

Taking Lehigh to the World and Bringing the World to Lehigh



International Internship for Global Leadership Program Student Report



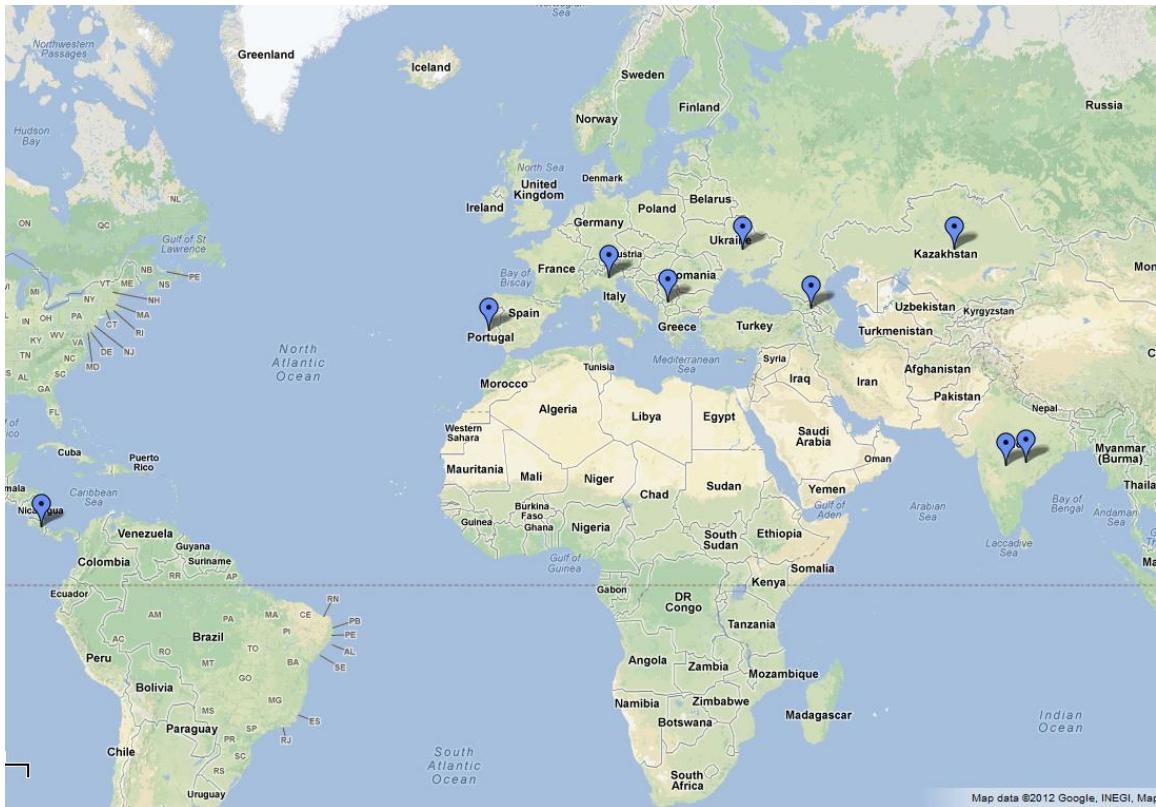
Fall 2012



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY |

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

2012 Internship Locations



China – Ke Xue

Costa Rica – Devin Coleman, Natalie Frenberg,
Robert Mason, Crystal Lovelace

Georgia – Anne Orenstein

India – Meagan Carter and Joe Dinardo

Italy – Ghamar Bitar

Kazakhstan – Joe Rendon

Kosovo – Maria Theresa Mejia

Portugal – Laura Sieger

Ukraine – Mary Brune



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS



Mohamed S. El-Aasser
Vice President for International Affairs
Professor of Chemical Engineering

Office Of International Affairs
Coxe Hall
32 Sayre Drive
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015-3123
(610) 758-2981 Fax (610) 758-2982
e-mail: mse0@lehigh.edu
<http://www.lehigh.edu/international/>

Dear Friends and Colleagues of Lehigh University:

The International Internship for Global Leadership Program provides Lehigh students with affordable international work experiences, including individual international internships, co-ops, research experiences and team cohort internships.

Lee Iacocca started the program because he believes that working abroad is a life-changing opportunity that gives students a competitive advantage in the global marketplace. To support the program, Mr. Iacocca is providing up to \$5 million as a challenge grant to match funds donated by other alumni and friends for a potential total endowment of \$10 million.

During the inaugural year of the program and with financial support from the first \$1 million gift, 13 students from each of Lehigh's three undergraduate colleges interned at companies in nine countries during the summer of 2012. This booklet records their experiences in their own words. As you read, you will gain an insight of what these students have learned from living and working in a cross-cultural setting for the first time. These lessons clearly illustrate why Lehigh believes an international experience should become a signature of the Lehigh education, and why part of our mission is to provide that experience to more students.

Almost 40 percent of the undergraduate 2012 class had an international experience during their four years at Lehigh, and of these, approximately one quarter traveled abroad multiple times.

Our aim is by 2015 (Lehigh's 150th anniversary), 60 percent of the graduating class will have had at least one international experience. By 2020, we want that number to be 80 percent.

We recognize that one of the difficulties that students face when planning international experiences is cost. The Iacocca challenge grant with the generous matching gifts from other donors are funding the first endowment specifically dedicated to making international experiences affordable to all Lehigh students. Upon maturity, it is anticipated that the endowment will allow Lehigh to provide approximately 100 students with both a rigorous and affordable international experience each year. The vision behind the International Internship for Global Leadership Program has catalyzed the process of raising matching funds from alumni and friends, as well as securing funds from foundations to support international internships for more Lehigh students. Recently, the Freeman Foundation approved a one-year grant of \$100,000 to support international internships for Lehigh students in East and Southeast Asia.

The combined funds from the Iacocca grant, matching donors, and the Freeman grant will support 37 new students to intern abroad during the summer 2013 and for the first time have enabled Lehigh University to offer an educational stipend to students who demonstrate financial need. This stipend is meant to offset a portion of lost summer income.

We are indebted to Lee Iacocca for his vision and generous gift to create the International Internship for Global Leadership Program. We thank the Freeman Foundation and all those who provided matching funds toward the challenge grant. It is through this kind of generosity that Lehigh can pursue the goal of providing most Lehigh students with the life-changing opportunity of international experience, regardless of their financial situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mohamed S. El-Aasser".

Mohamed S. El-Aasser
Vice President, Office of International Affairs

Ghamar Bitar; Italy

College of Arts & Sciences
Biochemistry

CROS, NT
Data Management Intern

CROS NT is a contract research organization, that works with sponsors on setting up their clinical trials for best statistical analysis, and then following through with the statistical analysis. I was an intern in the data management department, which prepared the clinical trial for the actual study, like preparing forms for investigators to fill out with patients, before statistical analysis. I received training to learn the data manager processes including creating case report forms or coding medical terms. I performed practice exercises, made data management plans and developed case report forms. I also spent some time coding medical terms and helped with some Italian to English translations of SOPs.



"Without the LIIIP, I would have never had the opportunity to study abroad, let alone be a full-functioning intern at an internationally known workplace. Being able to independently travel abroad was an eye opening experience I could never replace and the people I met I will never forget."

Value Derived from this Experience:

Personally

Personally, I am more aware of myself and culture around me. I met many people, who helped me learn about Italy, and about the culture they live in. On my own, it was a very independent experience. I learned a lot about myself by simply exploring the Italian world on my own.

Academically

I imagined this would be more relevant to a Biochem major like myself, but I didn't learn much applicable to my major or future career. I did learn about computer programming to a certain extent, using specific computer databases and clinical programs.

Professionally

Being in an Italian workplace, where most workers speak English due to the interactions they have in offices of other countries, was a professional experience most people do not tend to have. It wasn't much different than a normal English job, but I was able to learn some language, and also observe how people of different languages communicated efficiently and productively.

Culturally

Culturally, my experience very similar to personally. I think these two go hand in hand. I tried to drop myself into the cultural life, and experience all that a 'normal' Italian would. I think I succeeded, though I wish I could have visited more places and spent more time in the places I had visited.



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

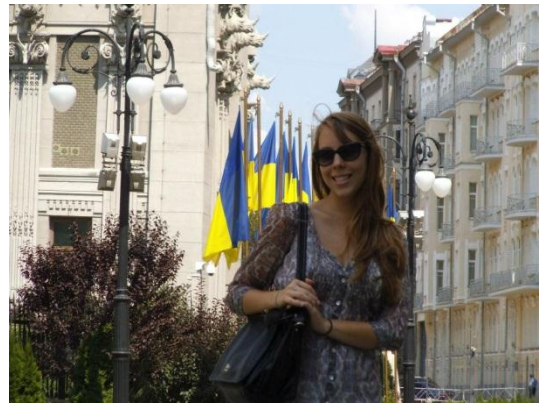
Mary Brune; Ukraine

College of Business and Economics
Marketing

CFC Consulting
Worldwide News Ukraine

I had several projects to work on throughout my internship. Every week, I was responsible for writing a new entry for my column which was posted on Worldwide News Ukraine's website. This column was about my personal experiences in Ukraine. In addition, I was responsible for compiling a list of United States media companies that feature international news. It was my duty to call these media and ask them if they would be interested in receiving press releases and articles from Worldwide News Ukraine. My favorite project while in Kyiv was the cultural video I was the spokesperson for: Kyiv's Religious Pillars. I researched different religious sites around the city and wrote a script about them. I spent a few days traveling to these sites with the company's videographer for filming. This type of work provided the perfect opportunity to not only improve upon my communication skills but also immerse myself in the Ukrainian culture.

"Most of all, this internship experience has sparked an even greater global curiosity in me. I am eager to explore more countries and am now very open to working abroad upon graduation."



"Before leaving for my internship in Ukraine, I was quite excited but also incredibly nervous. I knew very little about Ukraine and the idea of living in a foreign country by myself was daunting. However, from day one, my experience immersing myself in a foreign country and culture was absolutely fantastic! My six weeks in Kyiv exceeded my expectations in every way possible. This program not only served as a tool for me to learn how to adapt and work with people of a foreign background, but it also gave me additional confidence to pursue global experiences in the future. Having such a positive six weeks abroad has made me eager to see and learn about more places across the world. I have been able to see just how huge this world is with there being so many different cities, cultures, and people with differing backgrounds. Yet, at the same time, the world seems so much smaller as I have met a great deal of people who despite their completely different upbringing, share the same values, hopes, and dreams as I do. Overall, I believe this time overseas has further demonstrated the value of learning about other peoples and the importance of keeping a global perspective in both professional and personal matters."



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

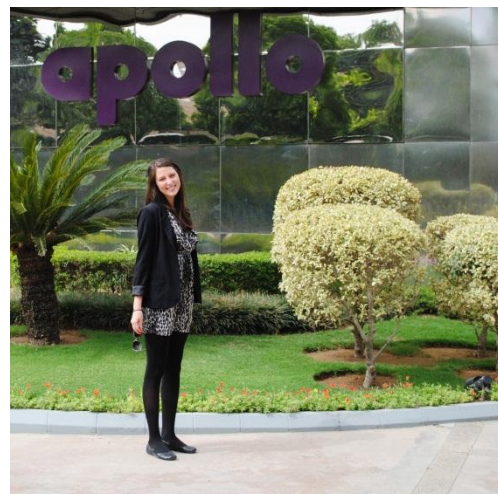
OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Meagan Carter; India

College of Business and Economics
Marketing & Supply Chain Management

Apollo Tyres
Purchasing Intern

As a marketing intern at Apollo, I was required to complete 30-40 hours of work depending on which stage of my project I was at. My project was titled "global e-commerce and Apollo," I studied e-commerce models and trends around the world and developed a plan for Apollo to expand into the e-commerce market. I set up meetings with department heads to learn about their current e-commerce models and discuss my project with my colleagues to gain information and guidance. I also got the opportunity to go out in the field and survey people on topics pertaining to my project. Overall the internship was a huge learning experience where I grew as a person and as a future employee.



My personal goals were to immerse myself in the culture and make the most of the experience by keeping an open mind. The experience met all of my personal goals and expectations. I had the opportunity to travel and try many new things. Professionally, I wanted to contribute to the company I was working for, many students have said to me that as interns they were expected to get coffee for their supervisors or run errands, I wanted to feel like I was doing work that would help the company and help me grow as well. I also wanted to learn about the company that I was working for and gain an understanding of the functions of each department so I can start to figure out exactly what type of career I want to pursue. All of my goals in this area were also achieved. Apollo gave me a project where I was challenged and learned a great deal. I also had the opportunity to meet with my boss and other employees to ask questions about the company or their jobs.

"I loved my international experience and would recommend the Lee Iacocca International Internship Program to anyone! I felt challenged in my internship and gained valuable professional experience through my work and interactions with my coworkers and supervisors. I tried many new things and made great friends! The experience was amazing and really helped me grow as a person."



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Devin Coleman; Costa Rica

Engineering and Applied Science
Environmental Engineering

Sarapiquí Conservation
Learning Center

My main purpose of working at the Sarapiquí Conservation Learning Center was to help develop a sustainable environmental education program for the local schools of the Sarapiquí region. In addition to developing the curriculum, I also helped out much with the day-to-day operations of the center, including helping enroll people into English classes, translating for cooking classes, and helping lead community service projects in the area.



The people I met living in Costa Rica were what made the experience truly great. My coworkers and I were a family, and I miss them already. We not only worked together, but also spent much time together outside of work. I also lived in a homestay while I was in Costa Rica, and got to truly see what families in Costa Rica are like. This equally was a wonderful experience, as my host sister was hilarious and we would sing songs together every night.

"This experience helped me develop in many ways. Being immersed in a new culture was a wonderful experience, and I got to see a way of life that I had never seen before. Also, as Spanish is the language of Costa Rica, I was finally able to put my eight years of Spanish classes to work all day, every day. This will help me not only in my professional life, but I also get the satisfaction of being able to say that I can speak another language fluently. Of course being in another country was hard sometimes, but it helped me to realize that I can overcome anything that is thrown my way.

I would highly recommend this internship to anyone interested, for reasons stated above. The only thing that I would suggest for this particular internship is that those who are interested should have a good knowledge of the Spanish language, as not many people in the Sarapiquí region speak English."



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Joe Dinardo; India

College of Business and Economics
Supply Chain Management

Apollo Tyres
Purchasing Department

I created a Forecasting Accuracy report of the raw material consumption data over the past two years. I used SAP to compile that data and compared this with each plant's ordering ticket. This way, I could analyze how efficiently each plant was consuming their resources and I gave recommendations on how to improve efficiency. The main goal was reducing inventory costs and the company will use my report and work with the plants to develop future actions that will lessen costs.



Value Derived:

- I have a vastly greater appreciation for what I have in America.
- It has inspired me to continue working hard because that is the best way to receive an offer for the position that I want.
- I now feel more comfortable being in a professional work setting and I am more confident in my ability to persevere in this type of atmosphere
- I am now more open-minded than ever and greatly intrigued by different culture

"The Lee Iacocca International Internship was the most eye-opening experience of my life. Being thrown into a culture that is vastly different than my own provided me with not only a greater appreciation for what I have in America but it also gave me perspective on just how different other's lives can be. It was interesting to interact with people who I had almost nothing in common with. You really do not realize how different people can be until you visit a foreign country. This experience has prepared me for the professional world and I feel more confident as a result of it. I would not give it up for anything."



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

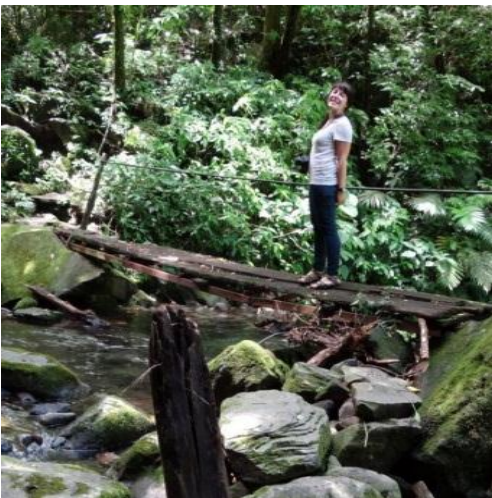
OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Natalie Frenberg; Costa Rica

College of Arts & Sciences
Environmental Science

Paraja Biological Corridor
University of Georgia, CR

While in Costa Rica I worked on a few different projects. For the first few weeks I helped make some themed gardens to attract butterflies, birds and bats to the area using native plants that we collected in the nearby forest. I also helped out in the botanical gardens and tree nursery. The main project that I worked on concerned reforestation. Part of this project was to go to sites that the University of Georgia had already reforested, and survey them to determine the ideal trees to be planted in various locations in the San Luis Valley. Another part of this project was to survey an old growth forest, to see what trees they are composed of in the area so that during reforestation we can better mimic what naturally occurs there. Between the different surveys we gave the University of Georgia, Costa Rica a better idea of which trees to plant where to make their reforestation efforts more successful and better fit for the local wildlife.



Right: Me crossing a river in the Monte Verde Cloud Forest Reserve.
Left: Me hiking with the San Luis Valley in the Background.



"I benefited from this experience in many ways. I learned how to properly survey forests. This is important because I hope to be a tropical ecologist one day and it is a skill I will need to know. I also learned an extensive amount about tropical and medicinal plants along with a lot of things about tropical animals. After completing my project I had to write a report with many drafts, and learned a lot about how to write a professional report about my research. "



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

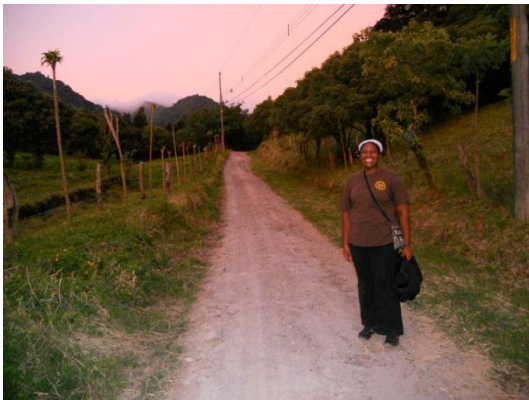
OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Crystal Lovelace; Costa Rica

College of Arts & Sciences
Biology

Parajo Biological Corridor
University of Georgia, CR

This job had no set day-to-day schedule. Each day was something new and different. Some mornings, we worked in the medicinal garden and went on tours with Lucas where we learned about medicinal properties of the plants. Other morning we worked with heather to create 3 theme gardens to attract animals and tourist to the area. This sometimes included gathered leaves, plants and rocks from forest and around campus. When we gathered plants we sometimes went on the Internet and researched the medicinal properties for them, so people would see the importance each plant had on the environment, animals and humans. In the Afternoon we would go on hikes to gather more plants or we work in the green house to propagate and maintain the plants we had already collected. After working with Heather we started to work on the re-forestation project, which is important for the carbon offset program. To do this, we surveyed local plot in the area. Surveying plots included: tagging trees, measuring them, identifying them and measuring them for health.



"Going to Costa Rica was one of the best decisions I have ever made in me life. I learned so much about the environment and myself. Not only has it changed the way that I view the world but also, the way I view others and myself. I don't regret doing it and I think everyone should have this opportunity."

Personally, I learned to push my self both physically and mentally. There were people who doubted my abilities and physicality when hiking or working, sometimes I even doubted myself. However, I believe I proved that I could do it. Costa Rica allowed me to grow. I learned that if one works hard and puts in the effort they can accomplish anything and I did! Academically, I learned a lot on the trip. The thing that was most relevant to me was learning the medicinal properties of many of the plants. When I get older, I hope to become a doctor that uses medicinal medication opposed to chemically and man created medication. Professionally, I learned how to conduct myself in a professional manner. I learned to be on time, meet deadlines and to be more responsible. Culturally, I learned that one of the most important things for Costa Ricans is the importance of family and community. In America we sometime forget just how important helping one another can be and if we would do it more we could be a closer and more compassionate country.



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Robert Mason; Costa Rica

College of Arts & Sciences
Earth and Environmental Sciences

Osa Conservation
Reforestation Surveyor

On a daily basis two other Lehigh interns, an Osa staff member, and I would go to an area of less developed forest around the Cerro Osa Station where we would create 12x12m plots and collect data on the planted tree species within those plots. This work was our principle duty – marking a baseline of data for their reforestation project. Other duties performed included seed collecting (going into the primary forest and gathering seeds to be planted in the nursery) and planting (in the nursery and the field). Also, we were privileged with the opportunity to join other volunteers on “turtle patrols” during which we would walk the beach at night and collect data on nesting sea turtles. The organization is currently in a state of expansion, but I hope they maintain the sense of family that I felt while working there. Working with OC taught me much about the history of the peninsula and its vast spectrum of wildlife. I am glad to have been a part of their efforts!



Value Derived from this Experience:

Personally:

It gave me the chance to try a world of new things and meet many amazing people.

Academically:

Among many other things, it taught me some skills that I have already had to use in field labs for one of my classes. I also learned a lot of Spanish.

Professionally:

I feel that this experience is far more than a section of my resume – it gave me insight to the functions of NGOs and allowed me to gain some real field experience.

Culturally:

It opened my eyes to a different way of living and inspired me to pursue learning another language.

“This July we landed in Costa Rica as three Lehigh University students eager to learn about the Osa Peninsula’s natural beauty. After living and working at Cerro Osa for five weeks, and meeting a cast of unforgettable people, this paradise feels more like a second home, one we all hope to see again soon! Thanks to everyone who made our experience possible. Pura Vida!”



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Maria Theresa Mejia; Kosovo

College of Arts & Sciences
Global Studies

American Education Fund
Reforestation Surveyor

The Iacocca International Internship in Kosovo allowed me to take part in the American Councils' mission in providing programs for Kosovar-Albanians, but I was also able to take in the beauty of Kosovo and its people. In my role, I learned about the mission of the American Councils and how the Kosovo American Education Fund plays a role in striving to achieve this mission. I learned about all the projects that the American Councils is involved with, from Kosovo American Education Fund (KAEF), Kosovo American Education Fund Alumni Association (KAEFA), Youth Exchange Scholarship (YES), Junior Faculty Development Program (JFDP), to Kosovo Improvement through Education (KITE). American Councils is an institution that values education and utilizes this as an investment for Kosovo.

My travel experience in Kosovo marks the first time that I have traveled alone and is definitely one that I will not forget. Despite traveling by myself in a country that I knew little about, I adapted quickly and integrated with my new third home country. I was warmly welcomed into my host family as well as in the work place amongst the American Councils team. In no time, I was able to bond both with my host family and my colleagues as I explored more about what Kosovo and its culture is really about, as well as the intricacies of the American Councils and how it works in the local and international systems. Beyond learning about others and their culture, this experience has encouraged me to reflect upon myself, my identity, and my culture, while at the same time how others live, their culture, and how they see me. Although I have integrated well with my host family and the American Councils team, have adapted to the hustle and bustle of Prishtina, I believe that the most important lesson that continues to resonate throughout my abroad experiences is that exploring cultures and traveling is uncomfortable-- traveling means going beyond your familiar and comfortable environment. However, it is how I choose to act and react to this uncomfortable feeling that matters.



"I wanted to know that I could travel independently, and through this Iacocca program in Kosovo, I was able to do just that! I was able to travel throughout Kosovo, take on a professional role as an intern at the American Councils in Prishtina, all while immersing myself in the Kosovo-Albanian culture. My experience helped me grow professionally and personally."



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Anne Orenstein; Georgia

College of Business and Economics State Ministry for European & Economics & Environmental Studies Euro-Atlantic Integration

During my days at the ministry, I would check in with my boss and see which tasks needed to be performed that day. We were preparing for a conference, which was held in July so most of my days involved checking up on RSVP'ed participants and arranging their travel details. On other days, I would analyze progress reports of the Eastern Partnership countries and submit my findings to my boss who would bring it to the Vice Prime Minister. I was always utilized for my English abilities; I would read over emails, documents, and press releases before they were sent out in order to make sure all of the grammar was correct.

"My international internship in Tbilisi, Georgia was an extraordinarily enriching experience. Not only did I gain further insight into the versatility of my major and the countless career opportunities that lie ahead, but I also was able to thrive in a foreign environment and became a more adaptive, learned individual as a result. Learning new outlooks and perspectives on global issues truly broadened my horizons, which led to a degree of open-mindedness that I would not have been able to achieve prior. This internship heightened my passion for global education by reinforcing my belief that some of the most important life lessons are learned outside of the classroom. The relationships that I formed with my coworkers, my host family, and my Georgian friends will last long into the future. This international internship program has enhanced my Lehigh education in ways I never dreamed possible. The lessons are invaluable, the rewards are unmatched, and the overall experience is priceless."

As I believe any business leader would agree, having an international perspective and an ability to adapt to new situations and environments are two key elements to success in the business world, especially in the global marketplace. This internship allowed me to gain insight into a region of the world that I was not familiar with, thus making me more internationally conscious and well rounded. Although nerve-racking at first, this experience also ended up enhancing my ability to thrive in situations and places outside of my comfort zone. Success in the business world is all about pushing the limits and this internship allowed me to do so by fostering independence, confidence, and a global perspective that I otherwise would not have been able to achieve.



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Joe Rendon; Kazakhstan

College of Arts and Sciences
Sociology and Anthropology

KIMEP University
Corporate Development

Every day I helped KIMEP's Corporate Development Department manage their tasks and I have been given a project of my own. KIMEP University's current goals are to understand the underlying causes of why admitted students chose not to attend KIMEP and why the retention rate of freshmen has dropped. They want to understand it more through the students' point of view. They are also trying to receive more recognized accreditation to allow the university to compete internationally. They have been trying to help boost Kazakhstan's economy by educating students and even giving those from more unfortunate backgrounds a chance to pursue a higher education. I interviewed around 80 international students and trying to find out more about them, to see if they have any issues they want to address about KIMEP and anything they love about their university. The information gathered will then be analyzed and I will present it to the head of departments to see what improvements can be done at KIMEP for its students and the university as a whole. I also took pictures of students and tried to find the best strategies on how to market KIMEP to local and international companies and to recruit future international students. I also worked on their alumni magazine designs and context and their website for international students.



"Beyond the usual trip abroad, this program allowed me to grasp and understand both the culture in and outside the workforce. I was able to stay with a host family to immerse myself in everyday life styles and was able to work in an office where I learned different work etiquette. I was in charge of my own project, gave recommendations of changes that can be done internally at the institute, and I was given a lot of room for creativity. Due to this program, I have gained new perspectives and the ability to adapt myself in new situations. In the end I felt as if I was right at home while I was abroad and it was hard for me to leave."

I have gained the ability to be more extraverted. I now can speak to peers and those higher than me with ease. I not only learned how to work internationally but how to grow as a citizen of a global world. I now have aspirations that exceed those priors. Never had I thought that I could achieve a lot but now my drive is beyond what I could have imagined.



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Laura Sieger; Portugal

College of Arts & Sciences
Spanish and Global Studies

Pestana Hotel and Resort
Marketing Intern

When I first arrived to Portugal, the position Pestana assigned me for my seven-week duration was in “customer relations” since they did not have a project for me due to a recent restructuring the company. Since this level of work did not fit the description on which I applied I discussed my dismay with my advisor in Portugal as well as at Lehigh. Due to my discontent in this position, the head of the human relations department in Lisbon created a project for me. This project consisted of creating an organogram electronically for each hotel that was owned by Pestana. I did not feel as though my work with Pestana challenged me nor did I learn much from the project itself. I did need to learn how to work independently on a day-to-day basis and how to assert myself professionally in a business.



“I do not want my negative experience to be taken as though I am unappreciative of the opportunity that was provided to me. I am still very thankful and honored to have been chosen to be part of this program and to have had the experience that I did. ”

Value Derived from this Experience:

I believe that this experience affected me most personally. These seven weeks were very difficult and they forced me to be completely independent. Staying for the duration of the seven weeks helped me prove to myself that I am stronger than I think I am. I do not like to quit and give up on things that I have started so, I tried to make the most of what I was given and put all of my effort into not only the work but the experience as a whole. Academically, I do not feel as though this experience was beneficial but professionally I did learn how to handle difficult situations in a work place and the best way to approach them. In some regards I feel as though this experienced enhanced my cultural understanding but in other ways it also made me appreciate my own culture more. There are many luxuries from home that I took advantage of that I know appreciate everyday after spending my summer in Portugal. Since I was at a resort, I do not feel as though I was fully able to grasp the intricacies of the Portuguese culture but I do feel as though I was able to get a taste of it, literally and figuratively.



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Ke Xue (Coco); China

Engineering & Applied Science
Chemical Engineering

Bracalente Manufacturing
Office Executive Assistant

I did two projects for this internship during the six weeks in China. My first project was to help the HR specialist to set up the employee database. In the US, employee performance was recorded and tracked using the access database. However, in China, it was done by hand. In order to keep consistent, it was crucial to set up the employee database in China. Since the policies and conditions were a little bit different between the US and China, some modifications were made to the Access Database. The second project was to help with the supply chain delivery accuracy. The US customers had issues with the delivery accuracy. In order to please the customers and maintain a positive reputation, it was imperative that the delivery problem be solved. The problem was complicated; it involved the production rate, the purchasing planning, and the level of inventory. I collected the past data about the shipping duration, and estimated the customer declaration time. In the end we recommended an increase in lead time.



"The most valuable lesson I learned from this internship is the importance of the communication. Since it is a US Joint Venture company, confusions and misunderstandings rise due to the language barriers and culture differences. It is crucial to understand and know situations at both sides, and then it is easier to solve the problems. "

Value Derived from this Experience:

The Lehigh internship provided me a great working experience in my native country. The working atmosphere was the most valuable since I know the culture. Bracalente is a family business and employees treat each other with respect, equality, and trust. I love this family culture! My colleagues and I are not just friends; we are more like a family. The experience was amazing and I was glad that I took part in this program.

Most importantly, I got a job offer because of the internship!

Before I started the internship, I had a chance to talk to the president of the company, Ron Bracalente, and visited the US Company for three times to learn more about the company structure and the global business prior to the departure to China. I remain contact with Ron after the internship and he invited me for social events when the two Chinese employees came and visited the company here in the US in September. At that time, he introduced me to the global business members and we also had a chance to know each other better. Then he told me that he was willing to offer me a job so that I could get trained here and then help the business in China. He needs someone like me who is familiar with the American and Chinese cultures and can build a bridge between the two companies.



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Thank you to the donors who made this program possible!



Anonymous
Jay Allen '67
David M. Baldwin '51
Maria '87 & John '85 Chrin
John R. Day '98
Stewart Early '66
Ernst and Young Foundation
The Freeman Foundation
John C. Evans, Ph.D. '66
Wayne D. Freese '59
Linda and Peter M. Gilbert F/S
Judy and Donald M. Gruhn '49

Holt Family Foundation
Lee A. Iacocca '45
Harry B. Levine '56
Howard Lieberman 'F
Vincent G. Munley '74
Donald R. Phillips '84
PricewaterhouseCoopers Foundation
Alex P. Tamm '12
Lawrence J. Tamm '12P
Arthur Tauck '59
Vincent R. Volpe, Jr. '80



For Additional Information

<http://www.lehigh.edu/intint/oiai/>

Carol Ham, Program Director

csh205@lehigh.edu (610) 758-3467



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY |

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS