WINFIELD UNITED 5:30 PM 10/20/17 S. KOCH

 An agricultural chemical company in River Falls has been offering UW-River Falls students opportunities to advance their careers through internships for nearly thirty years. Now, there are plans to expand this opportunity to other majors. Sophia Koch (cook) has the story.

MP3 RUNS: 83 O/C: STD

SOPHIA KOCH: KATIE HENK IS A SENIOR CROP AND SOILS MAJOR FROM UW-RIVER FALLS WHO SPENT LAST SUMMER WORKING AN INTERNSHIP FOR WINFIELD (WIN-FEELD) UNITED, A LAND O’LAKES (OH-LAKES) SUBSIDIARY THAT HAS FACILITIES IN RIVER FALLS. HER JOB AS A CROP PROTECTION INTERN WAS TO DRIVE AROUND WISCONSIN ENSURING THAT BUYERS OF WINFIELD’S HERBICIDES, PESTICIDES AND FUNGICIDES KNEW HOW TO PROPERLY USE THEM.

KATIE HENK: UM, ON A SCALE OF ONE TO TEN I WOULD MARK IT AS AN ELEVEN. LIKE IT WAS – ABSOLUTELY PHENOMENAL. IT WAS THE BEST INTERNSHIP I THINK I COULD HAVE EVER HAD.

SOPHIA KOCH: UWRF HAS BEEN PARTNERING WITH WINFIELD FOR NEARLY THIRTY YEARS. WINFIELD RENTS LAND FROM UWRF FOR USE IN CHEMICAL TESTING, UWRF SENDS FIELD TRIPS OUT TO VIEW THE FACILITIES, AND WINFIELD HIRES A LOT OF UNIVERSITY INTERNS FROM CERTAIN MAJORS WITHIN THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE. DALE GALLENBERG (GAH-LEN-BERG), DEAN OF CAFES (KAH-FASE), SAYS THAT UWRF HAS PLANS TO EXPAND THIS INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY TO OTHER MAJORS, LIKE CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY.

DALE GALLENBERG: WELL WE, WE TALKED TO THEM AND WE HAVE YET TO, WE HAVE COMMITTED TO THIS INTERACTION. WE HAVE YET TO ARRANGE THE SPECIFICS.

SOPHIA KOCH: CHEMISTRY ALONE HAS 81 STUDENTS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT, ACCORDING THE CAMPUS 2016-2017 ENROLLMENT REPORTS. IF PLANS TO EXPAND THIS INTERNSHIP DO GO THROUGH, THESE AND OTHER STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITY AS HENK TO GET A FOOT IN THE DOOR AND POTENTIALLY ADVANCE THEIR CAREERS IN THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY. FOR FALCON NEWS, I’M SOPHIA KOCH (COOK).

WinField (win-feeld) United opened a new facility on the north side of town near the end of September, called The WinField United Innovation Center. The new center will replace old facilities that the company already had, and will focus on chemical product research.

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