Volpe National Transportation Systems Center | www.volpe.dot.gov

- Geena Lucibello (Mechanical Engineering, Human Factors Engineering, 2016)
- Student Trainee Engineering Psychologist
- Full-time, 40 hours per week
- Paid

What do you do as an intern at this organization?
As an Engineering Psychologist at Volpe, I have worked on projects in both the Aviation and Surface Transportation divisions. I am currently developing preliminary tests for our new driving simulator in order to better understand what causes simulator sickness and in the future will be studying different aspects of driver behavior. I also have assisted in the creation/modification of surveys as well as the organization and analysis of data from studies regarding aviation symbology.

How did you find your internship?
Dr. Hannon, my ENP 61 professor, suggested that I apply to work at the Volpe Center.

What do you enjoy most about your internship?
I enjoy working at Volpe because they give you a lot of responsibility and trust you to complete tasks at a reasonable pace, so they do not micromanage your work schedule. I also like that there are so many projects happening all of the time so you can be exposed to projects in different areas of transportation. Lastly, the people I have encountered at Volpe are all very pleasant and fairly laid back.

What do you find challenging?
Though it has been beneficial to my professional development, the most challenging thing about my internship is that I am given a lot of responsibility and independence. In addition, when I don't know how to do something, they trust that I will learn how to do it. That being said, because of this I have learned a lot from working at Volpe including but not limited to the basics of Photoshop, JavaScript, soldering, and operating our new driving simulator.

What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?
I would advise you to talk to Dr. Hannon or myself to hear more about Volpe and decide if you might be interested in working there. Make sure you call Volpe's HR office to find out which government grade level you qualify for before submitting your application. If you do end up working there, I suggest that you get involved in projects within different areas of transportation to see what interests you most.

About the Organization
Volpe National Transportation Systems Center
Cambridge, MA

For over 40 years, Volpe has helped the transportation community navigate its most challenging problems. As the National Transportation Systems Center, our mission is to improve transportation by anticipating and addressing emerging issues and advancing technical, operational, and institutional innovations across all modes. Part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Volpe is a unique federal agency that is 100 percent funded by sponsor projects. We partner with public and private organizations to assess the needs of the transportation community, evaluate research and development endeavors, assist in the deployment of state-of-the-art transportation technologies, and inform decision- and policy-making through our comprehensive analyses.