



Ken Bousquet

Wentworth Institute of Technology

A COF Co-Op

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I'm currently a senior at Wentworth studying Business Management, with a concentration in Entrepreneurship. I'm from Norfolk, Massachusetts. How I ended up at Wentworth is a bit of long story. I started out in engineering and I really wanted to be in the city. Between the location, the AWESOME co-op program, and the fact the my Dad was a WIT alumnus, it seemed like a pretty good fit. It didn't take me long to figure out that I did not want to be an engineer. About half way through my first semester I started looking for schools to transfer to. Somewhere in my search, I discovered that Wentworth had a Business Management program, and after sitting down with the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, I decided to try it out for a semester. Needless to say, I was quite impressed by the program, and I'll be graduating with my B.S. in Management in August!

Describe your experience working for the COF.

One of the many factors that contributed to my staying at Wentworth was the Colleges of the Fenway. This past fall I completed my second co-op with the COF (my first was with a digital marketing start-up in the South End). I worked at both the Office of Performing Arts and the Global Education Opportunities (GEO) Center. This was a very unique experience because I got to work on very different types of projects. With the Office of Performing Arts, I worked very heavily on marketing. Some of my responsibilities were to create and send emails in Constant Contact and to update our website and social media pages. One really cool project I worked on was creating and running the COF Performing Arts very first instrument fundraiser.

With the GEO Center I worked on some completely different tasks. A big part of what I worked on was event planning. The GEO Center hosts two big events, a study abroad fair and a pre-departure orientation. Both of these events require a lot of coordination with many different parties, which taught me a lot about best practices for communication and organization. The other big project

that I worked on was re-working the way we use our database in order to make it more helpful to students looking to study abroad. This involved collecting and analyzing data as well as manipulating different aspects of the database, which required me to learn many new skills.

What has been your most significant experience as a student in the COF?

I think the most notable and important part of my Colleges of the Fenway Experience has been my involvement in the COF Jazz Band. This is something I have been involved with since day one, and was a big part of my decision to stay at Wentworth. Playing drums with the jazz band is one of the things I look forward to the most every semester. The band has led to many new friendships and helped me grow as a musician. It's been a great way to blow off steam and has given me the chance to take a step back from my busy life as a student. Apart from that, jazz band has allowed me to remain a creative person. I don't just mean in the musical sense, but also academically. Playing music gets the creative juices flowing in a way that classes often don't. It gets my brain moving in new and creative directions, which spills over into the academic work that I do. This kind of "without a box" thinking is something that Wentworth has always really supported, and I think having jazz as a creative outlet really makes that possible.

What advice would you give to other COF students?

The Colleges of the Fenway has provided me with so many opportunities as a student. I've had the chance to pursue academic, creative, and professional activities in a way that is unique to this consortium. I can honestly say that this consortium was a huge part of why I stayed at Wentworth and has had a major impact on my college career. My advice to all COF students is to get involved! For all of my involvement in the COF, there's still more I wish I took advantage of. Cross-registration and travel courses are opportunities that should be taken advantage of by all students! It all goes by so fast, so don't miss out!