

**Thanh (TJ) Nguyen** worked in the Outreach Office of the College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM) for four years, and over that time, has become an invaluable member of the unit and all of its functions. . Other faculty and administrators in COSAM often comment on TJ's many positive contributions to outreach, his professionalism, and how well he represents the college to those inside and outside the walls of the university.

On many occasions, I have witnessed him giving 100% for 15 hours straight at an event, and still be the last one to leave TJ is dependable and reliable beyond what you would expect from a busy student, but especially a student with a demanding schedule of coursework and other commitments.

For example, he started a traveling E-Day type program and recruited his peers to create interactive engineering exhibits targeted at middle school students. They have hosted their mini-E-Day at Drake Middle School for the past 2 years. He also developed a "Parents Night Out" program in which parents would drop off their children periodically on a Friday or Saturday night and TJ and his college student recruits would educationally 'entertain' the students with science and engineering activities for 4 hours.

Most of the programs occur outside the normal Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 schedule – they occur at night and on weekends. Whether needed at work by 6:00am on a Saturday morning, or 9:00pm on a Tuesday night, he is always there, always on time, always willing to help with whatever needs to be done, and ALWAYS with a smile on his face. He thinks quickly on his feet and solves problems that people 20 years his senior are not able to solve. I have witnessed many occasions where TJ will patiently trouble-shoot a problem with faculty, peer students, K-12 student, teachers, or parents.

"I have never known a student with such initiative, taking on so many different responsibilities and handling each one with such ease, professionalism, and attention to maintaining the high quality expected of Auburn to our internal and external stakeholders".