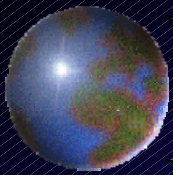


# Co-op / Internships Abroad and Academic Exchanges

*Gayle G. Elliott, Assistant Professor*

*Division of Professional Practice  
University of Cincinnati*

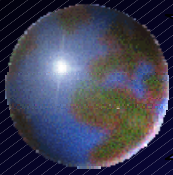
[www.uc.edu/propractice/icp](http://www.uc.edu/propractice/icp)



Dean Herman Schneider  
1872 -1939

**Dean Schneider invents  
Cooperative Education  
in 1906 at UC.**

**Now UC has over 4,000  
students and 1,500  
employers.**



# *UC Co-op Program Structure*

1<sup>st</sup> Year: Intro to Cooperative Education.

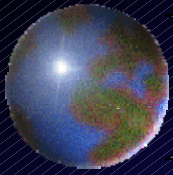
2<sup>nd</sup> Year: Begin year-round participation.

Job search and start co-op rotations.

3<sup>rd</sup> Year: Class and co-op rotations.

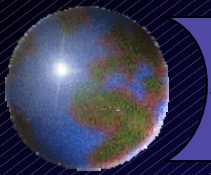
4<sup>th</sup> Year: Class and co-op rotations.

5<sup>th</sup> Year: Classes and graduation.

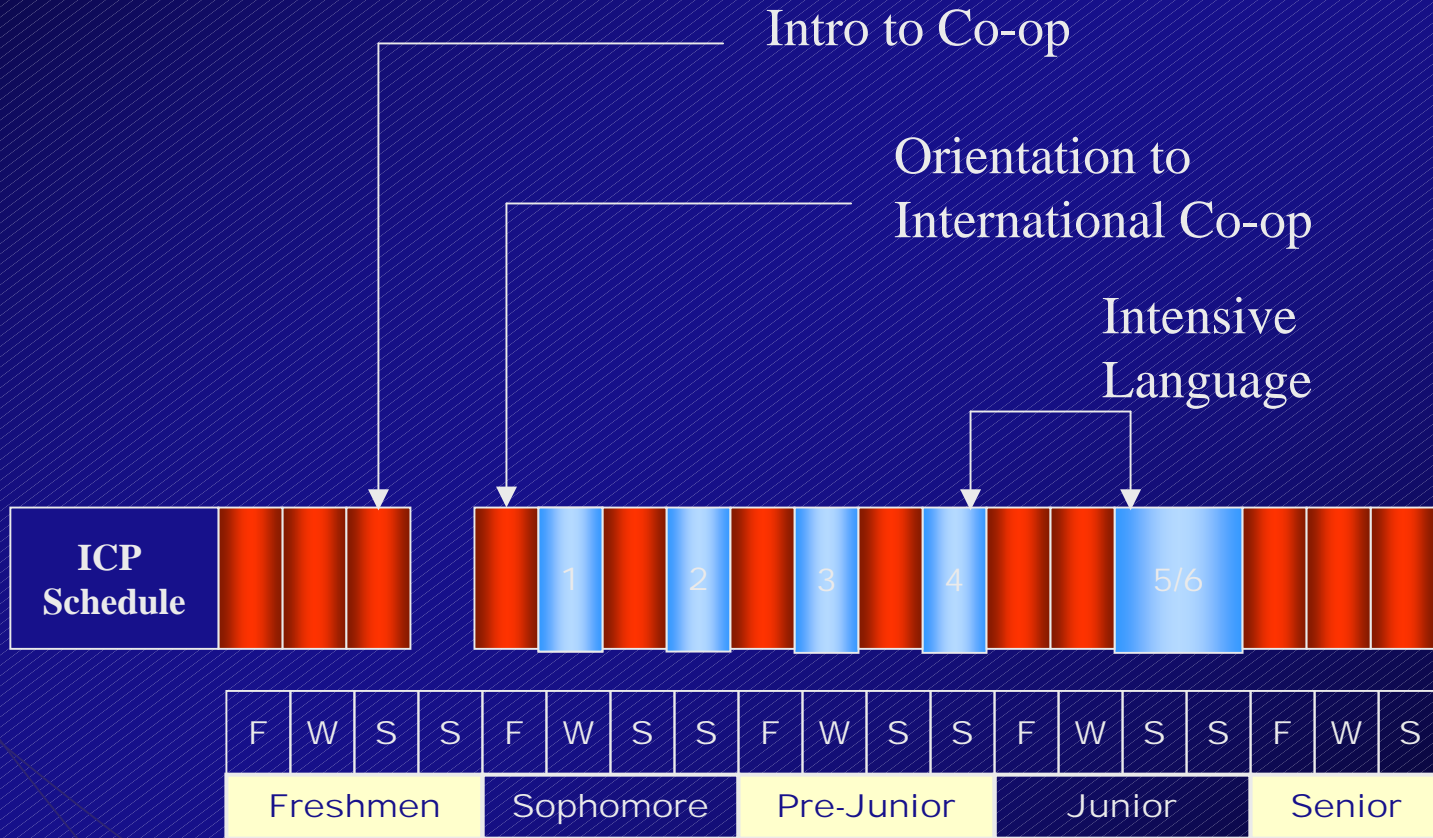


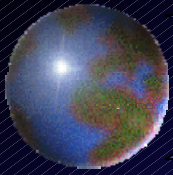
# *UC International Co-op Program Structure*

- UC / ICP - five-year curriculum.
- One year of co-op experience in the US.
- German, Japanese, or Spanish language and culture preparation.
- Choice of international electives.
- Capstone six-month co-op abroad.
- Additional international opportunities available.



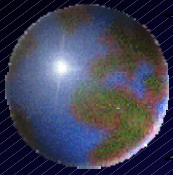
# UC ICP Structure





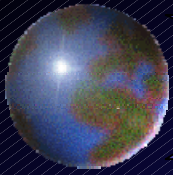
# *University of Cincinnati Constraints*

- Rigid academic structure can make study abroad difficult.
- Mandatory co-op program.
- Five-year baccalaureate degree – unrealistic to extend time to graduation.
- Need for program to be affordable.



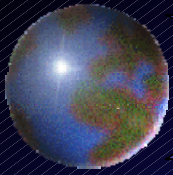
# *University of Cincinnati Strengths*

- Excellent co-op program.
- Support of co-op employers in the US.
- Year of co-op experience is valuable to overseas employers.
- Strong German Department with interested faculty.
- Many Japanese businesses in the area.



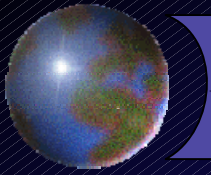
# *Partnerships*

- Internships and Co-op.
  - Direct employer relationships.
  - Exchange programs.
  - Third party providers.
- Study Abroad.
  - One-way arrangements.
  - Exchange programs.



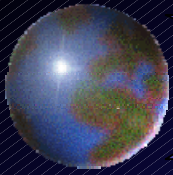
# *Program and Job Development*

- Where do your students want to work?
- Where can you find jobs?
- What do you have to offer?
- Address and resolve employer concerns.
  - Why not send students overseas?
  - Costs, “red tape”, length of time to work



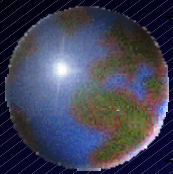
## ***Finding Co-op/Internship Partners Abroad***

- Co-op employers or local industry.
- Your alumni.
- Faculty and international graduate students.
- Student research and personal contacts.
- Local agencies [sister cities, chamber of commerce, etc.].
- Find some “champions”.

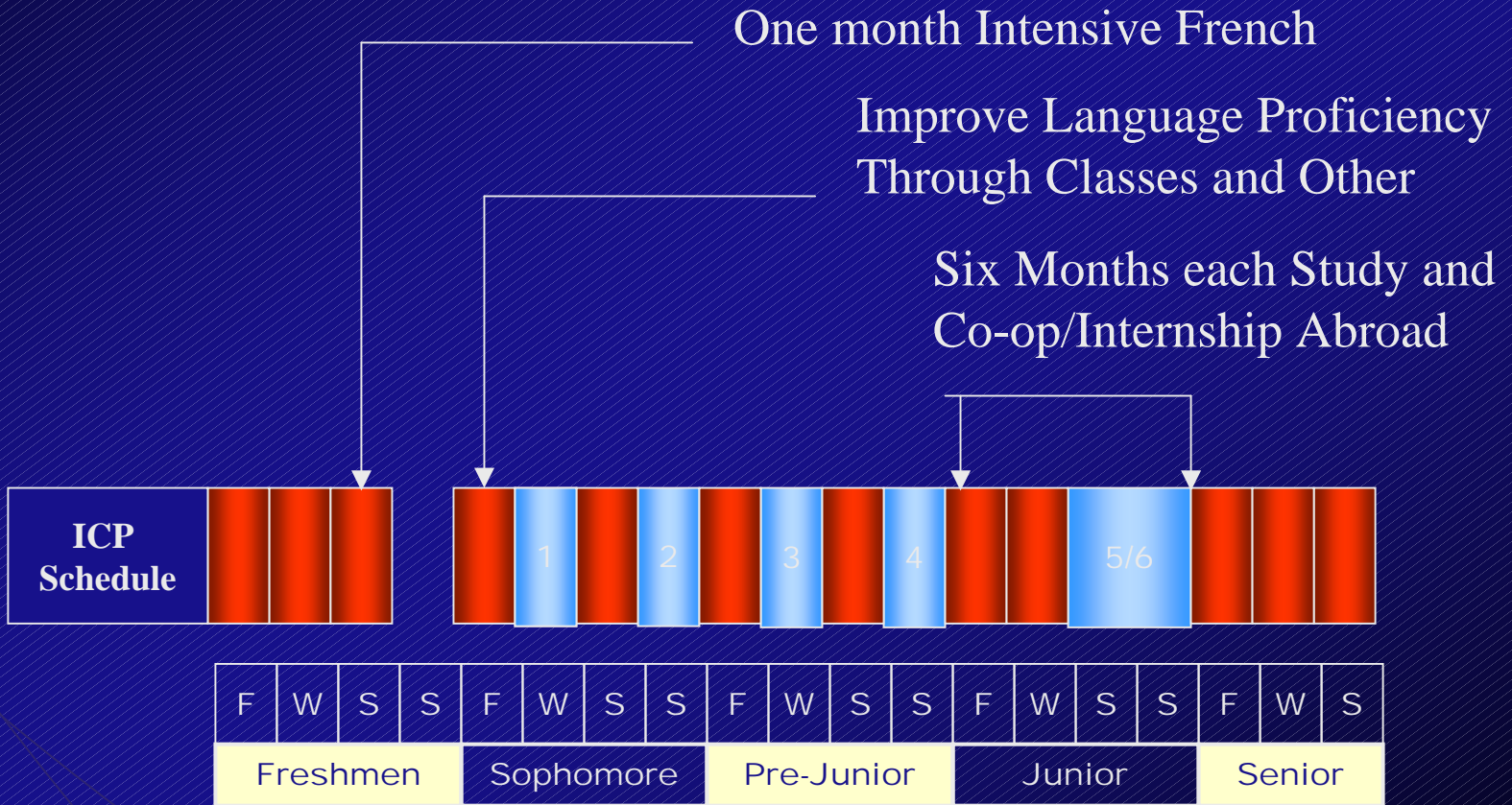


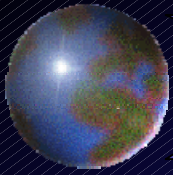
## *University of Cincinnati (UC) and Université de Technologie Compiègne (UTC) Exchange for Study and Co-op/Internship*

- Strong commitment and “match” of both institutions.
- Equal numbers of students going between the US and France.
- Structure.
  - One month intensive French (US students only).
  - Six months study.
  - Six month internships/co-op.



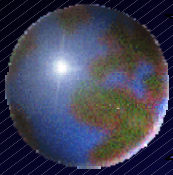
# UC-UTC Program





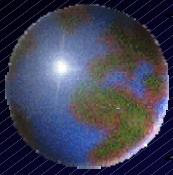
## *Why do it? (From University standpoint)*

- Cost is less than full-time employees (with families, relocation costs, etc.).
- Co-op students can fill short-term needs.
- Contacts and knowledge from US assignments assist in international environment/project work.
- Employers have opportunity to evaluate success in an international environment.



## *Why do it? (From Employer standpoint)*

- Recruiting & Development.
  - \* International experiences attract some of the best students.
- Culture.
  - \* Transfer cultural experiences.
- Communication.
  - \* Breakdown of traditional barriers.
- Co-ops can be risk-takers and find the “big solutions”.



## *Tips for Success*

- Create a program to utilize and enhance your strengths.
- Offer something extra -- make it easy for employers to choose you.
  - \* Expats are no longer the “norm”; take care of the administrative side for employers.
- Keep interested parties involved.
- Keep your alumni involved.