

Leonor Fleming

Professor Jerome Gomez

Design 483.01

29 August 2022

Internship Reflections

My name is Leonor Fleming, and I am pursuing a BFA in Interior Design at Converse University. The Interior Design Program requires each student to obtain an internship over the summer to gain valuable experience and knowledge in the field. For my internship, I chose Greenville Office Supply (GOS) in Greer, SC, for several reasons. The first reason was because of their superior reputation. GOS has been a long-standing organization with which I was quite familiar and had prior dealings in the administrative and clerical setting. The other reason was that I felt I would gain experience and could also offer critical attributes to the company's growing furniture department. I began my internship the first week of June 2022 as an Interior Design Intern and since then have become a permanent team member with GOS. My area of specialization is space planning, rendered images and videos, and client presentations.

As aforementioned, GOS is a well-known company within the business workforce. The organization is a family-owned establishment that began over fifty years ago by offering competitive pricing on office supplies. GOS quickly expanded and developed the "one-stop shop" model for all things office-related. They now offer four additional services: janitorial, coffee and beverage, promotional products, and furniture. The company's mission is "to be the single-source supplier for all workplace essentials" (About). Along with superior customer service and support, GOS takes care of its employees and is

featured in the *Greenville Business Magazines* as one of the top twenty-five workplaces in the Upstate of South Carolina. This family-owned company values people and cultivates a supportive culture, working as a team to achieve the highest level of customer satisfaction.

My role in offering quality service lies in meeting each client's furniture needs that fit within the scope of their budget and design aesthetic. Each job is tailored, packaged, and presented to include floorplans, material specifications, rendered images, or video compositions. My primary responsibility is taking clients' requests and creating cost-effective, practical space planning solutions. During my internship, one of my most significant and proud accomplishments was outbidding an opposing design firm for a significant state contract build. I worked efficiently to meet our proposal deadline and offered innovative and creative ideas, which GOS fully supported and entrusted me to complete. After the presentation, the clients were blown away by the video compilation I created, and they agreed to accept our proposal with minimal adjustments. This account alone brought our company a six-figure profit margin but, more importantly, set us apart from the competition.

Keep in mind that my contributions were not single-sided, and I learned a considerable amount of information in my short time at GOS. The most valuable knowledge I have gained is learning about furniture manufacturers and their products. Each of our manufacturers have Revit and CAD resources that I can use to deliver a high-quality rendering in Enscape. More than just regarding the project mentioned above, I was also able to create video clips from Enscape and later created a video presentation in Adobe Premier Pro, all skills I have learned during my time at Converse University. In

addition to products and resource symbols, I am also training in a new software program called CET, a software program that most design firms use today. Obtaining this knowledge will improve my skill set and streamline and eliminate multiple software programs into a single program format. I look forward to developing in CET further to advance my design skills to allow quicker response times and more projects.

It has been such a mutually rewarding experience at GOS that I was recently offered an Interior Design Consultant role in the furniture department with an excellent compensation rate. My next steps moving forward with GOS and my career initiatives are to update my resume and LinkedIn profile to include my current position and to continue hands-on training by attending showrooms and conferences by September 2022. Earlier this month, I recently had the privilege of attending the Global Showroom in Atlanta, GA, which was so rewarding and fun. In addition, I have registered to attend two more conferences and showrooms the Converse Design Department graciously offered later this year. I will work part-time until I finish my course load in the Spring of 2023, but until then, I will take in as much knowledge GOS is willing to supply.

Work Cited

"About Us." GOS, 8 July 2022, <https://gos1.com/about-gos/>.