



Stantec

News Release

For Immediate Release

WPI students helping Stantec create “green” guide for roads

Students spending term in company’s Edmonton, Canada office

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Four students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) are spending their winter term in Edmonton, Canada, to help a local engineering and design company complete a guide for sustainable transportation design. Stantec, which has offices throughout North America and locally in Boston, Westford, and Northampton, has partnered with the college to host the students, who are working on their “Major Qualifying Project,” a requirement of the WPI academic program.

The four students— Matt Clark of Nyack, N.Y., Chris Paulli of Millis, Mass., Zach Tetreault of Issaquah, Wash., and Justin Thomas of Stannard, Vt.—arrived at the company’s Edmonton office in January to begin working with a team of Stantec engineers and planners developing a guide and rating system for designing sustainable roads and transportation networks.

“One of Stantec’s priorities is to incorporate sustainable design into every aspect of our work, including transportation,” says Rich Allen, a senior vice president in Stantec’s Boston office and WPI alum. “As we move forward in creating this transportation guide, it’s great to have the help of young engineers, like the WPI students, and it gives them some valuable real-world experience, especially with the increased focus on infrastructure spending in the next few years.”

The students are spending eight weeks in Edmonton testing the existing components of the guide against real-life projects and helping to assess what changes and recommendations can make the guide more useful. Over the course of the project, they work with engineers, planners, and environmental scientists from Stantec’s network of over 10,000 employees and report to their advisors at WPI. The resulting guide is intended to be used much like the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program, now considered the standard rating system for green building design.

“When we saw an opportunity to work internationally on our major qualifying project, we jumped on it,” says civil engineering senior Justin Thomas. “This project allows us to experience a new environment, work with a real company, and get real-world experience. The networking and possible job opportunities with Stantec were a big motivator, too.”

All four of the students are seniors in the civil engineering program and members of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. Three other WPI students spent two months with Stantec in Edmonton earlier this year working on a project to create a sustainable master planning template for college campuses.

About WPI

Founded in 1865 in Worcester, Mass., WPI was one of the nation’s first engineering and technology universities. WPI’s 14 academic departments offer more than 50 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in science, engineering, technology, management, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts, leading to bachelor’s, master’s and PhD degrees. WPI’s world-class faculty work with students in a number of cutting-edge research areas, leading to breakthroughs and innovations in such fields as biotechnology, fuel cells, and information security, materials processing, and nanotechnology. Students also have the opportunity to make a difference to communities and organizations around the world through the university’s innovative Global Perspective Program. There are more than 20 WPI project centers throughout North America and Central America, Africa, Australia, Asia, and Europe.

About Stantec

Stantec provides professional consulting services in planning, engineering, architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, surveying, environmental sciences, project management, and project economics for infrastructure and facilities projects. We support public and private sector clients in a diverse range of markets, at every stage, from initial concept and financial feasibility to project completion and beyond. Our services are offered through over 10,000 employees operating out of more than 150 locations in North America.

Stantec is **One Team** providing **Infinite Solutions**

Media Contacts

Alison Smith
Media Relations
Stantec
(978) 692-1913
(802) 779-5365 (cell)
alison.smith@stantec.com

Eileen Brangan Mell
Director of Public Relations
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
(508) 831-6785
ebmell@wpi.edu

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