NAME______________________________________________

HOME ADDRESS________________________________________

LOCAL ADDRESS________________________________________

PHONE___________________________ E-MAIL___________________________

MAJOR________________________________________________________________

CONCENTRATION_________________________________________

NUMBER OF COURSE CREDITS AS OF MAY 2015 _____________________________

EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE ________________________________________

GRADE POINT AVERAGE__________________

GRADE IN QUAN 202____________________

COMPUTER SOFTWARE SKILLS

_____Word processing (Word)

_____Spreadsheet (Excel)

_____Presentation (PowerPoint)

_____Other ________________________________________________

Please attach your transcript or course progress form and a writing sample describing why you are interested in this internship and the skills you would bring to MERC.

Applications must be returned to the MERC office by April 17, 2015.
MERC INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The MetroWest Economic Research Center at Framingham State University is sponsoring a limited number of paid internships for the fall 2015 semester. The MERC Internship offers students an opportunity to learn about the Massachusetts economy and apply the organizational, statistical, and communication skills that have been previously introduced in a classroom setting. Interns participate in projects involving regional economic concerns such as unemployment, cost of living, employment and wage structure, labor force composition, housing, municipal revenue and expenditures, and K-12 enrollment.

MERC is made up of faculty and students from the Economics and Business departments here at FSU. They collect, organize and distribute economic data for statistical areas such as MetroWest (Framingham/Natick area), Greater Franklin (Franklin area), 495/MW Corridor, Greater Marlborough (Marlborough area) and South Shore. In all, MERC tracks several statistical regions that include over 50 Massachusetts cities and towns. As an intern you will participate in all aspects of the MERC program. Activities include collecting data from web sites, local merchants and school districts, organizing data into spreadsheets, and creating graphs. Finally you will prepare the information for distribution to communities in the form of publications and live power point presentations. The intern program also includes extensive educational and training modules to prepare you for these activities.

To be eligible for this internship you must have completed 16 course credits, have a B average or better, and be interested in working with computers and economic data. In addition, you are required to have taken Quantitative Economics and Business II or by permission. The internship will require 10-12 hours of work per week and is worth one course credit per semester. An internship must be taken as a free elective and cannot be substituted for an Economics or Business elective. It is important to realize that even if you were waitlisted for this internship in the past, this is an entirely new selection process with a new pool of candidates.

In working on projects student will

- Become acquainted with data sources and statistical procedures associated with specific economic topics including data sets and analyses from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and US Census.

- Gather data from primary or secondary sources.

- Use a spreadsheet package to organize a new database and/or update an existing database.

- Design graphs and charts to convey information.

- Write reports summarizing the information in the data sets by combining text, tables and graphical material. These reports can become part of the student's undergraduate portfolio.

- Develop an end-of-semester oral presentation focusing on a specific project and/or summarizing the work completed during the semester.

Requirements: Economics or Business majors, B average, Junior or Senior status, Quant II, working knowledge of spreadsheets and word processing.

Donald MacRitchie (Crocker 303), Martha Meaney (Crocker 301), Fahlino Sjuib (Crocker 313), Beverly Soriano (Crocker 106), Lori Anderson (Crocker 311) or the MERC Office, Towers ground floor.

For more information about MERC visit www.merc-online.org.

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