5 CAREER BOOSTERS

**Social Entrepreneurship Training Program**
24 students joined this program and completed their Winter internships at 8 social enterprises in Hong Kong. A physical Design Thinking workshop and a site visit to the Social Enterprise Co-working Space “Dream Impact” was organized to improve students’ understanding of the difficulties facing our society.

**MenTernship Program**
The mentoring-cum-internship program provides students with the opportunities to engage with social dignitaries and potentially work under the mentors’ companies. Last year, 33 mentees were matched with 13 experts from various industries to train up for their life challenges ahead.

**Local Internship Engagement Award Scheme**
The award scheme was intended to encourage local students to look for STEM-related internships to explore their future career possibilities. 30 students were selected to be granted the award. Congratulations!

**Tech X Career Series & Recruitment Talks**
Over 10 career training workshops and recruitment talks took place to assist students to gain better knowledge of the industry and equip them with the essential skills. The Tech X Career Series featuring 4 leading technological companies was also held last November.

**1 on 1 Career Consultation**
Individual career consultations were published to cater to students’ needs on CV writing, mock interviews, planning on career and further studies, etc. An experienced external consultant was engaged and > 60 students benefited from it.
LI, Eve - BSc (BIBU)
Beckman Coulter - Market Research Intern

My responsibility as a Market Research Intern was to conduct market research of diagnostic healthcare products on the local academic field, which includes universities, as well as biotechnological firms, focusing on the startups. I was also required to generate excel and PowerPoints to present my analysis to my supervisor and the sales team.

Before starting my internship, my objectives were to gain practical insights into the local diagnostic market to prepare myself for my future career development in the healthcare or life science industry. I am grateful to say that not only was I able to attain practical knowledge with the guidance provided by my seniors, but I also learnt a lot about the essential skills in the workplace.

Nonetheless, I came to realize that working culture plays a critical role in maintaining employees’ morale. I have received very constructive feedbacks and timely follow-ups on the reports I generated for the sales team. The sales team will tell me areas to improve on and when I know my research had allowed them to identify new customers and made their work easier, I became more driven at work knowing that my analysis is beneficial to others. Hence, I am inspired to uphold an honest and sincere attitude when communicating with my colleagues in the future because I understand an open and supportive environment will be valuable to the team.

My internship enabled me to form memorable relationships, understand more thoroughly about the diagnostic industry and impelled me to develop my communication skills. I am thankful for this opportunity and will surely apply these learnings to my future jobs.
When it comes to materiality of having internships, rather than saying they are mandatory, I would say it is “nice to have” these types of learning experience. While studying science uplifts my analytical skills in data interpretation and research assessment framework, interning in environmental-related sectors transformed knowledge into practical, transferable skills that benefit career planning.

Passion drives energy to pursue learning. After participating in several case competitions, attending seminars and workshops as well as online courses and volunteering, I would like to identify whether the skills that I learn in the workplace are ideally the things that I have been through. I believe in the saying that goes, “Doctor heals patients. Consultant heals companies.” I aspire to be a sustainability consultant to develop tailored scope of ESG consultancy, assurance, and reporting services to clients through market intelligence and benchmarking. From my research experience, I am eager to utilise research know-how, technology, and tools to continually learn and innovate oneself to expand ESG markets and enhance service delivery standards.

However, I was ambitious because I had a lot on my plate and struggled with time management, which had further implications for quality of work delivered or lack of communication at times. I am now learning to dedicate myself to fewer commitments to produce high value during my current internship in business sectors, and to achieve my ultimate career goal in the sustainability field step-by-step. Being able to demonstrate some valuable output as a starting point through my reporting and analytical skills during the fall semester internship, being a sustainability consultant/analyst could be one of my future career options as a fresh graduate.
As a Research Volunteer Intern at the research team of Hong Kong Ocean Park, I have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with research planning and experimental setup focusing on animal behavioral analysis. Our current focusing animal species include Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins, seals, giant pandas, red pandas and green iguanas.

Being a part of the Ocean Park Research Team was undoubtedly fun and definitely rewarding. Through this internship, I have a deeper insight into the current field of research and broaden my understanding of different animals’ physiology and behavior. I can closely observe and learn the planning and execution process of different animal research sessions, which is really a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Moreover, the research sessions with animals are not as simple as it looks. It actually requires a lot of careful planning and enormous manpower to analyze the data behind, not to mention the coordination and teamwork of our research team are also extremely important. If anything goes wrong with the experimental session, not only will the data collected be wasted, but it might also cause injury to use, or in the worst case injure the animals.

I am really grateful for my supervisor and colleagues’ guidance as well as the opportunity they have given me. Through the tasks I have completed, my problem-solving and research communication skill had been significantly improved. All these skills learned from my internship here in Ocean Park would definitely be valuable assets for my future career development.
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