



Dear Ron,

March 16, 2005

Of all the opportunities available to college students that I am aware of, my experience with the Southwestern Publishing Company has proven to be a far better investment than it's competitors. I remember many occasions during my time working with Southwestern being thankful for the experience I was getting, but the gratitude for what this job has offered has shown itself in full form as I have entered the increasingly competitive job market.

As a Research Recruiter for Nike, I have had a full view of just how difficult it is to find a quality job in today's market. While other college graduates were having difficulty attaining any entry-level position at Nike, I was able to compete with candidates much older who had had many more years of experience than I. Fortunately, with a background with the Southwestern Publishing Company, it didn't matter that I didn't have the 10-years experience they were looking for. The lessons learned in my time with Southwestern not only added confidence that I could compete with the other candidates, but it displayed work ethic, skill and experience well beyond my years. Working with the Southwestern Company has been beneficial to me in many ways, but I have been especially aware of its rewards in my interviewing process with Nike.

I would recommend the Southwestern Company to anyone who gets excited about education, travel, personal growth, lasting relationships and most of all, those who want to set themselves apart in preparation for the future. When I signed up for this job at 19 years old, I was eager to learn, see new places and meet new people. In hindsight, I see that it has been all that and much more. My experience with the Southwestern Company has laid a foundation for success in my career and in my personal life that will continue to benefit me for many years.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erin Oranen', is written over the typed name.

Erin Oranen