

Taking Lehigh to the World and Bringing the World to Lehigh



International Internship for Global Leadership Program Student Report



Summer 2014

Dear Lehigh Friends and Colleagues:

According to the Institute of International Education (IIE), "international experience is one of the most important components of the 21st-century education". At Lehigh, we subscribe to this notion and have been proactively involved for many years in developing a suite of opportunities abroad to meet the varied needs of our undergraduate students.

The International Internship for Global Leadership Program, inaugurated in the summer 2012, was designed to provide our students with creative summer international internships and work and learn experience, and making them financially affordable. The interns are selected through a highly competitive campus-wide process, and preference is given to students who demonstrate financial need or who never have been abroad.

One of the outcomes is to prepare Lehigh graduates as future professionals for global careers, increasing their marketability in the workplace with practical experience and an enlarged cultural context. As a result of globalization, employers are increasingly looking for graduates who have international skill and experience in order to lead and succeed in the ever changing way the world works.

This booklet features the international experiences as documented by the 68 students (in their own words) who participated in the third cycle of the program during the summer 2014. The students' accounts reflect the wide range of projects they worked on at a variety of companies, corporations, research universities, government organizations and NGOs. The projects include risk management analysis in the reinsurance market in Singapore, analyzing healthcare services across Asia, participating in a community development project with significant women's empowerment components in Indonesia, rebuilding educational infrastructure and historical archives in the lingering aftermath of the genocide in Cambodia, and applied research in the field of energy in Malaysia. The internships were held in 23 different countries in Europe, Asia, Southeast Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East.

The students' demand and interest are demonstrated by the fact that 212 students from all Lehigh's four colleges competed for the 68 internship positions in this cycle. Forty percent of the interns participated in 29 individual placements in corporations and government agencies, and 60 percent participated in group programs in eight countries. Eight faculty members from all four colleges directed these group programs, compared to four in the previous cycle. The added benefits include: (i) for the Lehigh faculty to interact with their counterparts abroad regarding research collaboration, and (ii) for Lehigh to enhance institutional partnerships with universities and NGOs in key regions around the world.

Looking ahead to the 2015 summer program, up to 96 student interns are estimated to participate in the program with a 50/50 split between individual placements and faculty-directed group programs. It is anticipated that 12 group programs will be available in 2015, including five new sites in different countries directed by five new faculty members.

We are grateful to the financial support through the incentive endowment funds initiated by Mr. Lee Iacocca '45, the matching funds from Lehigh alumni and friends, and the Freeman Foundation.

Sincerely,



Mohamed S. El-Aasser

2014 International Internships

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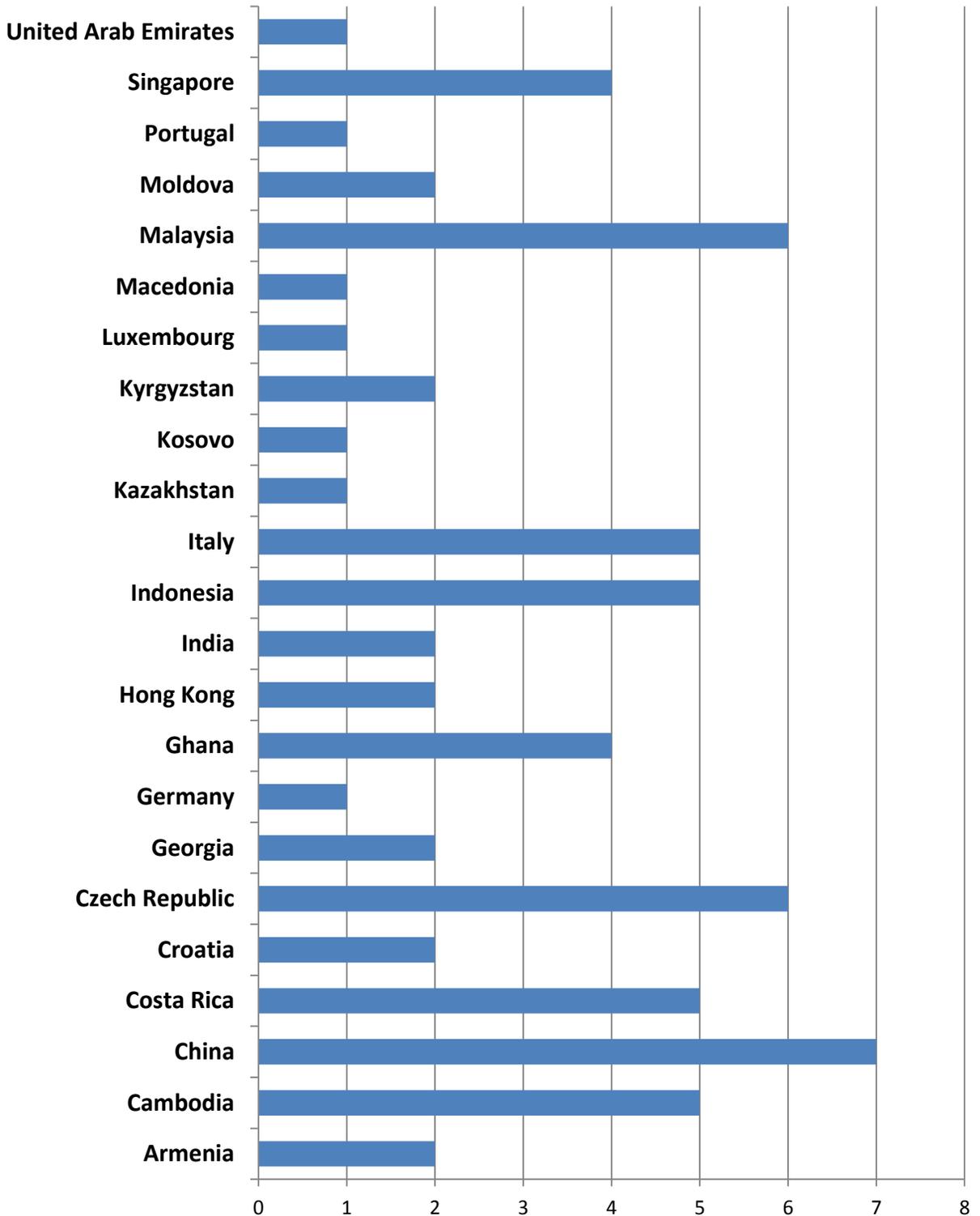
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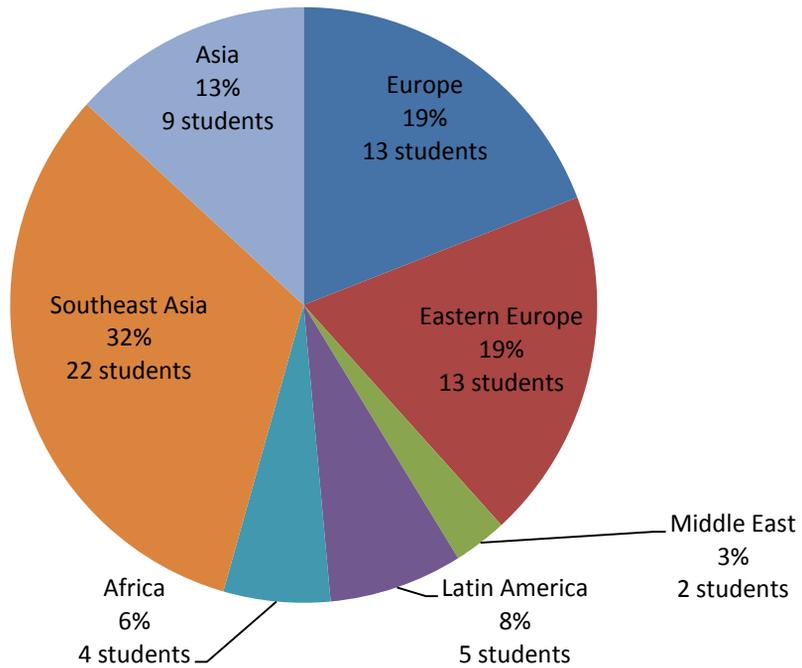
Internship Placements

68 Students



Geographic Representation

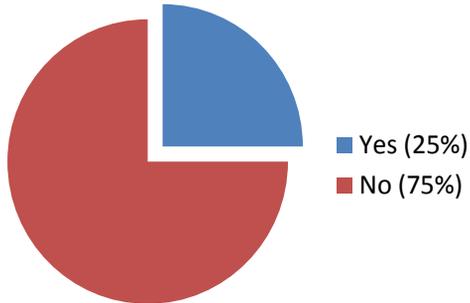
68 Students, 23 countries



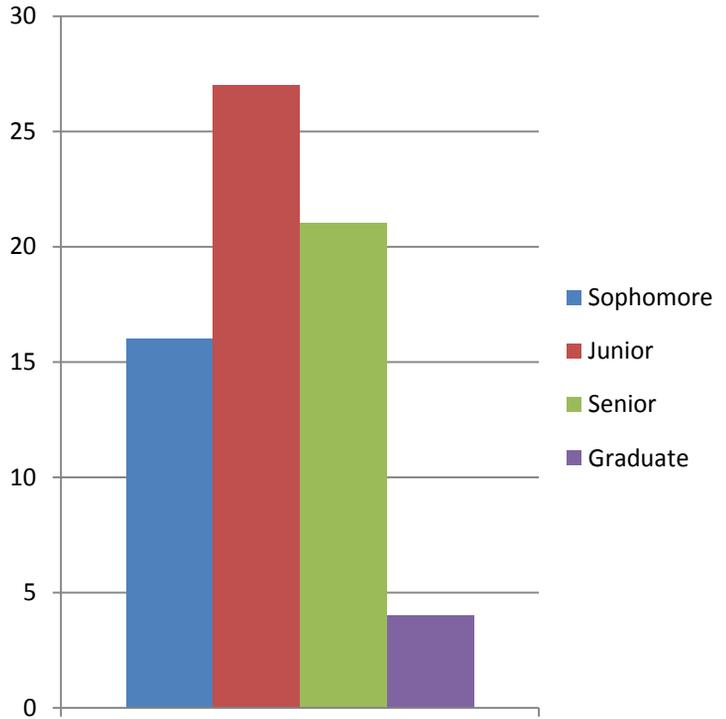
Intern Demographics

68 Students

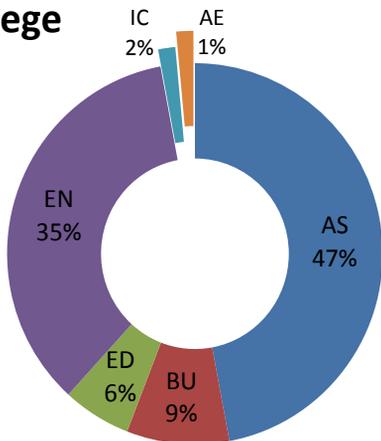
Prior International Experience



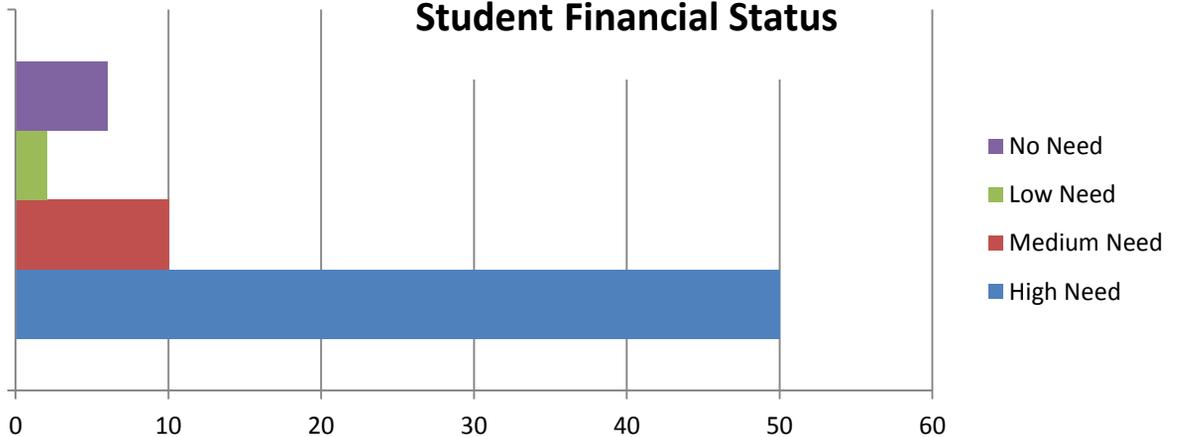
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College



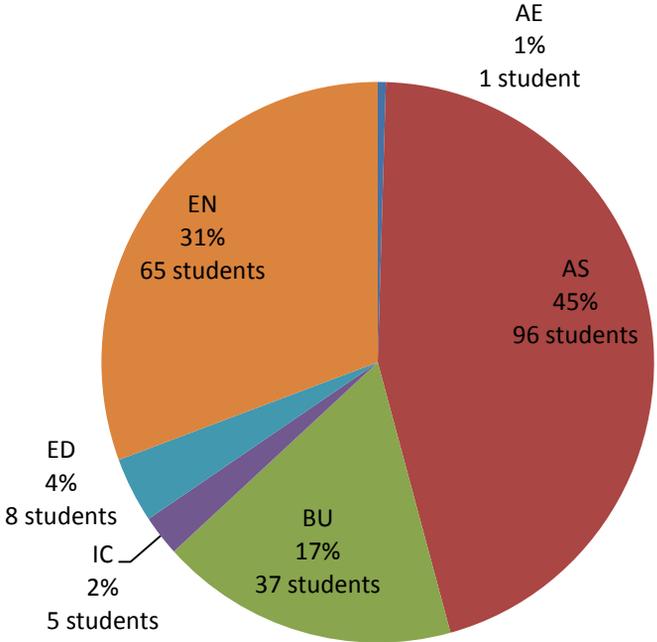
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2014 International Internship Program College Representation

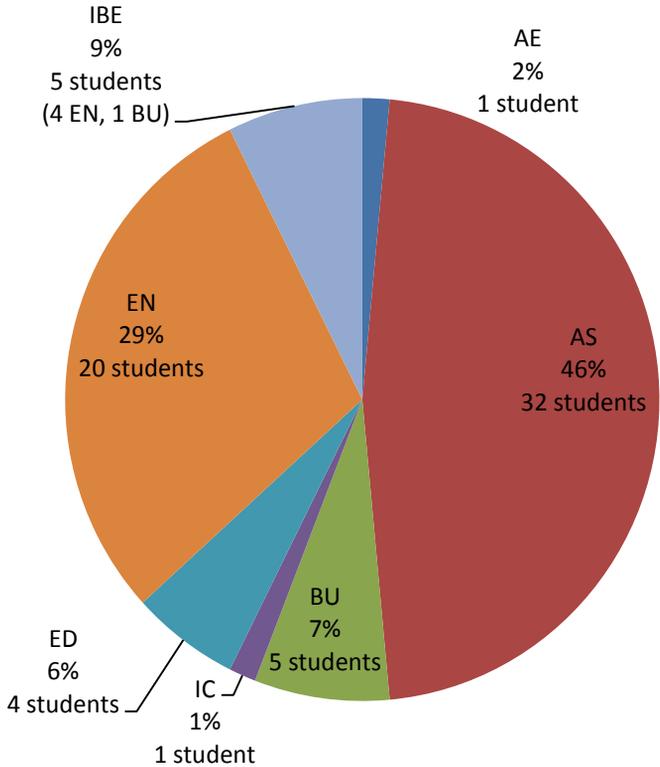
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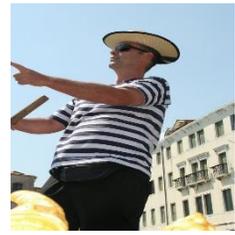
212 students

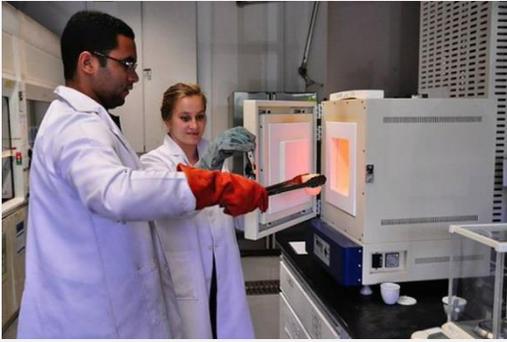


Selected Students

68 students







Helen Ard

Cambodia

Global Studies

Cambodian Development
Mission for Disability:
Student Intern



Company and Position Description:

While I was working in Cambodia at Cambodian Development Mission for Disability (CDMD), I was put to work on fundraising efforts for their daycare program in the Takeo Province. I worked to get more youth involvement through local university students in the city. The students at Zaman University were very interested and went with me and other coordinators on a site visit to one of the two daycares where they are currently working on a future fundraising effort. I also worked on another future fundraising project for Lehigh Students to come back to Cambodia next summer to volunteer and supply computers to the centers. Also, the small fundraiser I ran online through a professional website for students while I was interning was able to raise a little over \$200. I also looked up research articles on childcare in Southeast Asia and possible changes to their website design.



One of the two daycare centers CDMD runs in the Takeo Province



Angkor Wat Temple

Helen Ard

Cambodia



Myself and one of the children from the Takeo Daycares



Twins! Whose family I interviewed for the future Lehigh student project.

Value Derived from the Experience:

Before this international internship in Cambodia I had never traveled farther than Virginia (having lived in PA for most of my life) and now I have traveled more than halfway around the world. I traveled to a country with a totally different environment and culture than what I'm used to, which is exactly what I wanted to experience for my first time abroad. I learned a lot about the Khmer (Cambodian) language, culture, and history which was both beautiful and tragic. Tragic because of the genocide that occurred in Cambodia during the 1970s under the communist regime. I visited a country repairing itself with scars still clearly visible. Now because of my experience in Cambodia, I have a deeper interest in sustainable development and poverty eradication. My love for language has also deepened because, having no previous Khmer language experience, I felt the gulf that occurs when you do not know the language. However, the NGO I interned for was exactly an organization I could picture myself working for in the future, an NGO working with the community to create positive and sustainable change. I would not change this experience for anything.

Erin Barclay

Costa Rica

IDEAS: Environmental
Engineering

Los Cusingos
Water Analysis Intern



Company and Position Description:

Los Cusingos is a biological reserve located in Quizarrá, Pérez Zeledón. It was established by the late Dr. Alexander Skutch who bought the property in 1941 and started protecting the land as well as studying the animals and plants living there. The property is now owned by the CCT (Centro Científico Tropical), a world-famous organization for the study and preservation of tropical forests. Dr. Alexander Skutch also initiated the Biological Corridor that now ranges from Los Cusingos to Chirripó National Park and was named in his honor.

During our six week internship at Los Cusingos, my fellow intern and I worked on several projects, some of which built upon previous interns' work. However, the main project of this internship was conducting water quality testing, with the primary focus on the Peñas Blancas River that runs through Los Cusingos. We also tested several other streams on the property and a few rivers and streams in the surrounding area. Another primary project was measuring trees on local farms that are contributing to reforestation efforts in order to strengthen the biological corridor. We also worked on creating an inventory of the items in the House of Alexander Skutch, which is now a museum. Additional projects included supporting environmental education by creating a diorama of Los Cusingos, which includes the trails, streams, rivers, and models of the buildings, and taking coordinates around the area with a GPS in order to make a land use map of the corridor.



Me with my host mom and sister



Sunrise from my house

Erin Barclay

Costa Rica



Susan and I at a coworkers house for his birthday dinner



Me on a weekend trip to Volcano Irazu

Value Derived from the Experience:

This internship was an amazing opportunity for me academically, professionally and personally. At Los Cusingos our work was interesting and engaging and I learned a lot. During my time I got valuable hands on experience with environmental testing and learned more about how to work in group environments. Outside of work I stayed with an amazingly welcoming homestay family and got to learn about their daily lives and Costa Rican culture. In addition I was able to travel every weekend to visit different places around the beautiful country. I also learned a lot about communication. At first the language barrier was daunting, I studied Spanish in high school but I had not used my Spanish in several years. However it was a great opportunity to learn, I remembered and learned a lot of Spanish during my time there but I also learned to communicate in other ways such as with hand gestures and simplified phrases. By the time I left I was very comfortable with the language and my ability to communicate. Even after returning to the US I sometimes find myself thinking in Spanish! Overall this experience was fantastic for me! I got to learn more about environmental field work, meet some amazing people and learn about an entirely new culture!

Cassie Barker

Croatia

Biochemistry

Rijeka Sports Association
Program Development
Specialist



Company and Position Description:

The internship took place in Rijeka, Croatia at the business school PAR. PAR is a private business school that offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in business management. We designed two programs for the school throughout our internship. The first was a program for student athletes. PAR has enrolled various professional athletes, and it was our job to design a program to aid them in their studies. Since these students are professional athletes, they often have time constraints and are absent from classes. The student athlete program that was developed allows these students to learn in an adapted curriculum that can work around their busy schedules. This program will help them to successfully complete their degree and prepare them for life after their athletic career. The second program that was developed was an international exchange and internship program. Our job was to develop a program and connect with colleges in the United States to seek out schools who were interested in participating in this kind of partnership. The international exchange program offers a Dual Diploma and allows students who participate in it to graduate with a degree from both institutions. The international internship program takes place during the summer and allows students to gain real work experience at PAR. The business school PAR has sought out interested schools and are continuing to develop and finalize agreements with universities in the United States.



*At the business school PAR
before Dario heads off to Lehigh*



Korzo, the beautiful city center of Rijeka!

Cassie Barker

Croatia



Hanging out with students from PAR on the island of Krk!



Wandering around the Old City in Dubrovnik located in the Dalmatia region of Croatia

Value Derived from the Experience:

My time in Croatia has been one that I will never forget. The experiences I have gained through work and the traveling I was able to do are ones that I don't think I could have gotten anywhere else. Before participating in this internship, I had never traveled outside of the United States. After this experience, I have a new love for traveling and have many other places I would like to visit. Being exposed to different cultures and new ideas is so exciting and requires you to come out of your comfort zone and be open to new things. I had the opportunity to travel to many places in and around Croatia and these are experiences I wouldn't change for anything. Through this internship at the business school PAR, I have gained a great international work experience. The work experience I've had has taught me a lot of things that has played a significant role in my personal and professional development. I have learned a lot about business, which I had no prior knowledge of going into the internship. Developing and implementing programs, making presentations, presenting my ideas to the faculty, and corresponding with representatives from other schools have provided me with skills that I will be able to use in any field that I decide to go into. I was given great freedom to propose new ideas and give my own suggestions on existing ones. I have also been able to improve upon many skills through my assignments, such as creativity, teamwork, communication, problem solving, and professionalism. With the increase in international career opportunities today, I am sure that participation in this internship will prove to be even more beneficial in the future.

Living in Croatia for two months has really allowed me to immerse myself in the culture. The people I have met through work, the students at PAR, and other people I have met along the way have made this an incredible experience. It has been one the best experiences during my time at Lehigh and I am so thankful to have been given this opportunity through the Iacocca International Internship Program.

Kevin Basek

Czech Republic

Mathematics

Inclusio
Social Inclusion Intern



Company and Position Description:

The Iacocca International Internship in the Czech Republic was organized primarily through the NGO Inclusio which was founded in 2013. Inclusio is one of a few NGOs in Prague, Czech Republic that focus on the unfair treatment of minorities with particular interest on the Romani people. Inclusio's founder, Petra Zahradnikova, has developed a significant professional network within Prague which created internship placements at two similar organizations to Inclusio named Romea and Slovo21. I personally was afforded the opportunity to intern at Romea where I focused on organizational sustainability since Romea is a non-profit, media-based NGO in need of funding and international partners. As a fluent speaker and writer of English, I reached out to organizations and searched for funding opportunities outside of the Czech Republic with which the staff of Romea could not formally communicate with –in English- on its own. By addressing these issues, I allowed the small group of people at Romea to maintain its focus on humanitarian work while simultaneously preparing for the future.



A weekend trip to a Roma children's summer camp in the country



My photo was taken for an article published on www.romea.cz/en

Kevin Basek

Czech Republic



Located in the heart of Prague, the Wallenstein Gardens are a must see.



A day trip to a World War II work camp provided a chilling reminder of the Czech Republic's past

Value Derived from the Experience:

My six weeks in the Czech Republic were certainly unforgettable as I distinctly remember a few situations that left me thinking, "I could have never expected to do that today." Being abroad opens the door to many situations that simply are not possible in the United States due to differing cultures and resources. By getting exposed to these new experiences, which for locals seemed so ordinary, I got to build a broader perspective and learn to enter new situations with a more open-minded approach. In terms of personal growth, I had the chance to work in a field I had interest in but struggled to enter due to logistical reasons. As a math major with aspirations to go into banking, I had focused on résumé building experiences which I often felt left me at a disadvantage in terms of personal growth. The Iacocca Internships are unique in the way that they mix personal and professional growth by introducing an international aspect to work experience. Simultaneously entering a new culture, locale and job can be overwhelming but it certainly instigates growth and learning in a way that a classroom can not.

Jocelyn Berndt

Kyrgyzstan

Finance

American Councils
Marketing &
Fundraising Intern



Company and Position Description:

Kelechek Healthprom is a local Kyrgyz non-government organization (NGO) that works to empower the vulnerable by supporting activities and rights for disabled children and their families. Established only recently, within the past few years Kelechek HP has succeeded in funding the establishment of day centers for disabled children, organizing an international conference on disabled rights in Bishkek, providing services and support for local parent groups and much more. The marketing and fundraising intern can help the company research possible grant donors along with provide insight into ways to successfully meet fundraising goals. The intern collaborates with other colleagues and volunteers to create project ideas and learn how to promote the company using various social media outlets.



Our main office in Bishkek



Working on a project with volunteers from the US, the UK and Bulgaria

Jocelyn Berndt

Kyrgyzstan



Kyrgyz nature is a must see!



The inside of a Kyrgyz yurt

Value Derived from the Experience:

Working in Kyrgyzstan has provided me with a better global perspective. I was able to communicate and discuss current events with my colleagues and fellow interns from all around the world. By observing the internal workings of Kelechek, I gained a better understanding of how NGOs in developing countries function (and in what ways they need to improve their operations). This opportunity also provided me with a greater cultural understanding; Kyrgyz culture is extremely different from American culture and I am grateful to have been given the chance to experience it first hand via the host family experience. I believe that I grew both professionally and personally with the assistance of the Iacocca International Internship.

Claire Bradshaw

Czech Republic

IDEAS: Integrated Degree in
Engineering, Arts
& Sciences



Inclusio
Social Inclusion Intern

Company and Position Description:

Inclusio is a small NGO that was established in 2013 that works for equal education for all children and empowerment of women. At this NGO, I worked on balancing a budget to enable us to apply for a grant opportunity. Additionally, I helped proofread and apply for the grant, search for other grant opportunities and create social media outlets for the NGO. I also went to a camp for Roma children and planned a “field day” for them filled with many different activities. I created an infographic and video with my internship group to raise awareness about the inequality of educational opportunities in the Czech Republic for the Roma. We then made a presentation at the American Center about our internship and the work that we did while we were there, during which we unveiled the infographic and video.



Camp with Roma children



At the John Lennon Wall

Claire Bradshaw

Czech Republic



Making our presentation at the American Center



Beautiful view of Prague

Value Derived from the Experience:

My experience in Prague helped me learn more about other cultures and develop more as a person. Before coming to Prague I have had the opportunity to spend time with many international students to the point where I was thinking I might want to explore working and living in Europe. This internship gave me the ability to see if this was really something I want. After spending six weeks in Europe and being able to travel on the weekends I have come to the realization that living in Europe is something I really want. Now I know what options I want to explore in the future. Additionally, this internship has helped me practice working in a group setting and communicating with many different types of people. Since my group was rather large (6 people), it wasn't always easy, but by the end of the trip I was able to work well with all of them. Talking with many of the Czech people taught me that many of the problems they face, especially the Roma, are similar to the issues some people in the US face. Even though we went to a different country, many issues were the same, and we were able to think of ways to combat them in both countries which was exciting.

Jennie Brown

Singapore

Chemical
Engineering



3M Singapore
R&D Intern

Company and Position Description:

3M, or Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, as it was originally called, is a many-faceted company dedicated to innovation. Their products range from Post-it Notes to abrasives to electronic materials, and as a company, creating new solutions using tried-and-true technologies is held in great esteem. I was positioned as a R&D intern in the Electronic Materials and Solutions Division (EMSD) under the Microinterconnect Development Laboratory. During my attachment, I learned about the development of flexible circuit LEDs, which are becoming more and more popular due to their low cost and small size. Once familiar with the process, I was tasked with developing standards of testing for new polymer films used in the flexible LEDs. My methods would be used internally to compare polymer films in the future.



*A picture of the 3M
Woodlands Plant*

Jennie Brown

Singapore



Left: My supervisor and me getting ready for work.

Below: Saying goodbye to my fellow interns after two months



Value Derived from the Experience:

My experience at 3M was tremendously valuable in helping me gain a better understanding of the inner workings of the company and in developing soft skills I will be able to use in the future. During my internship, I took tours of all the laboratories under the EMSD, and these allowed me not only to get an inside look at the many products 3M has to offer, but also to appreciate how each department functions and interacts with other laboratories. My work with flexible LED circuits taught me several other constructive lessons. 3M places heavy emphasis on independence, and its interns are no exception. During my assignments I was working to create my own solutions with only occasional guidance from my supervisor. Because of this, I was able to gain experience designing my own experiments, conduct independent research, and even offer my own input on the future of the project. My favorite part of the attachment, however, was a little different from most other interns' experiences. During our work on flex circuits, the need arose to find a new material to use in our product. It fell to me to not only sift through the dozens of vendors online, but to then contact each possible supplier and establish connections with them. I even scheduled and attended an in-person meeting with one of the suppliers. This project helped me improve my interpersonal skills, as well as gave me some insight into vendor-buyer relations.

Sean Byrne

China

Industrial Engineering
& Math

University of Science and
Technology of China
Research Intern

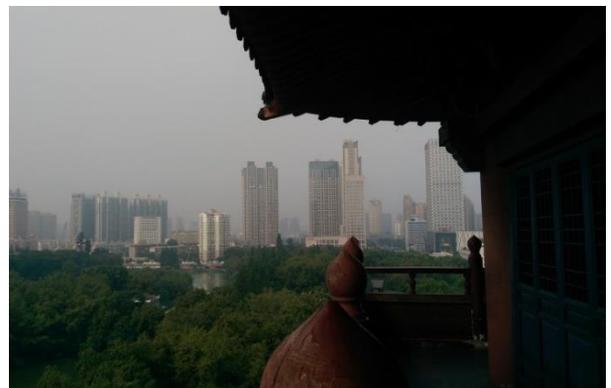


Company and Position Description:

Each of the Lehigh students who went to USTC were paired with a different professor for a research project that catered to their interests. I worked with a professor in the School of Management on a research project involving simulation within health care. We wanted to discover the situations in which an emergency department would benefit from using a Fast-Track system of assigning doctors to patients. Most of my time was spent developing and testing code written in Matlab for a computer simulation of an emergency department. A large portion of time was also spent mathematically confirming the results of the simulation and improving the speed at which the simulation ran. I was able to work within a lab where several other graduate students were performing similar research. On the weekends, there were trips to various places around China, including Shanghai, Nanjing, and Yellow Mountain.



In a village outside the city of Wuhu



The view from an ancient tower in Hefei

Sean Byrne

China



At our hotel with friends



At Yellow Mountain

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience has helped me to realize where I might want to take my future career. The work I was doing was rewarding and challenging in all the right ways, and the working environment was laid-back and friendly. Getting to know the other students in my lab and the projects they were working on was also helpful, as I was able to see what research within graduate school is like. The friends we made here were incredibly helpful and we made countless wonderful memories with them. In general, the people around us were always willing to take time out of their day to make our experience even better.

Prior to this experience, I had never traveled to another country. Removing myself from my comfort zone by participating in this experience allowed me to reflect on myself as a person and on the world around me. I feel that I have learned so much about Hefei, about China, and about the ways in which people live their lives and look at the world around them. Since returning, I've been able to step back and see the people and places around me in an entirely new light. This new perspective will be invaluable to my future personal and professional development.

Kelly Callahan

Malaysia

Bioengineering

Iacocca Internship
Research Intern

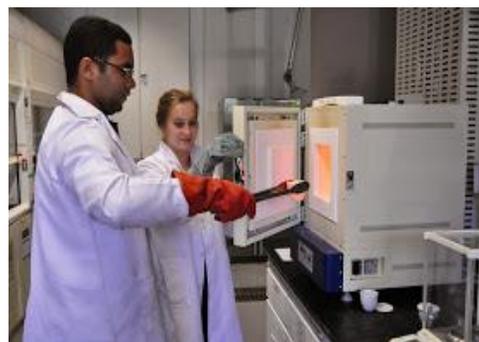


Company and Position Description:

I worked as a research intern in the Center for Biofuels and Biochemical Research at Universite Teknologi Pertronas. I worked in a lab with two other students from Lehigh and a graduate student who directly oversaw my individual research project. My individual project centered around the study of bio oil from grinded up palm leaves. I had to characterize the palm leaf, which was the biomass to be used to create oil. Next, I obtained oil from the biomass by carrying out a process called pyrolysis with a drop-type pyrolyzer. Finally, I was able to characterize the bio-oil obtained from the experiment, using several different criteria, to make conclusions about the quality of the oil obtained from palm leaves. The hours worked were flexible and allowed time for travel when not in the lab.



Working with the drying oven to prepare the palm leaf sample



Characterizing palm leaf sample in the furnace

Kelly Callahan

Malaysia



A view of Universite Teknologi Petronas



A group picture from our travels to Pulau Langkawi

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience allowed me to branch out and network in ways that I never thought would be possible. This allowed me to seize the moment and create some of my best memories with people from all over the world, each giving me a new perspective and something to learn from. I was able to work in a professional research lab, working on relevant research in bio-fuels. I created professional relationships with my colleagues and research advisors that I feel will stay with me throughout my future. I was also able to connect with my colleagues personally and got the chance to learn a lot about Malaysia this way. Besides developing professionally and learning about the dynamic of working in a research laboratory, I also got the chance to travel all over Malaysia. I took every sort of transportation there ever was including, cars, trains, buses, taxis, metros, ferries, skiffs, gondolas, kayaks, ATVs, motor-bikes, and skybridges to discover all that I could of Malaysia. This left me with the memories of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen. It also helped instill in me a new-found, savvy fervor for getting around, travelling, experiencing other cultures, reaching out to new people, and learning how to make any experience possible. Overall, I can say that I left Malaysia with a new confidence in the ways that I can connect and relate to people. I was able to make memories with wonderful people, and I look forward to meeting and making more!

Kali Collymore

Kyrgyzstan

Political Science

Kyrgyz Concept
Marketing &
Fundraising Intern



Company and Position Description:

While living in Kyrgyzstan, I interned for Kyrgyz Concept, which is the most prominent travel agency in the country. Kyrgyz Concept primarily organizes and books tours of local attractions and exhibitions throughout Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. My work consisted of editing and proofreading travel brochures, drafting emails and newsletters, scouting potential tours, and making phone calls to clients.



Scouting a potential tour of the Sary-Chelek Nature Reserv.



Kyrgyz Concept Offices

Kali Collymore Kyrgyzstan



Kyrgyz Concept Offices

Yurts on a company tour of the Shamsi Gorge.

Value Derived from the Experience:

During my time in Kyrgyzstan I learned a lot about myself as well as the world. The experience has helped me to see my potential by allowing me to travel to the other side of the world on my own to live and work submerged in a culture and way of life that is entirely foreign to my own. It has taught me patience and understanding, and has provided me with an opportunity to expand my comfort zone and my level of open-mindedness, all while getting real world work experience. I was able to catch a glimpse of my future in a professional setting as well as some clarity in the quest to figure out once and for all what exactly I would like to do for the rest of my life.

Andrew Culkin

Malaysia

Mechanical Engineering

Universiti Teknologi Petronas
Research Assistant



Company and Position Description:

During my time in Malaysia, I stayed at the Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP). While I was there, I worked at the Center for Automotive Research and Electronic Mobility (CAREM). I was assigned to assist graduate students with performing tests on two different kinds of internal combustion engines. I worked with the CNG-DI engine to determine the effects of injection timing and engine speed on the resultant torque of the engine. I also worked with the Diesel engine to determine the effects of the throttle percentage and engine speed on the resultant torque. In addition to testing engines I taught myself to use the industry standard CAD software for automotive engineering, CATIA. This experience was incredibly valuable because I got to work with automotive engineers, learn about the details of internal combustion engines and perform tests that were integral to bettering the performance of engines for the future.



Visiting an indigenous Malaysian village



Diesel test engine setup at the CAREM

Andrew Culkin

Malaysia



Standing atop Gunung Mat Chinchang mountain near the Langkawi Sky-Bridge



Competing in a blow-dart competition during our trek through the jungle

Value Derived from the Experience:

The research I performed at UTP was an incredible experience not only academically, but professionally as well. I was able to work with people with very diverse backgrounds and learn about their cultures and traditions. However, the best part of my experience was the traveling I did while away from the university. Traveling allowed me to see how the culture in a predominantly Islamic country was different than, but also very similar to, our culture here in America. A lot of cultural differences were visible at UTP, from a call for prayer over the loudspeaker 5 times each day, to the extremely spicy and inexpensive food served in the dining halls. However, when I traveled to places besides UTP, I saw things that were both different and similar to our own culture. I was able to visit many places both in and out of Malaysia including an indigenous village in the northern part of Malaysia, and Singapore, one of the most robust cities in southeast Asia. When I visited the indigenous people I was able to talk to them and see how different their life is from our own, the struggles they faced on a daily basis and how the Malaysian government is helping to preserve their culture. When I went to Singapore, I saw how similar to American culture parts of Asia can be. Many aspects of the city reminded me of home like all the incredible buildings, its advanced public transportation systems, and the beautiful Botanical Gardens that showcased different plants from around the world. This internship was an amazing experience, and I will remember the things I learned in Malaysia for the rest of my life. I am extremely lucky that I was able to travel half way around the world to do research related to my field of study, experience the diverse culture and explore all the beautiful places that Malaysia has to offer.

Andrew D'Onofrio

Malaysia

Mechanical Engineering

Universiti Teknologi Petronas
Research Assistant



Company and Position Description:

My internship took place at Unviersiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP), a university sponsored by Petronas, a leader in the oil and gas industry. Petronas is an internationally renowned company whose headquarters is located in the capital city of Kuala Lumpur at the world famous Petronas Twin Towers. The university is located in the state of Perak, and my internship consisted of researching the flow over a loaded and unloaded airfoil at different angles of attack. My research aimed to determine at what point boundary layer separation occurs and at what point stalling of the aircraft might occur. I worked in one of the computer labs on campus alongside a Malaysian student who attends UTP as well as with a doctorate student who guided us along the way. I learned how to use a Computational Dynamics Fluid tool called ANSYS Fluent which allowed me to simulate the flow over the airfoil.



The gang walking around the streets of the capital city: Kuala Lumpur.



Shooting blow darts at a target in the jungles of Kuala Lupis.

Andrew D'Onofrio

Malaysia



Relaxing for the weekend on the island of Pangkor.



Visiting the sky bridge of Langkawi.

Value Derived from the Experience:

My trip to Malaysia was an absolutely fantastic experience and I am very happy that I had the opportunity to be a part of this Iacocca International Internship. Interacting with the people of Malaysia taught me a lot of different things that enhanced my understanding of the world and taught me effective ways to communicate with people who speak a different language. One of the biggest differences between the cultures of the United States and Malaysia was the heavy influence of Islam in Malaysia. The vast majority of Malaysians are Muslim and they generally live a very different life than we do in the United States. Living with others of this religion and learning about their customs and beliefs helped me to develop a greater respect for them and their way of life.

Erin East

Milan, Italy

Journalism

Asian Studies Group
Communications Manager



Company and Position Description:

Asian Studies Group helps to bring awareness and a certain level of education about Japanese, Chinese and Korean cultures. There are teachers that work in the organization that teach language classes and classes on their culture. While I was working with this organization, I assisted with their social media platforms. I helped translate the Italian social media pages and pages on their website into English so that Anglophone companies they wish to associate with can read and understand the websites. I also got to travel to Lodi to teach a class on communication from an American stand point.



The center of Lodi where I taught my class.



The street where the Lodi office is located.

Erin East

Milan, Italy



Me, Mia and Raven



*Ali, Raven, me, Jackie and Daphnee
at the Last Supper painting*

Value Derived from the Experience:

This internship definitely allowed me to step outside my comfort zone and learn how to manage my expectations. I never taught a class before and didn't really know how to go about doing it. I wasn't used to preparing lessons and talking to a small group of people about communication. It was difficult because the Italians had a different idea of what communication was and how I should be teaching it. So I had to manage my expectations a little and adapt to their way of learning.

I also had some really great non work related experiences that I will never forget. Mia, the Italian student that we lived with was amazing. She definitely made the trip memorable as well. Being in Italy allowed me to meet new people and make some new friends all while experiencing the beauty and culture that Italy has to offer. The trip was well worth it!

Abigail Farrell

Ghana

IDEAS: Environmental
Engineering &
Sociology

Proslin Limited
Sustainable Development
Intern



Company and Position Description:

Proslin (GH) Limited is a full service construction and development solutions firm based out of Accra, Ghana. Their key services include supplying services, civil engineering & construction, and development solutions to problems faced by many low income Ghanaians. According to their company profile, Proslin takes pride in “investing in the common person, ‘the bottom of the pyramid’ people”. Many of the issues that have plagued poor Ghanaian and African people for decades have very simple solutions and Proslin has an extensive worldwide network to invest heavily to help provide these solutions. The company recognizes that the economy of Ghana has been on a path of growth for the past few years, and they also recognize the Ghanaian government’s determination to make Ghana the economic hub of West Africa. This determination has led to various development projects being commissioned in various sectors of the economy. The Proslin team is comprised of dedicated professionals from a variety of experienced disciplines, including Accounting, Finance, Engineering, Insurance, Real Estate, and various consulting practices making them a unique company and putting them above the competition due to their ability to provide the highest quality of service/products reliably. These professionals have experience working for leading institutions in Africa and the United States, which gives Proslin as a whole a great advantage and opportunity to support and service Ghana’s growing economy.



William Sullivan presenting his research



Interviewing farmers about fertilizing methods

Abigail Farrell

Ghana



The group after our final presentation



Visiting independence arch in Accra

Value Derived from the Experience:

The Lee Iacocca International Internship in Ghana was one of the best experiences of my life. Throughout the 6 weeks I learned so much about the Ghanaian culture, the engineering process, and myself. It was my first experience working for an engineering company but proved to be a great experience. I learned so much from the other interns too. We all had diverse academic backgrounds, which complimented each other very well. Outside the office it learned so much for all of them too. It seemed that our diverse academic backgrounds flooded to make us a diverse group intellectually too. The internship also provided us with a great opportunity to understand how businesses and daily life functions in another country. Working closely with Ghanaians who do many things differently than Americas forced you to evaluate the credibility of typical American methods. It was invaluable to see life through a context outside of Lehigh and the United States. The experience we interns had while not working was also incredible. As Ghanaians are incredibly friendly people, we met many people who taught us a lot about their culture too. We had a blast doing so and will definitely keep in touch with those we met to further expand our networks. Sight seeing was an added bonus, especially highlighting our trip to Cape Coast where we visited the slave castles. All us interns took away an enormous amount of lessons, which can only be truly valued as we move forward in our careers outside of Lehigh University.

Wayan Briana Fowler-Puja

Indonesia

Math & Asian Studies

Universitas Gadjah Mada
Community Development Intern



Company and Position Description:

Gadjah Mada University is one of the most prestigious universities in Indonesia. It is located in Yogyakarta, Indonesia a city regarded as a cultural and educational center in Indonesia. UGM has around 55,000 student, including both graduate and undergraduate. Every year it sends about 6,000 of it's undergraduates to various places in Indonesia to work on community service projects. Every undergraduate is required to complete a term of community service before graduation. We participated in the community service trip to a village called Gulurejo. Our job was to find out from the villagers and our own observations, issues that needed to be worked on. We then developed programs to help resolve these issues. The main program I worked on dealt with trash management. Most of the trash is either littered or burned which is harmful for the people and the environment, so we looked into other options to deal with the trash and then gave a presentation and distributed informational brochures. We were also tasked with developing a positive and lasting relationship between the university and the village. This involved a lot of socializing and attending events. To this end, I also went with one of the UGM students to a local school to teach math.



Photo with UGM students and village youth after a meeting.



Receiving a plaque after giving a talk with Leidy Guzman on methods of trash management.

Wayan Briana Fowler-Puja

Indonesia



Prambanan temple.



Learning how to make batik with the UGM students.

Value Derived from the Experience:

On a personal level, this internship expanded my world view by exposing me to a different culture and way of life. Instead of just reading and hearing stories about village life in Indonesia, I lived it for five weeks. We had no running water, no gas stove, and poor lighting. While spending five weeks there is not the same as living there full time, it did give me a taste of how a majority of Indonesia's population lives. This gave me a renewed appreciation for the conveniences we have. Also, after spending so much time with the UGM students, I learned a lot about the culture there and their world views which in turn made think more about my own. We had the chance to not only visit cultural sites like anyone visiting Indonesia could, but also to delve more deeply into the culture and what it means to the people there. In terms of professional skills, this internship taught me a lot about starting and running projects. We didn't have projects designed and handed to us to complete. We had to make our projects from beginning to end; from coming up with the general idea to working out the last detail. We also had to learn to cope with language and culture barriers. Because we were conducting our projects in a non-English speaking country, we could not get or transmit information without the translation help of the UGM students. This could be frustrating because the process of translating is messy and there were often miscommunications. We also had to learn to work with societal conventions while running our programs to make sure we had the villager's support and did not offend anyone. I feel that all these things have made me a more sensitive, independent, and worldly person.

Raven M. Gaddy

Milan, Italy

Global & Africana Studies

Gariwo

English Web Intern



Company and Position Description:

The Committee for the Gardens of the Righteous Worldwide first started in Milan in 1999 and was officially formed in 2001. This organization is responsible for planting commemorative gardens to individuals considered "Righteous", as well as receiving permission from European Parliament to establish the annual "European Day of the Righteous" on March 6. The Gariwo website is the Committee's main instrument for publicizing the subject of the Righteous and the exemplary figures whose names have often remained unknown. The website takes the acronym of the English version of the Committee (Gardens of the Righteous Worldwide) and includes an Italian version and a shorter English version, to reach international readers. My duties included - Preparation for and assistance with English lesson for employees - Overall maintenance of English website - Authorship of articles and "flash" news pieces - Preparation and participation in daily Press Reviews for website content - Translation of articles from Italian to English - Editing of English news pieces and articles.



Tree of the Righteous



Raven M. Gaddy

Milan, Italy



Tree of the Righteous



Biographies of Righteous figures

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience was one that was quite unforgettable. Having been my third time in Italy, I did not have very high expectations. Once on the ground, I was responsible for my own living, meals, and navigating to work on my own. I loved the opportunity of finding my own way to work, especially in a new city. It gave me vital problem-solving skills and confidence that I can live almost anywhere.

Working at Gariwo was even more amazing. I was responsible for helping decide content for the English website, as well as editing, writing articles and compiling photo galleries. This experience was far from the usual internship, which would only include tangential work for the company. I can proudly say that I was an active part of an international NGO. I gained so much knowledge and insight, while still being able to provide my own personal academic background. I was challenged every day and enjoyed the new experience.

Maren Gallina

Prague, Czech Republic

Global Studies

Inclusio o.p.s
International Connections Intern



Company and Position Description:

I interned with Inclusio o.p.s, a non-profit nongovernmental organization that was founded in Prague in 2013. The essential goals of Inclusio are the promotion of equal educational opportunities for all children and cooperation among all entities participating in the integration of minorities in the Czech Republic and abroad. Inclusio's primary activities revolve around the provision of support to socially excluded individuals and families, the protection and integration of minority populations, and the implementation of educational and enrichment programs and projects for children from socially disadvantaged milieus.

As a new NGO, Inclusio is challenged by lack of resources and financial stability. This dearth defined my focus; most of efforts were devoted to researching potential funding streams, proofreading and editing grant proposals, and developing project budgets.



Old Town Square



*Interns at the
John Lennon Wall*

Maren Gallina

Prague, Czech Republic



*Beautiful gardens
near Senate*



View of Prague

Value Derived from the Experience:

First, I was introduced to a more global conceptualization of prejudice and racism. I had no first-hand knowledge of the Romany population, and I discovered that, sadly, discriminatory perspectives and policies appear to be universal across cultures. Next, I learned a great deal about the inside workings of a nongovernmental organization. I was exposed to day to day operations and personally experienced the stress and strain of attempting to promote change in a resistant environment. The noble efforts of caring and committed professionals requires a lot of hard work for very little reward. I learned to appreciate small gains and successes. Finally, I derived immeasurable personal value from this experience. My goal has and always will be to become an educated and enlightened citizen of the world--one who applies knowledge and the innate gifts that I possess to improve the life of others in some way. I am practicing for a lifetime of collaborative good work, and my short tenure at Inclusio validated this priority. Furthermore, it strengthened my desire and resolve to live and work abroad.

Dean Granot

Cambodia

Behavioral Neuroscience &
Psychology

Royal University of Phnom Penh
Intern



Company and Position Description:

I spent my summer interning at the Psychology Department of the Royal University of Phnom Penh in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. While there I assisted in a variety of projects, however the majority of my efforts focused on two. The first half of my internship was spent helping to coordinate a national health conference dressing Mental Illness on a national level. My work included organizing and controlling powerpoint presentations on the various topics as well as creating the overarching poster presentation for the conference. The second half of my time was spent putting together a curriculum for a new course on the history of psychology which was implemented in September 2014. I spent two months with the Psychology Department.



Presenting my work at a Cambodian mental health conference



Working at my desk at RUPP

Dean Granot

Cambodia



Monsoon during monsoon season



Angkor Wat at sunrise

Value Derived from the Experience:

The time I spent working with the Psychology department at the Royal University of Phnom Pehn had affected me more than I ever imagined it would have. I grew attached to the people that I was working with and the work that I was studying. In terms of the work, I was exposed to hands on research and field work which gave me a very unique and real understanding of the field that I will one day enter. However I could not get that experience anywhere, the real value of my work abroad was the way I felt seamlessly immersed and a part of local khmer (cambodian) culture. A part of me will always thrive to return. The food, culture, and people were unique and genuine. The poverty of the country was impossible to overlook, but what was harder was ignoring the genuine happiness of the local people. through my work at RUPP I was able to interact with those locals in a setting privy to very few.

Maggie Gurule

Kosovo

Political Science

American Councils
Marketing & Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

The American Councils office in Prishtina, Kosovo runs two programs: the Kosovo American Education Fund (KAEF), and the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES). These programs both send Kosovars to America for education purposes. The YES program sends Kosovar high schoolers to America for an exchange year, and KAEF sends Kosovar graduate students to an American university for a master's program. Primarily, my work with American Councils was assisting with office tasks: updating databases and scanning papers. Additionally, I helped welcome recently returned YES alumni home through various programs, as well as facilitate and prepare for various Pre-Departure Orientations for both programs.



Mother Teresa Cathedral Bell Tower, above Prishtina, Kosovo



Farm house visit outside of Prishtina, Kosovo

Maggie Gurule

Kosovo



*The 40 Bunar Fest in Prizren,
Kosovo*



Lake Ohrid, Macedonia

Value Derived from the Experience:

My summer in Kosovo couldn't have been more transformative; I learned so much, not only about myself but also about what it means to be a professional abroad. For myself, I spent a lot of time traveling around the Balkans alone, which was intimidating at times but really did well to highlight how well I can adapt and manage without assistance. Despite this, I would say I learned the most about being a professional in Kosovo. I hadn't had much office experience before this summer, and working in an office that was so closely tied to the US Embassy really showed me how much variation there is the professional realm. Because "Market and Research Intern" doesn't directly apply to my degree, nor my professional interests, I was a bit apprehensive and didn't think I would get a lot applicable or guiding experience out of being in Kosovo. However, I'm really, really pleased that this couldn't be farther from the truth. Being in Kosovo reaffirmed how much I truly want to find a career that offers me the opportunity to travel or live abroad as much as possible. It also taught me how important it is to be cognizant of differing culture norms in a professional settings and how to interact professionally with people from other cultures. Overall, my experience in Kosovo far exceeded any expectations I had and I would encourage anyone to seek out similar opportunities.

Leidy Guzman

Indonesia

College of Arts and Sciences
Behavioral Neuroscience

Gadjah Mada University
Community Development Intern



Company and Position Description:

The Gadjah Mada university runs a program every year known as KKN. This is a community service project where their students are expected to work on a program to improve a community. This literally means that a group of their students identify a problem within a community (villages) and spend two months in several years to solve it. We, the Lehigh students, joined a group of UGM students in this task. For our specific case, we went to the village of Gulurejo with the main idea of working to improve their Batik waste management process. Each student is required to identify further problems within the village during the first week of observation and work on them as side projects to the main idea. These side programs have ranged from teaching the villagers to introducing new technologies to them. For my case, as a health related major, I worked on seminars for the adults on diseases they were concerned on. I also worked on a garbage seminar and system improvement once it was identified that they burn any type of garbage. We found a plastic collector to collect for the village, taught them how to compost their organic waste for their fields and instructed them on recycling. We also identified common health problems for the Batik workers. Furthermore, we also taught children English and the proper way to wash their hands. All in all, all students helped each other with the programs to run a successful community service. The program in this village is expected to be completed in three years having successfully built a better waste management process for the villagers and instructed them about green batik. Furthermore, the side programs are expected to improve the community as a whole. This position allows for the the students to put into practice their problem solving skills in real life settings as their task is to provide a change and education to a developing community.



Leidy Guzman (me) helping at the health fair at my village by taking villagers' Blood pressures.



The UGM students, villager students and I after a class

Leidy Guzman

Indonesia



Briana and I learning the Batik Technique



Celebrating the end of Ramadan with the village and my UGM family.

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience brought me to whole new different culture and environment. Not only were the customs different but also the living conditions. I am usually easy to adapt but I'll admit that at the beginning we had a lot of communication problems coming from every direction. We all understood different messages as information got lost in translation and we were not comfortable enough to discuss our concerns. At first, this worried and frustrated me, but we all quickly learned and adapted. Once I had adapted, I understood better how to handle these situations. It is about understanding these differences and speaking up. At the end, all these mere problems we had at the beginnings were just a bump in the road and after we overcame it, we were ready for smooth travels.

Furthermore, I entered a whole new different culture and religion I had never really been exposed to before. I was nervous at first, but then I was surprised at how the society received me so well. They allowed me to be close to them. I have never been good with kids, yet my Kragilan kids were always around and even though I was shy around them, they never failed to try to be with me. At first, it was challenging figuring out how to behave so I would not be offensive, but everyone was very understanding and open. I felt so open in my community that I even did daily activities, such as running in the morning. But to reach this point, it had to be a mutual agreement, where I was willing to participate as much as they were willing to accept me. I did my best to attend every event at the village as possible even if it was speeches that I could not understand. Why? Because I believe you can learn a lot even from the smallest things, even from just observing. Since there was a language barrier, I needed to find another way other than words to express my interest and eagerness to be involved. I was literally in a different world, so everything was fascinating. The mosques, the fathers and mother meetings, the game competitions, teaching at the schools, joining in for religious celebrations (such as Eid Al-Fitr), traditional dance and puppet shows, joining the UGM students in their programs, batik factories, sight seeing, and many more are the activities and fond memories that showed me the real side of the culture in the village and allowed me to understand them and relate to them better.

I personally grew as a person. I learned how to communicate better with people and saw life through a different perspective. The management of time in Indonesia was very different as to them, punctuality is not a priority. This caused a switch from a hectic routine to a routine that allowed me to appreciate the little things around me while still completing all my work. It also provided me with a lot of patience and calmness. I also learned more humility and to be more thankful for our privileges at home, but realize how they are luxuries not truly necessary. Happiness can come from many non materialistic sources.

Professionally the growth was great as well. I grew more confident of presenting myself in a larger audience. I practiced public speaking skills and attempted to overcome the challenge where I needed to grasp the attention of a public that spoke a different language from me. I was very happy to get a hands on experience of field work. I did not only practice knowledge in my medical field but also the scientific approach. As I had to design my own programs from identifying problems from my own perspective, I used my problem solving skills. In a sense, I was my own boss, I had the power to make any program my own, to tackle any problem I could. This granted me the ability to test my own skills and knowledge and find areas of improvement. It allowed my brain to solve real life puzzles!

Danielle Hanes

Armenia

Global Studies

Eurasia Partnership Foundation
Program Intern



Company and Position Description:

The Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) is a civil society organization whose mission is “To empower people to effect change for social justice and economic prosperity through hands-on programs, helping them to improve their communities and their own lives.” Although Armenia has been engaged in ethnic and border conflict for most of its existence, EPF believes that the best predictor for future stability is the present, and works constantly to secure outside funding for innovative programs that take place throughout the year. As a Program Intern, I mainly reviewed and edited program reports and grant proposals bound to donor organizations such as USAID and the European Commission, but I was also given the opportunity to represent the Eurasia Partnership Foundation at both a civil society workshop and conference.



Representing EPF at a United Nations Development Programme-NESTA civil society workshop



Republic Square, the hub of Yerevan city life

Danielle Hanes

Armenia



The view from Tatev Monastery, a historic landmark



**EURASIA
PARTNERSHIP
FOUNDATION**



A typical evening at the Yerevan Opera House

Value Derived from the Experience:

As a Global Studies major, subjecting myself to unpredictable experiences in faraway places is not simply a graduation requirement– it is my passion and how I want to spend the rest of my life. Interning at the Eurasia Partnership Foundation in Yerevan, Armenia challenged me in a variety of ways; while learning how to adapt to a society vastly different from that of the United States, I became fully integrated into the realm of civil society organizations (CSOs).

At the Eurasia Partnership Foundation, I gained valuable insight into the daily operations of a civil society organization from drafting grant proposals to hosting meetings with fellow CSO partners to implementing the programs themselves and much more. Until my time in Armenia, I had never realized exactly how much effort goes into executing development initiatives; after countless hours of planning, negotiating, and implementation, there is no guarantee that there will be results. Through this experience, my appreciation for those organizations that devote themselves to development in all sectors has increased dramatically, and I am confident that I will find myself in their position in the future.

Tamara Hass

China

Computer Science

USTC

Robotics Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

I worked in the Multi-Agent Robotics lab at the University of Science and Technology of China. I worked directly under a postdoctoral scholar, who gave me a project to work on during my 6-week stay that is usually offered as an 8-week summer course at USTC. The project had two parts. The first part was to create a 3D map of the lab area using the robot known as the Turtlebot 2. The second part was to send the map file from one robot to another through a WiFi router, and save the file on the second robot's computer. The resources I were given were tremendous, as I had a desk, a desktop, two laptops, and a Turtlebot2 robot to complete my work! I worked Monday – Friday, averaging about 40 hours a week. Each Monday, I participated in weekly lab meetings with other members of the lab, in which we discussed what we had worked on the previous week, what we plan to work on the upcoming week, and any significant problems or issues that need to be addressed. Beyond being able to learn more about robotics, this experience gave me the opportunity to learn more about working in a post graduate environment.



Controlling Turtlebot 2



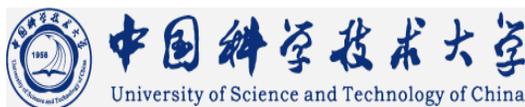
Visiting shops in Shanghai

Tamara Hass

China



My desk at USTC



700+ year old tree at the Yellow Mountain

Value Derived from the Experience:

Working in the Multi-Agent Robotics lab was different from working in any other course or team setting that I had previously encountered. Instead of working together on the same project, each person in the lab was working on their own research project—working as a Master's, PhD, or postdoctoral student. Thus on a day-to-day basis, everyone had their own research problems to focus on instead of focusing on any struggles that I had. For this reason, it was imperative that I be able to work productively on my own. Every problem specific to my code that I encountered was my responsibility to figure out. When something did not work for a prolonged period of time, I had to decide the most time efficient way of handling it. By working in this type of environment, I gained a strong ability of self-learning and problem solving that I will be able to apply to all future projects and jobs.

Since English was not the first language of any of my lab mates, it was often difficult to discuss various technical concepts with them. I gained the ability to explain concepts in different ways by rephrasing the conversation or bringing in familiar examples that they would be able to relate to. I believe that having the ability to convey my thoughts to my lab mates was an important quality for me to practice because often times, even amongst native English speakers, people misunderstand each other when hearing new ideas for the first time. Thus, it was beneficial for me to practice both noticing and getting around that confusion. Overall, this internship was a phenomenal peak into the world of robotics and postgraduate research that gave me the opportunity to implement and learn various problem solving techniques. I hope to carry these characteristics with me for many years to come!

Lisa Heintzelman

Singapore

IBE/Chemical Engineer

Aon Benfield
Data and Analytics Intern



Company and Position Description:

During my time at AON Benfield, I worked as a Data and Analytics Intern. Alongside the other Singaporean interns, I received extensive training regarding the reinsurance market and Aon's role, specifically in treaty reinsurance. I had no prior work experience in the insurance or reinsurance markets so the training was very valuable to my overall understanding of the organization and provided a solid background for the projects I was assigned. The Data and Analytics team works to analyze data provided by insurance companies in order to help these clients determine the best type of reinsurance coverage. I worked both independently and in groups with the interns to complete a variety of projects for various employees of the Data and Analytics Team. This included projects such as benchmarking, research to help develop a flood model, and analysis when provided large amounts of raw data from clients. Through my time at Aon Benfield, I gained a deep understanding of how the organization operates, was involved in networking events and conferences, and formed strong relationships with the all of wonderful coworkers I was surrounded by. I learned the value of asking for help, managing my time, and taking initiative to learn from my colleagues whenever possible. Working at Aon Benfield this summer was such a valuable experience, especially for my first internship. All of the people I worked with helped to shape my time in Singapore and my internship was a positive and rewarding part of my international experience!



Hot-Pot dinner with the interns!



Gardens by the Bay



Last day of work at the office

Lisa Heintzelman

Singapore



Visiting Hoan Kiem in Vietnam

AON BENFIELD



Exploring Marina Bay

Value Derived from the Experience:

I had no idea that two months working abroad in Singapore could change my worldviews, make me more self-aware and push me outside of my comfort zone. I interned with native Singaporeans, got the opportunity to work in an amazing organization and immersed myself in the culture. As we went to lunch everyday, the interns encouraged me to try new foods and experiences I might have been shy to indulge in otherwise. I ate foods I never imagined like black fungus and pork kidney, traveled around the country sight seeing and challenged myself to learn as much as I could about Singapore's history, traditions and people. This country draws residents from all over the Asia Pacific, so I was exposed to many cultures in Singapore during my visits to Little India, Arab Street and Chinatown. My experience was unique because I lived like a native during the week, adjusting to the customs of Singapore society. But on the weekends, I became a tourist, traveling to other countries in the Asia Pacific seeing famous sites, in places like Vietnam and Malaysia. I made sure I was completely open to every opportunities offered to me, both at work and while exploring Singapore.

I worked with people from all over the world. The Data and Analytics Team alone included coworkers from 13 different countries spanning the globe. On a daily basis, I learned about their cultures, upbringings, traditions and what brought them to Singapore. I also enjoyed hearing about life in Singapore from the native interns because they could give me a firsthand account of what its like to be a 20 year old growing up there, in contrast to my own life at Lehigh. Meeting and forming relationships with such a diverse group has made me more culturally aware.

I feel as though I've grown as an individual and learned about myself through this incredible opportunity. I reaffirmed my true values, discovered new interests, and learned how I handle difficult situations when put to the test in a new environment. As a result, I've become more independent and more confident in my abilities. My future endeavors will be influenced and colored by my time in Singapore and my ability to experience this multitude of cultures all in one place. I already see my trip impacting me in positive ways, as I appreciate the everyday differences between my life in the U.S. and my home away from home in Singapore. Coming back to Lehigh, I feel like my summer experience changed me for the better and I encourage anyone who has the chance to seize this opportunity.

Kawsar Hooda

India

Civil Engineering

VIVA Group



Company and Position Description:

The company I interned at this summer, the VIVA group, is a giant conglomerate which is involved in multiple industries. Its involvement ranges from land aggregation and development, to running colleges, hospitals, restaurants, retail supermarkets and more recently travel agencies. For decades, however, their main business has been to aggregate and develop land.

Since VIVA has continued to master and polish its developing techniques, it was very valuable for me to intern with them over the summer, especially since I am a civil engineering major. I had the opportunity to work closely with professional, licensed civil engineers, referred to as RCC Consultants, in India. I was shown construction plans for foundations and individual floors and explained the details behind them. Together with site inspectors, we monitored the progress of different construction sites to ensure metal rods (for piles, pile caps, columns and beams) were joined correctly before concrete could be poured over it. I also had the opportunity to spend some of my time with an architect, during which I could put a little bit of my CAD skills in to practice. And finally, but most importantly, I had the opportunity to witness high-level negotiations in business meetings during my stay in India, through which I was able to expand my professional network.



Inspecting steel connections before pouring concrete can be approved



A visit to The Golden Temple in Amritsar

Kawsar Hooda

India



Adam and me, enjoying the breeze on Mumbai's Shores



Adam (left) Monty (center) and Me (right)

Value Derived from the Experience:

My experience in India has truly been valuable ever since the day we arrived. Never have I met such a warm and hospitable group of people, who are willing to help you selflessly. We were welcomed with royalty and treated cordially. In fact, according to ancient Hindu scriptures, a verse says: Atithi Devo Bhavah, which is the Sanskrit for the guest is God. During my stay in India I was fortunate enough to build strong connections with the local people, so much so that by the end of my stay I had made an entirely new family there! The people there were absolutely great! I am very grateful for being able to have this opportunity as not only did I make a new family in another the country, but also had the opportunity to witness very high-end business negotiations. And through these business meetings I have also had the opportunity to connect and network with some exceptional individuals and companies. One skill that definitely played in my favor was that I could easily communicate with locals and other staff in Hindi and Gujarati, which helped me make even stronger links with them. I do not think the experience I had this summer in India could have been paralleled elsewhere. I was truly amazed by this once in a lifetime experience and am incredibly grateful for everyone that made this trip possible.

Elaine Ivy

United Arab Emirates

Civil Engineering &
Architecture

DeSimone Consulting Engineers
Structural Engineering Intern



Company and Position Description:

DeSimone Consulting Engineers provides high-quality structural engineering services to architects, investors, developers, owners, and contractors. DeSimone's projects include structural analysis on all types of buildings from all project phases. DeSimone is an international company with its headquarters in New York. The Abu Dhabi office opened in 2008. The company's portfolio includes many cool and exciting buildings such as the HL 23 next to the High Line in New York City and the twisting Emirates Pearl Hotel in Abu Dhabi.

During my time as an intern, I assisted Senior Design engineers with basic analysis, became more familiar with the operations of a design office and the challenges of being an international firm. I performed a variety of work on several different projects. I created an ETABS model of a small (4 story) medical clinic for use in lateral analysis, helped with the column study for the Saadiyat Resort, compiled specifications related to the foundation construction for an ADNOC project. I also spent some time researching the construction industry in the Middle East and compiling company contacts. I did not end up doing any field supervision work this summer.



My desk at DeSimone in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.



This is the Abu Dhabi skyline taken from the Emirates Palace.

Elaine Ivy

United Arab Emirates

DESIMONE



DeSimone Abu Dhabi office celebrating design awards over lunch.



Marina Mall taxi stand

Value Derived from the Experience:

I was really excited by how well the internship built upon things that I had been studying at Lehigh. I was able to continue to grow professionally by learning how to use new civil engineering specific software, namely SAFE and ETABS, as well as by becoming more familiar with how dimensions are called out on plans in metric units. I also learned a lot about the challenges companies have when they expand internationally. Shortly before my internship started, DeSimone had relocated one of its structural engineers from the United States to Abu Dhabi. While I was there I had the opportunity to observe the excitement and headaches that come with the process of obtaining legal residency in a foreign country.

This summer was hands down the hottest summer of my life. I had never visited a desert that gets as humid as Abu Dhabi. Despite the heat, I really enjoyed the experience of living and working in a multicultural environment. Although the host culture is Islamic, Abu Dhabi has become an international city with a large number of expats, or legal residence from all over the world. I was fortunate enough to meet up with a group of young expats and become good friends with many of them before I left. I will always treasure the fun times we had hanging out in the malls or other places around the city. The two most challenging parts of the experience for me were planning my own trips in a different country and then changing up my schedule for Ramadan. There are a lot of wonderful architectural buildings and tourist sites to see in the United Arab Emirates. Figuring out what I what I wanted to see, how to get to different places, and how much time to spend where took a bit of independent effort. Then as Ramadan started the scheduled hours for almost everything changed, so planning required more creativity. Overall, my experience really broadened my global perspective on life.

Ralph Jean-Noel

Ghana

College of Arts & Sciences
Africana Studies & Global
Studies



Proslin Ghana, Ltd
Sustainable Development
Intern

Company and Position Description:

Proslin (GH) Limited is a full service construction and development solutions firm based out of Accra, Ghana. Their key services include supplying services, civil engineering & construction, and development solutions to problems faced by many low income Ghanaians. The Proslin team is comprised of dedicated professionals from a variety of experienced disciplines, including Accounting, Finance, Engineering, Insurance, Real Estate, and various consulting practices making them a unique company and putting them above the competition due to their ability to provide the highest quality of service/products reliably. These professionals have experience working for leading institutions in Africa and the United States, which gives Proslin as a whole a great advantage and opportunity to support and service Ghana's growing economy.

As a part of the Sustainable Development Intern team, we were given the task of identifying an efficient and safe way to apply solid fertilizer and develop an engineered working product that addresses the setbacks identified with applying solid fertilizer on small and medium scale farms.



*Marketing Plan
Presentation for the
Prosper 18L Granular*



*Conducting Market
Research of current
products on the market*

Ralph Jean-Noel

Ghana



At a Ghanaian-Christian wedding in Tema, Ghana



At Elmina Slave Castle- Never Again

Value Derived from the Experience: I wish I could put into words how powerful this trip has been. From the simplest to the most complex things, everything about this experience added significant value to my life. Starting off with my amazing team members, I became very close with these individuals, and I had never met them before this trip. We had enlightening conversations and it was amazing to learn from them, hear about their different perspectives on life, and witness the way they themselves grew and interacted with the culture and people of Ghana.

During the internship, I learned a tremendous amount of information regarding Agriculture and Sustainable Development in Ghana as well as enhanced my own understanding of global business practices. I was able to work on my interpersonal and communication skills by working on a team, conducting market research and giving official business presentations. I also had the opportunity to work on different brainstorming techniques, sketching, designing, and prototyping products- all of which are experiences I would have never had, had I not taken this trip.

Traveling to Ghana overall was a very powerful experience for me. This was like my very own "pilgrimage to Mecca". Being of Haitian descent, and having African ancestors, this was an opportunity where I got to travel to the land of my ancestors. As a descendant of the African Diaspora, because of slavery, Colonialism and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, it is very difficult for myself and other diasporans to trace our roots to specific locations and groups in Africa. It was powerful to stand in the "Door of No Return" at Elmina Castle where for over 200 years, slaves passed through that very spot before being "boarded and shipped" to the Americas and the Caribbean. A spot where my ancestors endured one of the worst atrocities that mankind ever committed. I can't even put that feeling into words, but it definitely moved me and motivates me to continue doing the work that I am doing as an Africana Studies major here at Lehigh.

Katie Kimball

Costa Rica

Earth & Environmental Science

University of Georgia & Piro
Biological Station Intern



Company and Position Description:

I was fortunate to be able to work at two separate locations in Costa Rica, working on different projects at each site. My first two weeks were spent working with the University of Georgia at their satellite campus in San Luis in the Monte Verde region. There I assisted with a reforestation project by measuring the growth of tree saplings that farmers had planted in the last few years. The trees were provided by UGA as an effort to restore biodiversity that has been lost due to agriculture. I spent the remainder of my internship at Piro Biological station on the Osa Peninsula where I assisted with several projects including reforestation tree plot monitoring and mapping, sea turtle protection, and farming. Much of my work was hard labor that required hiking off-trail through the rain in order to identify, tag, and measure tree seedlings that had been planted in reforestation plots during the previous spring.



Planting a tree sapling with the help of Augustine as part of the reforestation project on the Osa Peninsula



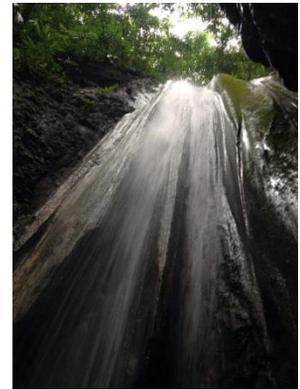
A view of the Pacific Ocean from the Osa Peninsula

Katie Kimball

Costa Rica



*A fer-de-lance viper (terciopelo in Spanish),
the most venomous snake in Costa Rica.*



*One of the many waterfalls on the
Osa Peninsula*

Value Derived from the Experience:

My internship may have been more hard labor and volunteer work rather than research, but I still learned many valuable lessons from the people I worked with as well as my living environment. Much of my work was led by people who have lived in Costa Rica their entire lives and have not had much formal education. However, their knowledge of the environment is profound and I learned skills from them I could not learn in a classroom. I very much enjoyed talking with them, improving my Spanish, and learning from them. Communication was poor between the different levels in the organization I worked with on the Osa Peninsula, and as such I was not always made aware of my responsibilities for the day until the last minute, or already-made plans would suddenly change. I learned how to adapt to these changing situations by preparing myself mentally and physically for several different possible tasks. I realize this is an important skill because "real life", as college students like to call life after graduation, is not always orderly and there will be many times I must adapt to situations in order to be successful. Another part of my experience in Costa Rica that shaped me was my living conditions. For several weeks I lived in the hot, humid rain forest surrounded by thousands of insects ranging from tiny pesky mosquitos to 6 inch long grasshoppers. Every night I slept with a bug net around my bed and hoped no scorpions or venomous snakes would find their way in to my bed. I woke up every morning and put on smelly, moldy clothes (the lack of washing/drying machines and the constant humidity made it very difficult to maintain clean clothes) to go out into the jungle and work hard hours in the heat. I'll admit it was very difficult to go on sometimes, but looking back, I would not change anything about my experience. I became stronger and more confident and gained a more worldly perspective on the truly important things in life.

Susan Kleman

Costa Rica

Chemical Engineering

Los Cusingos Refugio de Aves
Water Analysis Intern



Company and Position Description:

Los Cusingos is a bird sanctuary where visitors can enjoy petro-glyphs, nature trails, visits to the House of Dr. Skutch (a naturalist), and bird watching tours (a popular activity among visitors). Los Cusingos is home to many flora and fauna such as white-faced capuchin monkeys, agoutis, and birds like cusingos, tanagers, hummingbirds, and honeycreepers.

The Peñas Blancas River and four other streams run through the property. Our job was to sample the water quality with a water probe, called a Manta, which provided information about the turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, and temperature of the water source. Although continuous testing could not be performed, the river was tested 3 days/week, 2x/day over the span of six weeks. Obtaining data about how water quality variables fluctuate, even within the span of only six weeks, is valuable. The results can provide a baseline of data against which the impact of development or reforestation can be assessed with respect to water quality.



White-faced capuchin monkeys at Los Cusingos



Sampling water quality with the Manta

Susan Kleman

Costa Rica



Other interns and me climbing a palm tree at Osa



Me with my host family

Value Derived from the Experience:

Costa Rica helped me gain independence. Now I know that I can go anywhere I want to (even if I have never been there before) and do just fine. My confidence has increased. Arriving at the airport, I experienced language shock. Leaving Costa Rica, I feel much more capable of handling different situations and different cultures. While hailing a cab may have seemed a little daunting at first, I now know that I can communicate my desires effectively. I was also able to experience adversity and practice flexibility with the Manta. The Manta's portable battery pack failed the first day, so we had to change our method for testing. Another day, we forgot to turn on logging on the Manta, so any time we tested that day, data was not collected. It was frustrating, but we figured out how to rectify any situations that arose.

My sustainability internship reaffirmed that I want to work with the environment and get my masters in environmental engineering. Despite some of the more monotonous parts of the job like testing the river every other day, I still enjoy the work and like working with nature. My Spanish also greatly improved. I learned a lot of new vocabulary, and I was able to put my four years of Spanish from high school into practice. I was able to achieve proficiency through my interaction with my coworkers and with my host family (a lot different from when I went in not recalling any Spanish). I also benefited from the cultural immersion. By the end of the first week, I was calling my host mom "Mami" (Mom in Spanish), and she was calling me "mi hija" (my daughter). I ate the typical Costa Rican foods, and I even attended a quinceañera (girl's coming-of-age ceremony in Latin-American communities) with my host family. If I did not have a host family, I would not have experienced the culture so richly.

I had three co-workers, so I was able to really get to know them. Through my experience at this small organization, I found that I really liked the down-to-earth nature of the Costa Rican way of life and the individual interactions within members. This internship re-established my desire to work in Spanish-speaking countries, both to practice my Spanish and to interact with the culture. I would like to return to Costa Rica. Seven weeks was not enough!

Cole Knisley

Indonesia

B.I.S.

University Gadja Mada
Community Development
Intern



Village of Gulurejo, Community Development Intern :

The responsibilities of the internship varied and allowed me to participate in many ways. Without much restriction, the ways in which I was involved varied. More commonly I taught English, and on my free time I made smoking awareness posters for the schools. I felt this was very important considering the high rates of smoking among all of Indonesia which starts primarily during the younger teen years. Furthermore, I created a plan to create an internet station in the common grounds of all the sub-villages. This plan was not carried out however due to a lack of funding on the experience provider's end. Additionally, I offered to do business analysis of different group's data to benefit their projects.



This is the Borobudur temple, a Buddhist temple dating back hundreds of years.



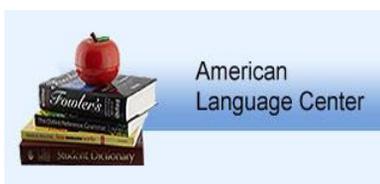
Pictured here is the Black sand beach of Trisik. The sand is black, extremely fine and shines silver.

Cole Knisley

Indonesia



These are the students that I taught English (Grades 3-5).



One UGM student, two villagers and myself on an excursion.

Value Derived from the Experience:

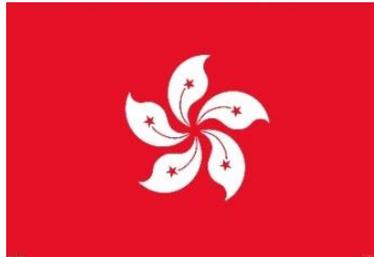
More than anything, this experience helped to open my eyes. For two months, I lived in a different world, a world devoid of what most Americans consider common amenities. Tap water was undrinkable, there was no hot water, nor were there showers (we used buckets), power outages were daily, insects were everywhere, including the cotton pads on the floor that were our beds, barely anyone spoke fluent English, the internet connections were unreliable and the food was anything but desirable or even recognizable at first. In the beginning, I felt alone and lost in the program. I thought to myself, how could this get any worse? This was not what I expected when I applied for the “community development intern” position! Fortunately, I was able to adapt to these circumstances, learning to live with the current accommodations. I realized that even though most people couldn’t talk to me, they tried to communicate in other ways because they wanted to share my friendship. Luxuries I once took for granted, I began to forget about. Without all the distractions and comforts of modern life, I had more free time and the ability to focus on the important ideas grew. This helped to drive my projects forward. On another note, I was surrounded by a majority Muslim community, something most Americans do not experience. For many uneducated Americans, they envision Muslims as angry, bearded gun-toting terrorists. In the village, there were no guns, beards were rare and the Muslim people were some of the friendliest people I have ever met. I can not count even one time a Muslim member of the village had been anything but friendly, which is quite incredible anywhere in the world. They put you before themselves and are diligent when it comes to their practicing their religion, while also fully accepting the Christians and Catholics on the trip. I was lost in this different world. But something I discovered while here is that when you are truly lost, you are able to find yourself.

Royce Kok

Hong Kong

IBE: Industrial Engineering and
Finance

Hutchinson Port Holdings
Operations Development
& Technology Intern



Company and Position Description:

Hutchison Port Holding (HPH) is the largest container port company in Kwai Chung Terminal, Hong Kong. The company business is focused on providing loading and unloading services of containers for shipping lines. In addition, HPH provides a comprehensive range of logistics solution to its client at it's on-site logistics center. Hutchinson Port Holding also has an extensive collection of equipment and cranes to handle large capacity of containers with an average turnover time of eight hours for each ship.

During my internship, I work in the Operations Development and Technology Department (ODT). In ODT, our team works in projects revolving around Terminal Design & Capacity Planning, Equipment Automation & Technology Research, and Process Improvement & Optimization. I was assigned to a project that improve the equipment automation process. RFID tags were recently installed on all internal trucks to monitor the real-time position of the crane handling equipment. As a result, there is an enormous amount of data generated by the RFID tags. My job was to analyze and automate the data analysis process in Excel to calculate the daily and monthly success rate of the RFID reads.



Quay Cranes along the Berth



Rubber Tyred Gantry Cranes at the Temporary Container Storage Lot

Royce Kok

Hong Kong



Annual Interns Pizza Eating Challenge



Night View of Hong Kong



Site visit to the Peak of a Quay Crane

Value Derived from the Experience:

At the first day of my internship, my supervisor had explained to me that he wanted me to design an automated data analysis system. At first, I was overwhelmed because I am not familiar with any of the industry's specified terminology and I had no coding experience. But thanks to constant communication and support from my colleague, I successfully completed the project seven weeks later. I also experienced what it is like to work in a large company. I am constantly amazed by how effective the company is and how smoothly every single operations runs. This Internship has distinguished itself from any travel or study abroad experience because I was able to catch a glimpse of what it is like to work in a world class city, to live in apartment by myself, to interact with locals, and to make this foreign city my home for eight weeks. I learned to be independent and brave in situations where feeling vulnerable came naturally. I learned to take an appropriate amount of risk and say "Yes!" to different opportunities presented. I learned to create a support system for myself abroad by reaching out to alumni, students from different universities, and my fellow interns. Besides having learned the technical skills for my work, I also learned about Hong Kong's culture. By the end of the internship, I loved everything about Hong Kong: from its food to its culture, from its public transportation to the beautiful view of the city from Victoria Peak. This internships has opened a door for me and I now feel equipped to work in Asia Pacific in the near future.

John Kopperman

Germany

Supply Chain Mgt.

Dolezych GmbH
Operational Business
Development Intern



Company and Position Description:

Dolezych GmbH is an 80 year old family run company that specializes in manufacturing of goods for the load carrying and load securing industries. They have expanded into several different countries including the US and have over 600 employees worldwide. During the past two months, I performed a variety of tasks for the company. The bulk of my work concerned the preparation of the catalogue for the new US market. In this regard, I cooperated with our advertising agency Seichter and Steffens in order to make updates to the catalogue. I would forward photos, product information tables, and general format corrections to them, and they would forward an updated version of the catalogue to me. I also wrote product descriptions, created bar codes, updated data bases with product numbers and information, and cooperated with other employees to create content for this catalogue. The other large project I undertook was in the warehouse. I went through each parts bin, finding the weight of the article inside, and estimating how many articles could fit in the parts bin. This information will be used to create a real time warehouse inventory system in order to reduce production down time. I inventoried just around 2000 different articles during my work there.



Normandy Trip – Omaha Beach



Paris Trip – The Eiffel Tower

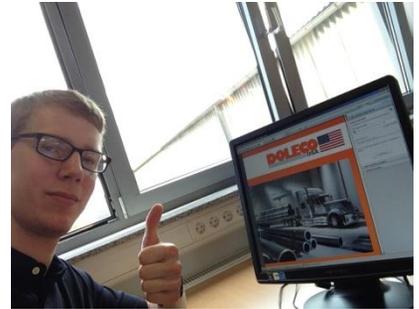
John Kopperman

Germany



Berlin Trip – The Reichstag

Dolezych
einfach sicher



Working on the catalogue

Value Derived from the Experience:

The experience I gained from this internship is invaluable. Never having had an internship before, I was unsure what to expect. Everyday I was learning something different, whether it was a technical skill, a professional skill, or a language skill. In business, as with all areas of life, clear communication is vital. Copying the right people on emails and being copied on emails makes completing a task much easier as everyone knows what progress has been made and what still needs to be done. Another valuable thing I took away was working with different employees in the company. I worked with everyone from the owner's son to the chain assembly workers. It was interesting to me to see how the company works from each of these unique perspectives, and learning how to work and interact with each of them. As far as technical skills go, I beefed up my familiarity with Microsoft Excel, and learned WinDol, which is a program Dolezych uses to keep track of sales and customers. I learned that programs such as these are vital to modern companies, and that in the future I should really pay more attention in classes that use Excel. I still have a lot to learn. And finally, even if at the end of the day I felt like it was a slow day, or I was doing something I already knew how to do, I always learned something new in the German language. My vocabulary increased tremendously and I have become much more comfortable with the language. Overall I learned a lot of things from this internship, and feel much more professionally mature and experienced as a result.

Catheryn Llibre

Portugal

Psychology, Marketing

Ativar Tavira
Marketing Intern



Company and Position Description:

I was a Marketing Intern for Ativar Tavira. This company has 3 main purposes. The first, to bring in investors to create a local business park. The second, to bring in various organizations to host events in a recently built facility. The third is to help local entrepreneurs through training workshops through their Level Up offices. My job was to research the Mediterranean Diet, local tourism and business parks in other cities to help create a marketing plan for the investors and organizations who would make use of the facility and business park. I met with local business to learn more about local customs, tourism and the Mediterranean Diet. I conducted surveys, analyzed the data and presented to the company president my recommendations at the end of the internship.



Ativar Tavira Offices



The hunting and game expo at the fairs and festivals facility.

Catheryn Llibre

Portugal



Me on the street I lived on



The view on my walk home from work

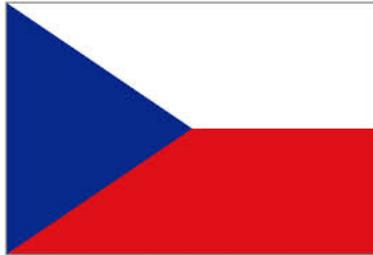
Value Derived from the Experience:

During this experience I learned how to be more independent and self motivated. Unlike a lot of the work I had done in the past, everything I did was on my own. I had very little feedback on my work and that allowed me to be more confident in what I thought would be the best thing to do to reach the end goal of creating an effective marketing plan. I was able to conduct research with a survey I created and see the results be used by the company president. I learned to communicate differently with business owners, investors, and customers. I think the most important thing I gained was personal growth. Being alone was hard but because of that I learned how to be more outgoing. There were not many people my age in town and none in the office. I did not speak any Portuguese so I had to pick up some words and talk to anyone I met. I ended up befriending local business owners, waitresses and even tourists from around Europe. It was great to hear their stories and share my own. Being around so many stark differences between what I was used to and what was customary there helped me solidify my own identity and see what my values truly were. However, I also noted many similarities which helped me appreciate even more so the importance of acceptance and diversity.

Hana Longenecker

Czech Republic

Psychology



Inclusio, Slovo 21
Intern

Company and Position Description:

I interned with Slovo 21, a Czech NGO who focused on social inclusion of the Roma people and other minority groups in the Czech Republic. My work during my time with Slovo 21 focused on educational discrimination of Roma children and possible ways to combat this. The major project I worked on while I was there was researching grant opportunities in the Czech Republic and then coming up with a program and writing a grant proposal to submit for possible funding. Specifically, my program focused on the issue of literacy and engaging Roma parents in their children's education. I also worked with Inclusio, another Czech NGO and our host organization, on a creative project with the other interns the final 2 weeks of our internship.



Face painting at a summer camp for Roma children



Visit to Vysherad on our last day as interns.

Hana Longenecker

Czech Republic



Interns at the John Lennon Wall



Group presentation at the American Center in Prague

Value Derived from the Experience:

I came to the Czech Republic not knowing what to expect, but what I left with six weeks later was far greater than anything for which I could have hoped. Working with Slovo 21 was a highlight of my experiences abroad. Having never worked for an NGO before I was concerned at the beginning of not being able to do enough on my own to be helpful. However, I discovered very quickly that the most important thing in this environment, and really any working environment, is taking the position of an active learner. By the end of my time with Slovo I had written an entire proposal for a program by myself, and when employees read over my ideas they were excited about possibly implementing them in the future. NGO work is hard, but incredibly rewarding. As an individual who plans on pursuing a graduate degree in clinical psychology, I believe knowing the work that goes into NGOs and having experience in this will help my ability to work with different mental health organizations and NGOs in the future.

On the more personal side of things, having the opportunity to spend an extended period of time in a different culture was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for me and one I will not soon forget. Though many people in the Czech Republic spoke English to at least a small degree, dealing with language barriers, making Czech friends, and learning what everyday life is like in a country a literal ocean away from home was exhilarating. There is a history and old world charm that emanates from Prague, and I would never have had the ability to experience this if it were not for the Iacocca Internships.

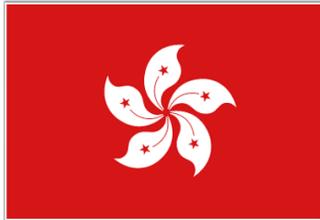
Spending 6 weeks working towards social inclusion in the Czech Republic truly was an unique event in my life, and allowed me to have a summer I am proud to discuss on my upcoming graduate school applications.

Gabriel Lucci

Hong Kong

Computer Science
& Business

Hutchinson Port Holdings
Commercial Development Intern

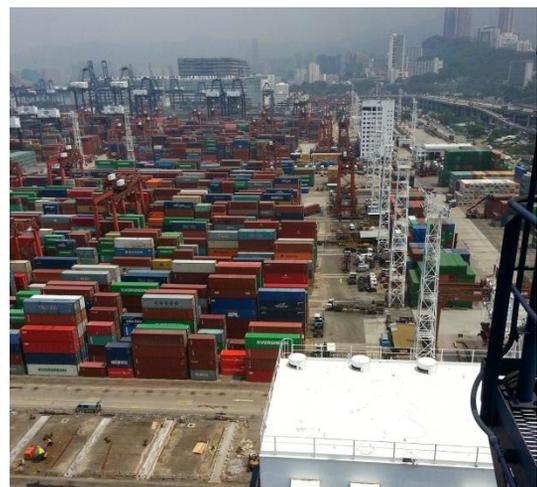


Company and Position Description:

Hutchison Port Holdings Limited (HPH), a subsidiary of the multinational conglomerate Hutchison Whampoa Limited (HWL), is the world's leading port investor, developer and operator with 52 ports across 26 countries. A port holding's function is to load, unload, and store shipping containers brought by freight ships. I worked with HPH's commercial development team. There, I was assigned to research Global Customer Relationship Management systems. A CRM system is software that allows the sales department to organize their clients and communicate with their team members more efficiently. I was also my responsibility to read the latest maritime industry news and send a newsletter containing summaries of the most relevant articles.



One of Hong Kong's many beautiful street signs



The view of HPH's container terminal from the top of a loading crane

Gabriel Lucci

Hong Kong



A man protesting the Chinese Government



A street corner in Macau

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience truly made me grow as a person. It was my first time living on my own, and not being able to communicate in the local language created many obstacles that I was forced to overcome. Luckily, I became good friends with locals at my work who showed me the ropes and taught me Hong Kong's social climate. I really enjoyed Hong Kong as a city; it was very respectful, modern, and above all, efficient. Working in Hong Kong made me a more independent person.

Working at an international company allowed me to learn about cultures from all over the globe through my fellow coworkers. My bosses would frequently invite me to go on lunches with clients. In these meetings, I would study the way professional business people interact with each other. It was through these communications that I learned the most about business etiquette. The soft skills I have during this experience will aid me any future endeavor that requires professionalism.

Kyle Lum

Croatia

P.C. Rossin College of Engineering
IBE Mechanical Engineering

Iacocca International Internship
Training Development Intern

My Co-workers and Cassie



Cassie and I with our Advisor, Ivana



Company and Position Description:

The Business School Par is currently the only private institution in Rijeka, Croatia. They offer an undergraduate degree in business management. They are a smaller college with a very close-knit community. Students are able to learn in a hands-on environment with required work hours, interactions with speakers, and major project work in PAR's business incubator.

During the internship, I worked on creating a database of universities and their contact information, reached out to Universities to establish dual-diploma programs and international internship programs, as well as developing a full Athlete program for the business school PAR. I used athlete programs from US universities to gain references and ideas while developing a program for the Business School Par. In addition, I helped translate and format the English version of Par's website, as well as provided insight into the American higher education system so that PAR could add and modify their current educational programs.

Kyle Lum

Croatia

On the wall in Dubrovnik



Biking in Poreč



Value Derived from the Experience:

Working for the Business School PAR and living in Croatia for two months opened my eyes to a wonderful world outside of the United States. I was able to become absorbed in Croatia culture, attending football (soccer games), meeting students and visiting European cities in Croatia, Austria and Italy. I learned about working and living in a positive manner, and that being under high stress is a personal choice. My coworkers, friends and strangers were all very patient and friendly. Whether we were eating in a restaurant, finishing an assignment, or shopping, there was a peaceful and calm manner in the way people interacted and went about their day.

I gained a new appreciation for history and learning how different countries came about. Europe, unlike the U.S., is comprised of many countries and cultures that are spaced relatively close together. After being able to travel to three countries with different languages and people, I became more aware of how different life can be outside of the US depending on where one lives. The landscape, food, customs, architecture, and etiquette varied and although it took some adjustment, I was able to fully experience the new locations with all of their eccentricities and quirks.

The landscape was incredible, and I realized that maybe I would enjoy living in a different country more than I would in the U.S. This internship opened my mind to the possibilities of working and living in a different country as well as showed me that there are so many places in the world where life is very different. In this sense, it made the world seem smaller and more accessible.

Most importantly, this internship showed me that I am a citizen of the world, and can live, work and contribute in so many more places and cultures than just the U.S. and be perfectly happy while doing it.

Emily Macmillan

Malaysia

Bioengineering

University Technology

PETRONAS

Research Intern

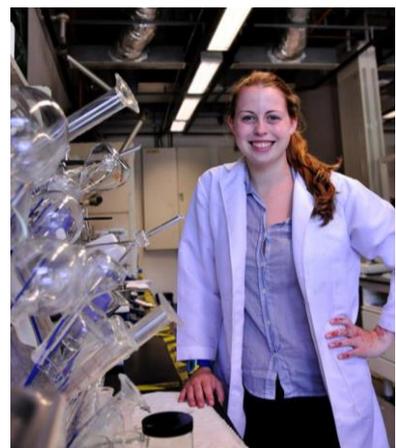


Company and Position Description:

University Technology PETRONAS is a private university located in Seri Iskandar, Perak, Malaysia. There I was attached with the Center for Biochemical and Biofuel Research as a research intern within their labs. I worked closely with the graduate students in the department to study biochar produced from the pyrolysis of palm oil fronds. Pyrolysis is a process where a sample of biomass is heated at very high temperatures in an inert environment and produces products which can be used for a variety of renewable energy applications. My experiment studied at which heating temperature produced the highest yield of biochar. Further research in this field will hopefully lead to alternative fuel and lower greenhouse gas emissions.



Participating in a blow dart competition with indigenous people in Kulala Lipis village



Working in the Center for Biochemical and Biofuel Research

Emily Macmillan

Malaysia



Group photo of Princeton and Lehigh Research Interns at Langkawi Beach



Standing on the 1000 steps to the Batu Caves in Kuala Lumpur

Value Derived from the Experience:

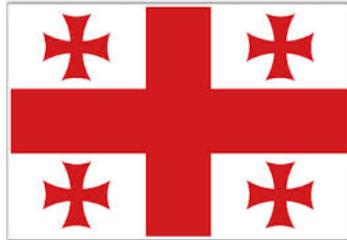
I wanted to participate in a study abroad program where I not only could develop professional skills and knowledge, but also learn from and live in a culture that was extremely different from the one I knew in the United States. By receiving the opportunity to participate in this Iacocca International Internship in Malaysia, I can safely say that I accomplished both of my goals. I gained valuable skills that I will be able to use in future jobs while traveling to some of the most remote and exotic locations in the world. Along my travels, I met a variety of people who were all incredibly hospitable and taught me how to enjoy the small things in life, live in the moment, and to go with the flow. In the end, I acquired a larger perspective of the world and how to discover my place in it.

Rachael Martel

Georgia

International Relations
Business Information Systems
Economics

State Ministry for European
and Euro-Atlantic Integration
Intern



Company and Position Description:

The State Ministry for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration focuses on working to integrate Georgia with Europe through working with the EU, NATO and Eastern Partnership. Recently, Georgia signed an Association Agreement with the EU, which created most of the work I completed this summer. My day to day tasks included editing (or writing) press releases, documents, articles, speeches, and the Action Plan. I also was able to participate in the coordination and running of the annual conference “Georgia’s European Way” in Batumi, becoming the second intern to attend the conference. I also completed research on various applicable subjects, writing informative summaries for the use of coworkers.



View of Tbilisi from my host family's balcony



Standing in front of the official seal of the office

Rachael Martel

Georgia



Me and many of my coworkers at the conference gala



Conference preparations

Value Derived from the Experience:

Throughout my time in Georgia I have grown as a person not only from the work I completed, but from the entire experience. I had the phenomenal opportunity to have hands-on learning in International Relations, seeing policy shaped and participating in the integration process, as well as learn about the culture and history of a completely foreign country. Living in Tbilisi allowed me the unique experience to fully understand the culture of the country while having practical work experience. I grew as a person through my work experiences, improving my professional skills, teaching ability and research, but I also grew as a person from living in the city. In my day to day life, I improved in my communication abilities and patience due to the language barrier and became more independent through learning to navigate a foreign country. I have gained incomparable experiences that I will be able to take with me throughout the rest of my life and have also grow as a person through the challenging work assignments.

Audra McComb

Kazakhstan

Art History

Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia
Civil Society Intern



Company and Position Description:

The Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia is an NGO which works on projects throughout Kazakhstan from their Almaty office. They design and manage projects aimed at strengthening the civil society engagement in the country, working with other NGOs, government agencies, and corporate donors, in addition to their beneficiaries. They focus on coordinating public-private partnerships and adapting international best practices to the region. Their projects are often based on building entrepreneurship and small business capacity, children and youth services, NGO productivity and accountability, corporate social responsibility, and more. At EFCA, I worked with the Research and Development Department, and sometimes with the Program Department. I researched best practices, edited and translated reports, helped coordinate trainings, and attended conferences. I also worked on graphic design, creating info-graphics, roll-up banners, badges, and certificates.



The city of Almaty is at the base of the northern ridge of the Tian Shan mountains, very close to PR China and the Kyrgyz Republic.



The Kazakh aesthetic style is occasionally seen in addition to Soviet and Turkish Architecture.



Kazakh cuisine is dominated by grain and meat, including horse, in addition to tea and sweet snacks made from preserved milk.

Audra McComb

Kazakhstan



There are numerous large parks in Almaty. This one is dedicated to the '28 Panfilov Heroes' in WWII.



The lush foothills are used as pasture for horses, which are traditionally used as both transport and livestock.

Value Derived from the Experience:

Interning abroad was a good way for me to practice adaptive working skills. There I increased my rapid comprehension and technical vocabulary in Russian. I also built familiarity with different software standards and typing on a Russian/Kazakh keyboard, and was exposed to organizational/corporate as opposed to academic forms of research. Living among a Russian speaking population gave me a chance to apply my knowledge of the language and absorb a greater functional and colloquial vocabulary. In addition, I learned a little about Kazakh and Kyrgyz language. I also interacted with many people who were learning English, which forced me to think more carefully about my own understanding of the language. Spending time in a post-Soviet republic revealed some interesting political and social nuances. Also, while the country of Kazakhstan itself was impressively stable, it was interesting to see the unfolding political issues in neighboring states and consider them from a more insider perspective. Finally, as a student of Art History as well as a practicing artist and musician, the most rewarding part of the experience was exploring the local artistic culture. Central Asian art has a unique traditional aesthetic and a complex historical context, though it is often overlooked by the Western dominated discipline. During my stay, I was able to visit a variety of significant museums, take in the diverse architectural styles, try traditional instruments, and see contemporary works including everything from crafts, to sculpture, to street art. Overall, going abroad for the summer put me in a stimulating and reflective environment that has provided me with insight and inspiration for many of my ongoing pursuits.

Daphnee McMaster

Milan, Italy

Global Studies & English



IES/Cattolica Uni/Ufuud.com
Marketing Intern



Value Derived from the Experience:

Throughout my time at Ufuud.com , I worked as the Social Media and Marketing Intern. My job required that I work with the food company to help them move into Germany and the United Kingdom. My company was just getting off the ground a week prior to my arrival, so much of my internship was geared towards preparing and comparing our company to competitors in Germany and the United Kingdom. I was asked to give feedback on company improvements in marketing, for better ways to connect to customers, and translate Italian to English for a more user friendly dialogue. I learned to package and ship products, the ways in which e-commerce and website building works, and how to host a company meeting that is geared towards company improvement.



Duomo of Florence, Italy



*Lehigh University Students at
Lago Maggiore with IES host.*

Daphnee McMaster

Milan, Italy



My final day at Ufuud.com



At the Boglioli opening for one of my coworkers for Men's Fashion Week.

Value Derived from the Experience:

Working in Milan was an experience I never thought imaginable. When I arrived in Italy I was well informed about the city I would be living in, how to get to work, and what options were available for me in the country. I enjoyed meeting the IES staff, having an Italian language coach, and tasting new and foreign foods. I was able to travel throughout the country and city with the help of my coworkers. Making life long friends in Italy was truly the most impressionable part of my experience. Thanks to my internship I was able to attend Men's Fashion Week, learn Italian, and learn about business and industry. Being an English and Global Studies major, I never imagined I would learn so much about business and enjoy it.

Wesley Michaels

Singapore

Chemical Engineering

3M

Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

3M, or Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, is a Fortune 500 company which develops both intermediates and final products for a wide range of applications within engineering. 3M Woodlands, the lab I worked at in Singapore, focuses on materials development for the growing electronics markets in southeast Asia. My research focused on the development of an adhesive for electronics applications. Through this, I learned a range of analytical techniques in the laboratory setting in addition to the importance of creativity and collaboration in product development.



Outside view of the 3M Woodlands plant



Me and two interns on my last day at work

Wesley Michaels

Singapore



*Lehigh Iacocca interns
in downtown Singapore*



*Me at an exhibit in the
Singapore Botanic Gardens*

Value Derived from the Experience:

Interning at 3M and living in Singapore for 8 weeks was an incredibly rich cultural and personal adventure. The level of independence I had helped me grow on a personal level, as I was able to direct my time to experiences I found engaging, both in and out of the lab. In my time abroad I discovered that the process of learning and adapting is an invaluable life skill. Whether I had to apply course curriculum to a laboratory process or learn to eat with chopsticks, I was consistently challenged to try new things and as such, I came home with a wealth of knowledge I did not have when I left. The other Iacocca interns and I were constantly exploring the country during our stay; we were eager to try as many new things as possible and met incredible people along the way. I believe that is the most valuable part of the Iacocca experience: jumping into an unfamiliar, intimidating experience feet first and emerging a more global person with a keener sense of self. In my mind, I'd be hard-pressed to find another opportunity that offers so much to a college student; the memories I made in Singapore on personal and professional levels will undoubtedly make this summer stand out as one of the most exciting and influential in my life.

Aliza Molgora

Shanghai, China

Economics/ International
Relations

Becton, Dickinson
Healthcare Analyst



Company and Position Description:

Becton Dickinson is a leading global healthcare company with high-level products in diagnostics and medical devices. As an intern, my task was to research and analyze 170+ emerging markets and narrow down the developing countries to three per region around the world (APAC, Eastern Europe, Middle East, Africa, and Latin America) which I believed BD could profit from. After selecting these countries, I had to create different strategies which I believed BD could effectively implement in order to penetrate these market and become a leading force in medical supplies in the emerging world.



Paul Oyefesobi and my first day on the job



Shanghai, China

Aliza Molgora

Shanghai, China



Value Derived from the Experience:

Prior to my internship with BD this summer, while a dream of mine, the possibility of living and working abroad seemed very unlikely at my age. As both my parents immigrated to the United States, I have always had a curiosity for the international world, particularly having a passion for meeting people from all different backgrounds and experiences. Not only that, but as someone who has been drawn to a variety of different industries and yet hadn't found the one that stuck, I was looking for that light-bulb which would go off when something clicked. With these hopes of mine in mind, my time with BD went above and beyond all possible expectations.

My experience this summer in Shanghai with Becton Dickinson has been life changing. Beforehand, while I was halfway done with my college experience, I still had no direction or idea about what I wanted to do with my life post graduate. Now, I am certain that the field I want to devote myself to must have social value and be directly related to helping people worldwide. The healthcare industry was one which I had never had exposure to, particularly because I did not have a background directly related to health, and I am forever grateful to have had it because I feel very connected and passionate to it. Not only that, but I am also positive that I would love to work abroad – perhaps even heading back to APAC – in the future. In addition to my love of the industry I was working in, I also discovered my passion for language and am currently continuing what I picked up with Mandarin while there, here at Lehigh. These realizations of mine could not have come at a better time and I feel much more secure about the direction I am heading in thanks to this experience, and could not thank BD and the Iacocca program enough.

Amy L. Moyer

Cambodia

Educational Leadership

Caring for Cambodia
English Trainer



Company and Position Description:

Caring for Cambodia (CFC) began in 2003 with the aim of improving basic education in Cambodia in an effort to support the continued development of the country. CFC works in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport (MOEYS) to improve struggling government schools in the Siem Reap metro-area, in Siem Reap Province. Specifically, CFC efforts include infrastructure improvements, technology upgrades, teacher training and support, and developing teaching and learning resources. When it comes to teacher support, CFC is committed to “shaping empowered, devoted teachers through mentoring and intensive training”, as well as, “positioning teachers as agents of change in Cambodian education” through their continuous teacher training, mentorship, and resource development projects (Caring for Cambodia, 2011).

CFC is currently focused on improving the English language program for grades 7-12 by strengthening the ESL curriculum (specifically lesson plan development), providing regular training sessions for teachers, and encouraging more innovative language teaching strategies. CFC supported schools begin English language instruction in grade 4, whereas other MOEYS schools do not start until grade 7. It is this commitment to providing students with opportunities for success sets CFC schools apart.

Over an eight week period, I worked with the secondary English teachers at four Caring for Cambodia partner schools in Siem Reap. During the internship I observed all of the English teachers, created and delivered four training sessions, co-taught with several teachers, and created supporting resources for the secondary English program.



Teacher training workshop



School girls at Aranh Sakor CFC School

Amy L. Moyer

Cambodia



Angkor Wat, Siem Reap



Making traditional Khmer pottery

Value Derived from the Experience:

This international internship experience has provided valuable experience in my field of study and for my future career aspirations. For example, I was able to create and deliver teacher training workshops which required an informal needs assessment based teacher observations and interviews, which directly drew on my expertise gained from my dissertation research. I was also able to contribute toward the development of a much needed audio resource for the secondary English teachers.

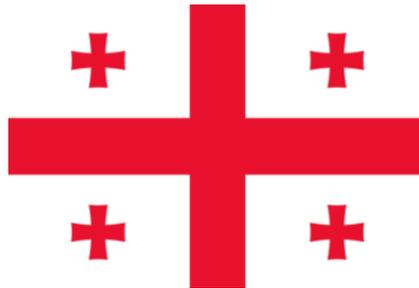
Without a doubt, this internship together with the last seven years of study, has profoundly shaped my understanding and knowledge of the world of international education. On my initial visit to the international education program at the College of Education in 2007, I was hesitant about undertaking advanced degree studies; however, it was on that visit that I was told that pursuing and obtaining a doctorate in international education would present a literal world of opportunity. The internship with Caring for Cambodia this summer is just one of many such opportunities, and for it I am grateful.

Phuong Nguyen

Republic of Georgia

Accounting & Business
Information Systems

Geo-Wel Goal Oriented Research
Outreach & Development Intern



Company and Position Description:

I spent seven weeks interning at the Geo-Wel Oriented Research (<http://www.geowel.org/>) in Tbilisi, Georgia. GeoWel Research undertakes research, training, monitoring and evaluation as well as business planning and program and project design for think-tanks, NGOs and companies. They cover a wide range of research subjects but focus on economic development, business and governance. The NGO is based in Georgia but has conducted research in 12 countries.

During my time in the office, my main duty was working as a research assistant for a project with World Vision called “Caucasus Sub-Regional Social Inclusion of Children with Disabilities”. I also performed other office duties and participated in meetings, conference calls with potential and current clients of the NGO.



On top of Tbilisi, the capital city



Visiting the children of Tsilkani village

Phuong Nguyen

Republic of Georgia



Khinkali, a traditional Georgian dish



*Tbilisi Botanical Garden with
Peace Corps Volunteers*

Value Derived from the Experience:

This trip was so far one of the best decisions I have made at Lehigh. Everything was so different in this part of the world and every experience is eye-opening. I'm pretty sure that many Georgians have never seen an Asian before in their lives. For the first couples of days, I was extremely nervous everywhere I went. But later on I got used to it and indeed embraced the fact that I am different.

I was extremely lucky to have a host family who treated me like their own family member. My host grandmother doesn't speak English and my host mom speaks very little English so whenever my two host brothers were home, they were the translators. Most of the time, we used body language. I really treasure all the countlessly helpless moments when we couldn't understand each other, but somehow we always found a way to work things out.

One of my primary goals was to befriend the locals. I was very lucky to have a co-worker who is my age and from there I got to know so many young Georgians. A lot are western educated and speak awesome English. My Georgian friends have helped to overcome a lot of cultural barriers and my experience would not be the same without them! Before I came to Georgia, I was both nervous and excited because I didn't know what to expect. Seven weeks later, I left with a heavy heart because this country and this city will forever hold a special place in mine. But one thing for sure, I know I will come back.



Paul Oyefesobi

Shanghai, China

Engineering & Applied Sciences

Becton Dickinson
Healthcare Strategic
Planning Analyst



Company and Position Description:

Becton Dickinson is a medical device company that manufactures hospital supplies including syringes, bioassays, cataracts, and specializes in diagnostic treatments of infectious and non-communicable diseases for healthcare organizations. During the internship, I researched the healthcare economics of developing countries across the emerging market, creating a detailed and analytical spreadsheet of healthcare and economic parameters (GDP/healthcare expenditures/prevalent diseases/corruption index etc.). In the second step of the project, the other intern and I qualitatively interpreted the quantitative data to exploit key business opportunities in which Becton Dickinson can penetrate and provide healthcare solutions across the emerging market.



Interns on the way to Beijing for the weekend!

Paul Oyefesobi

Shanghai, China



Site seeing at Tiananmen Square



Value Derived from the Experience:

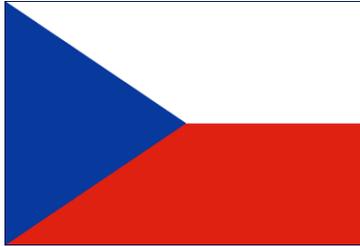
I gained an invaluable experience from this internship on both a personal and professional level. From a personal standpoint, I learned to expand outside my comfort zone and try new things. To fully immerse myself on the trip, I took up activities that included learning Mandarin, eating duck, tourist site-seeing at Tiananmen Square/Forbidden City, and going to the Shanghai Science and Technology museum. I also learned to be humble and satisfied with less, because some people on the other side of the world live off of a dollar a day. It's really eye opening to compare the standard of living of the US and a 3rd world country (excluding its major cities). On a professional note, I learned that a unique balance of networking and efficiency of work productivity can go a long way in corporate healthcare. Talking to the right people, doing the right things can also have rewarding opportunities that are good to carry through to the workforce. Also, I have learned to work smarter not harder. In closing, I would like to add that it is imperative that one puts 100% into any project, presentation, or work that they do because you never know if your CEO or boss is watching.

Estefania Perdomo

Czech Republic

Global Studies

Slovo 21
Research Assistant



Company and Position Description:

Slovo 21 is a non-governmental organization founded in 1999 with the purpose of integrating people of Roma heritage who have been excluded by their society in the Czech Republic. Slovo 21 created a women leaders group, Manushe, to train women leaders in their perspective localities to encourage other women to become leaders and emphasize women empowerment. I was fortunate enough to interact with and teach English grammar to a young Roma high school student, Renata, who told me about the difficulties of being a Roma in her high school because of the discrimination she faced.

In addition to working with Roma women, Slovo 21 also puts together the Khamoro festival that celebrates the Romani culture and showcases the various talents of the Roma people of the Czech Republic. I was responsible for researching different funding opportunities for events such as these that raise Roma awareness as well as for women empowerment and youth empowerment programs. I concentrated on forging connections with other NGOs in the United States in order to create these funding opportunities. Most of my duties included doing research on grant opportunities, designing a program layout for a youth summer camp, and proposing various programs that would highlight the importance of being proud to be a Roma and bounding activities between Roma and non-Roma.



Exploring and learning about the history of Prague



Reviewing project proposals for Roma women and youth

Estefania Perdomo

Czech Republic



Teaching English grammar to Renata, a Roma high school student



Spending time with Roma youth at a summer camp

Value Derived from the Experience:

Working with the staff at Slovo 21 challenged me to think outside the box when it came to raising awareness. I was inspired by the previous programs they came up with such a camp for the youth that concentrated on celebrating the Roma culture to increase pride in their culture and self-worth in themselves. From their idea of this camp, I came up with the idea of a cooking competition for the Manushe women at the localities to encourage the continuation of typical Roma food.

I was also able to increase my network of important people who were informed of issues concerning the Roma as well as learn basic phrases and greetings in the Roma language. I became fascinated by the strength of Martina and the staff of Slovo 21 for overcoming the mental discouragement they faced as a Roma in a society where discrimination and racism is rampant and regardless, continued to work hard to change the secular perception about the Roma. Their hard work encouraged me to work harder to find funding opportunities and to do what I could to make their work load lighter. I expanded my professional network, but what I really gained, are friends that I can return to and simply share a smile with. Not only did I become stronger in my faith from the hard work I observed, but I was happy that I was able to make them smile and enjoy time together as I struggled to learn the Czech and Roma language.

Jackie Peterson

Italy

Journalism



Luxos Magazine
Web Intern



Company and Position Description:

Luxos is a luxury magazine distributed across Europe, the UAE, China and South America. The magazine has a wide focus, reporting on all things luxury—from clothing and watches to technology or hotels. As the web intern, I wrote a large amount of shorter articles for web and a couple of longer ones for both print and web. I also helped organize the site using their CMS (Content Management System). When I wasn't working on articles, I was helping to write travel guides for their website. Luxos was a wonderful, gracious host and even sent the print intern and I to Venice for a day to report on a luxury Murano glass company called La Murrina.



Venice, eating lunch on a terrace along with Journalists from around the world.



Milan's famous Duomo, which was always only a metro ride away.

Jackie Peterson

Italy



My official press pass from the trip to Venice.



The view from an old castle in the small town of Brescia.

Value Derived from the Experience:

My experience in Italy allowed me to gain invaluable professional experience. I was working full-time every weekday in the Journalism industry, writing and editing at an international magazine with long-time Journalists. This experience, coupled with the fact that all of us were put into a strange culture and had to figure it out as we went along, helped me develop a huge amount professionally.

However, I didn't only grow professionally. As someone with medical issues that could have prevented me from enjoying myself, I was scared that this trip would turn out horribly. Even so, after a few weeks the trip was amazing. IES Abroad and Professor Lule gave me all the support I could have wanted, and my job was beyond amazing. Not to mention, I got to explore the beautiful country of Italy!

Serenah Polite

China

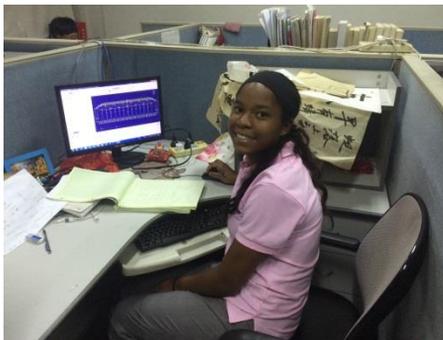
Lehigh University
Civil Engineering



University of Science and
Technology of China
(USTC)
Research Intern

Company and Position Description:

USTC, established in 1958, is a top University located in Hefei, China in Anhui province. USTC's academic emphasis falls on science and technology as the institution thrives on upholding their pursuit for advocating the connection between theory and practice. This summer, four positions were offered to Lehigh students, giving them a chance to obtain a project and use their creativity and USTC's resources to create a hypothesis and draw a conclusion in a hands-on manner. They had a chance to build their problem-solving, communication and critical thinking skills throughout their six weeks interning for this incredible institution. At the same time, they were given the opportunity to explore the foreign land and get a good taste of the life, culture and language of China.



Students used their own creativity to solve problems in the lab!



Students got to travel to various different cultural settings!

Serenah Polite

China



Different food!



Everlasting Friendships

Value Derived from the Experience:

I came into this experience with no idea as to what I should expect. I, personally, had a huge passion and desire to study the language more and learn more about the culture, but what I ended up taking from the trip proved to be more beneficial than I could ever imagine. Never did I ever think that I would wake up, actually excited to go to work and see all my lab-mates. I didn't expect to meet so many friendly and welcoming people. I didn't expect to freely be able to join yoga classes, karate classes and even their Dragonboat team! I didn't expect there to be so many wholesome activities to do with my lab-mates after work. Going into this country, I was in for the greatest culture shock of my life and I loved every minute of it. Most of the cities we visited appeared most underdeveloped than many of the underdeveloped cities in America, and yet everyone was able to put a smile on their face. The camaraderie was uncanny as everyone had no issue speaking to anyone. The amount of cabs we went to where our host would just simply sit in the front seat and strike up conversation with the cabdriver about various subjects was refreshing. It was very nice to be in such an open and friendly country. It was also very different to be in a country with virtually no diversity. Their interest in other ethnicities was a huge relief and I am so thankful for their acceptance. In the end, this was a very enriching, eye-opening and incredible program that I would do all over again in a heartbeat.

Amanda Blain Pritt

Siem Reap, Cambodia

M.Ed. Globalization &
Educational Change

Caring for Cambodia
Curriculum Developer



Company and Position Description:

Caring for Cambodia (CFC) is a non-profit organization functioning in the Siem Reap Province of Cambodia. Founded in 2003, CFC has become a model organization in Cambodia that supplements Ministry of Education schools to provide a healthier and educated youth for the growth of Cambodia. Throughout the years, CFC has gone from primarily educational work to also incorporate health and dental aspects as well as extra curricular activities. During my time in Cambodia I was responsible for curriculum design for their fourth and fifth grade Wheel Program. The Wheel Program is a ten week extracurricular program that focuses on STEM, Health, Art/Music, Physical Education, and Service. Each unit provides students the opportunity to learn through exploration and fun activities.



*Students at the end of the first STEM week.
These future engineers built bridges!*



Students experiment on their own how to make a bridge.

Amanda Blain Pritt

Siem Reap, Cambodia



Khmer Cooking Class: Fish Amok



Learning how to make Khmer pottery.

Value Derived from the Experience:

During my time in Cambodia I was able to not only learn about curriculum writing but I also gained a deeper understanding of CFC's mission as well as the Cambodian culture. While working with the CFC staff as well as other people in the community I learned to better appreciate the beauty of what Cambodia and her people have to offer. The students were always so full of life and laughter and the CFC teachers and workers were always so open and welcoming. While working with the CFC staff I was able to participate in team work, group meetings and collaboration. It was truly an invaluable experience.

Traveling out into the community and trying to take advantage of all Cambodia has to offer was also very rewarding. It is nice to learn about a culture outside of your own and this internship experience helped me to do just that. Just the simple act of talking to people allowed an insight into what Cambodia is all about. From the cooking class, to making pottery, to visiting the temples, the culture of Cambodia is rich and vibrant. Being able to be a part of this culture has enriched my life greatly and allowed me to step out of my "comfort zone" and into a life changing experience.

Lacey Quinn

Singapore

Marketing



Aon Risk Solutions
Market Plan Intern

Company and Position Description:

While interning with Aon, I worked with an internal project team to develop a Local Market Plan and Aon Value Proposition for the Real Estate market in the Asia region. The objective of this project was to set the foundation for the firm to generate clients in Asia in new industry of focus. In order to accomplish this, I analyzed key prospect data, researched industry trends and risks faced by that industry, assessed Aon's current market share and articulation of relevant products for the industry sector. After finalizing this strategy, collateral and deliverables were presented to business stakeholders for review and approval. The Local Market Plan and all deliverables will ultimately be released to sales colleagues across Asia to grow Aon's market share and deliver revenue.

Aon plc serves as the world's leading provider of insurance and reinsurance brokerage, risk management, human resources, and outsourcing solutions. This multinational service provider strives to offer innovative solutions in order to empower results through its industry expertise and technological resources. Aon strives to promote the success of its clients through strategic initiatives that expose risks and uncover opportunities.



The ArtScience Museum



Marina Bay after work

Lacey Quinn

Singapore



Walking on Arab Street



The helix bridge and Marina Bay Sands

Value Derived from the Experience:

From the 8 weeks I completed of my internship in Singapore, I am fortunate enough to be able to say that I interned at a company genuinely interested in challenging my abilities, sampled delicious foods I never knew existed, experienced a vibrant blend of coexisting cultures, felt truly at home in a city across the world, and most importantly befriended some of the most genuine people I have met to date. My coworkers were always encouraging my development, both inside the office and through cultural integration. I was given fantastic networking opportunities, invited to meetings with senior leaders, and had a mentor who strived to expose me to as much of the corporate world as possible. The local team was thrilled with my openness to diverse foods- I would often find unique fruits on my desk or have coworkers invite me to share meals and experience traditional dishes of the area. Many times during this experience, I found myself stumbling upon facets of the Singaporean melting pot just by walking down the street from my apartment. Within Singapore, you could easily find yourself in an area heavily influenced Indian or Arabic in the morning smelling the vast array of spice on the street sides and happen to be in China town surveying Taoist temples in the evening. I seized every opportunity I had to interact with the local population, despite how daunting the “Singlish” vocabulary from multiple languages may be! Diving straight into the Singaporean culture has instilled a sense of confidence and a desire for adventure that will push me to develop my strengths for years to come.

Dana Raber

Armenia

Environmental Studies

American Councils
Intern



Company and Position Description:

Lover's Park has been managed and improved with the help of the Boghossian Garden Foundation since 2005. As an intern for Boghossian Gardens Foundation, I helped in their managing and improvement of Lover's Park Yerevan. After identifying and classifying the trees in the park, I was able to create a comprehensive database with pictures of all of the trees in that can be found in the park. This will serve to help the garden staff track the health of the trees over the years to identify which need to be removed and help with decisions regarding future additions. In addition to the database, I helped update the map of the park with the trees and their respective locations which will serve as an environmental education aspect of the park in the future.



Volunteering at camp helping to improve young students English



Dana Raber

Armenia



Hike to Lastivar waterfall with START NGO, an organization set out to help the youth of Armenia see their country

My host family sister and I at Lake Sevan.

Value Derived from the Experience:

The internship with Boghossian Gardens provided a unique opportunity to live and work in a foreign country and be an active community member instead of just a tourist. Having an international intern like myself gave the organization the opportunity to work on projects that they have always wanted to accomplish, but did not have time or people to do so. I was given the freedom to make decisions about how I was going to carry out the project which really tested my ability to think outside the box to figure out how to use my time efficiently and leave the organization with valuable information. The interaction between employees, my host family and the people I met volunteering was the most valuable from the whole experience. I was able to volunteer at a library as a discussion leader where Armenians attended to practice their English skills with a native speaker and discuss with people from various backgrounds with different perspectives on important issues such as democracy, women in society and education. This allowed me to gain a greater understanding of Armenian culture and values while also giving me valuable insight about my own country.

Colton Rochelle

China

Mechanical
Engineering

USTC
Research Intern

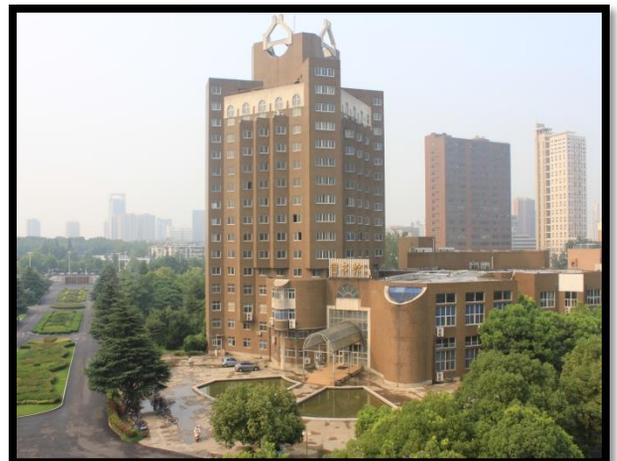


Company and Position Description:

Working at the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) was an amazing experience. I worked in the Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) lab with about 10 graduate students. My lab consisted of many high-powered computers to run the CFD simulations, and then individual desks for each student to have his or her personal space. At work I used a CFD program called ANSYS to model arteries, and then to study the flow properties of blood through those arteries. I used ANSYS ICEM to create a mesh, and then ANSYS Fluent to run the blood-flow simulation. My final project presentation was titled “Hemodynamics of Common Atherosclerosis Treatments”, and I talked about the different flow patterns of blood through stents and bypass grafts.



My coworkers after my final presentation



USTC campus library

Colton Rochelle

China



At a friend's house in Wuhu



Huangshan (Yellow Mountain)

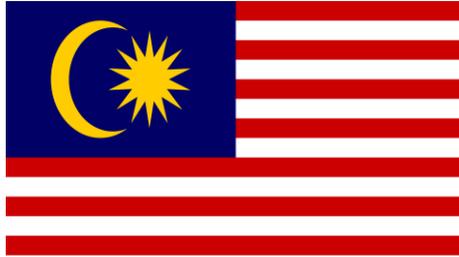
Value Derived from the Experience:

My personal experience from this trip has most certainly helped me develop both personally and professionally. From a professional viewpoint, it gave me the engineering experience found in a graduate student lab. As a team, we had to overcome obstacles in the lab, work together, and reach our final goal. During the six weeks at USTC, I developed better critical thinking skills, enhanced my computer programming knowledge, and got a taste of the engineering working world. Also having had the opportunity to study at one of China's top universities will be a huge asset in my professional life. At a more personal level, this was the first time I had ever left the United States, and as my first abroad experience, it has helped me develop in ways I never thought imaginable. I now have a better understanding of the culture and people of China, and I am excited to share with my friends and family what I learned. This experience helped me understand the importance of making connections around the world. I now have friends and colleagues halfway around the globe whom I can easily communicate with. This opportunity opened my eyes to the world outside of the United States, and I encourage everyone to apply. I would do this all over again in a heartbeat!

Vinicius Rodriques-Aguiar

Malaysia

IDEAS: Integrated Degree in
Engineering, Arts
& Sciences



Universiti Teknologi
PETRONAS
Research Intern

Company and Position Description:

The Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP) is a private research institution location in the state of Perak, Malaysia. At the invitation of the Government of Malaysia, UTP was established in 1997 by PETRONAS, an oil and gas company that leads the Asian economy in profitability. Within UTP, the Centre for Biofuel and Biochemical Research (CBBR) focuses on the utilization of biomass in efforts to produce a well-integrated process of biomass utilization. As a research intern, I was assigned a sub-topic in the torrefaction process of palm oil tree leaves. Torrefaction, a slow-pyrolysis process, is a thermochemical decomposition process that pre-treats biomass for combustion and energy production. During my research attachment, I was tasked with the collection, preparation, reaction, and analysis of palm oil leaf samples from a nearby source. The results from this inquiry led to important preliminary conclusions on the use of palm oil leaves that will be studied in greater depth by the Centre's staff in the future.



Group of 6 Lehigh students and 2 Princeton students visiting the PETRONAS Towers' bridge



CBBR staff in front of the administrative office at Block 5 of the Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS campus

Vinicius Rodriques-Aguiar

Malaysia



Value Derived from the Experience:

Beyond the remarkable research experience provided by the 7 weeks I spent in Malaysia, experiencing Malaysian culture and traditions expanded by global perspective and taught valuable skills. Our group optimized our time in Malaysia by spending longer hours during the weekdays in the lab in order to create some flexibility in our schedule to explore Malaysia's beautiful landscape and tropical island getaways. I had the opportunity to visit Langkawi, Pangkor, and the Perhentian Islands. In addition, we had the chance to go on a Government of Malaysia program to a native Malaysia tribe, hiking 9 hours through the rain forest and camping with the tribe for the weekend. We also spent time in Kuala Lumpur, the country's capital, and we visited Singapore—a 9 hour bus ride South.

Over all, I believe that embracing all the differences in cuisine, mannerisms, interpersonal interactions served as a very important lesson to appreciate to nuances of diversity around me. While immersing myself in the culture, I felt a great connection to the people I met because I chose to experience the kind of life they lived. It was great to gain that great global perspective on how people in different countries go about trivial things in a day that I would normally not think differently of. Furthermore, the trip taught me how to navigate in big city, small city, islands or jungle without ever visiting there before. I can't say I am a seasoned international travel, but this experience empowered me to visit exotic places that I would think to do otherwise.

Angee N Ruiz-Carrillo

Republic Of Moldova

International Relations

American Language Center

Marketing &
Outreach Intern



Company and Position Description:

Ad Astra Group LLC is a US-based organization that operates as Youth Employment and Career Planning Center under the aegis of American Language Center / American Councils for International Education in Moldova. During my internship with Ad Astra, I took an active role on its mission of curbing youth unemployment and labor migration in Moldova. I had a direct contact with over 100 youth, where I helped to develop strategic partnerships while supporting day-to-day operations. I also had the opportunity to get involve in Volunteer.md, another branch of American Language Center, a platform which purpose is to connect the different NGOs present in Moldova with potential Moldavian volunteers. Based on the missions of the NGO and the values, skills, schedule, experience, and location of the individual, Volunteer.md matches a candidate to an NGO. Both parties can then contact each other and begin a lasting relationship!

My accomplishments during the internship included but were not limited to:

- Developing and executing a communication and collaboration strategy targeted toward NGOs, Businesses, Universities, students and volunteers.
- Organizing events to help youth plan their careers, find internships, become inspired about the world of work, and generally become more aware about available resources.
- Assessing the user experience and interface (UX/UI) design of an online platform
- Developing a UX/UI Survey for the website Career For Me



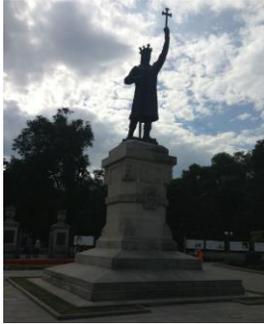
"Explore With Ad Astra" Event



"How to Manage Volunteers Effectively"

Angee N Ruiz-Carrillo

Republic Of Moldova



Stephan Cel Mare



Traditional Moldovan Lantern

Value Derived from the Experience:

I truly believe that this internship in American Language Center was the best experience of my academic life. Being in Moldova has surpassed all my initial expectations. Not only for the job I accomplished, but also for the interaction with its people, culture, and tradition, as well for the beautiful places I visited such as Soroca, Orhei, the Monasteries, and how not to mention for the wonderful and exquisite flavor of the Moldavian cuisine. I learned overcame challenges and adapted quickly to an unfamiliar environment. I also navigated through cultural barriers in a diplomatic and professional way gaining and/or improving on a solid set of transferrable skills such as communication skills , leadership, event planning, budgeting, problem solving and IT skills. This experience allowed me to increase my self confident when I had to step out of my comfort zone with different situations I faced where I had be a leader, to improvise, and also tell my opinion. This international internship and volunteering experiences, opened my eyes to a different ways to perceive the world and enhanced my interests in other cultures and languages. Absolutely this experience redirected my career path as well as my personal interests, influencing not only my short term goals but my long term goals as well. In addition, this experience me think of ways of how I can contribute to build a better society and find different ways to give back the opportunities that have been given to me. Once again Thanks Lee Iacocca International Internship for the opportunity.

Stacy Sawin

Accra, Ghana

Chemical Engineering, IBE

Proslin (Gh) Limited



Company and Position Description:

Proslin Limited recognizes that the economy of Ghana has been on the ascendency the past few years. The government's determination to make Ghana the economic hub of West Africa has led to various development projects being commissioned in various sectors of the economy. The Proslin team is taking on these projects, utilizing professionals with extensive experiences in Accounting, Finance, Engineering, Insurance, Real Estate and various consulting practices. Their professionals have several years of training and work experiences from leading institutions in Africa and the United States and are well placed to service Ghana's growing economy. Proslin's extensive, global, network gives the company a competitive advantage in terms of its ability to consistently provide high quality services and products.



Proslin Limited team after the final presentation



Discussing Research with a Professor at the University of Ghana

Stacy Sawin

Accra, Ghana



Presenting our product to the team



Exploring Kakum National Park

Value Derived from the Experience:

Working with Proslin Limited as a Iacocca International intern was a very beneficial and rewarding experience both inside and outside the work place. Professionally, I expanded my product development skills, while learning about global business practices. The project with Proslin offered an ideal combination between practical engineering experience and marketing in the Ghanaian agricultural sector. The project also allowed me to utilize my background in both business and chemical engineering. Likewise, my three teammates introduced me to concepts in their diverse areas of study at Lehigh. Our experiences outside the office were also very fulfilling. We experienced much of Ghana's culture firsthand, learning how it is both similar and different to the lifestyle we enjoy in the United States. This alone was extremely gratifying and enlightening. I also had the opportunity to make meaningful connections with some of the Ghanaians we met around Accra. I want to thank the Lee Iacocca foundation, as well as Professor Kwame Essien and Professor Mark Orrs for the opportunity to work in Ghana.

Emily Sechrist

Costa Rica

IDEAS: Mechanical
Engineering
and Sustainable
Development



University of Georgia, Costa
Rica Campus
Reforestation Intern

Company and Position Description:

University of Georgia, Costa Rica Campus is a branch campus of UGA located in San Luis, Costa Rica. UGACR is home to various study abroad classes, eco-tourism attractions, and research programs. During my 6 weeks at UGACR this summer, I worked on two different research projects: the Carbon Offset Program and the Permanent Forest Plot. The Carbon Offset Program gives students and other visitors to UGACR a chance to offset the carbon they emitted while traveling to Costa Rica by planting trees in the San Luis area. These trees offer shelter for wildlife and protection from the wind for crops on local farms. Our job this summer was to re-locate all of the trees planted for the Carbon Offset Program in 2014 and measure their diameter, height, health, and GPS position so that their growth can be monitored in the future. We measured about 1,500 of these trees during our internship. Our other task took place in UGACR's 1-hectare permanent forest plot. We measured sapling growth according to diameter, height, and health in each of the plot's 25 - 20x20m subplots to assess natural growth and regeneration of Costa Rica's rainforests. We measured about 500 saplings in the permanent plot.



Recording measurements in our field notebook



A 9 ft snake we found at one of our sites

Emily Sechrist

Costa Rica



Me and my host family



Zip lining in the rainforest canopy

Value Derived from the Experience:

Before coming to Costa Rica this summer, I knew practically no Spanish. I stayed with a homestay family for the majority of my time here and, aside from my 10-year old host brother who knew some English from school, the family knew no English. At first I was nervous around them because communication was difficult but, after living with them for 6 weeks, we became close despite the language barrier. We found ways to communicate with each other and even learned some of each others' languages. I also learned a lot about their lifestyle and culture by staying in their home for an extended period of time. The town in which UGACR is located is much different from where I live at home. It is extremely rural and has a very small population. Because of this, my fellow interns and I had to be creative in finding ways to spend our free time while we were here. We ended up doing a lot of interesting and unique things such as going on hikes, zip lining in the rainforest canopy, taking weekend trips to the beach, learning how to milk cows, and cooking with our host families. We learned to enjoy our free time and adopt the more laid-back lifestyle that is common here in Costa Rica. Our time working in our internship was valuable as well. None of us had any experience with forestry work before, so we acquired several new skills over the course of our research. We also learned how to optimize our time during the workdays by dividing the work according to who was most skilled at each task. Finally, we learned to communicate with the other members of our team and to be team players.

Lauren Sleator

China

Mechanical
Engineering

Bracalente Metal Products
Intern



Company and Position Description:

Bracalente Manufacturing Company is a family owned and operated manufacturing company based in Trumbauersville, PA since 1950. They make high quality precision metal parts for other companies. Bracalente Metal Products is their Chinese branch, about 1/3 the size of the Pennsylvania plant.

I worked at BMP as an engineering intern. I used Solidworks modeling software to create accurate 3D drawings of the parts to be made from the plans given to us by our clients.



Bracalente Metal Products facility. This is the manufacturing plant where I worked.



Inside BMP's factory.

Lauren Sleator

China



*One of the objects I drew .
This holds 4 parts while the
milling machine cuts them .*



A CNC milling machine at work.

Value Derived from the Experience:

During my time at Bracalente Metal Products, I gained a lot of experience time using Solidworks, one of the most widely used 3D modeling software packages on the market and a very important skill for Engineering. I improved greatly at drafting and had valuable practice of spatial skills.

I got to see first-hand the manufacturing process for the parts I drew. It is no simple task to determine, from start to finish, the best series of steps to turn a bar of steel into countless precision machined parts. I found this decision process very interesting, and hope to learn more in the future.

Needless to say, spending two months in Fenhu economic zone also helped me practice my Chinese. This is one of the few Iacocca internships to require a language, and during my trip, I rarely spoke English to the people I met and worked with. It was truly a learning experience for me.

Jenna Smalley

Costa Rica

Bioengineering

University of Georgia
Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

The internship I completed took place in San Luis de Monteverde, Puntarenas, Costa Rica. The internship was through the University of Georgia (UGA) in Costa Rica, and involved research work for two different projects. One project focused on the UGA Costa Rica's Carbon Offset Program, which aims to counterpoise the carbon emissions of students, professors and others associated with traveling to Costa Rica. Many trees have been planted as a result of this program, and as a 2014 intern, I went to about 22 different sites to monitor the reforestation efforts. These trees also serve as protection for farms against strong winds. Research included measuring the height and DBH of all trees, tagging trees, recording data, and plotting each individual tree as a point using GPS technology. The total trees assessed in this project is roughly 1,500 trees. The second project I worked on utilized the permanent plot within the forests of the UGA campus. The permanent plot consists of 25 20 by 20 subplots, and data was collected on already tagged trees, and new trees within a 6 meter radius of a subplot's center pole were tagged. Trees involved with this project amount to about 600.



Finding a snake in the San Luis Reserve



Ziplining through the forest

Jenna Smalley

Costa Rica



Sunset at my homestay house



Bridge at the Cloud Forest Reserve

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience has helped me develop both personally and professionally. Born and raised in the United States, the Costa Rican culture that I have experienced is much different from the culture that I am used to living in. Because of the differences, I had to adapt and adjust. For example, bugs and insects inside of the house is normal and accepted, so I needed to get used to different bugs always crawling around my room. When showering at my homestay house, there was never any hot water, so I adjusted to shorter shower times and dealing with cold water to wash myself. The main language in Costa Rica is Spanish, so I was able to practice my Spanish skills very often. I have only taken Spanish classes in high school, so it was tough to remember everything, but many things came back to me throughout my time abroad. I was also able to learn and expand my Spanish skills, which helped me interact and hold many more in-depth conversations with my homestay family. I believe knowledge of a second language, or of multiple languages, is a great skill to have in general. Some of the people I worked with only knew Spanish, so interacting with those people really helped my overall language experience as well as professional development. Along with personal adjustments and expanding my knowledge of Spanish, this internship offered development in independence, as on days off I sometimes traveled into town, or to another city, and figured out how to get around without much previous information. The internship was also physically demanding, with weather conditions including strong winds and working through torrential downpours. Working in the forest also required much physical effort, as it was often very steep, and it was important to avoid vines with thorns or trees with spikes. I believe having a physical internship like this is very beneficial, and gives me the mindset that I can complete any work or job that I am given.

Adam Śmiechowski

India

IBE, Computer Science
and Engineering

Viva Group
Business Intern



Company and Position Description:

VIVA Group is a family-owned business comprised of a number of companies. VIVA's core business is real estate. Specifically, the company has developed competitive advantages in the process of land acquisition and development. This is where the majority of VIVA's revenue is coming from. Moreover, VIVA owns wholly or partly businesses in the following industries: logistics, retail, game development, tourism and recreation, advertisement and several others.

My position as an Intern at VIVA Group was to accompany one of VIVA's directors, Mehul Thakur, as well as his associates to business meetings and on other occasions. I was also able to witness many high level business negotiations and decision making processes.



Deputy Mayor welcomes us at the Pune Municipal Corporation



A farewell picture with Mehul Monty Thakur

Adam Śmiechowski

India



At the Taj Mahal



Farewell Picture at the Office

Value Derived from the Experience:

During my time in India I had plenty of opportunities to grow both professionally and personally. Firstly, I was able to interact with extraordinary people, who were kind enough to spend some of their time with Kawsar and me to share their stories, offer their perspective and advice. This allowed me to grow professionally, since some of these people were CEOs and other C-suite executives. By interacting with them I learned how they managed their operations, what challenges they were facing, how they came up with strategies and tactics and what they considered to be the most important aspects of their companies' activities. These were enormously helpful experiences since I hope to be able to use this knowledge to better understand the decisions of my future employers or start my own businesses.

Secondly, during this internship I met many people who started their own businesses and even had a chance to visit some of them. This, combined with their willingness to teach me and with Mehul's mentoring allowed me to build a more complete mental representation of a company. Consequently, I am now able to engineer a better business. I decisively grew as a person. Visiting India for two months allowed me to form new friendships and better understand the Indian culture, which is very different than cultures in Poland and in the USA. It allowed me to slightly reevaluate my priorities and hopefully arrive at a more stable value system.

Lastly, interaction with so many businessmen emboldened me to start my own business. Having them as role models and being able to ask their opinion and advice is a huge confidence boost which I think might lead me to start my own company.

Alexandra Stephanou

Macedonia

International Relations and
Economics

American Councils
Youth Exchange &
Study Program Intern



Company and Position Description:

American Councils for International Education is an international not-for-profit organization working to advance education, research, and mutual understanding across the United States and the nations of Eastern Europe, Eurasia, and Southeast Europe. Its mission is to foster democratic development and civil societies by advancing education and research, cultivating leadership, and empowering individuals and institutions through learning. The Macedonia branch opened in 2000. As an intern for the office, I help with one of their main program, The Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES). The program is funded by the U.S. Department of State, to provide scholarships for high school students to study for one academic year in the U.S. YES students serve as “youth ambassadors” of their home country, promoting mutual understanding by forming lasting relationships with their host families and communities. The program officially launched in Macedonia in 2009, and since then, over 55 Macedonian students have completed the YES program and now participate as alumni. My intern responsibilities included preparing for YES 2014-2015 student orientation, compiling information about the host cities and schools for the YES 2014-2015 students, creating new initiatives to keep YES Alumni involved, and expanding social media reach.



*My arrival in the Skopje, Macedonia airport,
being greeted by my supervisor and host-sister*



*On the top on Vodno Mountain,
with a Macedonian flag painting!*

Alexandra Stephanou

Macedonia



At Lake Ohrid



At Mavrovo National Park, with wild horses in the background

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience was my first time traveling outside of the United States and the longest I have ever been away from home at one time (aside from living at Lehigh). It was an adjustment; learning to live with another family and emerge myself in a culture very unfamiliar to my own was difficult at first. But as the days went on and I pushed myself out of my comfort zone... I began to worry less and just enjoy the experience. Working at the American Councils for International Education was incredible! The mission of the office and the determination of its employees taught me the importance of strong international networks and the value that should be seen in youth education. Adjusting to the work environment was also challenging. From learning how to take public transportation alone across the city to get to work, to communicating with people who do not speak English - I faced many challenges. But each challenge I faced was an opportunity for me to practice patience and understanding. I had to be resourceful, open-minded, and culturally sensitive. My time working in Macedonia has helped me mature and develop skills that will be important to me throughout the rest of my career.

Anna Sternberg

Luxembourg

IDEAS: Integrated Degree in
Engineering, Arts
& Sciences



CRP-Santé Institute of
Immunology
Research Intern

Company and Position Description:

CRP-Santé is an institution dedicated to scientific research in healthcare, public health, and biotechnology. The Institute of Immunology is one department in this organization and focuses on the relationships among stress, genetics, and the immune system. During my internship, I joined the Psychoimmunology group, which studies how early life stressors can influence the development of the immune system and whether genetics also affects how a person's immune system reacts to stress. As a student intern, I was given several small projects that I would work on for the summer. During the 9 weeks of the internship, I learned what my work would accomplish and the theory behind the experiments I was performing. In this time, I was exposed to techniques and equipment that I had never worked with before; such as PCR product preparation and production, RNA and DNA extraction, and the use and handling of blood samples.



Me, performing an experiment on the bench



The Psychoimmunology group I worked with.

Anna Sternberg

Luxembourg



View of the aqueduct from Le Grund



Myself with re-enactors at Château de Vianden

Value Derived from the Experience:

Usually, I'm not a particularly outgoing person and I've never traveled alone before. This experience has pushed my boundaries and forced me to take a more active role when meeting new people and developing social relationships. I've also become more comfortable with doing things by myself if no one else is around. Since one of Luxembourg's official languages is French, I also learned how to adapt to a foreign environment in which very few people speak English. This summer, I was able to practice speaking French and my confidence in communicating with other people greatly increased. When at home in the United States, I rarely take road trips to simply to see what is around me. While in Luxembourg, I took advantage of the public transportation system, which I never use when in the US, and traveled as much as possible. In terms of the internship, I gained a lot of experience in the lab, as well as knowledge about topics I've never studied before. During my time at CRP, I helped train other summer students how to perform techniques I had learned and improved many interpersonal skills. Overall, this was a great experience which enhanced my confidence, independence, and ability to adapt to a new environment.

William Sullivan

Ghana

Biochemistry

Proslin
R&D Intern



Company and Position Description:

Proslin International is a small start up company located in the capital of Accra, Ghana. It is a private with a purpose company that has already developed a few products for lower-income communities in Ghana. The project I worked on had tackled an issue that many poor farmers have in Ghana. Alongside my group we helped research and develop a mechanized fertilizing dispenser named the PROSPER. The process included visiting some farms Ghana, finding out customer needs, doing research on products available, coming up with a product, developing marketing strategies and culminated with a large presentation of our work.



Interviewing local farmers about their fertilizer process



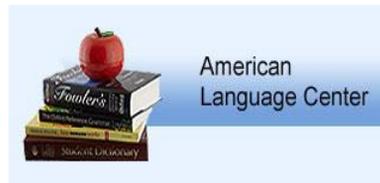
Implementing the water treatment center with Kubra, Rechia and the Community Water Solutions team.

William Sullivan

Ghana



In front of the Institute of African Studies



Learning about irrigation systems on government service farms

Value Derived from the Experience:

Going into this internship I was told by a professor not to expect anything and instead take in everything. The first night we arrived, I could not help comparing the roads surrounded by cement buildings and thick dirt colored walls to the streets I had seen in my mother's native city Cali, Colombia. I think many minds try to connect things in front of us to memories or experiences we've had in the past.

There are people who, like me before this experience, connect Ghana or even Africa as a whole as a miserably poor country. And though there are some people who cannot afford the so called luxuries we have, I can't help thinking that perhaps they are no more happy or unhappy as we Americans are. My group was in fact a pleasure to work with. With such a diverse group, the exchanging of ideas was rather extraordinary. I had many ideas, beliefs, and I guess one could call them biases on social groups and ideas going into Ghana.

As I worked more and conversed more with these people I feel like I better understood what the words feminism, gay rights, racism and equality mean. I also found that many people want the world to be a better place according to their view. But how can one person hold all the answers? I know I can't. It was rather funny because when I told my dad about our project, about making the a mechanized solid fertilizer applicator to make the life of small or poor farmers less tedious, faster and easier, he chuckled. So you're going to put other poor farm workers out of work by giving there job to a machine. That stuck with me. True the idea would help some people, but would it not hurt others? I want to help people not hurt them. I wanted to make the world a better place, but I cannot control the world. I can only control myself.

Alexandra Venosa

Italy

Journalism/Scientific Writing

Luxos
Editorial Assistant



Company and Position Description:

As an assistant at Luxos magazine, I did research for other writers, attended press events as a reporter, and created original news stories and editorial pieces. Luxos is an international brand based in Milan, with a focus on high net worth readers and the luxury lifestyle. It is partnered with various designer brands and hotels across the globe.



Jackie and I at the Luxos offices



On a day trip to Florence

Alexandra Venosa

Italy



After attending a boutique opening in Milan



Me and Daphnee in Bologna

Value Derived from the Experience:

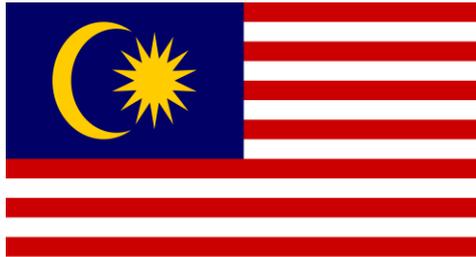
Working in the journalistic world of Milan opened my eyes to so many things. First and foremost, I got to experience what it would be like to write for a professional magazine: the hours, the content and the process from idea to finish. Since I did this in Italy rather than somewhere I was familiar with, the experience had an added dimension. Dealing with language and cultural barriers provided a challenge and opportunity to learn about the world beyond what I see every day.

Irene Villafañe Sanz

Malaysia

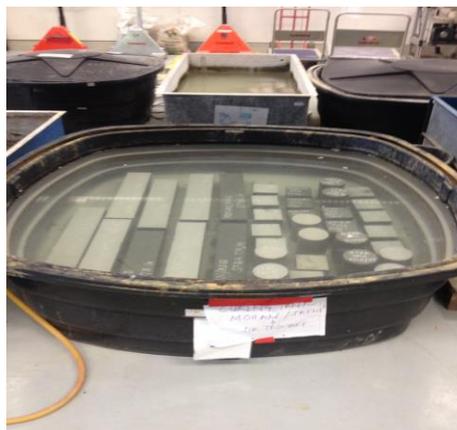
Civil Engineering

Iacocca International Internship
Research Intern



Company and Position Description:

During this internship I worked with a fourth year civil engineering student in the design of a Ultra High Performance Fiber Reinforced Concrete UHPFRC Mix for structural application. There was a lot of hands on work as we did the concrete mixes ourselves. After we casted them and tested them for compressive and tensile strength we would record the data and analyze it. We worked on an extensive progress report and I did a final presentation in front of the rest of the professors. Our mix will possibly end up being patented. The University has research material and equipment that Lehigh doesn't have, so it was a great opportunity to be able to work in one of their labs.



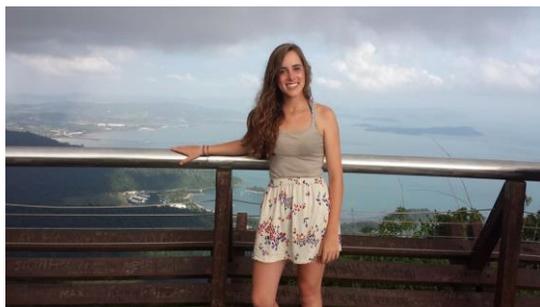
Some of our mixes in the curing tank

Irene Villafañe Sanz

Malaysia



UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
PETRONAS



The Skybridge in Lankawi



Our trip to Kuala Lumpur

Value Derived from the Experience:

It is hard to know where to start describing this trip. One thing I remember telling my friend at the airport after the seven weeks was “now I feel like I can die happily”. The amount of adventures that happened during this trip are countless. We learned how to travel the world with a small budget and we made life lasting friendships. Some of the people on the trip know me better than my home friends, because we spend 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 7 weeks together. I learned a lot in the lab, how science is not that different around the globe and made great connections that will help me in the future. I learned how to write reports at a higher and more professional level, leading up to published papers. Travelling on the weekends I assumed a lot of leadership positions by finding affordable places to stay and making sure everyone had an enjoyable stay. We sometimes got into arguments about the trip and being able to solve these situations and help to come to an agreement made me grow a lot as a person.

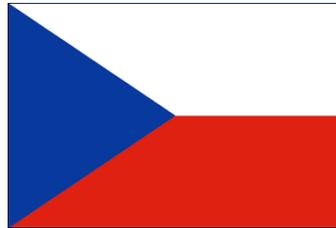
I saw places and did things that I have always dreamed of. We went trekking through the jungle, saw white sand beaches with see-through water and swam with turtles and went snorkeling. On these trips we met people from around the globe, made connections for future travels and learned a lot about their culture too.

I got the Iacocca Internship because someone else dropped and I am so glad I went because it was a life changing experience. The friends I made from Lehigh and Princeton will always be there for me and the confidence I gained in being able to be abroad is priceless.

Alyssa Wedge

Czech Republic

Industrial &
Systems
Engineering



Romea
Campaign for Social
Inclusion Intern

Company and Position Description:

I worked for a non-profit, non-governmental human rights organization called *Romea*. They have been in operation since 2002 to promote social inclusion of the Roma people living in the Czech Republic. Most of their work is done through the media via outlets such as facebook, twitter, a published journal and their own website. One of the main things they focus on as an organization is the publication of positive journalism about the Roma people. The Roma are almost always portrayed negatively in news stories so *Romea* does a lot of fact checking as well as publishing articles about successful Roma and Roma cultural events.

One other student from Lehigh and I worked with Romea to contact other organizations in Europe and the United States to look for funding and grant opportunities. The organization is not for profit so in order to be sustainable they must find grants that are specific to the human rights work they do. We also gave interviews about our own personal views of racism in the Czech Republic and the United States. These can be viewed on their website.



On our way to visit a socially excluded community in Nymburk.



Spending time at a summer camp for Roma children.

Alyssa Wedge

Czech Republic



All of the interns.



A picture of me at Romea.

Value Derived from the Experience:

This experience was truly amazing in that it not only allowed me to grow professionally but also gave me a lot of insight as to what I want out of my career personally. Seeing the struggles the Roma people face as outcasts of society opened my eyes to the significant human rights issues of today's world. One of the first days of the internship we took a tour of Prague and were amazed by its beauty and history. One of the next days we visited a socially excluded community just a little outside of the city and the difference was drastic. The conditions of the "homes" were not livable and it was very difficult for the children to go to school, especially during winter. This was definitely a turning point for me when I realized why we were there and why the work the NGO's do is so important. No one should have to live that way no matter their ethnicity or socioeconomic status. Racism is a global problem that won't just go away on its own. Organizations like Romea are very important because an inclusive society benefits everyone and I was honored to be able to work with them towards their goals. I learned a great deal about the housing and education systems concerning the socially excluded communities and was able to draw a lot of parallels to the systems we have in the United States. I hope that in my career I am able to apply the experiences and knowledge I have gained abroad in my everyday life wherever I might be living or working.

Emily Wilkinson

Moldova

Biochemistry

Hospice Angelus
Marketing & Fundraising Intern



Company and Position Description:

Hospice Angelus is a non-governmental organization that provides free home visits to those in need of hospice care in Moldova. There are two departments within the organization: the medical team and the fundraising department. I interned with the fundraising department. Some of the things I assisted with were fundraising events and campaigns as well as planning for future events. I also researched and gathered information about hospice care and new developments that benefit hospice care, then publicized the information on social networks (i.e. Facebook) to raise awareness around the necessity of hospice care in Moldova. Lastly, I taught English lessons to members of the medical team, preparing lessons on verb tenses, prepositions, grammar, vocab, and speaking/listening.

I also continued work on a project that last year's intern worked on called volunteer.md. Volunteer.md is a website platform that connects NGO's with potential volunteers, creating a match with regard to values, personality, schedule, and skills. Our team planned and hosted an initial introductory event to the platform.



Emily Wilkinson

Moldova



Value Derived from the Experience:

Prior to living in Moldova, I would become self-conscious of feeling out of place in a new environment whenever traveling somewhere new. I have since realized that to live in such a state of embarrassment and insecurity is useless, unproductive, and detrimental to the enjoyment and acclimation of experiencing a new country's culture. One needs to embrace the discomfort and accept it as an obstacle to overcome. Keeping an open mind is also crucial to travel. I experienced situations and habits that were kept by Moldovans that are simply accepted as the correct way to live, even though in the US they would be considered eccentric or even health hazards; for example, having no AC or windows in a bus far over-capacity. Every quirky aspect of Moldova accumulates to become the definition of Moldova itself. I discovered this knowledge near the end of my stay there and will carry it with me throughout my other travels and will attempt to embrace the culture that I am surrounded by.

Xiaoran Yu

Indonesia

College of Education
Comparative & International
Education

Universitas Gadjah Mada
Community Development
Intern



Company and Position Description:

This community development internship was organized by the KKN department of the University of Gadjah Mada. I worked with UGM students to enhance community welfare in the district of Klipuh in the village of Gulurejo. During my 5-week stay, I was involved in several projects. (1) Teaching English to a 6-grade class in the elementary school. I taught expressions of occupations, feelings, actions etc. (2) Teaching English and math in the mosque. The students in the elementary school were invited to come to the mosque after school. I helped them review what they learnt in school. (3) Writing a year-long curriculum of Quran for the kids so that the teaching of Quran can be a sustainable effort. My UGM partner and I collaborated in this project. We developed systematic modules for the learning of Quran. (4) Interviewing school teacher and parents. I interviewed two household and one teacher in order to know how the teachers and parents are involved in the children's education, and how the involvement can be improved. Besides, I attended Batik workshops, participated in the interviews of Batik makers, and gained understanding of green Batik.



Batik is a major industry in the village in Indonesia. Batik-making involves many procedures and it is very time-consuming.



My elementary students at a mosque.

Xiaoran Yu

Indonesia



My UGM partner and I teaching English to a six-grade class



Soccer game between UGM students and local villagers. Everyone played bare foot.

Value Derived from the Experience:

This international experience helped me develop both personally and professionally. Personally, this was the first time I went to a country where I don't speak the language. It was a great chance for me to gain international experience and learn how to communicate with people who don't speak my language. I picked up some Bahasa Indonesia while in the country. In addition, because most Gulurejo villagers are Muslim, I was exposed to a culture which I never experienced before. By living with Muslims and talking with them, I learnt many aspects of the religion. I believe my experience in the language and culture will help me in the future when I communicate with someone of an Islamic background. Professionally speaking, I gained hands-on experience in teaching English and curriculum design. I applied the theories I learned while I taught in the elementary school and in the mosque. Currently I'm a student in comparative and international education. I'm interested in parental involvement, rural education, and women empowerment. In the past my focus is China. This internship gave me a chance to examine how parental involvement looks like in another context. Based on my interview with the parents and teachers, I found that in the village, usually the teacher-parent communication is one-way: parents usually don't initiate contact with teachers either by calling or by visiting the teachers in school. The teachers give parents report cards at the end of each semester, and that is usually the only time when the teachers get to see the parents. I suggest the school take more initiatives communicating with parents, for example, PTA, home visit, and inviting parents to come to school to observe classes. In the case of Gulurejo, I think parental involvement is also a good way to improve teaching quality. Currently there is no teacher evaluation in the school, and I think parents can play an important role in supervising the teachers. During my stay in the village, I also attended a women's empowerment meeting about packing-the women were taught how to design the package of the products they want to sell, so that they can sell the products at higher prices.

Luke Zhang

Kingdom of Cambodia

Computer Science

Caring for Cambodia
IT Intern



Company and 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. There are eight computer labs. In primary schools they are used for English studying. In secondary and high school the computer labs are used to teach students essential skills like Microsoft Office or sending emails. As the IT Intern, I helped upgrade the computers' software, diagnose and fix the hardware. I also trained the teachers to use an online database CAMEMIS to record students' grades, daily attendance, health information, etc.



Students having computer class in the lab



Aranh Secondary School

Luke Zhang

Kingdom of Cambodia



Grand opening of Aranh High School



Outside Royal Palace

Value Derived from the Experience:

Throughout my time in Cambodia, I learned something new almost every single day. I worked with the IT director of all Caring for Cambodia schools to improve the condition of the computer labs in the schools. By having this opportunity, I was able to see that computer, or technology in general, sometimes could be an inaccessible luxury. I learned to work in a harsh environment where I could not just seek answers on the internet. Instead, I had to do trial and error to figure out the solution. Caring for Cambodia plays a critical role in not only educating children, but also providing hope and resources to the local communities around the schools. I am very happy that I can contribute in my way to help the organization. As an aspiring developer, I now know that it is equally important to support legacy hardware as to develop new technology. I also became more open-minded to the style of education as I suppressed my idea to change the computer class structure because I am so used to the structure in the United States.

Xia Zhao

Indonesia

Comparative & International
Education

University of Gadjah Mada
Intern



Community Service with UGM colleagues in Indonesia village:

Lehigh University cooperated University of Gadjah Mada in Indonesia. We did the community service in the village. We lived in the villager's home. We visited batik factories; we compared the benefits between natural batik and non-green batik; we collected the water samples from batik industry and the wells nearby; we interviewed the workers about their health problems; we cultivated plants for the mosque; we visited the red cross and did the blood donation in village; we did the regular health examination for kids in village; we helped the preschool move and decorate their new preschool. They also helped me teach in the mosque and in preschool, teach English in elementary school and give me suggestions to make the video for village education.

In our spare time, we went to the mosque also every day near sunset. We joined father's meeting, mother's meeting and youth meeting. We joined several village shows and one traditional Indonesia wedding. We helped the youths and kids in the mosque prepare the amazing fasting festival show and hold the football competition between youths and UGM students.



Best memories with village kids in mosque.



Group members and our hosts.

Xia Zhao

Indonesia

Gadjah Mada University



Teaching English



Batik Factory

Value Derived from the Experience:

This internship in Indonesia gave me a chance to put my educational theories into practice. By visiting schools, teaching kids and communicating with the youths in the village, I know a totally different education system. I learned how to teach in a foreign country. I was very impressed by the culture, religion, delicious food, and nice people in Indonesia.

Thanks for all the people I met in the village. Because of them, I learned how to live a simple but happy life; I learned how to be polite and kind to others. Thanks for my students and kids in the village. Because of them, I learned how to love and how to educate. Thanks for my UGM colleagues. Because of them, I learned how to cooperate with others, how to forgive each other, and how to be happily silly sometimes. Thanks for my hosts in the village for their kindness to me every day. They treated me like their own daughter.



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