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Forensic Science Students Intern With FBI

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – For two forensic science students at Cedarville University, doing an internship with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is their first step in securing a dream job.

The seniors, Danielle Banks, from Lexington, Kentucky, and Mayra Chavez, from Albuquerque, New Mexico, were chosen from a national pool of applicants for the FBI's Honors Internship Program. Both Banks and Chavez used the past summer to begin learning from practical experience with the FBI agency in their hometown. Banks and Chavez are the first Cedarville students to be chosen for the highly competitive program.

“The fact that two of our students were selected for this prestigious opportunity is indicative of the quality of our students at Cedarville University,” said Patrick Oliver, Ph.D., director of the criminal justice program and associate professor of criminal justice. “I’ll be encouraging more students to pursue this opportunity in the future.”

The students began their internships in May from their hometown FBI field offices. They were able to do some basic office task work, attend court hearings, observe search warrants, and summarize case files, among other things. “My favorite part was attending the Firearms and Defense Tactics Training,” said Chavez. “I was able to shoot some guns and play as a victim as well as the bad guy.”

Upon completion of their summer internships they were offered an extension through the school year at the Dayton, Ohio, office. There is also an opportunity for both Banks and Chavez to continue working for the Bureau full time after they graduate in the spring of 2015.

“The FBI allowed me to get great hands-on experience at an elite level,” said Banks, “I am excited to continue working for the Bureau after graduation, and I hope to find a permanent position with them.”

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,620 undergraduate, graduate, and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and leading student satisfaction ratings.