Intern Spotlight - Makell Garrett & Shelby McCashland

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For 40 years ICON Health and Fitness has been a product powerhouse in Northern Utah. The creation of two former Utah State University students, it’s been long positioned as an industry leader in fitness and now a great place to start a career in product design for two Outdoor Product Design & Development students.

Both Makell Garrett and Shelby McCashland have been interning at ICON for the last few months on the product design and development team. Having great industry 10 minutes from campus provides a unique opportunity for them to gain industry experience year round while earning their degrees in product design.

While students gain a wealth of knowledge that prepares them for work in the industry, little compares with the real-world experience of developing products with a team and learning from industry mentors, Makell said.

“In our classes most things are theoretical,” Makell said. “But it has been so cool to work through all of the details of a product like defining the weave of the fabric or having accurate dimensions because a manufacturer is going to be looking at the tech packs and producing a product from it.”

Shelby has been able to gain valuable experience in an industry she’s very passionate about as well. Shelby described her experience saying, “I’m getting to work on both the design and development of exercise and yoga accessories and apparel. Soft goods have always been my primary interest, so it’s great to finally take my excitement for active apparel to a great company and work alongside talented professionals to bring my ideas to life.”

Both students are adding value right off the bat due to their passion for product, knowledge learned in the classroom, and ability to learn from industry mentors in a great environment. Makell and Shelby have exciting careers ahead of them thanks to great faculty in OPDD, their abilities as designers, and great industry partners like ICON.