Notes on the Internship program

Department of English

8/15/21

(Prepared by Karen Chandler)

In the 2020-2021 academic year, eight undergraduate students completed internships in the English department: five students completed ENGL 450 and three completed ENGL 555-CUE. Most interned with *Miracle Monocle* as members of the editorial staff. One student interned with the National Alliance on Mental Illness’s local division, focusing on publicity and outreach. Another worked in the public relations division of the Kentucky Air Force National Guard. Although the majority of students were English majors, two had individualized majors that included English; three students had declared minors in Creative Writing.

All were interns during spring 2021. This reflects the effects of the pandemic, which led many of our usual internship sites, including *Louisville Magazine* and the Louisville Story Program, to suspend their internship programs in summer of 2020. Yet the number of interns in spring 2021 is the same as that in the previous year, which began before the pandemic drastically changed things. Thus, I’m hopeful that the program will continue and allow students to gain professional experience commensurate with aspects of the English major.

Robin Mozer, the new Internship director, invites department members to let her know of possible internship sites suitable for our majors and affiliated students. These kinds of suggestions have been very helpful in the past. This spring, for instance, I was grateful that Megan Poole helped set up a meeting with a potential partner, Jack Henry, Inc., that would enable internships in technical writing.