GM Lockport's UB connection

July 1, 2014 - 2:59 PM

The General Motors Components Holdings plant in Lockport and the University at Buffalo are keeping up a tradition this summer.

Four undergraduates from UB's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences are working as interns for 11 weeks at the thermal products manufacturing plant on Upper Mountain Road. This is the fourth year of the partnership, with the UB TCIE (formerly known as the Center for Industrial Effectiveness) serving as the project manager.

During its short history, the GM Lockport-UB program has averaged seven interns a year. The automaker says the interns help solve problems, making suggestions for reducing scrap and improving processes. Each student works under the guidance of a supervisor and makes a presentation at the end of the program, UB said.

There could be a big payoff in the future: some past interns have attracted full-time job offers at the GM plants in Lockport and Rochester.

-- Matt Glynn