

Campus News

Student spotlight: Enderson Miranda

Everton Campbell, II
Staff Reporter

Here at Volunteer State Community College, we contain a variety and diverse group of students.

Students come from different backgrounds, ways of life and even different countries.

This week in our Volunteer State student spotlight we find out about a young man who left the comforts of his home country to learn more about a country that he felt had more promise and more opportunities.

Our spotlight student for this week is Enderson Miranda, who comes to us by way of Nova Lima, MG Brazil, which is located about ten minutes away from the capital of Belo Horizonte.

While growing up in Nova Lima, Miranda was always used to the hustle and bustle of city life, but he felt that something was missing from his own personal life.

After hanging out with some friends one night, Miranda decided that he wanted to join an exchange student program.

His first choice was the country of Switzerland, but the next morning he changed his mind and decided that he would travel to the United States of America.

Traveling to the United States had always enticed Miranda, because of the fact that he knew that the U.S. was full of different people, cultures, and historical places.

After convincing his parents and acquiring his VISA, Miranda joined the exchange program and was placed with a family in the United States.

More specifically, the family was located in the tiny town of Springfield,

Tennessee.

When he found out he was going to Springfield, Miranda thought that he was going to the hometown of Fox's hit TV show the "Simpsons," but quickly found out that was not the case.

The culture shock that he felt there was huge, but his host family did their best to make him feel at home.

While in Springfield, Miranda attended Jo Byrns High School for his senior year of high school.

While attending Joe Byrns High, Miranda participated in Springfield High's varsity soccer program, where he met his fiancée Misty.

After "graduating", Miranda went back to Brazil. When he returned to Brazil, Miranda found out that he had not actually graduated.

Mainly, because his credits from

his previous education in Brazil were actually counted as college credits instead of the high school credits that he needed in order to graduate.

So after 6 months of relaxing in Brazil, Miranda returned to the U.S. for another semester of high school in Springfield.

When he returned to Springfield, Miranda attended Springfield High School where he finished-up his senior year of high school. For the second time.

While attending a semester of college at Austin Peay, Miranda entered the cell-phone business by working at a Sprint store at the Hickory Hollow Mall.

While working at the Sprint store, Miranda received a phone call from his uncle Said Rabelo.

Uncle Rabelo stated to Miranda that he wanted to invest some money in the U.S...

Miranda then relayed his idea of starting his own cell phone store.

Rabelo came to U.S. and invested the money they needed in order to open the store. Miranda and his uncle then went ahead and decided to call the company Universal Wireless.

Rabelo then returned to Brazil to take care of other business interests, so he left the store in the care of Miranda and two other joint partners.

Miranda then transferred to Volunteer State Community College, so that he could keep an eye on the cell phone store.

Miranda is currently studying law at Volunteer State Community College. He plans to transfer back to a four year university, where he hopes to obtain a degree in pre-law.

Later on in the future, he plans to go to law school in the states, so that he can become a lawyer like his father.

Miranda really enjoys the student life at Volunteer State as well as learning from his professors and teachers. "I really like my teachers", Miranda states, "Give me an A+!!!!!!"

Miranda's store, Universal Wireless, is located right here in Gallatin. The address is 179 Hancock St. Suite 200, (right across from Gallatin High School).

His store currently sells T-Mobile and Nextel phones, accessories and services. They are also currently working on getting Sprint services as well.

"Universal Wireless in Gallatin, is the first of many that we plan on opening", states Miranda. The next prospective areas include Rivergate Mall, Lebanon, Ashland City, and Murfreesboro.



Enderson Miranda is a successful businessman and pre-law student.

Internship for Communication students

Tamela Harris
Assistant Editor

A course where students get valuable life lessons without the aid of a classroom? Preposterous? Not Anymore?

There's a new course on the Volunteer State campus that enables students to have internships on campus to learn valuable information and life skills for future jobs.

Each student, who wants to participate in the class, completes for this course states the official title, "Cooperative Work Experience in Communication," and the course

number is "Com 285."

"We've never had a class, like this one, but the college approved to have an internship class," said Len Assante, associate professor of communication.

"This way we can keep track of the interns better and also make sure that the right student is with the right internship," continued Assante.

One of those "right" students is Jason Drumm, who was recommended for the program.

"[Len] Assante tracked me down the first day of school to inform me of the new program," said Drumm.

"Some advice I got from this was to always get along with your professors because you never know when one

might change your life for the better," explained Drumm.

After enrolling in this class Drumm realized just how much responsibility went into an internship.

"I thought that every detail was laid out for you to do," stated Drumm.

"My internship is a very independent one because I get to have 'creative space' in order to work. I still have certain things that must be done because the boss says so, but all and all, it seems like it's going to be a blast," said Drumm.

Drumm's internship is public relations.

"I think of different ways to inform people of what is going on as far as

the sports teams of VSCC go," said Drumm.

"I am fairly confident that it will help me secure a job because it is PR in its finest. What better way to use my education than by working for the very college that gave me that education," said Drumm.

Drumm said that he feels very strongly about the program because he sees it as a great idea to help students who may not know how to go about getting a job within the communication field.

"I hope that this program proves a greater success than anticipated so that others might be given this fortunate opportunity," said Drumm.