

Taking Lehigh to the World and Bringing the World to Lehigh



Iacocca International Internship Program

Student Report



Winter 2021

*Lehigh University's Iacocca International Internship Program received the
2019 Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education for student mobility
from the Institute for International Education (IIE).*

Winter 2021 Student Report

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The Iacocca International Internship Program has been impacted by COVID-19. IIIP offered its first virtual internships during the summer of 2020. Due to an extended winter break, the program offered winter internships for the first time in program history to accommodate students who were not able to participate in summer 2020. The Winter 2021 Iacocca Interns who interned, virtually, are featured in this student report. Several of these students have applied for the newly-established IIIP Travel Grant, which is intended to complement their virtual experience by enabling them to travel to their internship host country in the future when conditions permit.

Tariq Al-Serhan

United Kingdom

P.C. Rossin
College of
Engineering
Computer
Engineering

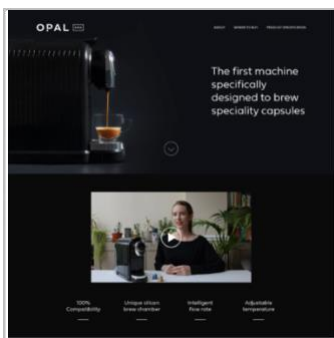


Paced Group

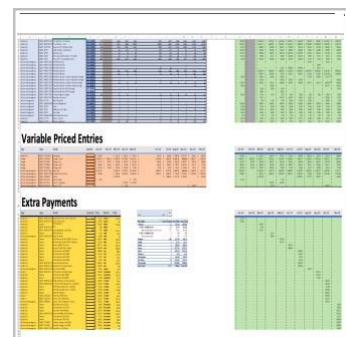
Intern

This winter I worked with Paced Group, which is a multi-faceted company committed to scaling innovative coffee solutions based in London, UK. I had two main projects that I worked on that are tied to my field of study. The first one was related to my major of computer engineering where I built a static website for one of their new coffee products called OPAL One. I was successful in making the website responsive and resizable for mobiles, tablets, and desktops and added new features for the design.

The second project was more related to my business minor. I worked on analyzing the Hallmark financial reports, which are concerning their warehouse and storage costs. I added the charges from January to November and created three different tables for fixed, variable, and extra priced charges per month. I also created pivot tables and graphs for each month and for the outstanding charges over the year of 2020.



Opal One Website



Financial Analysis

Tariq Al-Serhan

United Kingdom



Cultural Icons in London



Royal Ceremonies in London

This experience has helped me on both the personal and professional fronts. Personally, I learned how to work in a fully virtual environment. I gained awareness on what makes me productive, whether it is the place I'm working in, or how I could manage my time in the most efficient way.

Professionally, I first learned how to work remotely and how to optimize communication over video calls. Also, I got comfortable with building a static website from scratch and creating a responsive and durable website design. In addition, I had the opportunity to delve into the finances of the firm and understand the cost analysis of their supply chain.

Caroline Bender

Austria

College of Arts &
Sciences

Political Science
Intn'l Relations

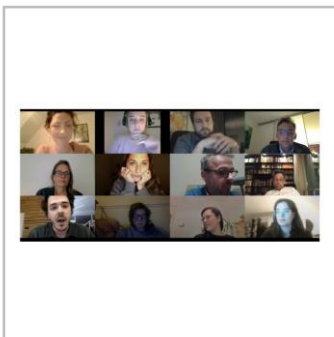


European
Environmt'l Bureau

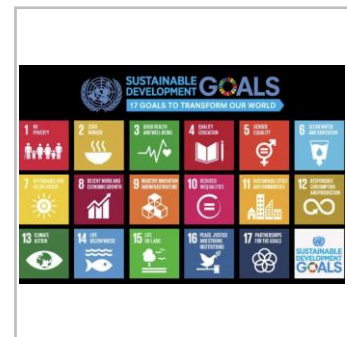
Research Intern

The EEB is a network of over 160 civil society organizations from more than 35 European countries, working together to tackle the most pressing environmental problems of present-day Europe. Playing a critical role in agenda setting, monitoring, and advising, the EEB promotes the creation of a healthier planet for future generations. Objectives of the EEB center around influencing the way in which the EU manages environmental concerns, as to ensure sustainable development, environmental justice, and participatory democracy.

During my time with the European Environmental Bureau, I conducted research and completed reports on various topics surrounding the circular economy, Sustainable Development Goals, biodiversity, and the European Green Deal. I also had the opportunity to attend conferences with representatives from various NGOs to discuss the EU's proposal for the Conference on the Future of Europe. Ultimately, I gained valuable insight into European governmental processes.



Citizens Take Over Europe
Conference



The 17 SDGs

Caroline Bender

Austria



Tafelspitz Dish



Easter Egg Battle Tradition

Throughout this internship, I learned how to manage the divergence of professional and social contexts that came with working remotely. While simultaneously developing my virtual communication skills, I was able to navigate the important balance of my independent work for the EEB and my personal responsibilities. Furthermore, I was able to improve at self-advocating for workplace opportunities as a result of my internship's design.

I felt this equipped me with career management skills I will absolutely employ in the future. Additionally, I thoroughly enjoyed having this unique opportunity to strengthen my intercultural fluency. Completing tasks alongside my Austrian colleagues at the EEB, as well as conversing with European citizens from a multitude of countries broadened my sensitivity to working with diverse backgrounds. I learned to respectfully interact with people of various cultures and exchanged meaningful ideas as a result of our differing experiences.

Alexa Bennetch

London, UK

Arts & Sciences

Behavioral
Sciences



HealthWatch
Greenwich

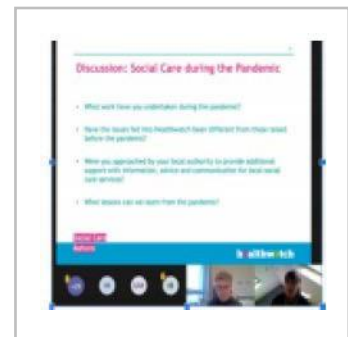
Volunteer Intern

This winter, I worked for an organization called Healthwatch, specifically the location in the Greenwich borough of London. Healthwatch functions as a "middle man" between those of the local community and the commissioners of health and social care services. Healthwatch listens to people's concerns and does research in the community, and takes this information to higher ups to help them improve. They also educate people of the community to help them access the best possible care.

My job involved attending virtual meetings with community members about topics such as nursing homes or caring for people with mental illness. I also collected information from members of the community about hospitals, doctors or the COVID vaccine through social media like Twitter and Facebook. I used this research to write reports to be released to the public or made summaries of reports from other HealthWatches in England.



Nat'l Health System in UK



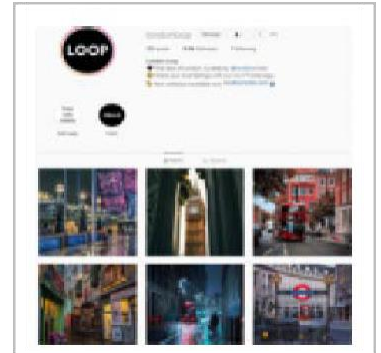
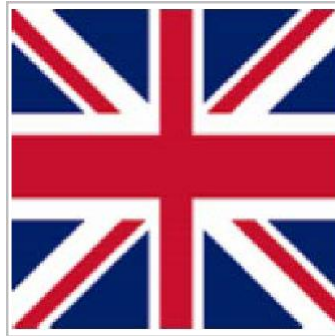
Webinar - Social Care Reform

Alexa Bennetch

London, UK



English Banoffee Pie



London Loop

Through this internship, I was exposed to a field that I had been curious about, but had no background in- public health. I learned a lot about the health system in the UK, which could be useful when applied to the US in what I would like to do in the future.

Though the UK is not extremely different from the US, I was able to pick up on subtle cultural differences though conversations in Zoom meetings and emails. Because of feedback from my supervisor and coworkers, I am now more confident in my ability to do tasks thoroughly and professionally, even if something is completely new to me.

Akeive J Burrows

Spain

Arts and Sciences

Behavioral
Neuroscience



IES Abroad

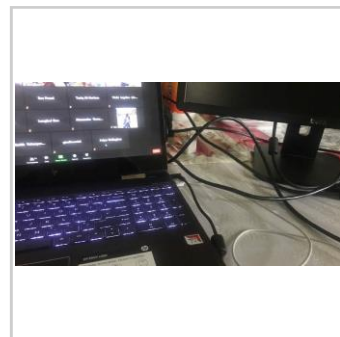
Transcultural
Research Intern

I worked for the Transcultural Psychiatry Department that operates as an extension of the Vall d'Hebron Hospital in Spain. They provide out patient mental health services to both native residents and refugees in Spain. They are also involved in various research and training projects focused on vulnerable migrant subpopulations.

My role as a transcultural mental health research intern is to assist a team of psychologists and psychiatrists with the development of different projects focused on supporting the well-being of refugees. This includes developing an up to date research database encompassing health disparities, cultural considerations, education and neuro-psychological assessments. I assist by compiling relevant research and editing research papers, reports, reviews and summaries. I also helped to create and develop a research protocol on mental health services specifically for unaccompanied minors.



My Supervisor



Work Station in Living Room

Akeive J Burrows

Spain



Cultural -Tortilla de Patatas



Cultural Dish - Empanadas

Since the start of my internship, I was able to grow both professionally and personally. I developed my research, written/oral communication skills and intercultural fluency. Much of my work involved editing research papers and being able to disseminate research findings to my supervisor. This helped me hone my ability to communicate effectively in a professional setting. Additionally, my research surrounds investigating refugees from numerous backgrounds and creating a bridge between them and clinicians to better understand each other. This involved understanding the differences and similarities between refugees and their host country.

Consequently, I found new techniques of breaking down research articles to think more critically and applying knowledge outside of my research. As a pre-health student, I believe this internship was tremendously valuable in making me a better researcher, and shaping my understanding of transcultural psychiatry across European Union countries.

David Caccavo

Spain

College of
Business

Finance

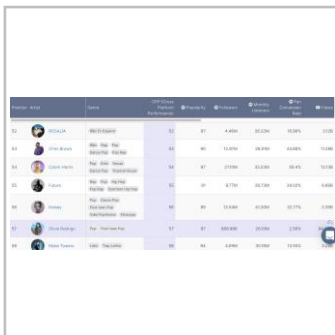


Acqustic

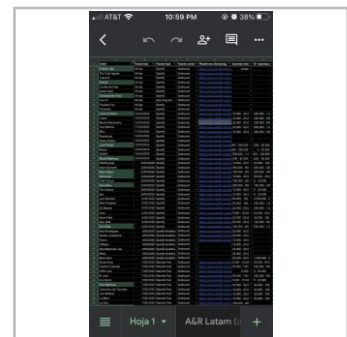
New Sales

The company I worked for was Acqustic, based out of Barcelona, Spain. The company is in the music sector and in general contracts with up and coming musicians. The process specifically through COVID-19, was locating artists in the US market in order to continue the foothold on the international market.

To achieve this goal, I learned new platforms in order to contact the musicians and then proceed to connect with artists. Through pitching the company to musicians, we were able to gain new prospects for the company. Another task I had was compiling first hand accounts and information for the new market.



The Platform Used to
Track Artists



The Editorial to Set Up
Contact for First Pitches

David Caccavo

Spain



Pincho de Tortilla



Human Tower Competition

Through this internship I was able to enhance my values of work ethic in the business world. The importance of transparency through communication not only allows a relationship to form between company and client, but also an expedited process of campaigning for such clients.

Another aspect I was able to takeaway from the opportunity is to acknowledge such values in other cultures. Although people from different cultures have different methods of working, having flexibility with managing tasks can be a great advantage. Even if it is difficult to pick up on differences in work culture, having communication and clarification permits increased understanding of variations in work life.

Lovely Charles

Austria

College of
Business

Business
Information



Ubiq

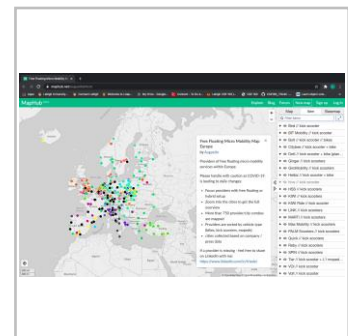
Sales Assistant

Ubiq is a micro-mobility company based in Vienna, Austria. Their mission is to make future mobility sustainable and profitable by providing the world's largest platform for operational excellence in mobility. Ubiq's AI-driven services address this by ensuring effective fleet re-balancing, charging and policy compliance. Ubiq also has an app called StreetCrowd that ensures their users' vehicles are in the right place, at the right time, to meet demand.

For the internship, I worked as a sales assistant. I was responsible for assisting the sales manager with finding shared mobility operators in North America, Latin America, Europe, and India. By using multiple sources, I searched for operators that met the company's criteria. Then I used their database system called "7 Steps of Heaven" to verify the sales team did not already make contact to potential clients. After verification, I gathered the necessary information to make a new entry.



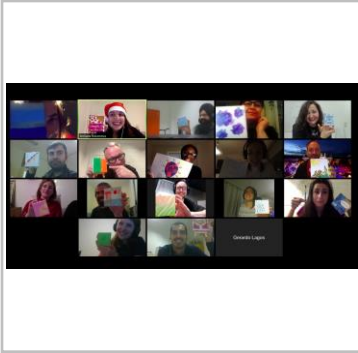
First Day Orientation



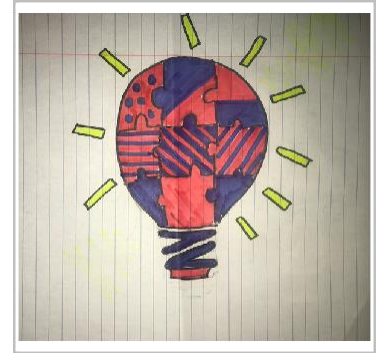
Researching Potential
Mobility Operators

Lovely Charles

Austria



Ubiq Holiday Party 2020



Drew image at Holiday Party

The virtual internship with Ubiq has provided me with a lot of personal and professional experiences. From a professional perspective, I further developed career related skills like adaptability, communication, and work ethic. Due to the circumstances of COVID-19, the structure of the internship changed from in-person to online. Although I did not expect my first abroad internship to be all online, I had to embrace the situation and perform to the best of my ability. Therefore, I leveraged my adaptability and communication skills to learn how to work online and collaborate with individuals that had different cultural backgrounds. I also practiced effective work habits, like punctuality and professionalism, to be productive throughout the course of my internship.

From a personal perspective, the internship allowed me to have authentic interactions. For example, during the holiday season my supervisor was generous enough to invite me to their Zoom holiday party. At first, I was nervous to attend the event, but soon realized I needed to take this opportunity to step outside my comfort zone. When I arrived at the Zoom holiday party, I was amazed by how welcoming and genuine some of the employees were. They were all excited for me to be there and wanted me to participate as much as possible in their activities. First, my supervisor took the time to ask each person about their well-being and their expectations for the holidays. Then, we listened to music while members of the company opened up gift baskets that were sent by my supervisor. Before I started the internship, members of the company were instructed to write a poem for another coworker. So, during the party the recipient read their poem out loud and then had to guess the author of their poem. Although I was not originally supposed to be a part of their activity, my supervisor was nice enough to quickly create a poem for me, which was thoughtful. Lastly, the night ended with everyone either painting or drawing an image that represented the company. The images would then be collected to create a collage for the company's office space. It gave me the opportunity to authentically interact with people with Austrian backgrounds and I learned about their cultural differences. I am grateful for the experience and am looking forward to visiting Austria and the Ubiq team in the near future.

Giselle Curiel

Dublin, Ireland

Arts and Sciences

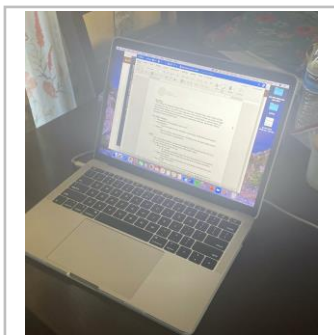
Sociology



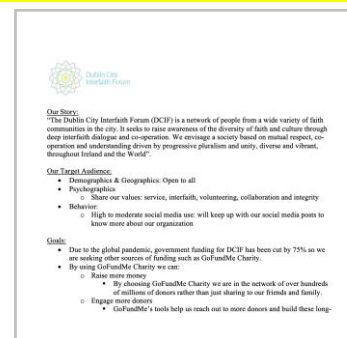
Dublin City
Interfaith Forum

Marketing Intern

Dublin City Interfaith Forum (DCIF) is a non profit organization that seeks to raise awareness of the diversity of faith and culture through deep interfaith dialogue. Currently, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, DCIF lost 75% of government funding and were struggling to cover the funding they lost. My position as a marketing intern was to help market DCIF through a GoFundMe page to spread the word of our organization and seek more donors.



Picture of My Workspace



Screenshot of a Project I Was Working On

Giselle Curiel

Dublin, Ireland



Ireland's Traditional
Dish: Irish Stew



I Tried to Cook Ireland's
Traditional dish: Irish Stew

This experience helped me get more of an insight of all the religions that are practiced in Dublin and how they are embraced with this nonprofit. I was able to build collaborative relationships with my colleagues who all represent different cultural backgrounds at DCIF; this helped me personally to know which religion or spiritual path I'd like to take.

Professionally, there were many challenges we face but still we persevered. Having an 8+ hour difference was hard on this internship, but communication was incredibly important and vital to master for a nonprofit.

Iman Faris

United Kingdom

College of Arts
and Science

IR & ECON



IES Abroad

Wealth
Management

Raffles Place Private Wealth - A Senior Partner Practice of St. James Place Wealth Management

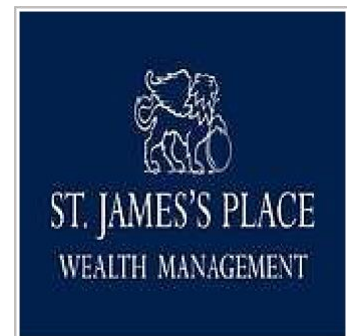
As a wealth management intern, I was able to complete a diverse amount of tasks throughout my internship along with administrative tasks. I created thought leader articles for my supervisor in order to help build his LinkedIn presence. It will be used to generate traffic to his page with the hopes of producing client leads.

Additionally, through FE Analytics, a financial planning tool, I was able to construct portfolios and understand more about what it means to be a financial advisor.

I was also assigned to create a vision document for my supervisor in order to demonstrate a clients current position and their financial goals. With this task, I delivered a template for future clients and a video guide to add interactive content for the client.



Vision Document



Wealth Management Firm

Iman Faris

United Kingdom



Big Ben



Fish Fingers, Chips, Beans

As an international relations and economics major, I had never truly had a business internship as my past internships were more IR focused. As a wealth management intern, I discovered what it would be like to work in the financial sector. I truly enjoyed the experience and discovered what it would be like to work in an international company as the firm has offices in Singapore.

Throughout the experience, I learned that as a person who thrives on schedules it was a bit difficult in the beginning to adapt to not having a set schedule due to the time difference and the internship itself being virtual. However, adaptability is an important skill to have that I gained throughout this experience.

Additionally, I always hoped to pursue my graduate studies in the UK and this was the perfect opportunity to discover UK work culture. The internship experience only reaffirmed my aspirations of completing grad school in the UK.

Jessica Franolic

United Kingdom

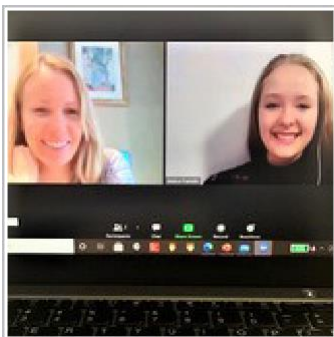
CBE and P.C.
Rossin College of
Engineering

IBE Finance and
Mechanical Eng.



Raffles Place
Private Wealth, St.
James's Place
Private Wealth
Management Intern

This winter, I worked as a private wealth management intern for Raffles Place Private Wealth (RPPW), a Senior Partner Practice of St. James's Place Wealth Management (SJP) in London. SJP is a Fortune 100 company known internationally and RPPW operates exclusively in London and Singapore. As an intern, I had a variety of tasks assigned to me by different members of the team which helped the partnership operate and grow. My tasks for the office administrator were client-based tasks. These tasks included updating client due diligence forms, reorganizing excel spreadsheets detailing client portfolios, and graphing client portfolio performance compared to model portfolios. Tasks assigned to me by one of the advisors in the practice focused on helping him garner new clientele and market himself. These tasks included writing articles for his LinkedIn blog and creating a webinar on Value-Based Investing for him to give. I gave the webinar at the end of my internship as a final presentation.



Meeting with IES Abroad Advisor



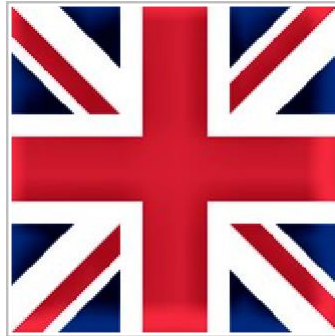
Final Presentation Meeting

Jessica Franolic

United Kingdom



English Breakfast Tea



Chickpea Cauliflower Curry

Though my experience was done remotely due to COVID-19, I was still able to grow and learn professionally. Through personal and work-related discussions with my colleagues in London over zoom, I learned about UK culture and realized some differences in communication style despite speaking the same language. I noticed right away that my colleagues took the time at the start of emails and meetings to ask how everyone was doing and exchange pleasantries unrelated to business. This was refreshing, because I am used to getting right down to business both in my emails and meetings with people in the US.

I discovered that when working in person with people, I took for granted getting to know them on a more personal level. Working remotely, I had to make an effort to get to know my colleagues on a personal level, which fostered much better workplace relationships. I will keep this in mind for my future positions both remote and in-person.

Eve Freed

United Kingdom

RCEAS

IDEAS - MechE,
Design, Theatre



Dash Arts

Administrative and
Production Asst.

Dash Arts is a theatre production company based in London, UK. They create artistic experiences that bridge divides across cultures, communities, and art-forms. They focus on international productions, live and digital events, and educational programs.

My role primarily focused on assisting with administrative tasks and the implementation of data into HubSpot - a customer relationship management platform. I spent time reformatting and reorganizing Google Sheets and uploading them into HubSpot so that Dash Arts could easily manage their contacts and connections to audience members, artists, and other production companies. I conducted research on suitable venues for an upcoming production, The Songs of BabynYar in Berlin and Cologne. I also aided in the listening of Dash Arts podcasts to finalize their publication.



HubSpot - CRM Platform



Podcast Production - Cover

Eve Freed

United Kingdom



UK Holiday - Boxing Day



Lacy Pancakes

Though I did not get to travel to London to work for Dash Arts, this remote opportunity allowed me to grow in new ways and become much more confident in my professional skill sets. Many of the tasks I was assigned had to do with data management, and I found myself often having to work out kinks in programs on my own. I had to be resourceful and adaptable in my work because my supervisor did not respond to my questions very quickly most of the time, leaving me to answer them with deep Google searches.

I also developed a better sense of empathy during my time with Dash Arts. Because of the pandemic, many of my coworkers were working from home with their children. This meant that there were a few interruptions or rescheduled meetings. I had to be flexible for my team, and understanding that work wouldn't always be the top priority for them.

Overall, the remote internship allowed me to discover skills and gain confidence in my independence, adaptability, and interpersonal skills.

Adyn Gallagher

Zambia

IDEAS

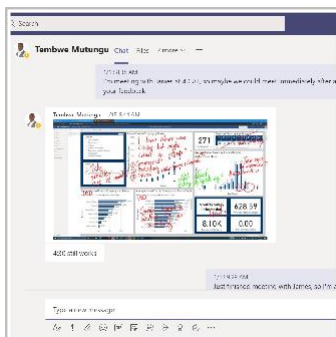
CS & Sociology



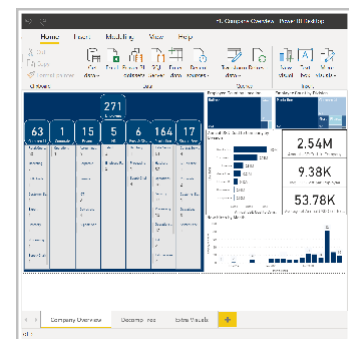
FirstWave Group

Data & Analytics Intern

This winter, I worked as a Data and Analytics intern for FirstWave Group. FirstWave is an aquaculture company based in Zambia that is now also expanding to multiple countries in Africa. FirstWave's business model is "farm to fork", and FirstWave group includes Aller Aqua, a fish feed company, as well as Yalelo Zambia and Yalelo Uganda, which are the farms where fish are bred. During my time at FirstWave, I worked under the CEO of the company as a Data and Analytics intern. I compiled Human Resource data into organized spreadsheets in Microsoft Excel for all three companies. I merged existing data, and I also used the data to calculate new data fields, such as employee salary after taxes and USD conversions. After compiling and organizing the data, I also used Microsoft Power BI to visualize the data in different reports for each company. These reports included salary analysis and general company information, such as employee headcounts for each division and department.



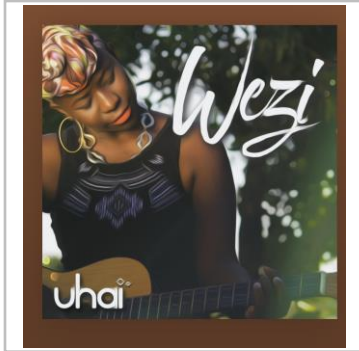
Microsoft Teams Brainstorming



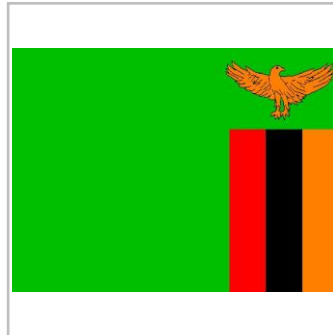
Yalelo Uganda Report

Adyn Gallagher

Zambia



Zambian Artist I Listened To



Kuomboka Ceremony

Even though my internship being virtual created unique challenges, this was still a valuable internship experience. Professionally, I gained confidence in my problem solving abilities and communication skills. One aspect of the internship that was difficult was communication due to the time difference. Video calls were often infrequent and much of my position was self-regulated. However, I learned to take the initiative and message my supervisor on Microsoft Teams with regular updates and do more work on my own instead of waiting for my supervisor to tell me exactly what to do. This made me more productive, and it also made our video calls more efficient. In addition to professional experience, I was able to learn a lot about Zambian culture, even though I didn't get to experience it first hand. I really enjoyed the iiPATH activities we did where I researched Zambian history, watched movies about Zambia, followed important Zambian figures on social media, and listened to Zambian music.

Longhui Gao

United Kingdom

College of Arts
and Science

Biochemistry



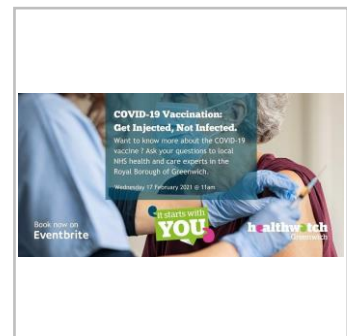
Healthwatch
Greenwich

Intern

Healthwatch Greenwich's goal is to understand the needs, experiences, and concerns of people who use health and social care services and to speak out on their behalf. During my internship, I helped collect data on people's experience with accessing dental and hospital care during the pandemic as well as summarizing key points of official government reports. Additionally, I also learned to collaborate with others through a time zone difference and learned about the health care system in UK.



Healthwatch Greenwich Office



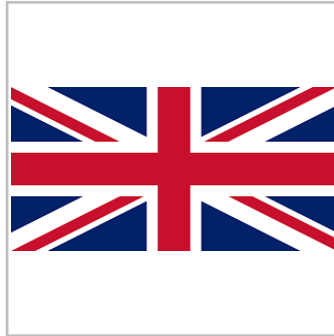
Sample Project I Worked On

Longhui Gao

United Kingdom



Fish and Chips in UK



The Big Ben in UK

The Iacocca Internship helped me realize that I enjoy work that constantly requires attention to detail and critical thinking. As a future dental professional, the experience expanded my horizon by helping me understand a different health care system and people's experience with dental care specifically. I can see myself becoming a better care giver by providing people with more patience and consideration, as well as a comfortable space to voice their opinions. While the virtual internship limited my ability to experience the culture fully, the people I worked with made the experience enjoyable.

Mayamiko Goliati

Ireland

IDEAS

Global Politics,
Bioengineering



The Law Library

Legal Intern

The Law Library is an institution founded and maintained by the Bar of Ireland. It is a collective of Irish Barristers that provide legal expertise in all areas of Irish and European law. Governed by the principles of integrity, expertise and independence, the barristers from the Bar of Ireland provide a wide range of legal services to those that need it regardless of nationality.

I personally worked with a barrister who specializes in immigration law. It was my responsibility to catalogue court ruling, summarize cases and sift through legal databases to provide the necessary information that my supervisors needed to do their jobs.



Supreme Court of Ireland Building



Bar of Ireland Building Complex

Mayamiko Goliati

Ireland



Traditional Irish Stepdance



Traditional Irish Folk Music

This experience was incredibly insightful as to what my strengths and weaknesses are. This experience placed me in an unfamiliar legal system and forced me to employ my ingenuity to adapt to it. It was an experience where resourcefulness was key, and independent research was paramount.

Overall, it was a professionally rewarding experience that required me to take responsibility for my own work hours and timeline. The rigorous work was challenging but it also tested the limits of my work ethic and I think I am better prepared for law school and my future career thanks to this.

Emma Gromacki

United Kingdom

Rossin College
and Arts &
Sciences

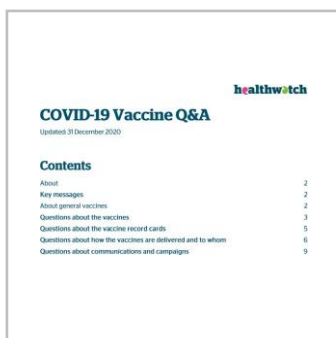
IDEAS:
Neuroscience
and CSE



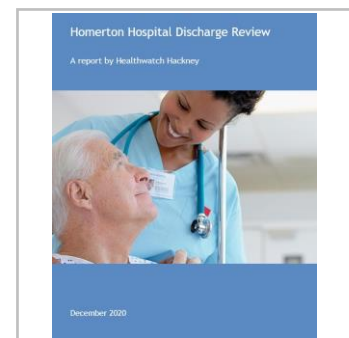
Sponsored
Organization

Public Health
Volunteer

During my time at Healthwatch Hackney (HWH) I was able to participate in several projects. As an overarching task I created a database of previous reports done by the organization so that information was all in once place and follow-ups on the hospitals and GP practices would be straight forward. I also analyzed data about a specific hospital in the community and wrote a report on the findings that is to be published on the HWH website. I played a key role in the management of a public information session HWH hosted about information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine; I conducted research, answered questions, and created resources for participants. Lastly, I was "in" on several meetings and trainings relevant to the work done at the organization such as Enter & Views, community engagement, and active listening.



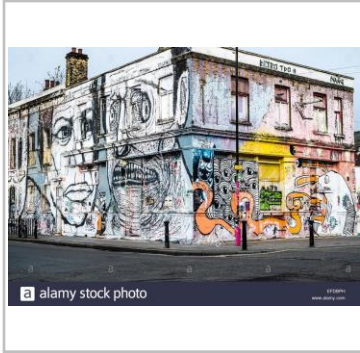
Front Page of Vaccine Research



Front Page of Report I Wrote

Emma Gromacki

United Kingdom



Street Art in Hackney



Map of London with Hackney Borough

As an aspiring health professional, this internship gave me the opportunity to interact with health professionals that live and work in a different country and culture. This widened my perspective on healthcare as I learned about the National Health Service that the UK has, which is starkly different from the private healthcare system we have in the U.S.

Additionally, I was able to foster both professional and health communication by working on the reports and with the team. Since I worked during the pandemic, a lot of the work done was related to Covid-19 which I found interesting particularly learning about how the pandemic has and continues to impact the communities in Hackney, hospitals, other healthcare organizations, and daily life in Hackney.

Vicki Jagdeo

Zambia

Arts and
Sciences

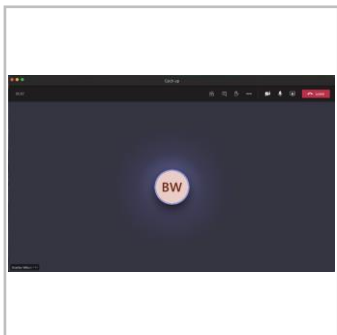
Earth and
Environmental



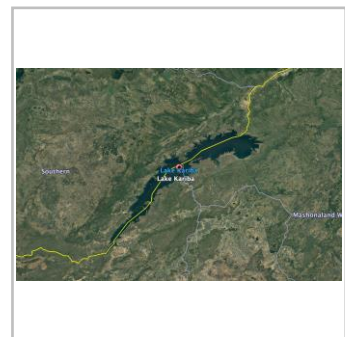
FirstWave Group

Environmental &
Social Intern

The FirstWave Group is the aquaculture sector leader in Africa. They focus on the chain of production from aquafeed production, aquaculture and processing of tilapia fish, and fish distribution and retail. As an Environmental and Social Intern, I worked with the Environmental and Management group of the company to review different audits, licenses, and certifications they want to get and maintain. I reviewed an audit for a certification in sustainable tilapia farming as well as other safety licenses they had to renew. These different documents ensure the company is following sustainable business practices. Additionally, I worked on a project concerning the carrying capacity and nutrient loading of Lake Victoria and Lake Kariba, two lakes in the region they do fish farming on. Part of this was researching current issues concerning these lakes as well as drafting a proposal on action steps the company can take ensure the lake remains healthy for future generations.



Microsoft Team Calls



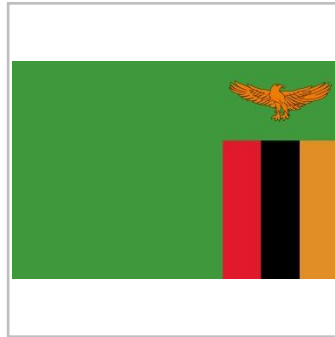
Google Earth Image of Lake

Vicki Jagdeo

Zambia



Nshima, a Porridge



Zambian Fritters - Vitumbuwa

Despite this internship being completely different from the initial internship I had planned to do, I gained a lot of valuable experience and skills working for the FirstWave Group. I greatly appreciated the flexibility of my supervisor. From day one, he emphasized that this opportunity was more about what I wanted to take from the experience. Therefore, I got to choose what aspect of environmental and social management I got to work with. In this way, I was able to learn skills and gain experience that I hadn't gotten in previous work environments, which is what I hoped for. I learned a lot of corporate sustainability initiatives and how sustainability fits into a company's framework. As an Earth and Environmental Science student, I do a lot of research, but I got to understand the process of taking the research and planning action steps based on the findings. I was able to trust my background and apply the science in a very different setting.

Kenny Lin

Shanghai, China

College of Arts
and Sciences

Computer
Science



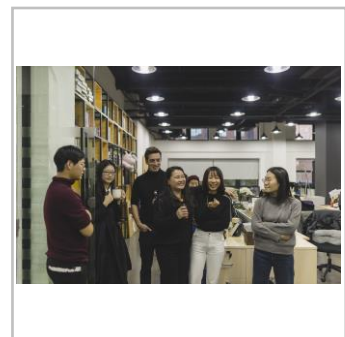
31° Ten

Quality Assurance
Intern

31° Ten is a digital consulting company that designs and creates WeChat mini programs for a number of international students. Mini programs are small, lightweight apps built into the WeChat messaging program. They range from shopping interfaces, to plant classification apps, and more. For my internship, I focused on testing the coupon creation back end for APM, a luxury jeweler seller based in Monaco. I learned a lot about the importance of rigorous testing especially its role in delivering a quality product to the end client.



An Overview of
WeChat Mini Programs



The 31° Ten Team in Shanghai

Kenny Lin

Shanghai, China



Shanghai Skyline at Night



Chinese Red Lanterns

This internship really helped develop my communication skills since I had a 13 hour time difference with the host country. Since Zoom calls were often disrupted due to poor internet connection, I had to primarily rely on other means of communication such as through WeChat and email. This resulted in a more hands off and independent approach to the internship, which was a very valuable learning experience. I learned to manage my time and activities myself and ensure that I was able to meet the deadlines to the tasks they set for me.

Brianne McGill

Nigeria

RCEAS

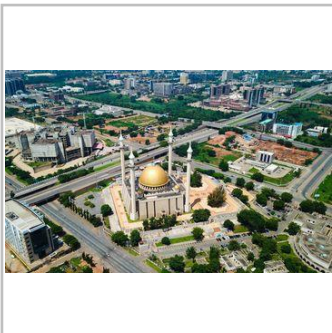
Bioengineering



Surjen

Virtual Marketing Intern

Surjen is an online healthcare marketplace based in Nigeria. It is a platform which provides users with access to online medical consultations, home pickup of medical samples, surgery package costs, ambulance and medical tourism services at affordable prices. Due to my lack of experience in marketing, I spent the first couple of weeks familiarizing myself with terminology and popular strategies. I worked on a few projects over the course of the internship, focusing on website improvement and search engine optimization. This involved researching similar companies and brainstorming ideas to increase Surjen's website traffic and functionality to a competitive level.



The City of Abuja



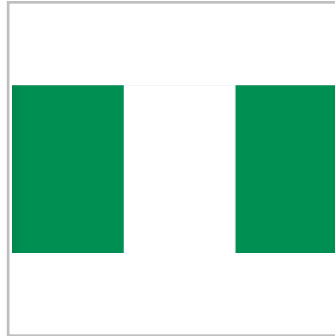
My Coworkers in Nigeria

Brianne McGill

Nigeria



Traditional Dance: Nkwa Um



Fufu with Stew

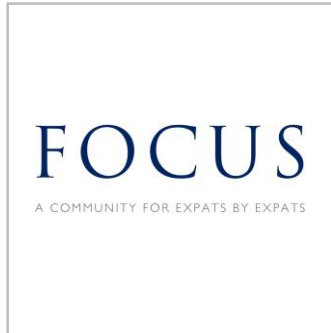
An increased cultural awareness is my most valuable takeaway from this experience. While I enjoyed being exposed to the business side of the healthcare industry, I'll never forget the challenge of being asked to step out of my westernized perspective. In the beginning, a lot of my ideas were more suited towards the healthcare industry in the United States. I did not take into account that the healthcare system in Nigeria is understaffed and underfunded, many citizens are uninsured, and they suffer from malaria and outbreaks of water-borne diseases which are no longer issues in the United States. Rather than focusing on potential blog topics like drinking more water or STI prevention, I turned to more relevant talking points like the importance of vaccines. Learning to take cultural differences into account will be an asset both in my personal life and an increasingly globalized world.

Michalina Modzelewska

United Kingdom

College of Arts
and Sciences

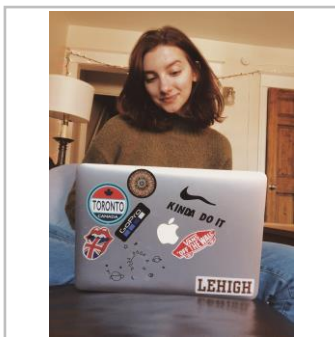
Computer
Science & Design



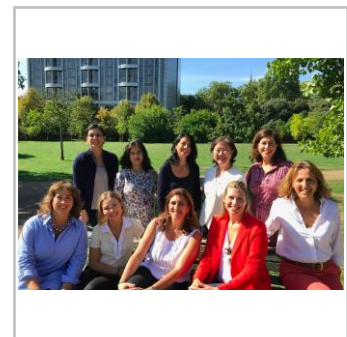
IES Abroad

Web Operations
Intern

I worked for FOCUS, a non-profit organization based in London that has been running for well over 30 years. The company's purpose is to build a community for expatriates moving to the UK. Well-established and having a great reputation, FOCUS is sponsored by companies like Chanel, Barclays, Goldman Sachs, and many other respected companies. Many of the members were once expatriates themselves who have garnered years of experience living in the UK and becoming a part of the culture. They host events, seminars, and provide resources as well as connections for those who are planning to live a new life in Great Britain. With their new website about to be launched, I was put in charge of web operations. Some of my tasks included finding bugs, looking for errors in design, suggesting improvements in meetings with the senior web developer, as well as managing and refining their database.



Working From My Couch



The FOCUS Team

Michalina Modzelewska

United Kingdom



National Dish of the UK



The Royal Family

I really enjoyed working for FOCUS. My colleagues were friendly and welcoming, and I immediately felt like I was a part of the team. The work I did was impactful and I came away from the experience with a new grasp of technologies that I will come to use in the field I hope to work for in the future. Despite carrying out the internship virtually, I still learned many new and fascinating facts about the British culture. I knew I was interested in living abroad before I had this internship, but I wasn't sure where - now I am certain that I would love to live and work in the UK given how positive this opportunity has been for me.

Luis Morales

Spain

RCEAS

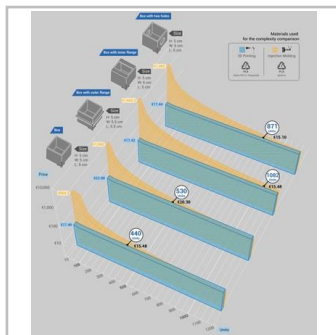
Mechanical
Engineering



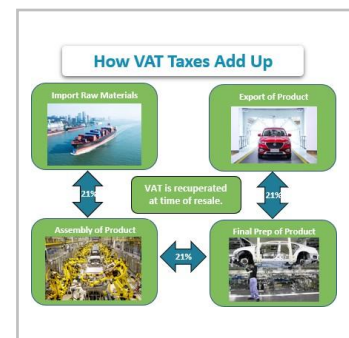
Ahead Analytics

Intern

My role in Ahead was to research topics of either my or my supervisor's choice related to trade, supply chain, technology, or warehousing. This purpose of this was to create a blog post and an info-graphic that will work off each other and be posted on Ahead's blog and LinkedIn respectively. The focus of each post was to provide an introduction of the topic to a reader and provide potential cost benefits in each sector. Given Ahead's role in cost optimization consulting, the posts were meant to attract potential customers and obtain new associates to work with. Ultimately, my role was to display Ahead's potential and productivity while also informing my supervisor on my research.



Economies of Scale: Comparison



VAT Tax - Spain Research

Luis Morales

Spain



Human Towers - Catalonia



Catalan Dances: Barcelona

This experience helped me in finding out the type of worker I am in a virtual setting. Going into this opportunity, I had overlooked the concerns with productivity and the complexity of doing online research. This experience taught me how to find reputable sources, how to manage my time efficiently, and how to effectively convey information to an unfamiliar party. While I still have much to learn, this experience has shed some light onto my weaknesses and strengths. Additionally, I was able to refine my own second language. Before this internship, I had only used Spanish as a conversational communication tool for those around me. I have never used it to reach across cultures, even less so in a professional setting. This opportunity allowed me to do research in Spanish and also communicate between my supervisors. I was able to refine my Spanish so that I could use it in a professional setting. Once again, while I still have a lot to learn, I will move forward with confidence in myself.

Swetha Ramesh

Austria

Intercollegiate
Programs

CSB



Naboto Software

IT Intern

Naboto is an intelligent booking and scheduling platform aimed towards medical practices. With the goal to automate the scheduling process, Naboto focuses on relieving stress from doctors and decreasing waiting times for patients. As an intern at this start-up, I worked closely with the CEO and the employees who helped build the platform. I was assigned tasks that covered multiple different positions, from brainstorming new features to learning how they incorporate and use data. Additionally, I participated on group calls, gaining insight on how a start-up functions and prepares for growth.



A Scaffolding Tool I Worked With



The Pitch Deck I Reworked

Swetha Ramesh

Austria



An Austrian Sitcom



Austrian Parliament

Through this internship, I was able to learn frameworks and programming languages that I can use throughout my career. Aside from the hard skills, working with my supervisors helped strengthen my communication skills. I've learned how to effectively get ideas across and how to incorporate feedback successfully to achieve a better end product. On a personal level I learned how to work with people from a different culture in a different time zone. I learned about how my colleagues celebrated the holidays, the shows they enjoyed and how the pandemic was affecting their lives in Austria. I hope to carry the lessons and insight I've received from this internship into my career and beyond!

Merith Velazquez Jimenez

Ireland

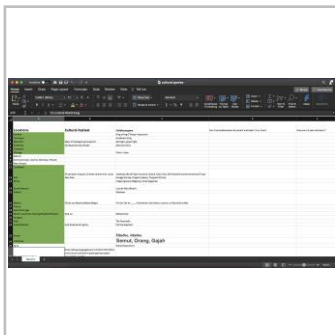
P.C. Rossin
College of
Engineering &
Chemical
Engineering



Gymboree Play &
Music

Marketing Intern

Gymboree Play & Music is focused on child development from the ages of 0 to 5 and their preparation for a lifetime of learning. There are sites all over the world from Mexico and Argentina to Greece and Kazakhstan. During my internship, I researched cultural festivals, music, and games from across the globe and adapted each to the desired age groups (0-2, 3-5, etc.). Some examples of what I found during my search are Mardi Gras from New Orleans, Children's Day from Japan, and Luta de Gallo from Brazil. The information I gathered during my time as an intern will be incorporated into their current programs once the classes start again.



First Draft of Research in Excel



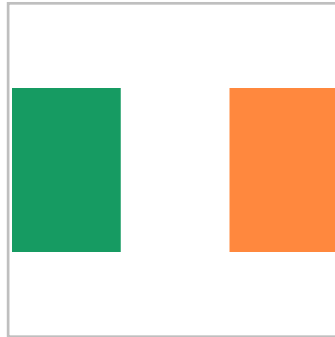
Kuda Lumping — Indonesia

Merith Velazquez Jimenez

Ireland



Dublin, Ireland



St. Patrick's Day in Dublin

While I was not able to be physically present in the classes that I was drafting a curriculum for, I enjoyed working with the company. My supervisor made sure that I felt included in the happenings of meetings with the other Gymboree Play & Music locations, whether they were also based in Ireland or around the world. There were some challenges that I faced such as the 8-hour time difference and finding a kid-friendly way to explain why some of the traditions or games came to be. Zoom fatigue was also very prevalent, but thankfully, I learned to balance my time away from the screen and getting to work in a productive manner. Even though my internship experience did not directly correlate with my degree, I learned a lot of skills that will be useful in the workplace, such as clear and constant communication, time management, and critical thinking and problem solving.

Cameron Wood

China

RCEAS

IES Shanghai

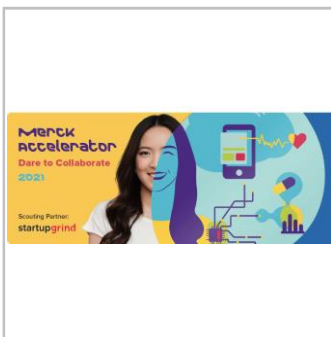
Chemical Engineering



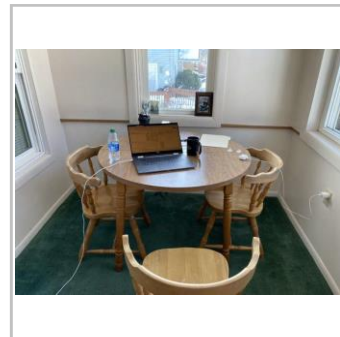
Business Analyst

IoT ONE is a research & advisory firm that helps companies realize opportunities and avoid threats created by digitalization. They perform in-depth research projects, develop digital transformation strategies, and consult on industry trends and implementing digital solutions.

During my internship, I was able to assist on three of the larger projects being worked on at the time, including researching and developing a list of over 200 start-ups located in the Asia Pacific region for an Accelerator Program ran by Merck (a multi-national Pharmaceutical company), adding hundreds of new data points to their internal supplier and case study database, and conducting industry trends and analytics to help create a portfolio of business leads for a business intelligence company.



Merck Accelerator Project



My Home Workstation

Cameron Wood

China



Chinese New Year



Dumplings

While this internship wasn't directly related to my field of study, it allowed for me to gain a new perspective in the field of health care and pharmaceuticals. I was able to research hundreds of start-ups doing new and innovative things in the industry, and in turn enhanced my knowledge in a field that I'm interested in and gained deeper insights into where it is heading. I now also have knowledge of the consulting, or "business," side of things that I could not have gained through the normal Engineering Curriculum here at Lehigh.

I was also able to develop some technical skills, like utilizing large databases and search engines more effectively to reduce time researching. Alongside this, I was able to gain confidence in completing projects above expectations independently, and make professional calls on my own, as there was a 13 hour time difference my team wasn't always available to answer questions.

Overall, this Virtual Internship was an invaluable experience.

Thank you to the donors who make this program possible!



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