

Taking Lehigh to the World and Bringing the World to Lehigh



International Internship for Global Leadership Program Student Report



Fall 2013



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY |

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS



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September 2013

Dear Friends and Colleagues of Lehigh University:

This book features student experiences from the second year of the International Internship for Global Leadership Program, which provides Lehigh students with affordable international internships and work and learn opportunities.

In its first year, 13 students participated. This year, that number more than doubled to 43. We focus on reaching students who have not studied abroad and who have financial need—in other words, students who probably would not otherwise have an international experience.

The program is supported by a challenge grant of up to \$5 million from Lee Iacocca '45, which has been matched by gifts from other alumni and friends up to \$10 million, as well as a grant from the Freeman Foundation. These people and organizations choose to support the internship program because it educates Lehigh students as global citizens, knowledgeable about the world and adept at working and communicating across cultures.

Thanks to their generosity, students can choose among a diverse array of opportunities in countries like China, Cambodia, Abu Dhabi, Kosovo and more, including individual internships, research experiences and team cohort internships.

Moreover, we're committed to making these experiences affordable for all students. This year, 43 students interned abroad at no cost to them. In addition, we provided an educational stipend to students who demonstrate financial need that is meant to offset a portion of lost summer income.

This year, in addition to the 20 individual internships, we worked with Lehigh faculty members to develop several theme-based cohorts, where students live and work with their peers under the supervision of Lehigh professors. We also pioneered research-based internships where students can work in laboratories, in addition to interning at international corporations and organizations.

We plan to expand both individual internships and the cohort and research opportunities next year to give students an even wider variety of affordable international work and research opportunities in more countries. Seventy students will participate in summer 2014, and we're adding eight faculty-led, theme-based groups in Europe, South and East Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In this book, you will read students' accounts of experiences as different as working at a children's rights organization in Cambodia, researching wave dynamics in Malaysia and improving machine systems in Hungary. As different as they are, each taught students how to live and work in a different culture, while also giving them practical work experience.

I hope you enjoy reading about what students learned from their participation in the international internship program. Thanks to the generosity of Lee Iacocca '45, the Freeman Foundation, and many alumni and friends, we look forward to giving this life-changing experience to more students in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Mohamed S. El-Aasser

2013 International Internships

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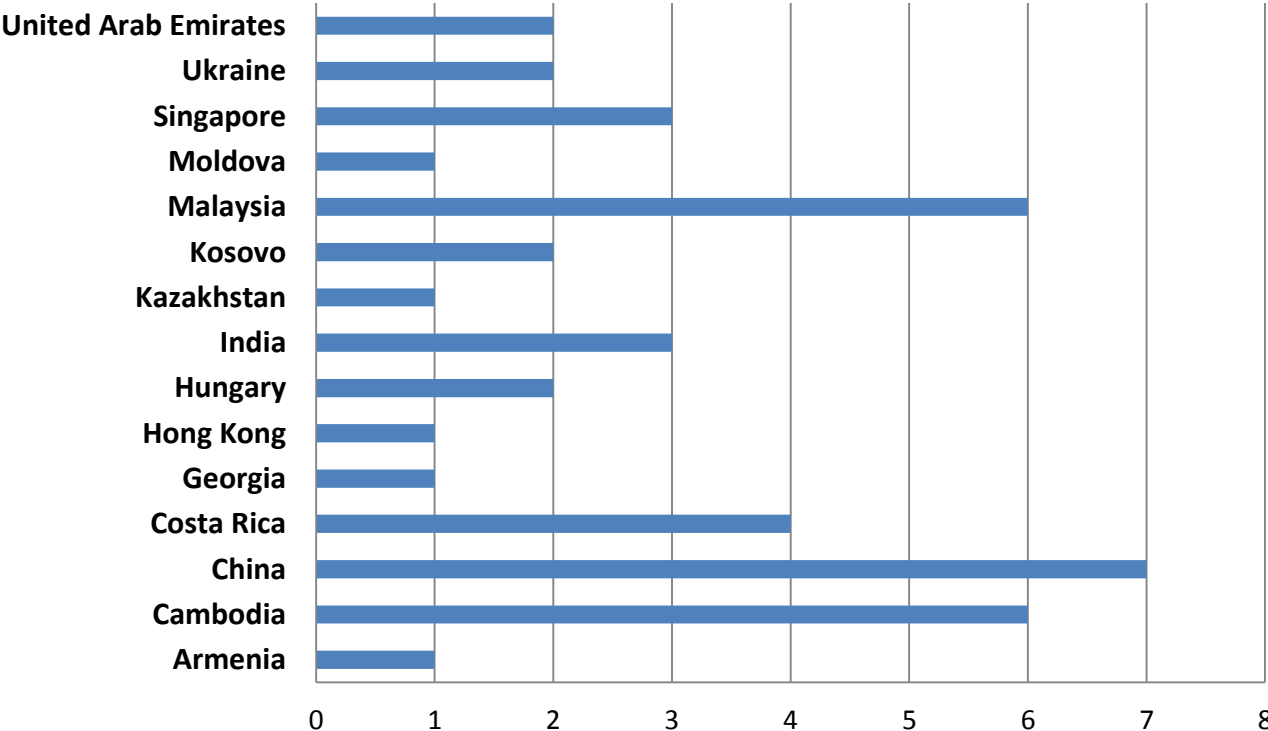
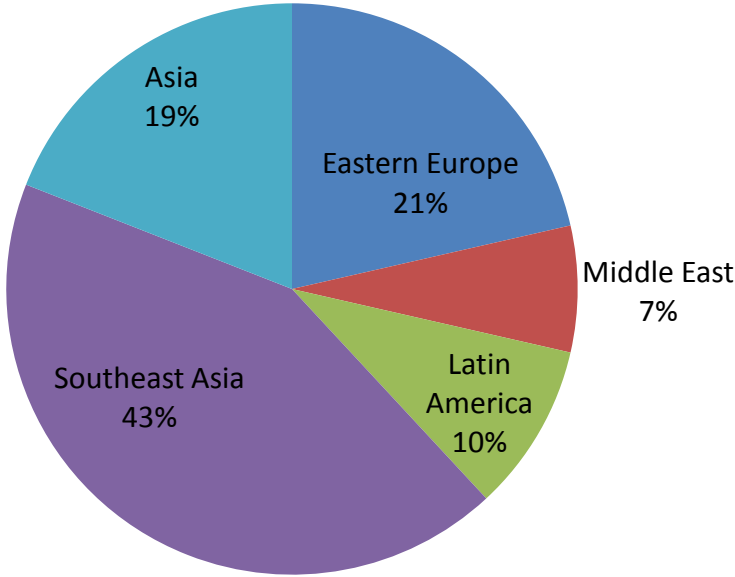
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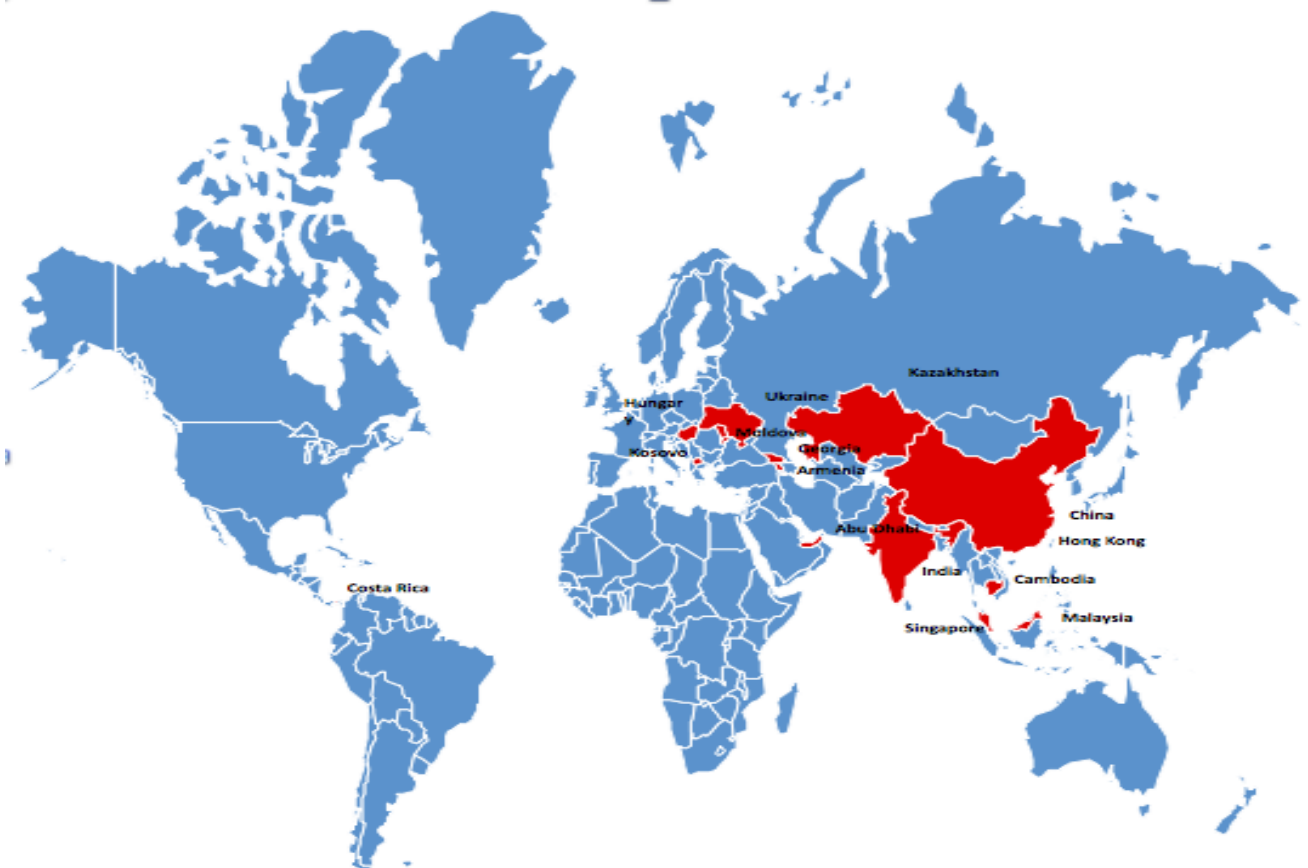
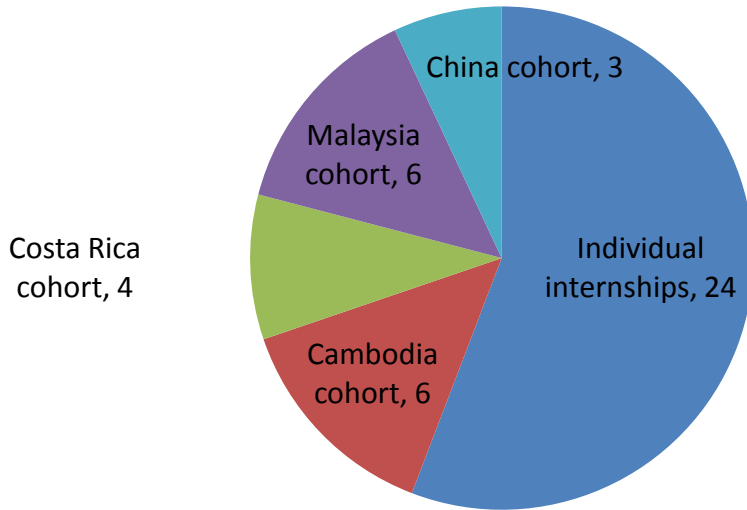
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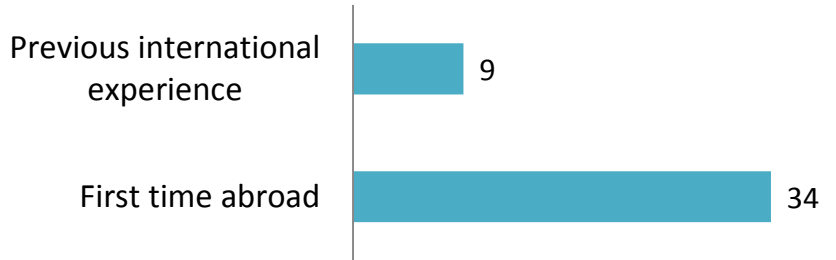


Geographic Representation

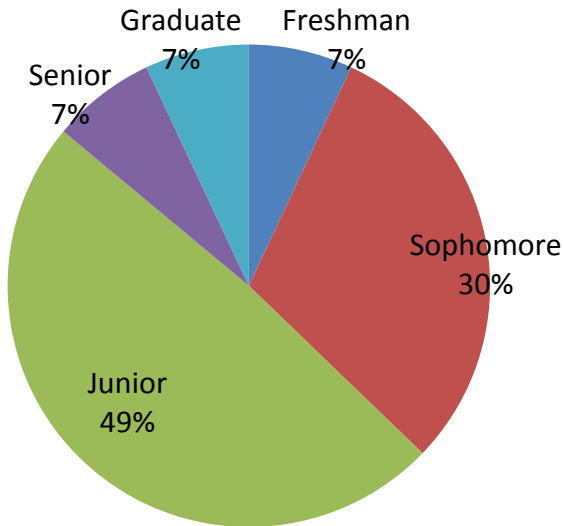


Intern Demographics

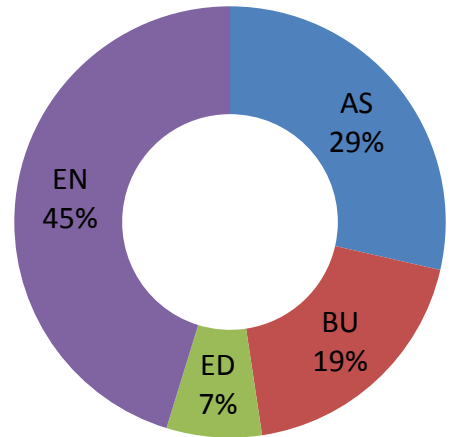
International Experience



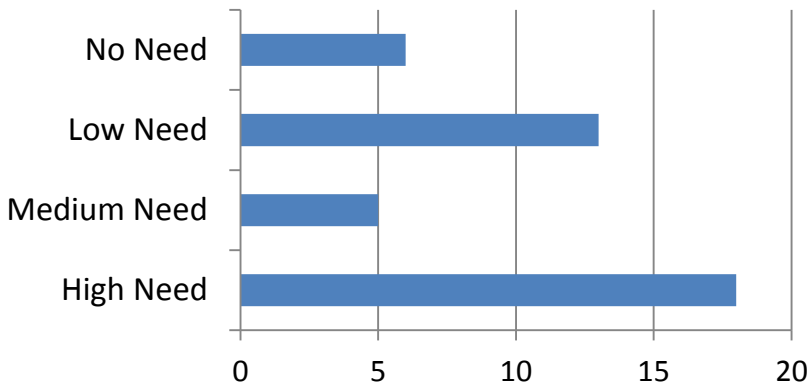
Class Year

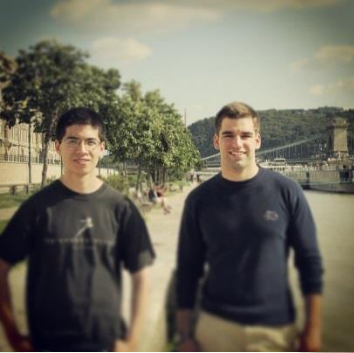


College



Student Financial Status





Stephanie Arot

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

College of Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

DeSimone Consulting
Engineering Intern



Area of Abu Dhabi where we worked



Photo from site survey

Company and Position Description:

DeSimone Consulting Engineers provides high-quality, creative structural engineering services to architects, owners and developers. The firm's breadth and diversity are key strengths that have positioned them to best serve the clients needs. DeSimone performs structural analysis and design for all types of buildings at all project phases. The firm has had tremendous success with clients who insist on personal attention and demand inspired engineering.

As an intern at DeSimone, I assisted the Senior Project Engineer and Project Managers with a variety of tasks. Throughout the summer, I reviewed shop drawings, created marketing brochures, performed site surveys, and researched construction industry trends in the Middle East.

Stephanie Arot

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

College of Engineering
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Stephanie Arot

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

DESIMONE



Holding a falcon



The Burj Khalifa

Value Derived from the Experience: I found my time in Abu Dhabi to be quite a learning experience. The work I performed was unfulfilling, but throughout my time there, I learned quite a bit about what it takes to work in another country, and also learned how to be extremely autonomous in the work place. Socially, Abu Dhabi was not very exciting since it was the month of Ramadan for most of the time we were there, so we had to get creative about how we spent our free time. The things we did and places we went after work and on the weekends were amazing, and getting to do such things like going to a falcon hospital and holding falcons, doing yoga on the beach, seeing the worlds tallest building, and seeing the beautiful architecture of the Sheikh Zayed grand mosque were experiences that I will treasure forever. Being exposed to a culture so vastly different from my own was an interesting, and sometimes overwhelming, experience. It is always fascinating to learn about others cultures, even if you disagree with many of their customs and beliefs. I believe that getting to spend so much time in such a different place really helped me grow as a person. One of the biggest challenges was spending the summer with only one other person. Since there was nobody at work for us to spend time with, we only had each other. While it was a good support system for the time we were together, it was also difficult to not have anybody else. It forced us to get along, even though we may have not wanted to, and taught me a lot about relationships with other people.

Allyson Baer

Kingdom of Cambodia

Comparative and International
Education

Caring for Cambodia
Career Preparation Program Intern



Position Description: Caring for Cambodia, or CFC, was founded in 2003 to provide a sustainable, quality education for students by providing safe, technologically equipped schools, mentoring teachers to improve education quality, and providing funds and supplies to make school a more child-friendly environment. CFC operates in government schools and has educated over 8,500 students. CFC currently supports and partners with five primary schools, two lower secondary schools, and two upper secondary schools (high school), as well as numerous community preschools. At Bakong High School, a program called the Career Corner has been implemented within the past two years. The program began as a way to provide resources to students about applying to college, which careers require which skills, and other opportunities available to students after graduating high school. As the Career Preparation Program Intern, I worked to prepare the Career Corner program to expand to the newly completed Aranh High School. I also created a series of online and instructor-led modules and certificate programs geared towards general career preparation as well as specific career opportunities in different job sectors in order to prepare high school students for internal and external internships with CFC and for their future career opportunities after high school graduation.



*Students leaving class at CFC's
Amelio Primary School.*



*Children enjoying a meal before class
provided by CFC's Food for Thought
Program.*

Allyson Baer

Kingdom of Cambodia



Enjoying a trip to Angkor Wat, the largest religious site in the world.



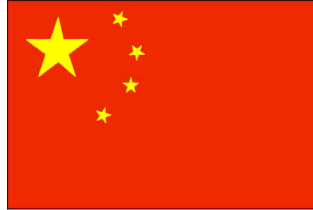
Students spending time together eating before school.

Value Derived from the experience: I'm not sure there are words to describe how much this experience has affected me both professionally and personally. The impact it has had on me professionally is perhaps easiest to grasp. Interning with CFC has provided me with invaluable insight into how non-governmental organizations both operate internally and interact with their surrounding communities. Being a graduate student studying Comparative and International Education, we discuss NGOs and their impact quite frequently. Being able to actually work with an NGO for two months has provided me with a completely new perspective and a greater appreciation for the work that is being done by NGOs around the world. Being able to work specifically with a career preparation program has given me hope that opportunities for Cambodian youth are increasing as more and more NGOs and government initiatives have recognized the importance of career preparation for the success and development of Cambodia's future. On a personal level, this experience has had a profound impact on how I view the world. Despite Cambodia's grim history, its people have a refreshing sense of optimism and a surprisingly positive outlook on their lives and futures. The people's resilience and happiness are evident in their day to day interactions. It has forced me to reconsider the way I interact with others and how I perceive our world's problems. I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to work alongside Khmer people who are actively investing in the future of their country every day.

Deidre Baker

China

College of Engineering
Chemical Engineering



3M & East China
University of Science
and Technology



Taber Haze Instrument



Instron Instrument

3M China Window Film Intern: During my 8 weeks in Shanghai, China, I worked in 3M China's Window Film Department. I performed numerous tests, including transmission, haze, reflection, liner release, and heat shrinkage rate, on new samples provided by the company. My workdays were relaxed and everyone seemed to work at a very leisurely pace.

I gained considerable professional insight from this experience. Primarily, I learned that I have little interest in a corporate environment, especially one as profit-driven as 3M. I would also appreciate a company that provides more guidance and hands-on training

Deidre Baker

China



Shanghai City Exposition



Qibao Old Town

Value Derived from the Experience: Spending 8 weeks in Shanghai was a challenging experience. The language barrier was definitely the greatest difficulty to overcome. Having no knowledge of Chinese at all, I was at a severe disadvantage from the beginning, and without any formal guidance or support from the hosting university or the company, I encountered many hardships, even in daily interactions such as purchasing meals and navigating my way around the city. As trying as the experience was, I learned that I am able to endure tough times and that even without being able to communicate fluently or consistently, most Chinese people are willing to help when they can. Shanghai is certainly an expensive city and popular tourist destination, but living there for an extended period of time is very difficult.

While with the Chinese partner students, we discussed various aspects of Chinese culture and compared them with the American culture. These talks really opened my eyes to the great differences between the U.S. and China and made me further appreciate all the opportunities and freedoms that exist here.

Aftan Baldwin

The Kingdom of Cambodia

College of Education:
MA Comparative
and International
Education



Cambodian Center for
the Protection of
Children's Rights
Intern

Company and Position Description:

The Cambodian Center for the Protection of Children's Rights (CCPCR) is one of the oldest NGOs in Cambodia. It was created in 1994 and currently operates in over 5 provinces of Cambodia. There are several children's shelters, halfway houses, and community development programs run by the organization. CCPCR works both with victims and families, working towards the eradication of child exploitation and abuse within in Cambodia. As an intern at CCPCR, my primary responsibilities include: website and social media maintenance, report editing, curriculum development, basic capacity building, and resistance building activities with the children in the shelters.



In the 1970's, Cambodia suffered a genocide that eliminated one third of the population, targeting the educated and elite. Many children were left orphaned and those orphans are now struggling to ensure the healthy and safety of their own children. One of the girls at a CCPCR shelter (left), and CCPCR staff (above).

Aftan Baldwin

The Kingdom of Cambodia



One of the CCPCR social workers working with a family.



The children at CCPCR

Value Derived from the Experience: After the genocide in the 1970s, Cambodia's education system, economy, and infrastructure were nearly nonexistent. The country still relies heavily on foreign aid and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in the resolution of these issues. Many foreign workers have their own agendas when it comes to the development of Cambodia and these agendas may not always coincide with the ideas the Khmer have for their country. It has been very beneficial for me to see these interactions first hand and see how each NGO and foreign aid worker function differently within the Cambodian context. CCPCR is in a transformation stage. As the organization works comfortably on the grassroots level, it also seeks to satisfy donors and comply with international standards. There is both Khmer and foreign staff at CCPCR and many of them must be able to work well in both cultural contexts for work to be accomplished. Another benefit this experience had, was being able to see a country that, even though it has been through so much devastation, its people still have the motivation to improve upon their situation. This reaffirms my belief that change is possible no matter the circumstance, and motivates me to work harder in my everyday life to make the world a better place.

Alexandra Barone

Kazakhstan

Arts and Sciences
International Relations

Eurasia Foundation of
Central Asia Intern



EFCA is a non-profit organization founded in Almaty in 2005. EFCA's projects aim to strengthen the civil society capacity of the people in Kazakhstan. The subjects of its projects include human rights, business corruption, youth, disabled persons, etc. During my internship I worked closely with the Research and Development office. My tasks included proof-reading and editing, translation, research, and grant writing. EFCA allowed me to explore my special interest in CSR by working on their project aimed at increasing CSR practices in Kazakhstan. I was also invited to attend meetings with other local NGOs, the American Chamber of Commerce, and Amnesty International.



Zenkov Cathedral, a Russian Orthodox Church and the second tallest wooden building in the world



Yurt, a traditional Kazakh house

Alexandra Barone

Kazakhstan



First President's Park



Mountains of Almaty

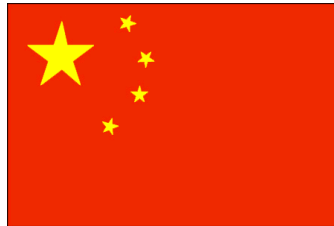
My experience in Almaty taught me how important it is to be able to adapt to any situation or environment. The culture of Almaty was very different than anything I had ever experienced. It was extremely valuable to gain perspective of a culture so different from the Western norm I am accustomed to. I was able to engage in conversations with many different people and fully immerse myself in the Kazakh culture. My biggest obstacle while living in Almaty was having no knowledge of Russian. The Russian language is extremely dominant in Almaty. Everyone engages conversation in Russian and all of the signs are in Russian. This handicap forced me to be extremely resourceful to navigate the city and get to know people. This experience taught me that I am capable of adapting to extremely foreign environments in unfavorable circumstances. I am eager to apply the lessons I learned here to my personal and professional life.

Christina Bauer

China

College of Business
Business Information
Systems

Becton Dickinson
Strategic
Planning Intern



Position Descriptions: Becton Dickinson is a medical technology company that manufactures a wide array of medical supplies, devices, laboratory equipment and diagnostic devices to various healthcare institutions, life science researchers and clinical laboratories. As a summer intern at BD's Shanghai office I, along with my co-intern were responsible for working on a Greater Asia Healthcare Factbook. Our responsibilities for this project entailed compiling data regarding the various healthcare systems throughout BD's Greater Asia region, drawing inferences from these findings and creating a detailed power point presentation with a variety of graphs illustrating what we had found along with detailed analysis. In addition to these slides we were also responsible for writing a brief narrative to go along with our presentation.



Asia Factbook Team Portrait



Business trip to Beijing

Christina Bauer

China



The Bund at night



The Forbidden City

Value Derived from the Experience: In addition to gaining career-related experience, this internship taught me a lot about myself as a person. Especially with the language barrier, and having no prior experience with the Chinese language, living in China was definitely not easy. I learned how to adapt quickly to a challenging environment and to be open to trying new things. Luckily, Lehigh connected my co-intern and me to some incredible people who made us feel welcome and cared for during our stay. In addition, being immersed in a new culture was a great experience because I was able to push myself outside of my comfort zone and realize that I can overcome anything that is thrown my way.

I would definitely recommend this type of internship to anyone because it was one of the most rewarding, eye-opening experiences that I have ever had. This internship allowed me to gain insight into China, a country I had never considered visiting prior to this summer and made me more aware of what Asia has to offer. Additionally, this internship experience has also made me more globally curious, and has inspired me to travel to other countries that I had never considered in the past. Finally, one last thing that my time in China has taught me is the importance of keeping an international perspective and how it is the key to success in today's globalized economy.

Brandyn Bok

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Rossin College of Engineering
IBE – Mechanical Engineer

DeSimone Consulting
Structural Engineer



DeSimone Consulting Engineers – Abu Dhabi, UAE:

DeSimone Consulting Engineers is a structural engineering firm that provides creative structural services to architects, investors, and developers. DeSimone performs structural design and analysis for all types of buildings at all project phases. DeSimone's Abu Dhabi office opened in 2008 and currently is working on Middle East projects in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Qatar.

During my time as an intern at DeSimone's Abu Dhabi office, I performed a variety of work on a variety of different projects. I spent a majority of my time conducting market research in Middle East construction industry, and at the end of my internship, I presented my findings to the directors of the office. I also did some site surveying work for ADNOC Medical Center, structural shop drawing review for Al Hilal Bank Tower, and compiled the structural steel product specifications for Al Hilal Bank Tower, and compiled the structural steel product specifications for Al Wafra Seef.



The Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Corniche Boardwalk overlooking the Arabian Gulf, Abu Dhabi

Brandyn Bok

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates



Al Jahlil Fort, Al Ain

DESIMONE
Consulting
Engineers



Emirates Park Zoo, Abu Dhabi

Value Derived from the Experience:

While the field I worked in was slightly outside of the scope of my major, the most important value I gained from this experience extends much further than technical skills. From a professional standpoint, I learned how a consulting engineering firm operates. I was able to see how a business expands internationally. I feel as though most of the work I did really helped DeSimone's Abu Dhabi office establish itself in the region and learn more about how to succeed in the Middle East. From regularly conducting market research in the Middle East construction industry and presenting a report to the directors of the company, I was able to understand some of the challenges faced by international firms.

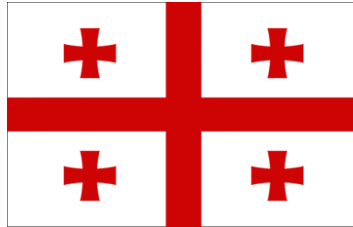
Outside of the workplace, I was able to immerse myself completely in a foreign Eastern culture. From getting to interact with animals like falcons and giraffes, to bargaining at traditional Arabic markets called "souqs", to experiencing both the challenges and festivities during Ramadan, and learning some great life lessons, this is an experience I will truly never forget. Also, because this internship marked not only my first time traveling outside of the US, but also my longest time away from home, I have become a much more independent and responsible person by overcoming the daily challenges of living in another country so far away from home for an extended period of time.

Savannah Boylan

Georgia

Arts and Sciences
International Relations

State Ministry for European
and Euro-Atlantic Integration
Intern



Position Description:

As an Intern for the Office of the State Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, I was able to work first hand on English official government documents, press releases, and various forms regarding editing and grammar. Every year the Ministry organizes an International Conference for members of the EU and the Eastern Partnership. As an Intern, I was able to help prepare and coordinate the conference. This year, I was the first intern to attend and work at the conference where I co-wrote the welcome speech for the Minister and worked with the logistics of the conference. As an intern, I was also able to write political reviews and summaries of key EU integration documents.



*My boss and me in front of the official logo
of our Ministry*



At the International Conference

Savannah Boylan

Georgia



Value Derived from the Experience:

My experiences in the Republic of Georgia have shaped my perception on International Relations and has offered me a real world application of the knowledge that I have gained in the classroom. As a rising Junior, I was able to spend two months with an organization in which I enjoyed going to work every morning and hated to leave every evening. One of my favorite memories is working with the Deputy Minister to write the Minister's speech until 2am, and not leaving our desk until I had to be pulled away to get some sleep. It is not often that people find a career in which they truly enjoy their work, and I am so grateful that I found such an experience. Working in a foreign country creates new challenges to the workforce, and learning to adapt to a new work culture was a challenge. Yet the skills that I gained this summer were invaluable, and has allowed me to be able to become more independent and versatile. I now feel comfortable with the uncomfortable, having worked and lived in a foreign country. I know that in whatever future employment that I seek, I will be able to confidently say to any employer that I am able to adapt and succeed in any venture.



Local protests outside of the building



Entrance to the State Ministry

Michelle Choi

Ukraine

Arts and Sciences
Sociology and Women, Gender,
and Sexuality Studies

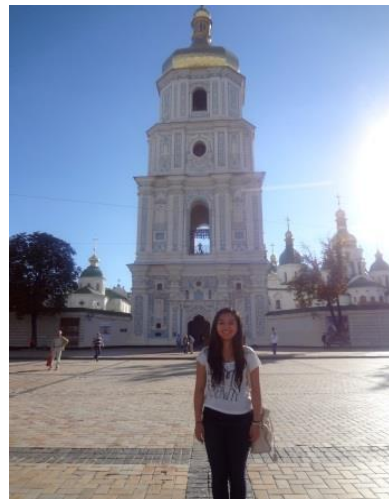
American Councils for
International Education: Open
World Leadership
Intern



Company and Position Description: The Open World Leadership Program in Ukraine focuses on Ukrainian and American exchange in education and business. The program works with exchange between Ukrainian professionals (Government officials, Doctors, Professors, etc.) and their American counterparts to learn and grasp a better understanding of how their profession works in America. My job is to conduct lectures on American culture and American University culture, act as an American liaison to help students and business professions with any questions, translate everything into English, write up application guidelines, and edit manuals. My personal summer project was to conduct a Gender Equality seminar comparing and contrasting topics between America and Ukraine, for professions in nonprofit work or are interested in gender issues. After the lecture, I conducted a training session for the attendees.



Ukrainian Traditional Headpiece called Vinok



St. Sophia Church

Michelle Choi

Ukraine



Maidan Nezalezhnosti



Me with my Babuschka

Value Derived from the Experience:

Working for American Councils for International Education gave me a new perspective of the career path I want to go into after graduation. I was given the flexibility to work on projects and assignments that I enjoyed doing and in areas that I wanted to focus on. Having control of my own projects helped me strengthen the areas I am weak in while improving and expanding my skills. This prepared me more for post-graduation work and enhanced my resume.

My experience living in Ukraine was much more than just work, however. I was fortunate enough to live with the best host mom and babuschka (grandma), who took me into their home with wide, open arms. By the end of the first week together, I felt so comfortable with them and in their home that it felt as if I was there for months. Luckily, the people I worked with were just as amazing. Within the company I had a small community and having that sense of community and family while you are in a foreign country can make the biggest difference.

Living in a country I knew very little about helped me grow and understand myself and the world with new eyes. I appreciate what I have more than ever before but also hunger for more exploration because of all the things I fell in love with. There is a larger world out there and with Ukraine, I was able to learn about a new language, culture, people, views, lifestyles, and of course, cuisine. This summer has been one of the best times of my life and there will always be a special place in my heart for Ukraine.

Christopher Clark

Hungary

Engineering & Applied Science
Industrial Engineering

Metem Corporation
Quality Engineering Intern



Metem is a privately owned company that machines turbine blades and vanes for major companies in the power generation and aerospace industries. Specifically, Metem drills very precise cooling holes into turbine engine components made of superalloy materials using ECM (electrochemical machining) and EDM (electrical discharge machining) techniques. These cooling holes allow the turbine engines to run at hotter temperatures, and to operate for longer periods of time. Metem currently operates three facilities with several hundred employees worldwide, and it hopes to expand in the future as interest in and demand for natural gas power grows. At Metem, I worked with members of the quality engineering team to analyze and improve the efficiency of their systems and processes using lean manufacturing techniques. I was involved in several projects, during which I had to collect and analyze data on various performance measures of interest, then propose and evaluate some necessary changes in order to optimize process flow and information flow throughout the facility.



Spending a weekend in Prague.



Me, Steve, and co-workers at a mountain lake in Poland.

Christopher Clark

Hungary



With Niki and Aliz, HR specialists



Százhalombatta

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience has been a great opportunity for me to grow both professionally and personally. Living in Central Europe was very exciting, and I got to travel around the area a lot over the course of the two-month internship period. Everyone at Metem was very kind and welcoming to me. Having the chance to immerse myself in Hungarian culture by speaking to the people there has broadened my perspective and given me greater insight in life. I learned a great deal about how the company operates and the technology that they use. Having the opportunity to work alongside the shop floor workers and managers at the facility has provided me with valuable experience, and I feel much better prepared for the future as a result. I was also very impressed with the tight-knit nature of the Metem community. I feel much more confident as a result of this experience, and it's something that I will remember and appreciate for the rest of my life.

Dan Coviello

Costa Rica

College of Engineering
B.S. Environmental
Engineering



The Iacocca Foundation
Service and Sustainable
Development Internship

Company and Position Description:

The mission of UGA Costa Rica is to advance its understanding—through instruction, research and outreach—of the interconnected nature of human and environmental systems, particularly the concepts of socio-cultural, ecological, and economic sustainability. Launched in January of 2008, the UGA Costa Rica Carbon Program seeks to fulfill UGA Costa Rica’s mission by offsetting carbon emissions related to travel, and restoring critical lost habitat on degraded pasturelands where tropical rainforests once stood. These new forests will help to improve forest connectivity throughout the Pájaro Campana Biological Corridor, and carbon offset purchases through the UGA Costa Rica Carbon Program will directly contribute to the establishment of new habitat for the three-wattled bellbird (known in Spanish as Pájaro Campana, the flagship species for the corridor) and the resplendent quetzal, two migratory species greatly impacted by habitat loss in this region. As an intern, I was able to conduct field work and aid in database management which were two critical needs for the success of the program.



Hiking to conduct field work



Arial view of the Bellbird Biological Corridor

Dan Coviello

Costa Rica



*Area where Lehigh aided in
turtle watches*



*Homestay within San Luis,
CR*

Value Derived from the Experience:

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to represent Lehigh in Costa Rica and while I was in the country I tried to make the most out of my experience. I entered into the program with base goals of learning more Spanish, adapting to the lifestyle, and connecting my lessons learned to my future formal studies. My homestay family was an integral part of my time in Costa Rica because they welcomed me into their home with open arms and they had a willingness to teach me about the economic, social and environmental issues that affect them daily. As a student and intern I learned to appreciate the balance of work and play that exists within the small community of San Luis, CR. While myself and the other interns worked hard on our projects, we always took time to recognize where we were and enjoy the biodiversity that existed all around us. As I move forward with my studies and start my masters degree at Lehigh University in Environmental Policy Design I will take away several key lessons that I have learned from my time in Costa Rica.

- 1) Understanding the needs versus the wants of a community is an important first step in a project and it is important to reassess those needs and wants once the project has started.
- 2) Working side by side with community members to educate them about their actions helps to create ownership within the project.
- 3) What may seem effective on paper is often adapted and changed once someone starts to conduct field work.

Amie Diamond

Cambodia

College: Business
Major: Marketing &
Management



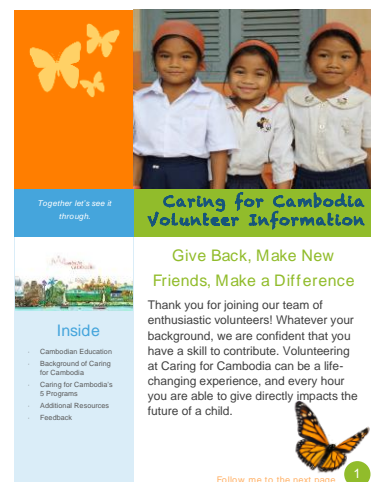
Caring for Cambodia
Volunteer Trip &
Student Activities

Company and Position Description:

Contemporary Cambodia has faced numerous educational barriers since the destruction of Cambodian society, brought upon by the Cambodian Genocide of the 1970s. Under the Khmer Rouge schools were shut down, educated people and teachers were executed, and an entire generation of Cambodian children grew up illiterate. The entire educational system is in the process of being recreated. Caring for Cambodia is an NGO that is working to provide high-quality education to students, as well as transportation, food, and supplies, factors that often are overlooked as inhibitors of a child's access to education. CFC is not only trying to change the lives of the students at its several Caring for Cambodia schools, but also the lives of local community members in the Siem Reap province, through maternal health and child development outreach classes. With the help of donors, school partnerships, and supply drives, CFC has had a remarkable impact, and is even working with the Cambodian government to institute further change in non-CFC schools.



Lead a Leadership Activity with Student Council Members at a CFC school.



Cover page of the Volunteer Education Packet I created for CFC.

Amie Diamond

Cambodia



CFC interns enjoy a day of visiting the temples of Angkor Wat.



Interns pictured with a CFC student council after a meeting.

Value Derived from the Experience:

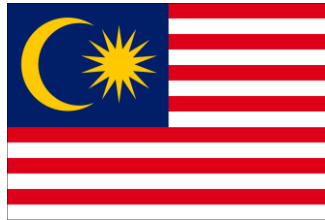
My two-month internship in Cambodia was an incredible experience. It challenged me to work in an environment where a language barrier and extreme poverty were ever-present. Witnessing the personal struggles that individuals experience in Cambodia, fueled my work professionally. At one student council meeting that I lead a game at, a member of the council was crying because it would be her last meeting. At the tender age of 12, her parents were forcing her to drop out of school and get a job so that she could contribute towards the family income. This is a common educational hurdle in Cambodia. It was learning about this, the history of the Cambodian genocide, and elements of contemporary Cambodian culture that increased my desire to perform all my internship duties to the best of my ability. I created a Volunteer Education Packet for my internship that detailed the educational challenges and history of education in Cambodia, while explaining what Caring for Cambodia is doing to counteract these deep-rooted issues. Learning about this information made me a more knowledgeable person on the surface, and it also developed my critical thinking skills in understanding the motives behind CFC programs that were implemented to confront the educational barriers in Cambodia. Furthermore, my internship allowed me to cultivate skills that I have developed at Lehigh, such as writing for a global audience and creating an artistic yet informative visual display. Personally and professionally, I could not have imagined a more rewarding and eye-opening experience.

Heba Elsayed

Malaysia

College of Engineering
Civil Engineering

Universiti Teknologi Petronas
Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

Universiti Teknologi Petronas was recently established by the Malaysian oil company, Petronas. I had the privilege to the university for a 7 week research attachment program. My project, Deepshore Technology, was specifically based on offshore structures with Dr. Kurian, my supervisor. I studied the wave and current forces on a vertical pipe in the ocean, conducting model tests in the wave tank related to hydrodynamic coefficients. It was a great learning experience generating waves in the wave tank lab, since we don't have anything like that at Lehigh. After several weeks in the lab, I analyzed the data using Matlab and Excel. In the meanwhile, I also completed the TPA-UTP Lecture Program. Professors hired by the French gas and power company, Total, come to the university and give a week long course on offshore technology topics. During my 7 week experience, I learned so much about a topic that I might not have been able to explore at Lehigh.



Volunteering at a nearby orphanage



Visiting the Cameron Highlands

Heba Elsayed

Malaysia



UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
PETRONAS



Attending a faculty member's traditional Malaysian wedding



Attending a soccer game final

Value Derived from the Experience:

I knew I wanted to study abroad somewhere that was completely different culturally than the States. I was looking for an entirely new experience. And that's exactly what I got when I went to Malaysia. Even the mundane details that we overlook in our daily lives were dissimilar. For example, I've tasted the most interesting fruits that I've never seen before at the weekly night market. Also, something I noticed in Malaysia is how relaxed and laid back everyone is, which was refreshing coming from a fast pace northeastern background. I never once felt unwelcomed; Malaysians are the nicest people.

I also value the friendships I made in my journey to Malaysian. The relationships I established with the students at UTP will last even after I leave. I value all the amazing and life changing memories I made with these people during our trips around Malaysia. Some of my favorite places we went to were Kuala Lumpur, the night market, a nearby waterfall, and the island of Penang.

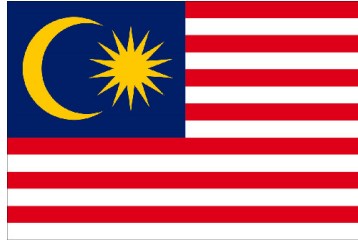
Overall this trip was better than I expected it to be. I genuinely enjoyed every aspect of it, and would recommend other students to apply.

Curtis Glover

Malaysia

College of Engineering
Civil Engineering

Universiti Teknologi Petronas
Research Assistant



Position Description: I worked at the Petronas Technology University as a research assistant in the Civil Engineering Department. I was paired with a professor and two graduate students. My advisor gave me the task of testing a new material called Maerogel. This is a new and cheap version of aerogel that was developed in 2006 in Malaysia. My task was to test the material when used as an additive in concrete. I would make small concrete cubes with varying amounts of Maerogel added and test for compressive strength, porosity and thermal conductivity. The country is looking to use it as a building material to help keep houses cooler and save on energy consumption.



The Petronas twin towers



View from Penang Hill

Curtis Glover

Malaysia



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PETRONAS



Campus View



School Library

Value Derived from the Experience:

Being able to do almost everything on my own was a great lesson in responsibility. I learned about performing research as I was conducting it and I think it made things easier for me to understand. That as well as creating my own schedule so that I was able to finish my project in a timely manner was another lesson that I will carry into my professional career. None of this would have been possible without the instant respect I received from my advisor and him trusting in my abilities. It was something I was very unsure about before I arrived but it was never an issue and for that I am truly grateful. From his example I will always remember to give people a chance to prove themselves before passing judgment on their abilities.

Kylie Gray

China

College of Arts and Sciences
English

East China University of
Science and Technology
Pre-service Teacher



Company and Position Description:

I worked as a pre-service teacher of ESL students at East China University of Science and Technology. Monday through Thursday, I led two to four new English classes for one period each, meeting hundreds of new students each day. I created lessons based upon what the teachers requested, which was most often related to American culture. Some favorite topics of the students were campus life, making friends, dating life, and cultural differences. Other times, a teacher asked me to teach from the book or just observe. I also took Chinese lessons for one period each day, and on Fridays the group met to discuss the week's experiences.



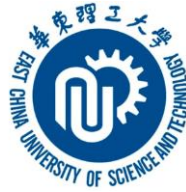
Me giving a presentation on campus life to my students



Our meeting room

Kylie Gray

China



Me at a suburb of Shanghai



Jake and me at the Great Wall

Value Derived from the Experience:

My internship in China was one of the most personally and professionally valuable experiences of my life. Professionally, I was exposed to a new career path that I hadn't previously explored. I realized that teaching English as a second language could be an exciting and rewarding way to break into the job market and see the world after I graduate. I truly enjoyed the work that I did, from planning each lesson to interacting with the students and getting them excited about learning English.

It was extremely gratifying to see myself improve my teaching abilities over the five weeks. By reflecting upon my experiences and applying feedback from professors, I adapted my lessons to become more affective. I also gained many personal skills as a teacher. By the end of the experience, I was able to speak slower, feel more confident, and ask the right kinds of questions to get the students engaged and talking.

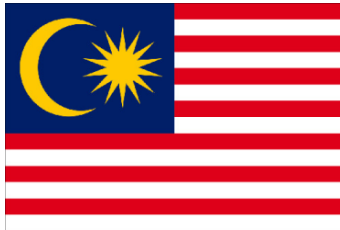
Personally, I will always cherish the memories I have of climbing the Great Wall, participating in a tea ceremony, and exploring Shanghai. I had not previously traveled much, so being in a culture so opposite of mine was enlightening and invigorating. I learned a lot "outside of the classroom" and feel extremely grateful for the experience!

Kimberly Hetrick

Malaysia

College of Engineering
Environmental Engineering

Universiti Teknologi Petronas
Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

Universiti Teknologi Petronas is a private university in Perak, Malaysia, funded by the Petronas oil company. The university allows engineering students from Lehigh to travel there for seven weeks to conduct research in a field fitting to their majors. The research that I conducted was in the field of environmental engineering. I worked to remove chlorpyrifos from wastewater, chemically, and to find the optimum ratios of chemicals to add to the water to remove the pesticide efficiently. A proposal was written, individual research was conducted, and a research article was written to be published in a scientific journal.



*Research Group, Environmental Engineering,
Universiti Teknologi Petronas 2013*



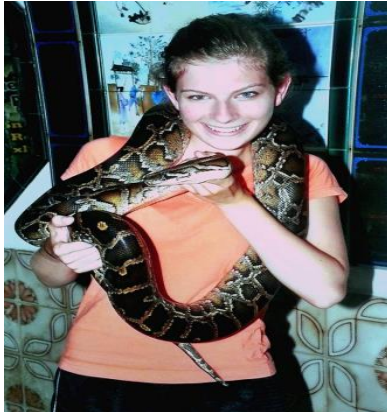
Universiti Teknologi Petronas

Kimberly Hetrick

Malaysia



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PETRONAS



Snake Temple, Perak



Malaysia Final Soccer Match, Kuala Lumpur

Value Derived from the Experience:

Interning abroad in Malaysia taught me not only how to conduct environmental research with a more global perspective, but also how to think of different cultures across the globe. Everything in Malaysia is different than it is in the United States: the food, the religion, the language, and the list goes on and on. Being placed somewhere entirely different from what I was used to taught me to really be able to adapt to any situation that I may be placed in both professionally and socially, but it also taught me to appreciate other cultures. I learned so much about how people live in Malaysia, and I really feel like this experience will make me more open to doing anything “out of the ordinary” in the future.

Everyone that I met in the country was so kind and helpful, and it made me realize that this is how we should treat other people who are different than us; we should help and befriend, not ostracize and ignore. This research experience has really taught me to appreciate and celebrate the differences in people, not shy away from them.

The lab that I worked in also taught me how to think of environmental problems with a global perspective. Environmental engineering is a field that deals with similar issues around the world, and my project dealt with a problem that is felt in many regions. It taught me of the necessities of international cooperation on environmental issues, and how interconnected communication and engineering actually are.

Amanda Jacinto

Singapore

College of Business/Engineering
Accounting & Finance

Aon Hewitt
Talent Sourcing and
Engagement Analyst



Company and Position Description:

Aon Hewitt is a subsidiary of Aon Pte Ltd. It is an American provider of human capital and management consulting services.

I work under the regional talent sourcing and engagement team dealing specifically with the Best Employers Study. My daily responsibilities have consisted of analyzing the data that has been collected for the latest study to create reports that will be used internally and distributed to clients.

I have had two major projects which contributed to the Best Employers Study during my internship with Aon Hewitt. I had to use a market-level perspective to create Country Reports for 9 countries in the Asia Pacific Region as well as a client-level perspective to create Case Studies for 35 of the company's individual clients.



Tiong Bahru Park



Tiong Bahru Market

Amanda Jacinto

Singapore



Value Derived from the Experience:

Singapore was the perfect place to go for my first experience outside of the United States. It is a very industrialized and diverse country.

Culturally, there are many foreign concepts that I have had to grasp, but also many reminders of home. It has allowed me to step outside of my comfort zone to a degree that is not too overwhelming. Singapore is an extremely safe, clean, and efficient country. The people are very friendly and I was able to make many friends that I hope to keep in touch with in the future.

Singapore is a relatively new country with a foundation built on four different cultures – Malaysian, Indian, Chinese, and European. Therefore, it is extremely diverse. There are designated neighborhoods where you can experience one distinct culture at a time, however, the country is generally an even mix of the four.

Professionally, I was able to experience the corporate world for the first time. It challenged me and taught me things I could not learn in the classroom. Although the internship did not align with my major, I was able to learn soft skills that will apply in any career path that I may choose. Additionally, I was exposed to the internal operations of a large corporation which are largely unknown to the general public.



Above: Supertrees at the Gardens By the Bay



Right: Siloso Beach, Sentosa

Abdul Rahman Japar

Malaysia

P.C Rossin College of Engineering
and Applied Sciences
Mechanical Engineering

Universiti Teknologi Petronas
Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

For the internship, I worked with the Mechanical Engineering Department of Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP) as a research intern. UTP is one of the top university in Malaysia that specialized in engineering study especially petroleum engineering. The title of my research is Co-gasification of Biomass and I have been assigned to work with Professor Dr. Shaharin Anuar Sulaiman and Mr. Samson Mekbib Atnaw, a graduate student in UTP. The research focused on co-gasification of oil palm fronds (OPF) and biomass as these are the most abundant type of biomass available in Malaysia. Our scope of work involved in investigating the presence of syngas during the co-gasification process . We also observed the temperature profile of the process and compared it with the literature result that we have. In the end, I am required to write a report on my research and submit it to Professor Shaharin for research paper publication.



UTP Library/Research Center



Downdraft Gasifier Used in Research

Abdul Rahman Japar

Malaysia



UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
PETRONAS



*Career Opportunity
Discussion with Petronas*



*Visit to an Orphanage in
Perak, Malaysia*

Value Derived from the Experience:

I learned a lot of things from my research work in UTP. Working together with a professor and a graduate student on research has taught me a lot about the processes and skills required to conduct good research. From the research itself, I learned how a scientific research can contribute to the development of technology. In UTP, we also had a chance to explore other places around the area. Interaction with the local students on the other hand enabled us to explore the places and cultures around UTP area. Beside the local students, I also interacted with other international students. This positive interaction has allowed me to learn about outside cultures and lifestyle. From this internship, we also had a chance to discuss with the higher ups about career opportunity in Petronas. Petronas is one of the biggest oil company in Malaysia and UTP itself is a part of Petronas. The discussion is a great opportunity as it gave us a broad idea about career opportunity in Malaysia. Overall, the research internship is a great opportunity and it certainly helped me acquire valuable research experience.

Erin K. Lau

Costa Rica

College of Arts and Sciences
Earth and Environmental Science

Lehigh in Costa Rica
Intern



Measuring tree diameters



Getting ready for work

Conservación Osa, Centro de Conservación Greg Gund :

Conservación Osa is all about conservation. Greg Gund Conservation Center, the station where I was placed, was built on an old teak and pachote plantation which had cleared the natural forest to farm these types of wood. After buying the land, Conservación Osa worked with other Costa Rican companies to rebuild the natural forests. Piro Biological Station, another station nearby, works with camera traps recording the movement of the big cats of the area as well as sea turtle nests and protection. Regular patrols went out to check the camera traps and to record turtle movement and nests. As a part of my work at Conservación Osa, I, along with my group, assisted another intern with his project, to measure and identify trees to measure their carbon content. Our project was also to measure height, diameter at root crown, tag, and identify recently-planted native trees to understand mortality and survivability in order to aid reforestation efforts.

Erin K. Lau

Costa Rica



Identifying trees to be measured



Zip-lining!

Value Derived from the Experience:

Working at Conservación Osa made me appreciate primary and secondary forests in addition to the conservation of the natural beauty of the forest. While out in the field, we saw animals such as monkeys, iguanas, snakes, and bizarrely colored bugs of every shape and size. Traveling between stations, we helped record and tag turtles and their nests and also helped to move them out of the reach of the tide. We were told very often how lucky we were to be sent to Conservación Osa because there are very few places where we could see the natural beauty we did. In addition being assigned to such an isolated place with a limited amount of people that spoke English helped me to practice my Spanish and has helped to improve my grasp of the language.

On a professional level, working at Conservación Osa drove me to work above and beyond what was expected of me. Each person in my group pushed ourselves for greater levels of efficiency and punctuality in order to complete the greatest amount of work possible in the days we were given. Working with such drive for efficiency helped me to improve my ability to stay focused and on track.

Andrew Chung Chee Law

China

Engineering and Applied Science
Mechanical Engineering

Bracalente Manufacturing
Engineering Intern



Company and Position Description:

Bracalente Manufacturing Products (BMP) is a wholly owned manufacturing facility by Bracalente Manufacturing Groups (BMG). I was grateful to get this golden opportunity to do an engineering internship in the company. Throughout the whole internship period, I worked under two major departments which were quality department and engineering department. My major tasks in quality department were to help the quality manager on auditing quality process in the company and executing statistical process control (SPC) for detecting possible failure trend during the production. When I worked under engineering department, I was given tasks to draw different parts in Solidworks and Autocad, engineering 3-D drawing software. During the period, I was mentored by the engineering supervisor on learning computer numerical control (CNC) technique. On the side task, I took photos of company, staffs and workers, and equipment for the usage of company marketing purpose.



BMP located in Suzhou, China



Inside of BMP with machines and workers

Andrew Chung Chee Law

China



Quality Inspection



CNC Machine

Value Derived from the Experience:

The most valuable experience I've gained from this internship was the ability to adapt. I learnt that the ability to adapt is a critical skill in a new and different environment. With the ability to understand and speak Mandarin, I was able to adapt quickly by becoming part of the company in a short time. The working environment in manufacturing company is very engaging because challenges never end in quality and engineering departments. We face, discuss and solve problems every day. This environment has engaged me on analyzing problems from different perspectives. During the process, I learnt that teamwork is also critical to come out effective solutions every time.

Furthermore, I really like the company working culture because everyone respects each other. Before I came to China, I attended two brief orientations to know better about the company and staffs. These orientations were helpful to prepare me to work with a group of friendly colleagues whom later we become friends. During this period, we help each other in company like family do and hang up outside work like friends. do Whenever I have questions, my colleagues are always there to lend me a hand. I am thankful to have the opportunity to intern in BMP and know a lot of awesome friends. Overall, this experience is beyond words could describe because it has helped me to gain insight in my future career path and prepare me to an engaging working environment.

Steve Leonhardt

Hungary

B.S. Computer Engineering
B.S. Finance (IBE)

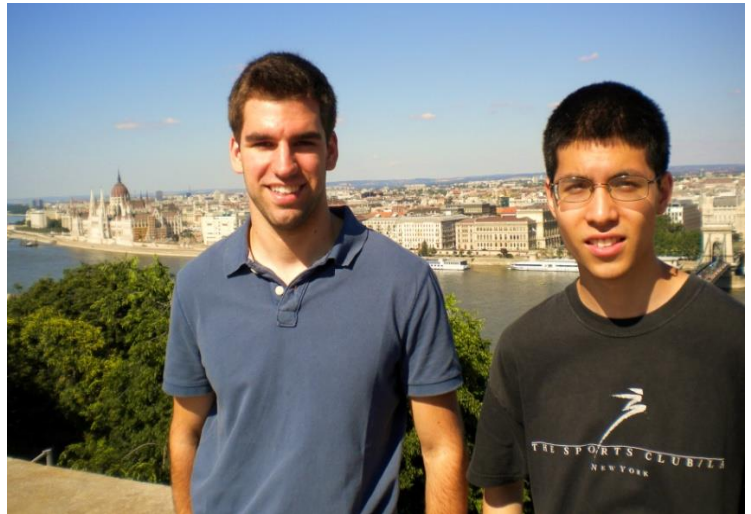
Metem Corporation
Project Leader



Company and Position Description: Metem Corporation is a global supplier of machining for leading companies in the power generation and aerospace industries. They use advanced machining processes to create cooling conduits in the tough super alloys turbine blades are generally made from. My general project at Metem Europe was to create a system to better store and organize information regarding machine downtime and machine maintenance downtime. This information could then be analyzed to create insight into ways to improve their operations.



Morskie Oko, a mile high glacial lake in Poland



Buda Castle overlooking the Danube and Parliament

Steve Leonhardt

Hungary



With Laszlo, General Manager on our last day of work



The center of Százhalombatta

Value Derived from the Experience: The internship and time spent in Hungary really taught me how to be self-sufficient, professional, and how to interact with colleagues to benefit a business as well as each other. I learned how a business with facilities in America as well as Europe operates and communicates. Overall, it gave me a better picture of what I want to pursue in the coming years of my life.

I now have a better picture of my strengths and weaknesses. I think that working during the weekdays and exploring during the weekends gave me a sense of control over my own experience, and I think through that I gained a lot of maturity. I realized that the experience was completely what I made of it, and that it was worth it to always push the boundaries of my comfort zone. I now want to carry this philosophy and energy over to life back in America. Because of the professionalism and experiences, I feel more mindful and confident as I approach obstacles in the future.

Gena Levengood

Armenia

Integrated Business/Engineering
Industrial Engineering

Boghossian Gardens
International Intern



Company and Position Description:

The Boghossian Foundation and UrbanLab have teamed up to create the visually stunning Lovers' Park in the capital city of Yerevan, Armenia. Unlike its predecessor (Pushkin Park), Lovers' Park features an array of gorgeous foliage and a real opportunity to lose oneself for the afternoon in its splendor. Attractive to children, young couples, and adults alike, Lovers' Park provides a space for entertainment as well as a Zen-like feel to those who wish to relax and enjoy nature's beauty. By numbers, 40 benches have been placed and grounded to provide seating for the park patrons throughout the 2-acre space.

During my internship, I was able to update CAD drawings of the park as well as create and organize a library of reference books in the office. I also worked with landscape architects to determine optimal locations for new plants and ordered materials from international suppliers for the new children's playground implementation.



Workmates on an adventure



A Night at the Ballet



Multi-Nations Hike

Gena Levengood

Armenia



Mount Ararat



Host family at Etchmyadzin

Value Derived from the Experience:

This being my first time travelling outside of the United States, I guess some could say hopping on a plane the day after graduation, to a country I had minimal knowledge of, that reads and speaks a language totally foreign to me, might sound a little crazy. Honestly, though, being forced to learn for myself, creatively communicate, make friends if only for a short period of time, and establish myself in a brand new culture; this international internship has been one of the best experiences of my life. Despite the laid-back atmosphere initially coming as a shock to my constant go-go-go lifestyle, I've learned that there is more to life than to cater to everyone else's agendas. My time here has taught me to listen, take a few deep breaths, and appreciate all that I have been able to do in my life. Surprisingly, relationships with people back home seemed to improve, and I've learned to put myself out there but also be immersed in a unique environment, complete with a mostly-non-speaking host family. Life has gone on, even though I have not been 100% in my comfort zone, but it was little moments and small gestures that made me grateful for all that I've had. Seeing things through a different perspective, not recognizing anything at first, and forcing myself to live within the unknown... I think I've become an even more well-rounded young lady because of Hayastan.

Brett Ley

Ukraine

Integrated Business and
Engineering

Worldwide News Ukraine
News Agency Intern



Attending the Dynamo Kyiv Match



Last Day at Worldwide News Ukraine

Company and Position Description:

During my time at Worldwide News Ukraine (WNU), I had a variety of projects to work on. Every week I was responsible for writing a column that was posted on the WNU website and a blog entry that shared my personal experience in Ukraine. On top of this, I wrote many press releases that were posted to the a website. One of my press releases was even sent out for distribution where many other news agencies published it. I was also in charge of researching news agencies in South America and Australia where I would then compile them into the WNU database. My final project was to write an article, which was about the benefits of international internships. My article was published in the European Online Magazine and a Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, newspaper called the Tribune-Review. My time at WNU not only improved my communication skills but also allowed me to write creatively and be immersed in Ukraine's culture.

Brett Ley

Ukraine



Worldwide News Ukraine Office



Kyiv Mosaic Garden

Value Derived from the Experience:

My time in Kyiv, Ukraine, was filled with a myriad of new experiences. Whether it was learning to speak some Ukrainian or use the metro system, there were constant obstacles that I needed to overcome. Creating a new form of sign language and relying on Google translate seemed interesting at first, but it taught me a lot about innovatively overcoming difficulties. Now that I am home in America, I am a more confident in my ability to effectively communicate.

My international internship was an incredible opportunity, and it was an honor to work for Worldwide News Ukraine. Everyone at the company was extremely supportive and helped me become immersed in Ukrainian culture. The people at WNU took the time to know me on a personal level and often showed me different parts of Kyiv. I even had the opportunity to volunteer at an animal shelter, explore a botanical garden, and see a professional soccer game.

From a professional standpoint, I think that my international internship provided unparalleled insight into cultural sensitivity. I feel ready to work with a diverse group of people. Also, by writing press releases and articles, I can convey my thoughts in a concise and coherent manner. As an Integrated Business and Engineering major at Lehigh University, the communication skills I learned at Worldwide News Ukraine are invaluable for my future success.

Haley Maruschak

Cambodia

College of Arts and Sciences
Anthropology

Caring for Cambodia
Intern



Company and Position Description:

Caring for Cambodia was established in 2003 by Jamie Amelio with the goal to “make going to school every child’s inalienable right”. With over 4,000 volunteers and a holistic variety of programs for the benefits of all students, including a food and dental programs. It provides high quality education for students to give them the higher standards of living. My role in helping this nonprofit, non-governmental, charitable organization was to create a workbook for student council members that covered eight aspects of the school. This will be a tool for students to perform their duties in their roles more efficiently from Library Assistant, First Aid, Budget, Communications, to Peer Advising. This was a sustainable effort to alleviate the responsibilities of the director of the student council year after year.

Haley Maruschak

Cambodia



Value Derived from the Experience:

The opportunity to work for two months in beautiful Cambodia with the NGO Caring for Cambodia, was a priceless experience. Conducting research to help the organization become sustainable is not only a fantastic NGO work experience, but it also requires me to use the knowledge I gathered in my classes at Lehigh, and will further aid my studies. This internship was a great learning and growing opportunity for students like myself to learn time management in real world scenarios. Cambodia provides rich experiences to learn a new language, taste exotic food, but most of all to help a cause on the ground and to personally make the strongest impact possible.

Benefits of this internship to me will be absorbed by my efforts leading the Caring for Cambodia Committee on Lehigh's campus when I return in the fall. The focus of the group is to fundraise and bring awareness to the student body about the mission and what they can do to help that way the effort to increase education standards in Cambodia is a progressive movement.

Dylan Nertavich

Singapore

CBE
Finance

AON Singapore
New Growth Model Analyst



Company and Position Description: (please write one paragraph to describe the company and the work you performed on the internship. This section will be more factual based.)

AON Risk Solutions is an insurance brokerage firm which aligns the insurance needs of companies, primarily large multinational corporations, to the appropriate insurance company and plan.

At AON I worked for a new segment called Cover which has the goal of providing pre-brokered, commoditized packages to the small and medium enterprises of a few developing Southeast Asian countries. My job was to provide an in depth analysis of the insurance market in those countries, primarily focusing on premium spent by SMEs in the commercial insurance market and the number of uninsured SMEs in each country. I developed a model which forecasted the growth in premium, a function of GDP growth and GDP Per Capita growth, up to 2017. This assessment was ultimately used to decide the order of AON's entrance into the countries.



Dylan Nertavich

Singapore



Value Derived from the Experience:

The experience has had a huge impact on my professional development. During my internship with AON I have gained valuable technical skills used to make practical business decisions. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to both live and work in Singapore, an incredibly diverse city which boasts high levels of employment in finance. This led to many networking and learning opportunities.



Sebastian Nicewicz

Kosovo

College of Business and Economics
Finance/Economics

American Councils
Program Coordinator



Company and Position Description:

American Councils in Southeastern Europe began in 2002 with offices in Serbia, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Bosnia & Herzegovina. In 2004, American Councils opened an office in Kosovo through the inauguration of the Kosovo American Education Fund (KAEF). This program sends a handful of highly selective “graduate fellows” to the United States with a considerable scholarship every year to complete a master’s degree. The organization’s vision for Kosovo involves a variety of broad topics all relating back to the sustained development of the country. American Councils in Kosovo also oversees the implementation of similar, effective programs for students covering various levels of education. My work dealt with the different educational opportunities for Kosovars both inside and outside of the country. Everyday brought a different challenge: some days I helped potential candidates with the application process while other times I organized data for the office. As an intern, I assisted colleagues with various projects and assignments throughout the course of my stay.



From left to right: Barb, myself, my host brother Agon and his fiancé Yllke



Kosovars love America!

Sebastian Nicewicz

Kosovo

**AMERICAN
COUNCILS**[®]
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
A C T R A C C E L S



Lake Ohrid, Macedonia



A day at the office

Value Derived from the Experience:

The Lee Iacocca Internship provided me with skills which will serve me well for years to come. I could never have gained such insight from a typical summer job here in the United States. The American Councils office made me feel comfortable while helping me develop as a person. Living in Kosovo allowed me to appreciate the differences in terms of a typical work environment abroad. Alongside my colleagues, I learned some tricks of the trade to functioning effectively in Kosovo. Working with citizens of another country really expanded my horizons in ways I could have never imagined. This experience was unlike any I have ever had, and I am already jealous of next year's intern!

Living in a completely unfamiliar country for eight weeks also gave me a wider view of the world around me. The lessons I learned extend far beyond the workplace. I gained insight into the history of Kosovo, which made me understand the culture and attitudes of the people. Staying with a host family also provided a uniquely authentic experience. Between making Kosovar friends and eating traditional home cooked meals, my experience could not have been better. It's safe to say that I returned to the United States with a little Kosovo in me.

I would highly recommend considering studying or working in a foreign country. Lehigh has several opportunities through Study Abroad, internships and various other programs. Personally, this internship worked out really well with my schedule. As a student-athlete, I would have had an extremely difficult time trying to find a semester to travel abroad, and I feel extremely fortunate that it worked out. The Iacocca internships continue to grow across the world and the memories I made in Kosovo will stay with me forever.

Barbora Oborna

The Republic of Kosovo

College of Arts and Sciences
Economics

Banka Ekonomike
Intern



Company and Position Description: Banka Ekonomike is one of two national commercial banks in Kosovo. While the financial sector has six other international banks, at Banka Ekonomike an intern gets the opportunity to observe and work at a bank that handles only money from within the country. As an intern, I mainly worked on independent projects while at the same time observing and learning from many employees. As a first time international Intern for Banka Ekonomike I was given the responsibility to take a 3rd party view of the Kosovo Commercial Banking sector and Banka Ekonomike's role in it. I was also given the opportunity to work with SAS and Excel, specifically condensing and reformatting active sheets into a more streamlined and efficient format.



The main office, Pristina

Barbora Oborna

The Republic of Kosovo



In front of Grachanica Monastery



Dinner with our friends and host family!

Value Derived from the Experience: Working in a foreign country and especially in a work environment where many people don't know English can present challenges. However part of an internship experience is learning new things and dealing with challenging situations. At times during my internship I felt that I could be helping the firm even more than I was if they only gave me more work to do. I couldn't really occupy my time learning about all the different parts of the company from the individuals who worked in each department because of the language barrier. Therefore, I had only a set amount of people with whom I could communicate and I had to learn to become self-reliant and be able to find work for myself. This along with the research and excel experience that I gained through this program are skills that will be useful when I go down my career path. However, sometimes not only the experiences and knowledge gained through work are the most important. Sometimes, the things you learn by just traveling and meeting new people and experiencing new cultures is the biggest thing you can take away from a program such as this. I can personally say that the connections I have made with the people in Kosovo as well as international friends and coworkers had and will have a great positive impact on my life and career going forward!

Lizzy Odren

Costa Rica

Arts and Sciences
Earth and Environmental
Science

Lehigh University
Intern



Company and Position Description: Through the University of Georgia's campus in Costa Rica, I worked with Dan Coviello (Lehigh University, '13) and Micheal Heldreth (University of Georgia, '13) on a carbon offset program that focused on the reforestation of a biological corridor. Each day the three of us would search for previously planted trees that were designated specifically for reforestation and record several measurements for each individual tree, including the height in centimeters, diameter at breast height in millimeters, and the GPS coordinates.



Identifying trees to be measured



Arial view of the Bellbird Biological Corridor

Lizzy Odren

Costa Rica



Value Derived from the Experience: This once-in-a-lifetime experience helped me in more ways than I can count. Not only did my trip to Costa Rica provide me with invaluable field experience, but it also allowed me to make many professional, as well as personal, connections with people around the globe. I stayed with a Costa Rican family that was living close to the University of Georgia's campus, and thus I became exposed to the country's culture and language. In addition, I was also fortunate enough to have some downtime between work and homestay life where I could go on hikes and get to observe much of Costa Rica's wildlife. This trip opened my eyes up to many new and exciting possibilities for my future, and I cannot wait to see what unfolds for me as I finish out my undergraduate degree and pursue both graduate school and career options. I felt as though I really discovered who I was and what direction I want to go forward in, and for that I am extremely thankful.



Measuring tree diameters

Gorgi Pavlov

China

College of Engineering and
Applied Science
Chemical Engineering

3M China
Filtration Validation Intern



Company and Position Description:

3M China is the market leader in China for a diversified portfolio of products such as adhesives, abrasives, dental products, medical products, car care products, electronic circuits and optical films. My work in 3M China was with the Filtration, Separation and Purification division, specifically in their Life Sciences, which involved testing and research on filtration equipment for the pharmaceutical industry. My tasks involved testing and validating various filtration products and membranes for use with different products. The products were supplied by the pharmaceutical companies within China, and my work was to make sure that, when the product was filtered with 3M filters, there would be no bacteria or any other materials in the filtrate. In other terms, ultrafine filtration was performed on the product, along with a scale up based on the product that was used when the testing was performed.



Picture of the Filtration Validation Lab Team along with some customers



Performing experiments in the lab

Gorgi Pavlov

China



Performing experiments in the clean room



Shanghai Skyline

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience aligned well with my professional goals, since I would like to work within the biopharmaceutical industry in the future. The internship offered an exclusive look in the types of research that are done for industrial purposes and also discover what kind of processes are involved in purification of pharmaceutical grade products. Moreover, it offered an insight in how a multinational conglomerate works, and how it interacts with the different markets that it is doing business in. As far as the 3M experience goes, I learned a lot from the company culture which is rooted in Innovation which is essential to the success of the company and the R&D done within 3M. I was also able to meaningfully contribute to the company, optimizing procedures in the lab, and maximize time utilization when doing day-to-day tasks. In response to that, after the first month after I joined the lab, we were able to successfully complete tests for 7 different molecules, while the lab could do only 7 molecules for one quarter. This represents a 300% increase in productivity of the lab, which is of great value to me, as it shows that I have contributed to the lab in a very direct and meaningful way. In addition to my lab work, I attended several leadership and sales presentations and trainings so that I could learn about the different needs and issues of the customers in China, and then tailor the tests in the lab accordingly. Overall, this was a very meaningful experience for me as it showed how the work that I do is making a significant impact on the industry, and how policy, customer needs and 3M come together to make an impact on society.

Brian Perry

Costa Rica

College of Engineering
IDEAS: Mechanical Engineering/
Earth and Environmental Science

Los Cusingos
River Analyst



Company and Position Description: The town of Quizzara, Costa Rica has a strong farming presence. Because of this, fertilizer and animal excretion runoff is common. This runs into the Piñas Blancas River. Los Cusingos, a bird sanctuary, was on an established property in which no farming was performed next to the river, thus allowing a controlled analysis of water quality without the addition of additional minerals, oxygen, etc. into the system.

We split the section of the river which ran through Los Cusingos (1.5km) into 100m sections. In each, we performed tests including temperature, nitrate concentration, phosphate concentration, and dissolved oxygen. With the results of the test, we could conclude that the river is healthy and has the ability to foster a diverse aquatic community.



*Garden work, when not
working on the river*



The Piñas Blancas River

Brian Perry

Costa Rica



Stopping work to ride a water buffalo



The coworkers are characters, not corporates

Value Derived from the Experience:

The most daunting aspect of this trip was the language barrier. Prior to working at Los Cusingos, I had taken Spanish language courses in high school. But the period of inactivity was long. To combat this, I strengthened my modes of communication beyond my most comfortable mode, talking. Some techniques included the use of my hands to charade my meaning, and drawing concepts on paper.

I also learned how to be flexible during the work day. With much of this job consisting of field work, the weather and the safety hazards it could instigate had to be accounted for. For example, rains would render me unable to perform field work for hours as it both raised the height of the river and made rocks slippery. In such times, I needed to restructure my plans to accommodate for work more suitable to indoors.

This trip also taught me to live the *Pura Vida*, the "Pure Life," a mentality shared by many Costa Ricans including relaxation and courtesy. In the United States, many professions exist in the corporate sector, and are run by time sheets, deadlines. In comparison, the workplace at Cusingos was relieving. That is not to say that work wasn't completed, but the mentality amongst coworkers was more friendly, social, human. An argument can be made that members of the US workforce are more productive, but without a doubt this achievement is dampened by additional stress, the loss of connection to loved ones, and an intolerance of failure by the managers in the workplace and by the individual. This experience has challenged me to assess the differences between these two professionals. Though I do not fully know what type of professional I want to become, I have learned from the more relaxed culture of Costa Rica.

Aleksandra Popova

Cambodia

CAS College of Engineering
IDEAS (Bioengineering)

Caring for Cambodia
Intern



Company and Position Description:

Throughout my time in Cambodia, I worked for the Caring for Cambodia Non Governmental Organization. The organization was founded by one of Lehigh's Alumna, William Amelio, and his wife, Jamie Amelio. The organization has positively impacted the Siem Reap region of Cambodia for the past ten years, cultivating schools in six different regions totaling 21 different schools ranging from preschool to high school. Throughout my time in Cambodia, I worked with the CFC (Caring for Cambodia) Nurse and the preschool children in educating them about dental and nutritional hygiene. I attended workshops and home interviews in order to evaluate how effective the program has been within the community. Likewise, based on the data, I created a health booklet utilizing the information provided the World Health Organization (WHO). This health booklet will be used during the future health trainings and be distributed to children and their parents to instill the practices necessary to maintain good hygiene.



Preschool student demonstrating her knowledge of tooth brushing



Cambodian Children

Aleksandra Popova

Cambodia



Hand washing at the CFC School



Genocide museum in Phnom Penh

Value Derived from the Experience:

In addition to simply coming to Cambodia to assist a Non Governmental Organization, Caring for Cambodia, I was eager to learn about a unique culture. Throughout my time, I have been able to taste everything from crickets to alligators, make connections with Cambodian individuals, as well as adapt to new societal customs. This privilege has proven to be one of the greatest learning curves to me. My passion and desire to pursue a career in medicine has been the guiding force in formulating my projects abroad. Throughout my time in Cambodia, I worked with the Caring for Cambodia nurse as well as assistant nurse in order to improve the health programs implemented in their teaching. Throughout my time, I attended and observed during numerous Early Learning Programs for dental and nutritional health. Aside from the workshops at the schools, I attend home interviews in order to evaluate the workshops' impact. By having the opportunity to participate and travel to Cambodia, I was able to cultivate useful material that could be implemented in further teachings. One of the goals was to create healthy habit booklets that will include strategies about particular disease prevention and specific procedures on how to maintain a personal well-being. By having this experience, I was able to expand my knowledge of the causes of many prevalent diseases as well as expand my awareness about international health. I became more open-minded to the structures of society and forced myself to suppress the desire to change the lifestyle of the Cambodian people because I am so use to the structure in America. After my experience with this Non Governmental Organization in Cambodia, I am considering pursuing International Medicine because I have been inspired to help those individuals who are unable to obtain necessary medical assistance.

Edward J. Puzycki

China

College of Arts and Sciences
Physics

East China University of
Science and Technology
Assistant Teacher



Lehigh students and faculty visit "The Bund" in Shanghai



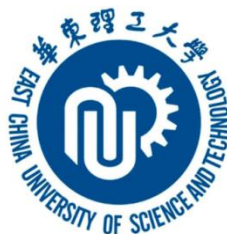
Lehigh students observe and teach classes, working with Chinese university students.

Company and Position Description:

I worked as a pre-service teacher of ESL students at East China University of Science and Technology. Monday through Thursday, I led two to four new English classes for one period each, meeting hundreds of new students each day. I created lessons based upon what the teachers requested, which was most often related to American culture. Some favorite topics of the students were campus life, making friends, dating life, and cultural differences. Other times, teacher would ask that we teach from the book or just observe. We also took Chinese lessons for one period each day, and on Fridays the group met to discuss the week's experiences.

Edward J. Puzycki

China



Students experienced new cultures and cuisines



Faculty had student over for dinner in their homes

Value Derived from the Experience:

This work and experience in China has changed my life forever. Not only have I now made rice, tofu, and soy sauce a permanent part of my diet, but I've learned to see the world through a different lens.

I learned about a different kind of people and a different way of life. I learned about what language means and how the ways we use that language determines the perceptions other people make about us. I learned about history, geography, culture, and tradition. I learned a lot about balance and a lot about myself.

I had to re-evaluate my perceptions of the Eastern world and found that many of them were atrociously incorrect and others, while correct on the surface, had a deeper meaning than I could have ever understood before.

I am extremely thankful for this opportunity. It was a kick-start into a journey of self and global discovery that I plan on cherishing and reflecting on for the rest of my life, both personally and professionally.

Isabella Rago

Moldova

College of Business Engineering
Undecided

American Language Center
Marketing and Outreach Intern



Company and Position Description:

The American Language Center is a branch of the American Councils for International Education office in Chisinau, Moldova. It offers English courses to Moldovans in Chisinau and has recently opened new branches in other cities of Moldova. During my time as an intern, I assisted primarily with a new project for a website called Volunteer.md which is designed to provide a needs-based assessment for organizations of the types of volunteers they need as well as to help volunteers find an organization that is right for them. I researched different questions to ask future users and different filters to use on the website. I then compiled a PowerPoint presentation of what the website would look like and how it would function. Further, my coworkers and I came up with measures to control the quality of the new language centers in other regions of Moldova as well as the one in Chisinau.



A church in the main park in Chisinau.



A dance being performed in traditional clothing at a festival in Chisinau.

Isabella Rago

Moldova



American
Language Center



*View from Orhei, an old
monastery built into caves.*



View of the church in Orhei.

Value Derived from the Experience:

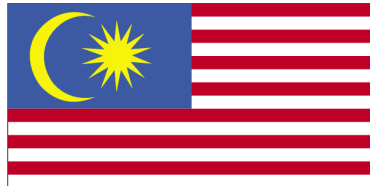
I think this experience has above all taught me to be grateful for what I have and the opportunities that exist for me in America. I am able to go to college and have so many choices for what to do with the rest of my life. This experience has reminded me not to take everything I have for granted because I have so much to be thankful for. On every other street in Chisinau there is a sign for a work and travel company for people to go and live in the US. Advertisements would pop up on my computer screen offering a chance to win a green card to the US. So many people want to have the chance to live for just a little bit in America while I have never known anything other than that. It has also taught me the value of living abroad and experiencing other cultures because it really does affect how you view the world and your own culture and values. Without this opportunity offered to me by the LIIP, I doubt I would have ever traveled to Moldova, and, after living there for two months and meeting so many wonderful people, I can say what a shame that would have been. I was also able to travel to Ukraine by myself for a weekend and that in itself also changed me and helped me grow. I spent so much time alone during my two months abroad which, albeit lonely at times, helped me become more independent and allowed me to develop more on a personal level.

Bradley Richard

Malaysia

Universiti Teknologi Petronas
Chemical Engineering

Freeman Foundation
Researcher



Company and Position Description: I performed research on the separation of benzene and cyclohexane through extractive distillation at the Universiti of Teknologi Petronas (UTP). I was paired with a graduate student in the chemical engineering department who taught me everything that I needed to know in order to conduct my experiments. Most of my time was spent preparing samples of benzene, cyclohexane, and various solvents which were being tested. I then used gas chromatography to measure the vapor phase composition so that I could make vapor liquid equilibrium diagrams. The final two weeks were spent writing a report on the effectiveness of each solvent, and preparing a presentation on my research. At the end of my time I presented my research in front of the faculty advisors of the students there, and several other engineering faculty. There were several trips on weekends which were planned for us to get to experience different parts of Malaysia.



View of Kuala Lumpur from the skybridge of the Petronas Towers



The center of campus at UTP

Bradley Richard

Malaysia



UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
PETRONAS

Value Derived from the Experience: I learned a lot about how to successfully interact with people of other cultures in both a professional and social setting while I was in Malaysia. One of the areas where I learned to adapt was with the interaction between men and women. In classes, and some other settings men and women stay on opposite sides of the room, and many of the women would not shake my hand. I learned to be respectful of this and there were not any problems. I also had to adjust to meetings starting later than when they were scheduled. Here it would be considered rude to show up late, but in Malaysia I learned that scheduling is much more relaxed. I was also able to make friends with students from not only Malaysia, but also Germany, France, and Mozambique. It was a great experience to be able to get to know these students, and learn some about their culture. This experience will help me a lot in the future since many companies are global, and being able to communicate well with people from other countries will be very useful.



In front of the Petronas Towers wearing our jerseys



The night market near campus

Jaewon Seonwoo

India

College of Business/
Engineering
Accounting

Apollo Tyres
Accounting/Finance Associate



Company and Position Description:

Apollo Tyres is the tyre manufacturing company in India. Before I start work for the company, it was the world's 15th biggest tyre manufacturer. However, after I start work for the company, it bought US-based Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, which is double size of Apollo Tyres, and it became the world's 7th biggest tyre manufacturer. Since the acquisition was done when I was at the company, I could witness the process of the acquisition. Also, I learned about the foreign exchange market through reading and discussion with the finance team.



The Taj Mahal

Jaewon Seonwoo

India



Value Derived from the Experience:

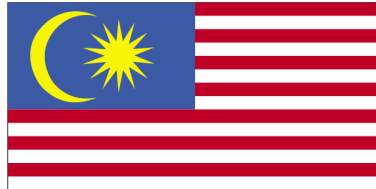
Through this internship, I learned how to accept differences. At the beginning I was so frustrated because of different culture and working environment. However, as time goes, I started to accepting the difference and tried to understand the situation on their perspective. Also, I learned that one needs to speak up and express for oneself in order to obtain what you want.

Ali Shtarbanov

Malaysia

Lehigh RCEAS
Electrical Engineering

Freeman Foundation
Student Researcher



Company and Position Description:

I worked at UTP as a student researcher together with four professors and two Ph.D. students on an \$3.5 million (US dollars), mission-oriented research project sponsored by Malaysia's largest oil and gas company, PETRONAS. The goal of the project is to establish a wideband, up to 80 kilometer range, non-line of sight (nLOS), wireless network at sea through the utilization of evaporation duct. The purpose of this project is to remain undisclosed. My main contribution to was to devise a complete set of experiments and develop the necessary software tools for characterizing a wireless channel at microwave frequencies. I performed a narrowband characterization of an indoor LOS wireless channel at 3.2GHz and 10.5GHz with various types of antennas. Upon completing my work I submitted a 30-page report to PETRONAS headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.



*Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS Vice
Chancellor Complex*



*Standing with two RAs and the team
leader*

Ali Shtarbanov

Malaysia



Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS



PETRONAS Twin Towers

Value Derived from the Experience:

During my research experience at UTP I learned a great deal about wireless communications, including antenna theory, digital modulation, wave guiding, advanced MATLAB coding, instrument control via MATLAB and SCPI commands, wireless channel characterization, and a ton of technical vocabulary. During my second week at UTP, the research team attended a three day equipment training course from Agilent Technologies. Subsequently, I obtained weeks of experience utilizing state of the art RF equipment including vector signal generator, vector signal analyzer and vector network analyzer. I encountered and solved new classes of challenging, real-world theoretical and practical engineering problems such as writing code to automate measurements and remotely control instruments, creating algorithms to extract relevant information from experimental data, performing literature review to explain experimental data, and finding theoretical models and optimizing them for the desired purposes.

In addition to my technical skills, my soft skills have also enhanced and augmented. Since the project was mission oriented and sponsored by PETRONAS, I participated in both technical and corporate meetings. Every week I gave a technical progress presentation to the research team and every month I gave a less technical progress presentation to PETRONAS managers and financial officers (these meetings took place at PETRONAS Twin Towers).

The benefits I gained from this experience are numerous. This was my first involvement on a big budget research project and it turned out to be much better than I had imagined. I realized that research is very challenging yet highly enjoyable and rewarding and full of eureka moments. Prior to this experience, I had doubts as to whether to pursue graduate and postgraduate studies or go to industry after graduation. After the experience however, I am convinced that I want to continue my studies and pursue an academic career.

Henry Smither

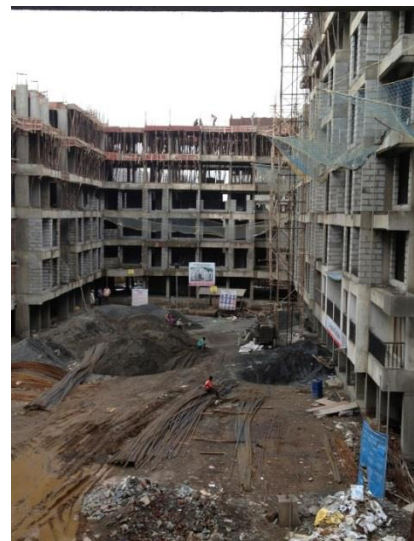
India

Intergrated Business/Engineering
Civil Engineering

Viva Group
Engineering Intern



Viva Group is an Indian based business conglomerate with a significant presence in an array of realty segments primarily in the western state of Maharashtra. Land aggregation, and then developing or selling development rights, has always been Viva's strength, but more recently the company has taken huge steps in retail, logistics, media, education, hospitality and other portfolios. With such knowledgeable, kind, and hardworking directors and employees the company thus far has been able to find success in all of its ventures and continues to expand and grow. Treated as an honored guest, not an intern, I wasn't expected to necessarily "work". Instead, they expected me to research, learn, ask questions, and absorb as much as possible in my time there. My "work", in a nutshell, consisted of numerous site visits to Viva's construction sites, researching Indian history, culture, and different regulations, sitting down one on one with architects, engineers, and project managers, and attending daily meetings pertaining to Viva's various ongoing operations.



Henry Smither

India



Having just finished my second year as an IBE Civil Engineering major, I went to India curious and excited to learn about and see the development work being done and how business was conducted. With only two years of engineering under my belt, the detailed engineering work was presented to me in a more conceptual sense so that I was able to understand it all. While I learned new things everyday about the development and construction work, much of what I learned would not be applicable in the US due to much different standards and regulations. However, some of the most valuable things I learned were management advice that came from the many meetings I sat in on with Mehul (the company director). The experiences, advice, and knowledge I gained from working with Viva is something truly valuable, but my personal development from two months in India is something I am certain I could not have received anywhere else. I have been back almost two weeks and it seems surreal that I was just in India doing some of the things I did. Standing on top of a mountain, the only non-Indian person out of the 700,000 people gathered there for this religious pilgrimage, was eye opening to say the least. The many true immersion experiences like this I had were humbling and being outside of my comfort zone for such an extended period of time, it was interesting reflecting on and noticing some personal strengths and weaknesses I have never seen before. It is hard to explain in one paragraph how valuable the experience as a whole was, but it is definitely something I will never be able to forget.

Whitney Szmodis

Cambodia

College of Education
PhD, Teaching, Learning, Technology

Caring for Cambodia
Intern



Company and Position Description:

Caring for Cambodia (CFC) is a nongovernmental organization based in Siem Reap, Cambodia. CFC partners with Ministry of Education schools, providing teacher training, school meal program, Life Skills programs, preschools, and health and dental care for approximately 6,400 students. During this internship, Whitney partnered with Megan Smith, Deputy Director at CFC to create a program that will provide students with additional opportunities for enrichment outside the regular school day. This program is designed to provide students with instruction that does not fit within the Ministry of Education prescribed curriculum during the typical four-hour school day. Students will have an additional two hours of instruction per day, focusing on content as well as learning strategies based on the 21st Century Skills framework. They will receive one hour of English Language instruction followed by one hour of enrichment, including art, music, service, technology, health, and sports. The pilot program will include 4th grade students at Aranh school in October 2013 at the onset of the new school year. The pilot year at Aranh will give insight into the infrastructure and resources necessary to successfully implement this program in all CFC schools.



School library. Siem Reap, Cambodia.



Student at a CFC school, resting on a basketball hoop.

Whitney Szmodis

Cambodia



Student Council members at Kravan school playing a game



A young girl working in the school garden

During this internship, I realized how critical it is for students and researchers to spend time living in the locations where they conduct research. As a student focused on educational research in Cambodia, this opportunity allowed me to spend time in Siem Reap and develop a more comprehensive understanding of the needs of the schools I work with. In addition, I had the chance to explore the local communities and gain a better outlook on the everyday lives of children in CFC schools.

As a teacher, I feel that learning inside the classroom must prepare students for life beyond the walls of the schoolhouse. Students give us their time and attention, and it is our responsibility to ensure that time in the classroom is well spent. Skills and lessons learned in school must have value and be applicable to real life situations. I was enthusiastic that the faculty and staff at the schools I visited shared this philosophy. Through our conversations, I quickly realized that student learning and preparation for future success is the top priority for all the faculty and staff. It was exciting to hear that many students in the schools want to become doctors, accountants, farmers, and teachers. These students are given the opportunity to explore their professional goals, and the CFC faculty and staff encourage these ambitious goals. Given the poverty and difficulties faced by the students at home and a lack of local community development, it is evident that CFC plays a critical role in not only educating children, but also providing hope and resources to the local communities around the schools. During this internship, I developed a better understanding of the reality of the obstacles faced and the ways in which education can help both individual and community development. As an educational researcher, I now know that without hands-on experience in the local schools and community, I would be unable to fully comprehend the needs of students and how best to facilitate a sustainable form of education for all children in Cambodia.

Bruce Watson

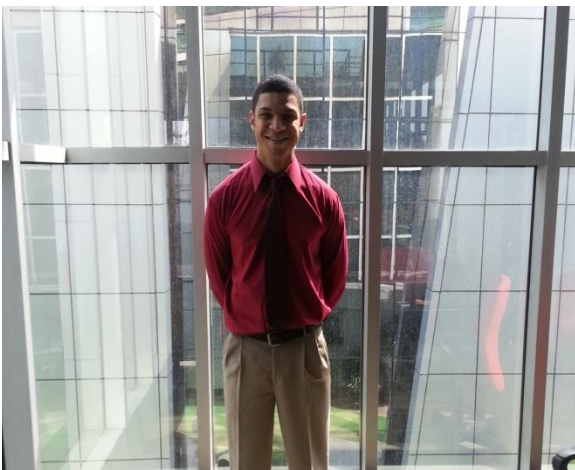
India

Arts and Sciences
Anthropology

Apollo Tyres
Human Resources Intern



This summer, I had the pleasure of working for Apollo Tyres, the world's seventh largest tire company. Apollo recently acquired Cooper Tires, an American-based company and was thereby able to grow into the American market. I worked in the Human Resources department at Apollo's corporate office in Gurgaon, Haryana India. As an intern, I worked to improve Apollo's performance management system and the absorption of company values by its employees.



Bruce Watson

India



Value Derived from the Experience:

My internship at Apollo Tyres in Gurgaon, India taught me the value of observing another culture, far beyond what can be learned in any text book. It taught me to be more patient and to take advantage of every opportunity. To me, my internship was not necessarily about gaining work experience but more about gaining interpersonal skills that I can apply to any field that I might choose to work in in the future. By gaining experience in Human Resources, I have learned how to work with and for people on a much deeper level.

On a professional level, I learned the general functions of the office environment of a major corporation. Although my work was not labor-intensive, I found it to be an educational experience nonetheless. Having to operate of a full-time work schedule for the first time in my life has prepared me for what life after college will be like as I enter the work force. At Apollo, I worked on the company's performance management system. This provided me with a unique insight into what companies evaluate in their employees. I was able to make note of some of these attributes and use them to refine my resume.

Arielle Willett

China

Arts and Sciences
Environmental/ Global Studies

Becton Dickinson
Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

As interns, we worked to help others understand current healthcare processes in Asia. This position required strong communication skills (both written and oral), thorough analysis of data, and an affinity for grasping concepts in short periods of time. Responsibilities included researching the healthcare systems of countries across Asia, putting together presentations detailing growth trends in GDP and healthcare expenditure for these countries, and working with a team to design a fact book describing BD's role in each country. The end result of this internship was a presentation and written narrative simplifying these different healthcare systems, and highlighting potential expansion opportunities for the company both now and over the coming decade.



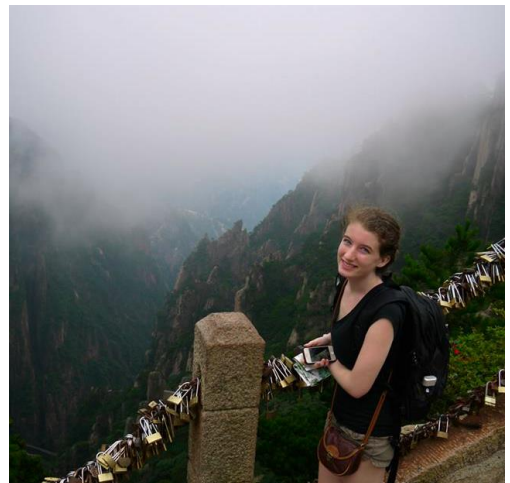
The BD team

Arielle Willett

China



The Forbidden City



Top of Huangshan

Value Derived from the Experience:

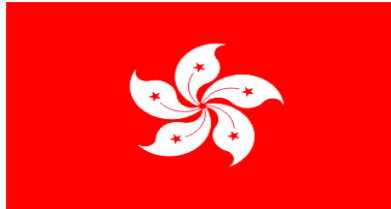
This experience was my first introduction to the corporate world, and I could not have asked for a better one. The company was based on values including mutual respect and personal integrity, and everyone was extremely welcoming. While the business opportunities alone were enough to make this an incredible opportunity, it was the people we connected with throughout the program that really made it exceptional. We met so many humble, dedicated, passionate people over the almost three months we were there, and every one of them encouraged us to pursue what made us happy. We also had the opportunity to travel within China, seeing both the natural beauty of the country and the thousand year-old structures that give it its cultural character. This internship had such an impact on me not only because it prepared me for an international work environment, but also because it gave me confidence in my adaptability, along with a new perspective on where I'd like to be in the future and how I'm going to get there.

Jason Wu

Hong Kong

Rossin College of Engr.
IDEAS

Hutchinson Ports Holdings
Commercial Development, HIT
Engineering Department



Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour



Me in a busy shopping area

Company and Position Description: Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH) is an international corporation that owns shipping ports around the world. I worked at the Hong Kong International Terminals (HIT), where the head quarter of HPH was located. My internship was a join assignment of the commercial department and the engineering department, and I was given projects from each department separately. At the commercial department, my main tasks were to collect and distribute industrial news and to do research on company background and strategies. At the engineering department, I was assigned to assist ongoing projects related to crane maintenance with the goal to increase operation efficiency.

Jason Wu

Hong Kong



Hongkong International Terminals (HIT)



The office building where I worked

Value Derived from the Experience:

Being able to work in both the business side and the engineering side allowed me to have a comprehensive perspective on port operation. I was also able to get a good understanding of how the company operated as well as how large corporations interacted with each other. During my employment, I learned to be organized and to stay focused on my tasks. HPH was experienced in hosting summer interns and had a good team dynamic. My supervisors were very supportive and the projects assigned to me were great for my learning.

On a personal level, I experienced living on my own in Hong Kong, an international city with a unique culture. I was able to meet and share ideas with people around the world. There were a bunch of other summer interns at HPH. A lot of them were locals while the others were from other countries in Asia, Europe, and North America. We all got to know each other and had a great time in Hong Kong.

Lyubov Yankovskaya

Singapore

**P.C. Rossin School of
Engineering**
BioEngineering



Aon Benfield
Intern in Reinsurance &
Treaty Broking

Company and Position Description:

My internship experience was particularly exciting because it gave me the chance to practice a new line of work, different from BioEngineering. Not only did I learn a lot about the business in Southeast Asia, I learned a lot of Reinsurance, as well. The best way to describe this learning experience is gaining knowledge of a whole new world I did not know existed before this opportunity. In the Aon Benfield office, Reinsurance was a break-down of the Treaty and Facultative side. I worked with Treaty side, where my mentors were in Analytics, as well as Broking. I was able to work with confidential information of aggregate data and reports for three different countries of the region. It was very encouraging to be able to contribute work that was used and further worked on after I left. I will definitely use this knowledge in the future because not only did I learn of a new line of work, but I also learned technical thinking skills, which will help me in any business or engineering workplace.



One of my many mentors on the Analytics Team of Treaty Broking, Bernice Zhang



Main Lobby at Aon Benfield

Lyubov Yankovskaya

Singapore

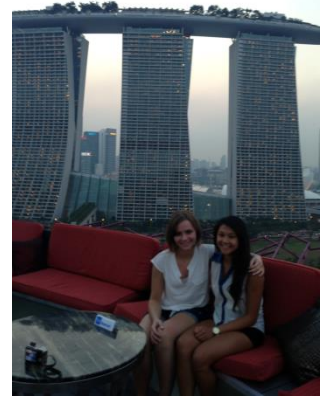


Dinner photo with the other Treaty interns

AON BENFIELD



Last night in Singapore with Lehigh roommates



At Gardens by the Bay Tower

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience definitely shaped me to be a different person. After living abroad for such an extensive period of time, I feel more comfortable being able to work with different people, from various cultures, whom all come from different business backgrounds. While working as an intern for Aon Benfield, I experienced one of Singapore's many diverse working place, where I met individuals of twenty-six nationalities. Not only did they make me feel more at home and comfortable being so far away from close friends and family, they also taught me more about the culture of Singapore. Overall, the experience was incredibly daunting because it was my first time working in a professional setting, and overseas, as that. This taught me how to act professionally on a day-to-day basis, whilst living in a country that was not familiar to me at all. While I began needing a lot of guidance in and out of work, I was then able to gain a great sense of independence by learning my way around the company functions and living in Singapore. The value derived from this experience was incredibly seen upon my return to the US, where I have become more confident to meet with different people, immerse myself into different experiences and to thrive in any work setting. More importantly, I was able to make some lasting friendships with people from across the world.

Faculty/Staff Contributions

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