

Engineer = Nerd? No way!

Don't be fooled by the textbooks and the equations. Yes, they matter. But they are only half the story of what good engineers do. The other half is people

- relating, listening, communicating.

That's how Lexington Catholic High School graduate Gus Schneider won an award and a thousand dollars. Yes, he had the classroom thing down, earning a 3.8 GPA in the honors program in the University of Kentucky's College of Engineering. He'd also been through the BootCamp - UK's tough, immersive course in lean manufacturing

- and has the certificate to prove it.

Toyota, where he worked as a co-op, was glad to have someone with his smarts. But smarts isn't enough. As Gus's supervisor says, engineering students all too often come into the plant unable to relate to or communicate with the folks on the line, as well as the managers and engineers. Not Gus. Friendly, down-to-earth, and full of energy, Gus was just what Toyota ordered. If he needed funding, he made a presentation that won his boss over. When assigned to track down problems, he knew how to use what he'd learned in class but he could also talk - and listen - to the operators and maintenance people who knew the machines best. "Gus has demonstrated his ability to find engineering answers AND collaborate with people

- allowing him to become a 'whole' engineer."

Got brains? Like people?

Why not think about engineering,

- where you can work with both?

Get the whole story on Toyota and UK's Engineering Co-op -

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