To: Prospective Companies, Alumni, and Professional Mentors and Recruiters

We have many companies requesting how they can be more involved with and hire our students. We strongly encourage companies to come and interact with our students. We find this is a win-win scenario for both your company and the students.

> *Principles of Mentoring at BYU-Idaho include teaching in ways that edify and inspire, prepare students for meaningful employment opportunities, minister to individual students, and connect students with university resources.* – BYU Mentor

We invite you to mentor our students and reach out to them to find & develop the "best and brightest."

This letter outlines several strategic opportunities that have been successful in establishing professional networking opportunities with our students.

Immersion Experience

As part of assisting students to gain experience in the job market, students need to obtain an internship job in the field.

- **Internship (CSE 398)**
  Students obtain a [paid job for a semester](#) (450-500 hours, full-time for 12-14 weeks) with a company to gain professional experience. The advantage of hiring our students is that they are available year-round due to our 3-track system (2 on - 1 off).
- **Company Expeditions**
  We want our qualified students to come and visit your company at your location. These visits provide an opportunity to get to know them and help them prepare for your job market.

Guest Lecture

We want to invite professionals to come a give their perspectives on the topics we teach. It is nearly impossible for our faculty to cover every specialty, domain, or field. Our degree programs focus on Machine Learning, Embedded systems, Testing & QA, Full-Stack, Design, and Software Management. This is a great opportunity to fulfill professional development hours for societies and professional cerifications.

Sponsoring Projects

We invite companies to participate in the student learning process and receive benefits from the class by getting actual products for small, low-risk, or back burner projects by running a company's idea through some of our classes, from Requirements, Design, UX, Prototyping, and Senior Projects.

- **Senior projects (CSE 499)**
  Students are required to complete a semester semester-long project (130-260 hours) in small groups. Ideally, we would like it to be a company-sponsored project. Students are required to resolve issues with IP, requirements, design, implementation, testing, and presenting the final product. (Company Cost ~$2,500) (Working product)
- **Software Engineering Requirements (CSE 372)**
  The class writes a Software Requirements Specification (SRS) as a whole class project. Ideally, this would be great as a starting point for a new project for a company. (Class Deliverable: SRS)

Sponsoring Projects (continued)

- **Software System Design (CSE 430)**

  The class writes a Software Design Description (SDD) as a whole class project. Ideally, this would be great as a starting point or follow-on to CSE 372 for a company's new project. (Class Deliverable: SDD)

- **Software User Interface Evaluation (CSE 471)**

  This class discusses and creates a User Interfaces Specification document and the best way to present information to the customer, user, and engineers. (Class Deliverable: User Interface Specification)

- **Software Applied Programming (CSE 310)**

  A small team of students creates small working prototype projects choosing from various topics (not exclusive): Android Apps, Data Analysis, Cloud & SQL Databases, Game Platform, GIS Mapping, Networking, or Web Apps. (Class Deliverable: Working Prototype)

Getting Company Name Known

Many times, you want to get your name, product, and domain known to the students. So they know you are hiring and giving some ideas for a career path. Here are some great opportunities.

- **Department forum**

  Each semester we are looking for 3-6 companies to talk to our students about being a professional in the industry and sharing insight about new technologies they are currently pursuing. The forum is a great opportunity for your employees to fulfill Professional Development Hours.

- **Hack Week**

  Each semester, students participate in a week-long event based on a theme. We are always looking for sponsors and mentors for the event.

- **Guest speaker for Department Societies**

  Each year our ten societies (Association of Computer Machinery (ACM), Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Soc. Of Woman in Engineering, and IEEE) are encouraged to ask company representatives to talk, mentor, and share stories about the industry.

- **Research and Creative Works Conference**

  An end-of-semester senior project roadshow where students showcase their senior projects. We are looking for judges and sponsored prizes.

- **Department Job Board**

  If you provide us a brief description, we gladly post information about opportunities for your company for our CS, EE, CE, and SW Engineers. We need a job description and contact information.

- **Software QA Testing (CSE 270) and Quality Assurance (CSE 472)**

  In this class two classes, we discuss Testing & Quality Assurance. We would love to have case studies, examples, stories to share, and problems to solve to work on in any of these subject matters. (Class Deliverables: Test Plan and QA Plan)

- **Software Methodologies (CSE 272)**
    The class discusses the different Software methodologies (Waterfall, Spiral, XP, Agile, CMMI) with a relationship to the software life cycle phases. We would love to have case studies, examples, stories to share, and problems to solve.

Campus Resources and Career Service opportunities

BYU-Idaho has many other opportunities to offer you through our Career Services, that I can provide contact with, including:

- **Career Services:** Handshake (School job board), Career Fairs & Company Information Sessions
- **Skill Development:** Career Workshops, Alumni Mentoring, Alumni Participation
- **Innovation Opportunities:** Research & Creative Works Conference Judge, BYU-Idaho Innovator's challenge, Elevate Interdisciplinary Competition, Applied Learning Projects (ALPS), & Research and Business Development Center
- **Company Shout Outs**: Classroom visits (at BYU-I), Company Tours (Your site), Visits & Expeditions
- **Collaborative tools**: Alumni, LinkedIn, Handshake, Portfolium

I appreciate your time and hope to be in contact with you to arrange these opportunities.

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Disclaimer: We want our students to be involved with companies, build relationships, and provide professional work. We are a private non-profit school, and our policies limit donations and the influence on our program, department, and school. We strive to stay up with the current trends a company needs and encourage suggestions, examples, case studies, and real working assignments that can help our students better learn the needed skills in this ever-changing environment. As with most businesses, it takes time to implement changes. So please be patient with us.

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