

Your name: Anthony Stefan

Your institution: Florida Institute of Technology



1. Tell us a little bit about yourself, including what you are studying.

I am from Naples Florida and currently am a applied mathematics graduate student at Florida Tech in Melbourne, Florida. I love the beach! I enjoy throwing the Frisbee and playing video games when I'm not studying, researching, or working. I'm a teacher's assistant at Florida Tech for calculus and pre-calculus courses. I research an area of composite theory in physics, specifically generalizing realizations for synthesis problems. I also seek to specialize in multi-dimensional networks, such as circuit theory. I work for myself at a company I started with my best friend where we have filed patents on products that innovate technologies across industries.

2. Where did your internship take place, and who did you work with?

This internship has taken place with the organization SIMIODE/SCUDEM and my mentor was Dr. Brian Winkel. I have known Brian for approximately two years. Two years ago I participated in the SCUDEM experience, which is a differential equations modeling competition for undergraduate students. This experience really opened my eyes to different methods to learn differential equations and where my skills were in mathematics. SIMIODE is an open education online resource that helps fund SCUDEM. So to be their intern this summer was an honor and exciting as I wished to give back to the community and provide input on how I think the SCUDEM experience could improve.

3. What are some things that you learned as a result of this internship?

The internship included tasks such as developing the next announcement for SCUDEM V on the SIMIODE webpage, developing and organizing not only the SIMIODE resources but also their social media accounts, providing student feedback to an online textbook of differential equations that will be available on the SIMIODE website. Therefore, I learned more about differential equations while reading the text, I also learned about new pathways for networking and how to navigate web-based communities.

4. Do you see yourself engaging with SGCI again in the future? Perhaps when you begin your career?

SGCI cultivates community experiences that help people develop and network with each other in a way I have never seen before. I would be interested in hearing about the different opportunities they have for the growth of myself and other science/math communities of my interest.

5. Anything else to add about your internship experience?

I would like to thank all of the SGCI and SIMIODE/SCUDEM team this summer for providing me with this opportunity and willing to help me grow as an individual, professional, and mathematician. I learned more each day working with Brian and am inspired by his work ethic, processes, and stories!