

The Tagliatela College of Engineering

Program a 'Win-Win' for Engineering Students

Engineer-in-Residence Program Offers Job Experience, Career Opportunities

For two full days a week from March through May, Sikorsky executive Tom Ferrazzi left the Black Hawk helicopters behind and brought his considerable experience to the UNH campus as one of the University's first engineers-in-residence.

"The program gave me real-world experience."

Jason Zurita '09 B.S.

At the University, he provided expertise, mentoring and education to UNH Engineering students (and brought them to Sikorsky, where they toured the facilities and got to fly in a Black Hawk helicopter simulator, "the biggest video game you've ever seen," laughed Ferrazzi).

In return, UNH Engineering students worked for Sikorsky as part of the Tagliatela College's newest initiative in experiential education.

One of the students involved in the project, Jason Zurita '09 Electrical Engineering, a four-year member of the Men's Soccer Team, spent a few hours every day creating a database to track Sikorsky's company projects.

"The program gave me a chance to get some real-world experience," Zurita said. "It also enhanced my time-management skills and gave me a chance to see how a big company like Sikorsky operates."

The program also gave Zurita a chance to demonstrate his talent and skills to Sikorsky executives in a position to hire. "It's a win-win for the students," Ferrazzi said. "Jason was able to present his work at Sikorsky, and I had him speak with several other department managers for a pre-interview discussion. This program gives us an opportunity to get to know the students. I would consider hiring him in a heartbeat."

