training
MSSU Lion Cub Academy
MSSU University Relations & Marketing
Parkview Animal Hospital
Pennington Station
SERC
Simpson Funeral Home
Unearth Potential

Interested in becoming a MOSO CAPS Industry Partner or know of someone who would be a good fit? The MOSO CAPS Leadership Team would love to chat, give us a call at 417-625-9623 or email Hull-S@mssu.edu.