

Summary of Responsibilities

You will serve a year-long term, beginning in January of 2008 and officially concluding at the Nebraska Pork Industry Day scheduled for February of 2009.

Mentoring Responsibilities and Requirements:

- **4 Professional Shadowing Experiences**
- **4 Promotion Activities**
- **4 Mentoring Meetings**
- **2 Agriculture Education Sessions**
- **Attend Nebraska Pork Industry Day 2008 and 2009**
- **Attend World Pork Expo**
- **Reflective Journal Writing**

NPPA will help you create a program that highlights career opportunities that interest you. Your program of activities and involvements will include a variety of shadowing opportunities, industry promotions and education sessions, as well as class meetings followed by fun activities, great food, and awesome company!

Shadowing Experiences:

You will be required to complete 4 professional shadowing experiences. You will be paired one-on-one with a leader or professional in the pork and agriculture industry for a 4-6 hour time period to complete each shadowing experience. I encourage you to select the person you'd like to shadow, but please be very thoughtful in selecting each person. It's up to you to make the arrangements for the shadow experience. You can shadow more than one person at the same company or organization but you will need to spend 4-6 hours with each person.

Before you leave to shadow each mentor, you must turn in a pre-shadow information sheet. You will also need to complete a 2-3 page reflective journal response for each experience. *You must complete at least 2 of your shadowing experiences before the World Pork Expo in June.* Please remember the people that you are shadowing are volunteering their time and want to help make this a great experience for you. After you've completed each shadowing experience you will need to write a nice thank you to each person for sharing their time with you!

Promotion Activities:

You will be required to complete 4 promotion activities, and the sky is the limit! You can help at the Nebraska State Fair, our annual golf outing, the Capital City Ribfest, or you can write an article for the *Pork Talk Magazine*, help at swine barns or shows at your hometown County Fair, or anything else you can come up with - I know you've got great ideas!

After each promotion activity you will need to write a brief 1 page reflective response.

Mentoring Meetings:

You will be required to attend 4 mentoring meetings. We will do our best to limit these meetings to 2-hour quarterly meetings. These meetings are important pieces to your development because they will include guest speakers on leadership, interviewing, ethics, media training, and more! It's also an important time for you to connect and build relationships with each of your mentoring classmates. It will also be our time to discuss and prepare and plan for upcoming events. Despite the short meeting time, you are welcome to stay late, come early, stop by my office, call or email me anytime if you have questions or have anything that you want to talk about.

Agriculture Education Sessions:

You will be required to lead 2 agriculture education sessions. It will be up to you to contact schools in and around Lincoln to complete this requirement. You can choose to visit a combination of elementary, middle school or high school classes, plus you will get to select the topic to teach. I have many youth education resources so "creating a lesson plan" will be very easy. This is an important component of your mentoring experience because you are teaching new knowledge to an audience that tends to be less educated in agriculture issues related to the swine industry.

Pork Industry Day:

You must attend the Pork Industry Day in 2008 and 2009. On February 15, 2008, your class will be introduced to the entire membership including staff, board of directors, Allied and S.I.P. members and producers from across the state. It is important for these folks to have the opportunity to meet you, because they support the program and are excited to have your interest and involvement in the industry. In 2009, your class will graduate and you will receive your \$500 scholarship. The Nebraska Pork Industry Day is a fun way for everyone to be recognized for their accomplishments, plus, we have great food, awards, entertainment, and more! You will have a blast!

World Pork Expo:

This is an all expense paid trip to Des Moines in June! People have described this event as Husker Harvest Days, but with pork! This will be a fun and exciting way for you to learn about many facets of the pork industry and it will be a great way to network with industry leaders, plus you'll get to go to the National Pork Board Intern Training!

Reflective Writing:

I am asking you to complete a pre-shadow information form for two reasons. First, this provides me with the information I need, and second, it will help you write your reflective journal for each shadow experience. Your reflective journal should include the information from your pre-shadow form, plus it should describe in greater detail:

- Why you chose that person or company
- What you expected and whether or not your expectations were met
- What you did, what you learned, how it affected your plans for the future, etc.

A reflective writing response for your promotion activities should be descriptive and include the number of people present as well details about what you did and what you learned.

Your reflective writing responses should be well thought out and should be well written. I expect high caliber responses and look forward to reading your reflection responses!

Pre-Shadow Information Sheet

Be sure to also include the following information in each of your reflective journal responses.

Your Name
Shadow experience #
Date of shadow
Hours shadowed

Name of person shadowed
Title
Company Name
Address
Phone Number
E-Mail

Please write 2 or 3 learning objectives for this shadow experience.

Guidelines for Reflective Writing

You can include the following information in your 2-3 page reflection response:

- Why did you choose to shadow this person/company?
- What expectations did you have going to the experience?
- What did you do while you were there?
- What did you learn from the experience?
- Were your expectations met?
- Did you have a good experience? Why or Why not?
- How did this shadowing affect the way that you view the pork industry?
- Any thing else you'd like to share!