THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME
YEARBOOK 2013
GLOBAL WORK EXPERIENCE
FOR OXFORD STUDENTS

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## INTRODUCTION

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## INTERNSHIPS BY ORGANISATION:

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- ASCHAM SCHOOL, Sydney, Australia
- ASHINAGA, Tokyo, Japan
- BANGLADESH LEGAL AID & SERVICES, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY, Beijing & Zuhai, China
- BEIT CURE INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL, Blantyre, Malawi
- BRITISH COUNCIL THAILAND, Thailand
- BRITISH SCHOOL, New Delhi, India
- BRITISH PERUVIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Lima, Peru
- CENTRE FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL, Bilthoven, The Netherlands
- COUNCIL ON ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT & WATER, New Delhi, India
- CUMBRIA PARTNERSHIP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST, Penrith, UK
- DEPARTMENT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION, Oxford, UK
- DUNNHUMBY, London, UK
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- EGNISCO, Powys, UK
- ENERGY & RESOURCES INSTITUTE, New Delhi, India
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- ESTATES SERVICES, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
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- GLOBAL CANOPY PROGRAMME, Oxford, UK
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- INDIAN OIL R&D, Faridabad, India
- INFOSYS, Bangalore, India
- IMAFLORA, Piracicaba, Brazil
- INSTITUTE OF FOOD RESEARCH, Norwich, UK
- INSTITUTO DEL SUR, Arequipa, Peru
- INSTITUTO GULBENKIAN DE CIENCIA, Lisbon, Portugal
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INTRODUCTION

The University of Oxford has been running a successful summer internship programme since 2009. This programme works with organisations all over the world to provide students with access to high quality internships.

This year we worked with 137 organisations in 32 countries to facilitate more than 400 internships. This publication includes feedback from many of the students who took part in the 2013 programme. It provides a valuable record of how life-changing an internship can be.

We hope you enjoy the read!

Further information about the Internship Programme can be found on the Careers Service web site at www.careers.ox.ac.uk/internships or by contacting internships@careers.ox.ac.uk.

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Priscilla Santos
Daily Life
I found my accommodation through my internship sponsor; I shared a very nice flat with another Oxford student. I walked to work as it was a nice 25-minute walk from home. I worked from 9 to 5 everyday and sometimes took Fridays afternoon off (depending on the work load), since this was a common practice at the organisation. As my daily work routine, I prepared reports, attended and reported conferences, worked in Excel spreadsheets and with databases as well as produced content for the e-learning courses for the training of the national judges of the EU member states.

Work Projects
I was involved in the project “Cooperation with national judges in the field of environmental law”. The project is a partnership between the Academy of European Law and deals with the training of national judges from all Member States in Environmental law. In this project I worked on organising training modules on EU Law, on Industrial Emissions and on the Interaction between the EIA and Nature Directives.

Lasting Impressions
Trier is a small city but I was lucky to work with very friendly people who didn't make me feel lonely. It also helped that my host family was very friendly and inclusive. I had the chance to be closer to my colleagues at work and also with my host family. After leaving the internship I am still in touch with all of them. I really enjoyed my experience living in Germany. Before going there I was scared because I didn't speak the language, but the work environment was so international that I never really needed that, since everyone was speaking English. I would definitely return to work there and the internship made my commitment to work in environmental law even stronger.

Rosanna Thompson
Daily Life
I usually worked 9am - 5.30pm during the week and walked home after work. The Academy of European Law was a 15-20 minute walk from where I was staying. On Fridays I was able to finish work at midday. Outside of work I enjoyed going for long runs in the forest behind my house, shopping and eating ice cream in Trier and chatting with my flatmate and the family with whom we were staying over a glass of wine.

Work Projects
I attended a reporting course on Environmental Law. I performed research tasks looking at European gambling law. I also spent time transcribing the recordings of seminars.

Lasting Impressions
Overall, I had a very positive experience during my internship. It allowed me to explore a region of Germany I had never been to before and to experience working in Germany. Should the right opportunity arise, I would definitely consider returning there to work. In particular, the work I did on environmental law has been influential on my career as I'm now studying for a Master's in that area.
Daily Life
A colleague helped me to find accommodation; he made sure that I found a place in the South, where it is easy to get to work. Work is only a half an hour bus ride away, and I can arrive anytime between ten to ten thirty, so it’s pretty relaxed. I usually stay until 6pm, however, so it is a full working day. There are so many things to do and explore in Mexico City outside work you’re spoilt for choice. I’ve taken up Salsa classes, go to yoga once a week with my friend and go running with a group from work every Sunday, which has given me a chance to explore the numerous parks in Mexico! I’ve been to the theatre, several museums (although there are so many I need to really get my act together before I leave!) and markets and, of course, have enjoyed the night life here. Be it a house party or a bar you usually end up dancing salsa with friends until the early hours. I live really near the University, so I have enjoyed running and exploring the cheap food options in this area. In order to have a wider friendship base, I chose to live with people who weren’t from work. We often have poker nights at the flat. I always see my friends from work at the weekend though, and they are always happy to show me around the city/make sure I don’t get lost. I have thoroughly enjoyed my social life here, and will be sad to leave such good friends behind!

Work Projects
I worked as an intern in the area of ‘Influencing Public Policy’. This area of the organisation performs research into organisations which have successfully carried out advocacy work, and holds workshops and webinars providing organisations with tools to achieve their advocacy goals. At the beginning of the project I helped my boss write reports on projects that this area had completed and were in the process of finishing (they were then sent to our sponsors). This greatly improved my analytical skills and Spanish! I also helped a colleague carry out a webinar and provided administrative assistance for three workshops that were carried out over two months (one of which was three days long which I attended and led group exercises). I also helped another colleague with a research-led project that is underway at the moment. I had to provide a summary of the minutes taken over the past year, which was then forwarded on to several of the researchers. I also designed a ‘One-Pager’ of the research for the general public. This improved my knowledge of PowerPoint greatly, and I had to have a real in-depth knowledge of the organisations we are researching. I also helped organise the logistical side of a seminar which took place in October. I had to book a hotel and restaurants for 25 people for three days, attend the seminar and provide logistical assistance to delegates. I am currently working on a research project, where I have to carry out interviews and compile research on five organisations that have succeeded in influencing Public Policy. Everyone at the organisation was extremely patient with both my Spanish and my technical skills, both of which have greatly improved. I feel like a valued member of the team in my area.

Lasting Impressions
I’ve thoroughly enjoyed the food, the dancing and the work here. My work experience has made me aware of the challenges faced by civil organisations in Latin America, and it has made me seriously consider working in the philanthropic sector in the future. Everything is in Spanish so I’ve improved my language skills whilst gaining valuable work experience at the same time. I can see myself coming back to Mexico to work in the near future.
Daily Life
I arrived at the office at 9am and answered any email queries that had arrived in my inbox about the Alumni Weekend, as well as processing any postal booking forms. For the rest of the day I would answer phone and email queries and worked on the many and varied tasks that need to be completed in order to organise such a large event! I had a planning meeting every Monday with the other two people responsible for the Alumni Weekend, in which we would go over what needed to be done in the following week and any issues that had come up the week before. The office was very sociable and welcoming and another weekly ritual was the Wednesday 11am cake break! I left the office at about 5pm, which left me with plenty of spare time in the evenings.

Work Projects
My role was to help organise the Oxford Alumni Weekend 2013. The Alumni Weekend is a weekend of tours, lectures, workshops and social events for University of Oxford Alumni and this year’s took place from 20th – 22nd September in the Said Business School. About 1000 people attend the Weekend so there’s a huge amount of preparation that goes into making sure that it remains a successful, enjoyable event for all the attendees. My role included monitoring online and postal bookings for the event, dealing with email and phone enquiries, looking into future venue availability, booking minibuses for specific sessions, organising branded signage, sending out emails to mailing lists, marketing using social media, planning the set up of the SBS foyer, and many other things as well! I was given plenty of responsibility and had the chance to help out at other events being organised by the office, including the Oxford Summer Debate in London. I received a huge amount of support from the entire office - if I had any questions there was also someone who would be happy to help me.

Lasting Impressions
It was great to have the chance to stay in Oxford outside of term time - having weekends off without the threat of an essay felt like a real luxury! It was great to have the chance to stay in Oxford outside of term time - having weekends off without the threat of an essay felt like a real luxury! I’ve been interested in Events Management as a possible career path and this internship was a fantastic opportunity to see how I felt about being involved with the organisation and the on-the-day running of a large-scale event. The experience taught me a huge amount and I’m now sure that I would like to be involved in event organisation in the future.
**Daily Life**
I worked 10am-6pm Monday–Friday (I was especially glad to avoid 9am starts!). I was sharing a room with a good friend of mine in a house in Stepney Green just 30 mins walk from my office, which was very useful for avoiding the stuffy tube during rush hour. I already had quite a lot of friends who lived in London, so with them, my new housemates, and friends I met through work and various other outlets I found it easy to maintain an active social life outside of work. The high cost of London was difficult to deal with at first, but frugal tactics like using apps such as YPlan to go to events for free meant that I managed to have a great time without spending too much money!

**Work Projects**
I was involved in a great variety of work projects at Artichoke - the primary focus of which was preparing for the Lumiere festivals in Derry-Londonderry and Durham 2013. These included website design and management, coding, statistical analysis, social media management, artist liaison and creative writing. I learnt a lot of new skills and it greatly boosted my confidence in approaching a variety of work related demands.

**Lasting Impressions**
It definitely reversed my views on London - coming from a small city on the border of Wales, I thought it would be far too crowded and stressful - but I found that it was incredibly enjoyable and would happily move there after university. I feel like I’ve gained a good insight into the arts world, and developed very useful transferable skills for a variety of career paths. However I’m still very uncertain in what exact direction I want to go in - but if anything the variety of people I met whilst in London just confirmed for myself that a linear career path is not for everyone, and I’d be much happier living a life with less money but greater variety and excitement.

“I feel like I’ve gained a good insight into the arts world, and developed very useful transferable skills...”

**ARTICHOKE**
**London, UK**
David Watson, 2nd Year, BA History, Wadham College
Sarah Leonard
Daily Life
I worked everyday from 8am until 5pm, I lived on the school site and ate my meals with the boarding mistresses and the boarders. Outside of work I visit lots of different places in and around Sydney, visiting museums, sampling the pubs and local cuisine.

Work Projects
I was helping with the school’s Case for Support for their latest fundraising campaign. I was helping with copywriting for the website and school literature, and I did a lot of work with the Careers Service, focusing on Oxbridge applications and increasing awareness for higher education.

Lasting Impressions
I thought it was interesting to travel somewhere so far away but to experience a culture not too dissimilar from our own. I would like to live and work in Sydney for longer than my internship allows but I cannot see myself settling here for any extended period of time.

Olivia McDermott
Daily Life
The hours were officially 8am-4:30pm, although we would often work until dinner at 5:45pm and beyond. Sarah and I shared a desk in an office in the Admin department, but had the freedom to work wherever we wanted, including outside in the sunshine! There wasn’t really a typical day, there was normally at least one meeting relating to the Case for Support per week, on Fridays we would spend a few hours in the careers department and we would always make time for a coffee break! I settled in very easily; I arrived at the school 10 days early and took the opportunity to travel around New South Wales. Our flat was within the school, 20 seconds from our office, which made mornings very easy! The staff were incredibly accommodating and friendly and we were taken on trips around Sydney, including to Sydney University. During the week, we didn’t go out very much, but sometimes went to one of the multitude of school drama, music or art showcases going or to one of the nearby bars. At the week ends, we had to coach netball on Saturday mornings, but spent the weekends exploring Sydney. Sarah and I mainly socialised with Jen, our host’s au pair, but also with the daughters of some of the staff and friends who had moved to Australia.

Work Projects
My two main projects were organising and assisting with the school’s ‘Science Fortnight’ and writing a ‘Case for Support’ fundraising document. For the Science Fortnight, I had to write a Senior School Science Quiz, organise and assist with Junior School and Senior School engineering challenges, run an activity at the Junior School Science Fair and do demonstrations for Year 1s. I also helped out with the Senior School Science Club. The ‘Case for Support’ is a document which gives the foundations of any fundraising activity and so has to provide all the details about the project. Initially, my role was meant to be researching organisations as potential donors, but this developed into researching, writing and editing sections of the document. In addition, I was also a Year 3 netball coach, assisted in the careers department, including offering Oxbridge application advice and assisted with the organisation of a networking evening.

Lasting Impressions
I feel like I’ve only really seen the tip of the iceberg - Australia is such a vast and diverse country that Sydney doesn’t begin to represent it as a nation. We were privileged to be in a very affluent and well connected suburb; the city was only 2 train stops away or a 20 minute walk and we were surrounded by boutique shops, cafes and bars. However, this didn’t really give me a true idea of living in Sydney and I would love to come back (if I can afford it) and live elsewhere in Australia. I have gained a variety of new skills and had some wonderful work experience - I’m still undecided about my ultimate career goals, but feel that whatever I do decide to pursue, the skills I have learnt in Australia will help me achieve my career goals.
Daily Life
The work day always started with the morning assembly at 6:20am every weekday. To wake the students (and the interns) music was blasted into our rooms at around 6:10am, which could be anything from J-Pop to the Pokémon theme tune. At the assembly we would give an announcement in English, saying who had English lessons today as well as teaching an English phrase or idiom. The interns typically had four 7-hour shifts a week in which they were available to teach and if there was no student scheduled for a particular hour during their shift then they had time off. The lessons were given at the Ashinaga dormitory so there was no commute to work, which is lucky since the Tokyo rush hour is infamously crowded. We also had to put in hours outside of our shifts in order to organise lesson plans and the weekly event. Outside of work many of us went shopping or sightseeing in central Tokyo (40 minutes by subway), or hung out with the Japanese students. If we wanted to do something fun in the evening, there was a strict curfew at 11pm, but you could put in a request to stay out later or all night. There were also a dozen or so international students from places like Afghanistan, Somalia, Uganda, Brazil and Indonesia and so we often went to Japanese summer festivals and karaoke with them.

Work Projects
Our main project for the internship was to motivate the students to learn English. Many of the students already had multiple English lessons every week but experienced slow progress due to lack of enthusiasm or conversation practice. We gave each of the 80 university students two one-hour informal conversation classes, as well as putting on an English event every week. As this was the first year Ashinaga had hosted interns we started completely from scratch: everything from scheduling, to lesson plans, to organising shifts, to getting resources for the events was done by the interns, which really helped us develop into a strong self-sufficient team. The students were shy at first, but over several weeks they grew in confidence and motivation, which was so rewarding for us to see. The events also helped a lot with creating a fun atmosphere. We did speed-dating, English quizzes, scavenger hunts, blind taste-testing, and film nights. Aside from teaching the university students, we also taught several lessons at a local middle school, which involved the interns teaching in pairs to a class of about 30 kids. Luckily these lesson plans had been set out by Ashinaga and so it wasn’t as strenuous. The interns we also frequently invited to introduce ourselves (sometimes in Japanese) at lectures given by Ashinaga staff. These would range from audiences of about 30, to maybe 300 or more. At the end of the internship all of the interns were required to attend at least one of the summer camps that take place across the country for orphaned high school students. I attended two and had tremendous fun. Although most of the students spoke little to no English, we had a great time playing games, hiking, and sharing our personal experiences.

Lasting Impressions
Going to Japan had been a childhood dream of mine, so I knew it was risky going in with high expectations. That said, I’m happy to say that all my expectations were exceeded. Everything about Japan made me want to stay even longer: the students were a lot of fun and loved talking with us; Tokyo itself was dizzyingly vibrant and vast so there was also something new to find; the work that Ashinaga was doing was really beneficial to these students who have lost one or both parents and so it was rewarding to be a part of it; and finally the dedication in every restaurant and shop to make you feel welcome is unlike anything I’ve experienced. With all the social customs and etiquette, living and working in Japan can be a bit stressful for some, but having learnt some Japanese beforehand definitely made this a much more enriching experience. I really hope that I can return to work for Ashinaga once again as it really was an unforgettable experience for me. My career goal has been to go into academic research in psycholinguistics, looking specifically at language processing in the brain, language learning, as well as language disorders. Therefore being fully immersed in the Japanese language and helping Japanese students to understand the complexities of English was an immensely valuable experience for me.
Daily Life
I was living with a local Bangladeshi family who had ties with BLAST - along with another intern at BLAST. We tried to leave for work early to avoid the worst of the traffic – we either got picked up by a BLAST car or took a three wheeled autorickshaw. On a good day the journey would only take 45 minutes but traffic is notoriously terrible in Dhaka. Normally the office would close around half 5 but when Ramadan began we would get out much earlier, around half 3 or 4. There were 6 or 7 interns there over the course of my time in Dhaka from universities in the UK and US; it was nice having this big group around to explore the city with. Life in Dhaka is very different from anywhere else I’ve been and I think we all struggled a bit to feel at home or come up with things to do outside of our lodgings, especially during Ramadan when not much is open at night and life is really centred around the family home. However, local interns and other employees at BLAST were wonderful at inviting us all round to break fast and spend time in their homes. It always felt very dependent on what was going on in the city as to how much we could do outside of the office and even how much work we could get done. Whenever there was political unrest it had the potential to spill out into the streets and this made travel to work difficult. In addition, Bangladesh has really frequent day long general strikes when everything shuts down, which again affected my placement.

Work Projects
I was meant to have main one project that I would consistently work on throughout the 8 weeks, but unfortunately this didn’t happen. That said, I did get to take part in some very interesting projects; I worked on BLAST’s public interest litigation against the Bangladeshi government over the recent Rana Plaza garment factory collapse. I provided background research on anti discrimination laws and worked on an ongoing project of BLAST’s looking at the legal discrimination against indigenous populations. At times this work was incredible and exciting, but equally there were days when it was hard to get support and rather than getting to work on these projects I was redirected to editing for English.

Lasting Impressions
The internship had some really good and some really bad bits. Dhaka is a troubled city and with the ongoing unrest sometimes it was not a nice place to live. But the people there who I interacted with on any deeper level were uniformly lovely and it was amazing to experience Bangladeshi culture living with a family and working in their legal aid system. Some days were disturbing and disheartening but others were completely inspiring. I’m not sure I would rush back but I’m very glad to have been and worked on such important issues.
Nina Black
Daily Life
In the first two weeks we lived on campus in Beijing Normal University Zhuhai and we were a short walk away from the university buildings where we were working. Our first week involved morning lectures and in the afternoon group workshops to decide on our project. In the evening each university gave a presentation on a different topic; for example Oxford did how to present to an audience. In the second week we worked on our research project which involved more group discussions and a field trip. In the final week we travelled to Beijing for the conclusion of the program. There were a few morning lectures and organised sight-seeing trips but most people enjoyed this final week as we had a lot more freedom and time to explore. There was a closing ceremony with a banquet. During the evenings we often went for dinner with our groups on the campus - it was a bit difficult to go into Zhuhai regularly as the bus took over an hour but we did get a chance to visit the markets there.

Work Projects
I helped my group of ten Chinese students to design a research project on the education of fishermen’s children in Gui Shan Island near Zhuhai. This was a complicated process as the Chinese students weren’t always confident with their English and tended to give up after a while and just discuss amongst themselves. My main role was to proofread their English before they gave presentations. We went to stay overnight on the island to conduct research which was a surreal experience; watching the Mandarin-speaking students try and communicate with elderly fisherwomen in Cantonese and then attempt to translate their conversations to me was quite challenging! At the end of the two weeks in Zhuhai each group gave a presentation on their findings. The Chinese University put quite a lot of emphasis on one group winning which we found disappointing, but I suppose it simply emphasizes cultural differences.

Lasting Impressions
This internship was a really interesting experience and I’m incredibly grateful to the Careers Service for providing me with the opportunity to go!

“This internship was a really interesting experience and I’m incredibly grateful to the Careers Service for providing me with the opportunity to go!”

This internship was a really interesting experience and I’m incredibly grateful to the Careers Service for providing me with the opportunity to go! I had already been to China on holiday but this was a completely different experience. Working with Chinese students and living on campus was a great way to learn about their way of life. Whilst there were some insurmountable cultural differences, I really felt that the students enjoyed working with us and that we all benefited from the program. I would certainly love to return to China to travel and would consider working there in the future. This internship has made me think a lot about my career goals; I know I want to work within an international organisation and to be able to travel as part of my work. (Cont...)
Amit Visana
Daily Life
Each day would be very different and genuinely something to look forward to. Settling in was fairly easy. We were given extremely good accommodation. The Chinese students were there to help us with any problems and this was especially easy once we’d purchased Chinese SIM cards. Apart from the sessions scheduled by the host university, work hours were flexible and often decided the day before. Having a group that you were associated made getting to know the students easier. Often we would go for meals as a group and make other plans together. Also, there were many opportunities to get to know those from other groups. I’d say there was a very positive atmosphere created by all the students.

Work Projects
Our instructions for the project were simple. We simply had to pick a topic that we could research and present at the end. We were assessed against three criteria (I can’t remember what these were at the moment!). Our team’s project focussed on Cantonese songs. The aim was to investigate and give reasons for trends in their popularity. The host organisation provided money for transport (mainly bus fares) and printing.

Lasting Impressions
This internship was my first visit to China and I came away with an extremely positive impression. I would definitely consider returning there to see more as well as going back to work there. I would say that it will be the times shared with the Chinese students there that will stay with me the longest.

Konrad Krawczyk
Daily Life
The routine was different for each of the three weeks of the internship. The first week was lectures in the morning and group discussion in the evening. Second week was field-work which involved a lot of travelling. In the third week we went to Beijing where we had lectures in the morning and cultural activities in the afternoon.

Work Projects
I was involved in helping students from Beijing Normal University undertake a short research project revolving around the preservation of one of the oldest Buddhist Temples in Zhuhai.

Lasting Impressions
I would definitely return to work and live there.
Daily Life
Everyday, I’d wake up at 7:30am to go to the hospital, where I’d work until 4:30pm, usually by myself but also with support from Veith, the IT man, and Ben, the German IT technician. Blantyre is a fascinating city, the pace of the city is so different from anything I’ve experienced, and my best memories are of rushing to the market to buy some vegetables to cook myself dinner for the night. Being a PPEist, I had no experience whatsoever with website design, but managed to learn by myself and make two successful ones during the span of the internship! Although I will warn you, Malawiian internet is a new level of slow, so I recommend building on a local server. There were several colleagues from international backgrounds, either medical or volunteers; I remember one children’s party we held for the kids in the hospital which was one of the best memories I’ve had.

Work Projects
Building two websites (bcihospital.org and bcihostel.org) to market the hospital to other African countries.

Lasting Impressions
Malawi is a fascinating country. Climbing Mount Mulanje was a spiritual experience. Going on safari in South Luangwa was above and beyond being inside a David Attenborough documentary. Dangling by the edges of Victoria Falls in the Devil’s pool was the biggest adrenalin rush I’d ever felt. This was the most amazing travelling I’d ever done; and it was very insightful to learn how people live there. I would definitely visit again, but I do not think I would live there.

“This was the most amazing travelling I’d ever done”
Helen Sunderland

Daily Life

The working day in Thailand begins early, so I had to adjust quickly to early starts. At 7am the school minibus would arrive at my apartment to take me to work. Once at school, on my way to the staffroom, I would be greeted enthusiastically by the students, who were always excited to see their new foreign teacher. At 8am each morning I stood with the other teachers at assembly. While I couldn’t understand any of the notices (all in Thai!) it was interesting to watch the students sing the national anthem as the Thai flag was raised over the playground.

I was timetabled to teach three hours a day, though expected to be in school for the whole day (7:30am-4:30pm). When I wasn’t teaching years 1 and 2 there were plenty of other activities going on to get involved with. On Tuesdays, with English club in the afternoon, I was often busy in my free periods preparing the lesson – printing, cutting and sticking for craft activities or devising games for the students to play.

Each lunchtime, after eating in the canteen at 11:30am (when you’ve been awake since 6am eating lunch in the morning doesn’t seem so bizarre), I helped a couple of year 6 students learn about ASEAN. I either asked them multiple choice questions, helped them with their spelling or, in an attempt to make these revision sessions more engaging, encouraged them to make different posters for each ASEAN nation. During my 8 weeks of teaching in Thailand, there was rarely a ‘normal’ school day. It was not unusual for lessons to be cancelled for ‘activities’ and I often found myself watching and joining in with sports afternoons, cooking classes, dances, science days and various cultural celebrations, such as the Queen’s Birthday ceremony. Among my more unusual experiences at the school, I spent a whole day being filmed with some of the students for a video about my time volunteering in Thailand, attended a presentation for some visitors to the school and introduced myself to them and went to a professional photography studio with the other language teachers to have our photos taken for a billboard advertising the school.

The school day finished at 4:30pm and I was given a lift back to my apartment by some of the other teachers. Some evenings, the Thai teachers invited me for dinner and I also sometimes met up with another person on the project who lived nearby, in the same city. Even if I spent the evening on my own there was plenty to do in the city, with a huge night market just down the road from where I lived and lots of other stalls to explore selling different exotic foods. I spent my free time reading, writing a blog, on the internet (I was lucky to have wifi in my apartment) and keeping in contact with my friends and family back home. Each weekend, when I was not teaching, I had a chance to travel with some of the other people on the project. Elephant trekking, exploring stunning national parks, white water rafting, visiting famous temple ruins and spending a day on a lake in a traditional houseboat were just some of the great experiences I had and I made some great friendships with the other English Teaching Assistants.

Work Projects

During my internship I taught English to six and seven year olds, teaching three one-hour classes each day. As a teaching assistant, I followed the lesson plan organised by the Thai teacher, leading some activities, particularly speaking exercises, and helping the students individually with their work. The Thai education system is quite traditional with large class sizes and a very methodical, text-book and rote-learning approach to teaching. (Cont...)
While initially this was quite restricting, as the internship went on I introduced more interactive ways of teaching into the lessons: songs, games and short drama activities to help the students learn and revise vocabulary. Once a week I ran English club for some of the older students. I enjoyed the experience of teaching students with a more advanced level of English and it gave me a chance to do some solo teaching and lesson planning. The British Council were very helpful with providing training and resources needed for teaching. I had no previous teaching experience, but was given all the support I needed and adjusted quickly to teaching. They provided us with an online teacher training course before we flew to Thailand, a short training course in Bangkok before the placement began, a few material resources to use in the classroom and an online forum throughout the placement where we could share teaching ideas.

**Lasting Impressions**
I had an amazing two months teaching in Thailand and the internship was honestly one of the best experiences of my life. The experience has helped me to adjust quickly to new situations and I’ve become a lot more independent and adventurous. Before this internship I had never been outside Europe, and didn’t think of myself as much of a traveller. Applying to spend two months teaching in Thailand itself was very out of character! The experience has truly opened my eyes and made me want to see more of the world. Thailand is such a beautiful country and it was a privilege to spend time in an area unspoilt by tourism and meet so many wonderful people. The welcome I received from the teachers, friendships I made during the two months, and even smiles and conversations with complete strangers showed me just how hospitable and friendly Thai people are. I would like to return to Thailand to visit the parts of the country I didn’t have a chance to see and would love to travel further afield elsewhere in Asia. Teaching English as a foreign language was good fun and rewarding and I would be interested in doing other short term placements like this in the future as it is a great way to combine working with the cultural experience of travelling to new places. While teaching is not my long term career aspiration, my time in Thailand has given me invaluable experience and developed skills which will help me enormously in the next year as I apply for graduate jobs, and more generally in my future career.

**Leila Morris**

**Daily Life**
I live on the school grounds, and am expected to go to the ‘morning activity’ at 8am every day (I rarely go though and nobody minds). I have three lessons a day, and spend the time in between planning them, eating (food is sold all over the school since there are cooking students as well as a canteen), showering, reading, napping and going on the internet. In the evenings I usually walk to one of the restaurants nearby and have dinner, then sit on my balcony on the computer or reading until I’m tired. It sounds lonely, but it is really fun, and sometimes I spend time with the Chinese teachers on my corridor.

**Work Projects**
I have had to plan and give three lessons a day for eight weeks. My mentor gave me a few text books, and I watched some lessons being given in the professional language school on sight, but apart from that I was left to my own devices!

**Lasting Impressions**
I would not return to work in Thailand. I don’t like parts of the culture, such as the fact that no-one reads books in public. I feel confident as a teacher now, and know that it is a job I would enjoy. I still want to follow a career in business, but will definitely try and do some teaching on the side.
BRITISH SCHOOL
New Delhi, India
Tom Rowlands, Finalist, BA PPE, Harris Manchester College
Rosemary Lang, Finalist, MChem Chemistry, St Catherine’s College

Tom Rowlands
Daily Life
On school days, I would wake up, get ready quickly and travel to school with the host family son, which took around 30mins. I would have a few minutes to grab a coffee and prepare for my first lesson at around 0800. The tuck shop provided a hearty breakfast of samosas at R20 each, and the school lunch food was pretty good. At the end of the day (between 1430 and 1630, depending on extracurricular things), I’d go home with my host family and relax in the pool or watch a film, and we all ate dinner together, during which the conversation would usually be quite entertaining. At the weekends, I spent a lot of time with the host family sisters, sampling Delhi’s restaurants, bars and nightlife, which was a lot of fun!

Work Projects
I taught mainly Spanish to five different classes, from the age of 11 to 18. With the younger groups, I was in charge of the lessons myself, which involved quite a bit of planning, and a little bit of discipline! With the 17-18-year-olds I did PowerPoint presentations on hispanic food, culture, currencies and language differences, which took a lot of time to prepare and, whilst well-received, was probably not the most effective use of my time. 2-on-1 lessons in the library with the younger students were much more rewarding. I also took a few classes in Theory of Knowledge and History, in which I helped IB students with their essay writing and logical reasoning skills; this was hugely enjoyable, and I felt like I contributed something novel, and made a difference.

Lasting Impressions
India, and Delhi in particular, is an experience you need to brace yourself for. Getting around - when not with a family’s driver - is a pain in the... as the streets are so chaotic, and the autorickshaw drivers can be a real handful. I’ve travelled to developing countries before, but never seen rich and poor so close together. That’s a real eye-opener! And it can be difficult to feel like you’re really immersing yourself in ‘real life’ if you’re restricted to the affluent areas. Come mentally prepared, and get lucky with your host family (as I did) and you can have a really good time. And try to spend some time outside Delhi; India has much more to offer outside of the capital.

Rosemary Lang
Daily Life
I woke up early (6.30!) and ate breakfast with my host family before getting the bus to school. The school day lasted from 7.50-4.30 and during those times I was either teaching or planning lessons. After school I would either take the bus home or have dinner with my host family (who were lovely) or I would go and explore Delhi with my fellow interns. Delhi is an amazing city and we visited many historical sites as well as restaurants, shops and markets. On one Saturday we had a trip to Agra and the other weekends we did community work with the school. Our host families organised some social events for us and were always pleased to have us round for dinner and offer advice on what to do during the evenings. It is not recommended for females to travel alone in Delhi so we took taxis most of the time and the male interns ensured we got home safely.

Work Projects
I was able to take on as much responsibility as I felt able; I was assigned lessons based on my degree and the needs of the school. At first I mainly observed and assisted in lessons but after the first couple of days I began to plan and run lessons myself. I also helped older students prepare their university applications.

Lasting Impressions
I have great memories of the internship and really enjoyed my time. I would definitely return to India for tourism or to live for a short time. The internship taught me a lot about teaching and has made the career choice more appealing to me.
Daily Life
My daily hours were 9 until 5, but often these were extended due to Chamber events (usually around one a week in the morning or evening). I would either walk to work, or risk taking one of Lima’s rickety ‘combis’ (ancient, but quite charming buses!) as I was lucky enough to live quite close to the excellently located office. Purely by luck, my closest friends were also my work colleagues and we would often go for dinner or drinks after work. I also joined a gym while I was there which I often went to after work. In the evenings I would also spend time with the people I lived with, we would go out for dinner or cook together or simply relax in the house together. The weekends were the time when we would all go out. With friends I would often go out for lunch, dinner or drinks, visit places near and around Lima, or take part in other activities in and around the city.

Work Projects
I worked together with another colleague in the communications team at the Chamber. My role was centered around organising the quarterly magazine, Opportunities, and publishing the biannual Directory for all the members. In addition to this, I was the Chamber’s official translator and helped with communiqués and in updating the organisation’s website.

Lasting Impressions
Since living in Chile aged 18, Latin America has always had a certain charm for me. What surprised me most was how different Peru and Lima were from Chile. Lima is a city which receives much bad press as a result of the constant cloud which overshadows the city for 70% of the year. However, this aside, it is a fascinating city culturally, gastronomically, historically and socially. A megacity situated on the Pacific coast, Lima has teems of districts to explore, each with its own charm. What struck me most was the food. Lima’s gastronomy can undoubtedly parallel that of France and Italy which an enormous variety of exotic and colourful dishes to entertain the palate. Culturally, the city was also extremely rewarding. The music and dance here has a certain energy unlike anything that can be found in Europe. Lima’s greatest downfall is its lack of infrastructure and security. A city of over 9 million inhabitants but lacks any form of metro or train network is outstanding. I felt that this accentuated social problems as the poorly connected districts became hubs for different social groups. With greater social distinctions come crime, and unfortunately I never felt the freedom to wander the streets of Lima alone at night, nor take taxis off the street, or use my telephone in public or on the bus. For a visitor, this fundamental problems are less striking as they can be easily accepted for a matter of months, however until Lima and Peru improves these issues I feel that it would be exhausting to live there permanently and raise a family there. My work however, has confirmed my desires to enter into the world of international relations, hopefully through the FCO or another international organisation. I will be very sorry to say goodbye to Lima and Peru as I have made some extremely strong friendships and through travelling and exploring the country alone will come away with some very valuable experiences and fond memories.
Daily Life
I managed to find a room in Utrecht through Kamernet.com, which was a room renting website widely used by students in the Netherlands. Holland has incredible cycle lanes, it took me 45 minutes everyday to cycle from my residence to RIVM. I would normally start around 9am and leave about 5pm. There were lots of coffee breaks.

Lasting Impressions
People from RIVM are super nice. They are all very approachable and willing to talk to you in English so language is not a problem. The project was on a very interesting topic and I wished I had more time to finish it. Utrecht is more of a student city and is really beautiful. I enjoyed living there and would love to visit again in the future.

Work Projects
I was working in the modelling unit of RIVM. The aim of the project was to use survival analysis method in calculating infectious links (i.e. the possibility of patient A infecting patient B and comparing this method with another widely used generation interval method through a report). With help from my supervisor, I was able to run thousands of Monte Carlo simulations in R to update key infectious parameters and therefore calculate probabilities. I also came up two ways to quantify the differences in results from two methods. I picked up lots of epidemiology knowledge there as well.
Charles Miller
Daily Life
I rented a flat in South Delhi, a 40 minutes door to door from the office. I’d share a 30 rupee auto-rickshaw ride to the metro station with a flatmate and the same in the evening. At the office, I need my laptop but I got a work station of my own as well as a coffee each morning around 10. The hours I kept were 9-6 most days but you were free to pick and choose if you wanted leave earlier for some reason. The atmosphere was very friendly; commonly people would come over for a chat during a break. Lunch was delicious and social, with all the employees eating the fantastic array dishes together. Of course chapatis all round. In the evening I would often go for a meal with friends, most of whom were locals, or go to the cinema or to a market for some street food. We were 2km from Hauz Khas Village, a hub of restaurants and bars, or we would cook at home and enjoy the view from the communal roof terrace accompanied by a bottle - not beer, not wine, in fact mosquito repellent! It was really important to sort out a good flat and a local phone.

Work Projects
I was involved in a project, which CEEW has recently undertaken, analyzing the ‘Critical Mineral Resources’ in India now and in the future. My role was to produce a statistical framework within which the criticality of a mineral could be quantified. This involved thinking about the factors which might determine when a mineral was ‘critical’ or not for the Indian economy and produce a method of quantifying them to produce a criticality score. Without going into too much detail I choose to discuss criticality in terms of two factors, ‘supply risk’ and ‘economic importance’. A critical mineral is one which is important to the economy and at risk of a supply shortfall. As you can imagine, numerous data sources where required to produce sub-indicator inputs needed to address the all important criticality question. I experienced a lot of cases where the data I wanted simply didn’t exist or wasn’t available to me and as my project was exploratory rather than, immi-nently publishable; I did not have access to discussions with industry and government to release data sets. I had to adapt the approach multiple times to make use of the data sources which I could get hold of. I adapted and applied the framework to green technology in the UK as a case study. The UK was chosen following significant difficulties in finding data for an Indian example. I was provided with an initial reading list in which the approaches taken by the US and EU criticality reports were discussed as well as given regular feedback on my methods and findings. In the remaining 2 weeks, I will produce a report discussing the method and result of the UK green technology case study as well as a document discussing the need for a criticality assessment and comprehensive data collection in India.

Lasting Impressions
I have had my eyes opened to the possibility of a career in a non-profit research organisation, particularly I have become interested in the issue of resource management, be it water, energy, minerals, etc. (Cont...
I feel like this will be a good foundation for a future career in this sector and I will keep my eyes open for a similar placement next year. I am still in Delhi at the time of writing this about to embark on 2 weeks of travelling in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala and already I am in love with the country and the food.

I’m not going to make claims about ‘Indian culture’ it’s too vast and too varied to use an umbrella term. Coming to India has made me think hard about the concept of cultural identity. India has 57 languages spoken by 100,000 or more people. A new state, Telangana, was created whilst I was here and incursions of western goods and lifestyles are everywhere. I’ve thought about cultural identity, the challenges of governing a linguistically and culturally divided state and the ability of minorities to maintain their heritage whilst transcending institutional barriers. The in your face poverty alongside overt wealth has made me change my views about charity and humanity. I have been interested to hear the same aspirations of rapidly growing middle-class in India, which you hear worldwide. I necessarily discarded my concept of personal space in the crowds of Old Delhi, learnt a little Hindi and learnt to ignore my knife and fork when confronted with a Dosa. I increased my knowledge of Hinduism ten-fold and my bargaining skill by much more than that.

My trip to India has been a real learning experience; it has made me question my opinions and learn to adapt to a new environment. I have been inspired towards a career in managing the resources critical to improving the standard of living of an ever increasing population. I would recommend it to anybody.

**Huijuan Wu**

**Daily Life**

Working hours were from 9am to 6pm. The office is very centrally located. It’s fairly convenient and safe to travel to work by metro. I shared a flat with other interns in South Delhi, in a safe and decent residential area. CEEW is a small research institute; my colleagues were very friendly and helpful indeed. I made lots of friends, including local professionals and university graduates.

**Work Projects**

Upper Ganges River Basin Sustainability Assessment

**Lasting Impressions**

The trip to India was really adventurous and awesome. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who would like to experience a different culture and lifestyle.
Daily Life
My daily life meant working from either 9–5 or 8.30–4.30 Monday to Friday. I was based at the Carleton Clinic, on the outskirts of Carlisle. The accommodation is only a five minute walk away from the office. There is a canteen on site which has sandwiches, salads and hot food where I would go for lunch every day. On the odd occasion, I would work in the Penrith office which is about 20 minutes south of Carlisle. I joined a gym in Carlisle, and in the evenings I would go there (I used my car every day to get there, but you could cycle if inclined!). At the weekends, I would drive down to the Lake District (takes about 30 to 70 minutes depending on where you are going), which was awesome. I went for walks and explored all the well-known lakes such as Windermere, Ullswater, and Derwent Water. I also did the 1.5 hr drive over to the beautiful Northumberland coast to see the Harry Potter castle at Alnwick! Julia, the other intern, arrived a few weeks after me. We did a few walks together, and also did activities such as a wildlife cruise on an evening after work. I also socialised with the girls in the Learning Operations office (it was all women in there), going in to Carlisle for drinks and dinner.

Work Projects
My specific project aim was to create an electronic survey allowing the evaluation of staff training courses, with a mechanism for follow up to find out whether training is effectively transferred to the workplace in the long term. I was solely responsible for working on this project, although I had help available at all times, and at least one meeting every two weeks to discuss my progress and ideas with Barbara, the Learning Network manager (who was not based on site). The tasks I undertook included: Consultation with stakeholders (admin staff, trainers, ward staff) and other NHS Trusts; Designing the surveys and supporting web-pages; Making a communications plan in order to publicise the new system and encourage response; Setting up practical administrative systems to ensure smooth transfer from the previous paper system. In addition to this, I also completed other ad-hoc tasks, such as analysis of data using MS Excel and the creation of an intranet website and discussion board for the vocational learning team using MS SharePoint.

Lasting Impressions
The internship was a really positive experience for me. Whilst I am hoping to go in to transport planning as a career, this internship has allowed me to develop so many transferable skills that I frequently find myself referring to on graduate scheme application forms. I am very happy that I had this chance to explore the North of England in this way. I am from the South of England, and as I wish to live and work close to my family, I doubt I will have such an opportunity again. I loved the Lake District though, and will definitely return there on holiday.
DEPARTMENT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION
Oxford, UK
Monika Maminskaite, Finalist, MSc Russian and East European Studies, Wolfson College
Jamie Morrison, 4th Year Finalist, MMath Mathematics, University College

Monika Maminskaite
Daily Life
It was a job with usual office hours, 10 minute cycle ride from my college. There were a number of colleagues in the office, providing a lively environment and constant opportunities to ask for help and socialize.

Work Projects
I worked on de-duplication of data in the student database, guided step by step by my direct supervisors.

Lasting Impressions
It gave me a chance to spend time in Oxford as an employee and not a student and to appreciate the bigger picture behind lifelong learning initiatives.

Jamie Morrison
Daily Life
My hours were 9-5 with an hour for lunch and a very relaxed working environment which was a very nice experience given that I had just been through Finals! The internship was based in Oxford where I still had a house, so there was no need to move around or find accommodation. I settled into the job fairly well, and the team I was working with were very friendly and helpful. However, it quickly became clear that most of them did not know much if anything about what I was doing, so my work was almost completely isolated from everyone else. This contributed to the work itself being fairly unstimulating, although I did get on very well with the team in and around the office.

Work Projects
Writing a technical guide for how to use the database that houses information about students, courses and tutors (amongst much more) for the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education.

Lasting Impressions
As a finalist I wanted a placement where the organisation try to give you a taste of what it would be like to work for them, however, this placement was solely to complete a project over the summer. There hasn’t been any effort to encourage me to consider working for them, or even in this field. Given the nature of the project, I did somewhat expect this but due to having a house for the whole summer in Oxford the placement was very convenient for me. The placement has not really changed or confirmed my career goals/ambitions, it is a bit of a shame, but I am sure that most of the other internships were more ‘typical’ in that they were in industries that look to attract graduates, thus making the process two-way - both the intern trying to impress the company and vice versa, whereas mine was just about me trying to complete the given project.
Daily Life
My journey to and from work was long - over an hour each way. I had fairly good hours, from 9-5.30 every day and early-finish Fridays. I socialised with the other interns and sometimes went to the pub with them after work.

Work Projects
For my first project I was involved in finding a problem with the data that the company uses for analysis. I was given plenty of support in understanding how to go about doing this. For my second project, I created a presentation on a particular client’s quarterly performance, which was to be shown to the client. This gave me a lot of responsibility and I had a contact to help me through the workload.

Lasting Impressions
The internship has reinforced my desire to work in consulting and in London. I thoroughly enjoyed the London culture and I am pleased to have worked for Dunnhumby - it is a fantastic company that treats its employees with great respect.
ECOM AGROINDUSTRIAL CORPORATION LTD  
Shanghai, China  
Yubo Zhang, 2nd Year, BA Economics & Management, St Peter’s College

Daily Life
The benefit of ECOM’s internship is not just the amazing opportunity to work almost anywhere in the world but also that they really take care of you no matter where you go. There was a car that brought me from Putong Airport to my residential hotel which was where I stayed for the entire duration of my internship. There was also someone in the office that I could always contact if I needed any help. The office is located at Xu Jia Hui which is only 3 tube stations from where I stayed. Working hours are from 9am to 6pm. The office is divided into operations, sales and trading with coffee and cotton as the 2 commodities being traded. My supervisor and colleagues were very helpful and supportive and I was able to adapt to my work quickly. There is always something to do in Shanghai. It is one of the most international, cosmopolitan and exciting cities I have lived in. At the same time, there are many historical sites and places in and around Shanghai that are accessible and show the beautiful side of old China. Working and living alone in a foreign city can be lonely sometimes but I was fortunate that many of my friends from Oxford actually came to Shanghai to visit. I was also able to make some friends outside work.

Work Projects
I was placed under the coffee sales department in my office and was involved in a new project – bringing our soluble coffee products from Mexico and the States into the China market. Our team conducted market research and price analysis of existing soluble coffee products in China in order to better position our products. I was also lucky enough to go on a business trip to Beijing for an International Cafe Show to promote our coffee to the local market. It was a truly eye-opening experience. I met the teams from Ecom’s Singapore and Yunan offices who were in charge of promoting green coffee beans and also learnt about Ecom’s coffee operations in other regions. I was given a lot of responsibility and I really enjoyed that because it meant that I could really challenge myself. I learnt how to draft contracts, do customs clearance for the coffee which was imported from Mexico and the USA, the different tier pricing systems and write product proposals. It was also interesting to meet different clients, negotiate with them regarding sales terms and learn about the business culture in China. I am grateful for my supervisor who was very patient with all my queries and taught me so much regarding the basics of China’s dynamic market. One advantage is that I could speak and write fluent Mandarin which has definitely helped me with my work as it is still the preferred language to conduct business in China, although, Shanghai is probably the place in China with the most English speakers.

Lasting Impressions
I absolutely love Shanghai and can imagine myself working and living there next time. However, the crowds on the street and in the tube can be daunting. It is also difficult to find a quiet and isolated place in Shanghai; almost everywhere is bustling with life and people. The food and hygiene can be an issue too for some but after spending my last summer in Bangladesh, I was pretty alright with it. The business culture in China is very complex; there are many factors involved that need to be taken into consideration. While I speak Mandarin, I grew up in Singapore; there is still evidently a difference in social norms and cultural values. However, the locals here are very helpful and friendly and have taught me so much. You will find yourself learning and discovering something new everyday.
Daily Life
With less than five employees, EGNISCO is a very small company, and I think this helped make settling in very easy. Mainly, I worked from 9am to 5pm, although the working hours were flexible to some degree and occasionally I would need to start early to attend a site visit. I lodged with the sister of the owner of the company (and her family) who were incredibly welcoming and made me feel very at home. In the evenings I often went swimming at the local pool and also helped exercise a horse at a small livery yard close to where I worked. I tried to make the most of living in a beautiful part of the UK by spending a few weekends walking in Snowdonia National Park, which was close by.

Work Projects
Initially, I mainly worked on marketing for EGNISCO. I updated customer databases, sent mail shots and followed through leads with potential customers. I also helped keep the website updated and produced literature for marketing purposes. Additionally, I assisted with sales and technical advice. I attended site visits with clients to advise on the company’s services and produced proposals for clients alongside other members of the company. Due to the very small nature of the company I was supported in different ways by all the other members of the company, although one member of the company oversaw all my work. I was supported very well but I was also encouraged to take my own initiative.

Lasting Impressions
I enjoyed many aspects of living in Powys, and I especially enjoyed exploring the surrounding area. I cannot see myself living in this area full time as the rural location made transport to other parts of the UK to see friends and family difficult. However, I definitely intend to return on holiday and to visit the family I lodged with. I learnt a huge amount during my time working at EGNISCO. I particularly enjoyed the variety of work which I was involved with (a likely result of the small size of the company) and I may look into options for working in a similarly small company in the future.
I started to go out in the evenings with some other interns, but it wasn’t safe to go out alone. We went out for dinner, drinks, and sometimes to clubs, or maybe weekend trips. It was a lot of fun. Looking out from the window of the air conditioned fancy restaurant, we questioned whether it was really India!

**Work Projects**

The project I was working on was quite exciting. It was on the topic of modernization of traditional ayurvedic medicine. To be more specific, putting the effective component of a hepatic protective Himalayan herb into nanoparticles.

**Lasting Impressions**

Although it is not a place I want to work in for a long time, I am grateful for the opportunity to learn more about India as a society. Many years ago, people were talking about India, China, and their mythical economic growth and sadly this summer demonstrated that Indian economics is on the verge of collapse, it is still a developing country with a really poor infrastructure.
Daily Life
Most days I was working in the sponsor’s office, located in the Punjagutta area of the city. The office was located about 3km from my accommodation. Being monsoon season, the rather unpredictable weather dictated whether I made the journey on foot (crossing the road is an interesting challenge) or by autorickshaw. Haggling with the auto drivers can be difficult and they drive like they’re in a video game! Office hours were officially 10am-5pm, but Indian attitudes towards timekeeping are very lax so being late did not mean the end of the world! During office hours I would be discussing matters with my supervisors, contacting and meeting schools/companies, conducting research using the web and documenting my findings. I was introduced to some students who showed me round in the evenings and become good friends with them. Aside from the standard tourist attractions, Hyderabad is home to a whole host of traditional shopping bazaars, large, western-style shopping malls, numerous parks and several cinemas (including IMAX). Plenty of things to keep you occupied.

Work Projects
I worked solely on a single extended project. This was to study how IT is used in education in India and to suggest innovative ways in which technology could be implemented to improve the education received by children in the country. In particular, we focused on ‘Affordable Private Schools’ as they often have the resources available to be able to implement technologies, but still cater for genuinely poor children from very disadvantaged backgrounds. Using contacts given to me by my supervisors, I was able to arrange meetings with principals (who were often the founders) of such schools. A student named Manvir, originally from Kashmir, was working in my office on a similar project, and we attended these meetings together. He was incredibly helpful, asking insightful questions and also aiding with communication when my natural Yorkshire twang was not understood. We also met with representatives from several of the numerous up and coming companies working in this Technology for Education sector. In the end, I was able to produce a report on my research, which will hopefully be published in the near future.

Lasting Impressions
What struck me most about my work was how passionate and determined school leaders and social workers are to bring about positive change in India. They are incredibly inspiring people and given the right resources I’m sure they will be able to provide great social change in the country. Hyderabad itself is an incredible city. Perhaps not as heard of as many of India’s other major cities, it is somewhat of a hidden gem, with a rich and diverse culture. Though the Indian way of life is a little too different for me to want to live here, it is certainly a place I would visit again if the opportunity arose.
Daily Life
I generally worked 9–5 with an unpaid hour off for lunch, but this was flexible and I sometimes stayed late if I was on a roll! Most of the time I would be at my computer drawing the maps, but I also spent some time cycling round Oxford to sketch out some buildings which were unclear on the satellite images I was using as a base, or which were too new to have shown up yet! The real highlights were two roof visits – one to the Natural History Museum, where the glass panes were being refurbished, and the other to the Rad Cam, where there is stonework conservation going on. All those times I’d looked longingly at scaffolding, and now I was allowed to climb it!

Work Projects
I was responsible for mapping building outlines for the University’s new disability access guide. This involved adding to and editing the open-source mapping site OpenStreetMap. Eventually, the data I built up will be used to render an interactive map with detailed access information for each university building. There was a weekly meeting with the project team – made up of staff from Estates, IT, and the Disability Advisory Service – at which general progress was discussed and I could clarify any problems which had come up. I also had regular one-to-one meetings with my supervisor during which we could go over things in more detail.

Lasting Impressions
I’m keen to build my mapping skills further – it’s certainly something I’d like to use in the future.
**Daily Life**
My working hours were 9–5 with an hour and a half lunch. I caught the bus to and from work which only took 10 minutes. Every evening I tried to study Portuguese and socialise with people in the house, who were students at the university. On occasions there were festas!

"The internship has made me love the country of Brazil, its language and its people."

**Work Projects**
In learning the programming language Lua, and the lab’s extension of it, TerraME, we were required to learn the ways of Computational Modelling. To help this, we were required to work on a tutorial introducing others to modelling, using TerraME.

**Lasting Impressions**
The internship has made me love the country of Brazil, its language and its people. I’m amazed by their friendliness, openness and general encouragement whenever I was trying to learn their language, learn their dances, or just trying to fit in with them. I’d love to return to Brazil another time, although I’m not sure that this internship gave me the best view on how work itself would be there.
Miguel Rodriguez-Correa

Daily Life

The hours are generally flexible, however I tried to be in the office by 9.30 every day, so as to be able to read the main headlines and be clued in before the rest of the team arrived. Most people arrive around 10.30, since they commute from London. I was introduced to my various targets and given a clear workplan spanning the whole of my internship. An hour is given for lunch and covered by expenses. Normally, I will monitor the news in the morning, and then organise meetings with environmental experts in the organisation, to later write a blog entry. I would write one of these a week. The atmosphere in the office is relaxed and friendly and you can always take a small break if you feel tired. Nonetheless, you are never short of things to do.

Work Projects

I was involved in drafting a ‘media-kit’ to be handed out to the press. I was also involved in maintaining the NGO’s twitter feed and website and submitted proposals for improvement. I have also had the chance to write about various projects in the organisation and some of my work was published in a major ecological news letter. The organisation supported me fully and I was given plenty of guidance. At no stage was it presumed that I would have to know everything and I always felt that I could ask questions.

Lasting Impressions

I feel truly happy that I took part in this internship. I met some friendly people and learned a lot about working in ‘Communications’ as well as in an NGO. Although I do not think I will go on to work in the same sector, the internship has consolidated my plans to work for the environment. I am currently considering specialising in environmental law after I have graduated. I have learned more than I imagined I would have and become a much more environmentally conscious individual.

Eugene Lowrie

Daily Life

I cycled to work, which had flexible hours but tended to fall between 10:30 and 18:30 Monday to Friday. Out of work I enjoyed eating and socialising. On some days I would meet another intern from work or a friend from college.

Work Projects

Profiled financial institutions, compiled anecdotal evidence for a study, researched for a scoping study on natural capital accounting. Some communications work. Represented GCP on a World Business Council for Sustainable Development collaborative project (a natural capital video). I worked as part of a small team and my project manager was fantastic. She was entirely dedicated to the work. Any help I needed I received. At the same time, I was allowed to get on with it.

Lasting Impressions

I am still unsure of my future career direction.
Daily Life
I started off doing a couple of hours of work at home a day, although as projects came towards an end this became a few hours a week.

Work Projects
I helped to set up a new sponsorship scheme. Helped to research and develop a new friends’ scheme. I also carried out research into potential corporate partners and sourced raffle prizes for a GRWE event.

Lasting Impressions
I really enjoyed the chance to experience working for a charity and in particular was surprised by how much I enjoyed the fundraising aspect. This is definitely something I want to pursue now.
Lukas Freund
Daily Life
In total there were about 25 participants, roughly half of them international students and the other half coming from HKU. We were accommodated all together in one hotel in the centre of Shanghai, in rooms in pairs. The location of the hotel implied a daily commuting time of around three hours, using the excellent metro and a bus. On the one hand this forced us to view the reality of commuting which many working people around the world face on a daily basis, but on the other hand it robbed us of valuable sightseeing time to discover Shanghai and the region. While our departure time in the morning was reasonable, around 8am, thanks to Lenovo’s friendly office hours (9.30am-6pm) we would return late in the evening. We usually had some breakfast on the way, had lunch in the company canteen and enjoyed dinner at around 8pm in one of the numerous street restaurants. As a consequence we sought to use the weekends for excursions in Shanghai and the closer neighbourhoods. For instance, we explored Hangzhou, staying in a hostel overnight, and Suzhou, where we visited the numerous gardens. The trips were a fantastic opportunity to discover hidden facets of China, in contrast with the modern city of Shanghai.

Work Projects
I was placed in the IT department which was unexpected as my IT skills were not great. Yet as we found out during the course of the first few weeks we were not meant to employ or develop our ‘professional’ skills, i.e. do work related to our university course. I was slightly disappointed that our designated tasks were limited to planning and executing a programme aimed at the improvement of employees’ English skills. We gave workshops on particular skill sets such as business email writing, offered general conversation practice, and I personally also had daily English sessions with IT department staff, focusing on ‘areas for improvement’ with regard to grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary. In addition, we were introduced to the various departments allowing us to gain an insight into the structure of a modern multinational company. Being more interested in HR work (and rather under-worked) I also took on some HR projects in addition to my other tasks.

Lasting Impressions
Visiting China had been a goal of mine for several years and I enjoyed the experience. The most lasting impression is probably that of the unbelievable number of people crowding almost each place of Shanghai, whether in the metro (the daily struggle to commute to work) or a beach near Shanghai. Even though many people I met were very friendly, the food was enjoyable and there was a lot to see, I cannot really imagine working here in the future. It is too crowded, too hot and too restless for me. It appears to me that China should not be compared to a European country, but rather to the European continent as a whole due to its size and diversity of cultures. This implies that to gain a greater understanding of China I would need to explore more of the country. I may return for a holiday in the future, for while I would not want to live here for long, the country itself certainly fascinates me.

(Cont...)
Rangarajan Ramesh  
**Daily Life**
My working hours were 9am to 5.30 pm. The commute from the hotel was about 1 hour normally. We had lunch between 12 and 1. There were many many restaurants around us and we were more often then not late! After work we would go find something to eat, maybe take a walk and explore a different part of the city and then head back to the hotel at around 10 or 11. Settling in was easy, we were given instructions on the office location and we were picked up on the first day from the metro station.

**Work Projects**
I was involved in the marketing of an executive coaching conference organised by my company Mindspan Development. I was also involved in gathering copyright for content to be published in the company website, and collating information for a database of potential clients. I also attended a meeting with Henkel with the purpose of selling them individual coaching plans.

**Lasting Impressions**
On my first day I remember thinking I could never work in Shanghai or China but as I neared the end of my program I don’t want to leave! I would definitely consider living in Shanghai! I found people on the whole to be polite and curious. I would say my time spent here has been some of the best days of my life!!

Amelia Bradley  
**Daily Life**
7.40am Get up - Luckily my roommate is an earlier riser so I can stumble out of bed and get ready pretty speedily. 8.15am Get the metro, and then a 10 minute walk to work. Even at this time its starting to get pretty hot. 8.40am Arrive at work. Spend a while checking emails and read up on the news from the day before. 9.30am Start on my work. This tends to be a piece of background research, either on an industry or a company, which goes into an internal report or becomes part of a pitch presentation. Google has become my new best friend! At 12noon we head off for an hours lunch break, meals are earlier here. Sometimes most of the office goes together or sometimes just the interns (there are 2 from China, and one other from the Live Learn and Intern in China programme). When its very hot (40 degrees celcius or more!) only us foreigners are crazy enough to go out for lunch! After lunch we get a 3pm coffee break/ chance to go outside when the air con gets a bit too cold. We tend to finish at 6.30pm, however If the main boss is in we can’t leave until he does which is usually around 8pm. This can make it slightly difficult to plan evening meals together as we never quite know when we are leaving. If I know in advance, sometimes a small group will meet for dinner, otherwise, I go to a vegetarian restaurant that I like, or I grab something on the way home. In the evenings we will sometimes spend a quiet night in watching films, but several times a week we will find a bar to relax at or a club to go dancing. For some reason in Shanghai, there’s nearly always somewhere that girls can get free drinks - much to the boys disgust! (Cont...)
It’s been a really great experience for making friends - everyone from HKU/US/UK seem to get along well and there is nearly always someone who wants to do the same thing as you. We also managed to organise some weekend trips, people went to Nanjing, Suzhou, Hangzhou and Beijing. To be honest, I think the friends I’ve made are what I am going to miss the most out of this experience.

**Work Projects**
I was involved in several projects during my time with E.J. McKay. I was usually working for a colleague doing the introductory research for a recent business opportunity. These included very differing industries such as leather chemicals, forestry in Latin America, flooring companies, football team and automotive harnesses. These projects tended to require the production of a background report on the industry, as well as creating a list of potential targets and a profile on each one. This was then either created into a presentation to be pitched at clients, or became a database of people to contact to gauge potential interest. Sometimes this was a Chinese company wanting to sell but the majority were Chinese companies wanting to acquire a European or US firm in order to expand their market reach. It was a really interesting insight into the process of how mergers and acquisitions come about and the work that is involved in achieving this. Often contracts fall through and so it seemed that just as much time was spent making contacts and discovering opportunities as doing “actual work” for clients.

**Lasting Impressions**
It has opened a new potential industry for me. My focus had always been on consulting, but it seems to me that there are many synergies with M&A and so I will be looking more at some of the opportunities that might be available. I really enjoyed my experience in Shanghai and I would definitely like to come back, maybe to work here for a period. I have always been interested in the opportunity to work abroad and I think this experience has taught me that this is definitely something I want to do – although maybe having a little more of the local language would help!

**Dona-Maria Gitana Sandu**

**Daily Life**
A normal day would start at 7 am and I would leave the hotel around 8 am to get on the busy (very busy!) train to work. The journey normally took an hour, so we would start work at 9 am and leave at 5.30 pm. All of us interning at Li & Fung mostly travelled together, although as we were getting more and more used to the train ride, we were not afraid of facing the crowds by ourselves. I normally had breakfast and lunch in the canteen and for dinner I met the other interns and tried out different restaurants. I managed to try many traditional dishes after overcoming my initial food anxiety and fell in love with green tea cakes, dumplings and xiaolongbaos. In the evenings we sometimes went out as there were so many events – almost every night is a Ladies’ night in Shanghai! I was happy to have been able to travel to places around Shanghai as well, on weekends. We went to Hangzhou where I was mesmerised by the beauty of West Lake while trying to teach one of my friends how to ride a bike. Suzhou, although slightly influenced by the very hot weather on that particular weekend (it was the highest temperature ever recorded in Shanghai!), was picturesque and I especially liked the rocky scenery of Tiger Hill. The highlight of visits out of town was our trip to Beijing, where we simply had to go see the Great Wall. I was pushed back in time when I was trying to think about the efforts people made to build this Wonder of the World and I was overwhelmed by the beauty of the place. I am very happy that this trip was made possible.

(Cont...)
as I do not know when or if I will be returning to China in the future.

**Work Projects**
I was fortunate to be assigned to work for Li & Fung, a Hong Kong head-quartered multinational group that is a leader in consumer goods design, sourcing and distribution. The company has three main business areas: trading, distribution and logistics. The Shanghai office, which hosts more than 2,000 people, is mainly focused on trading, and there are many other offices around China and around the world. Li & Fung provides services that cover an entire supply chain end-to-end, from product design and development, to raw material sourcing, production management and quality control for virtually any kind of goods, from soft goods (clothing) to hard goods (accessories, home decoration, outdoor, cosmetics, toys). As an example, Li & Fung sources furniture for McDonalds! During our first visit at Li & Fung I was surprised to observe such a laid-back, friendly environment in a corporation of this size and reputation.

The division I worked with, Li & Fung Beauty, deals with cosmetic products containers, from shower gel and shampoo bottles to lip-gloss tubes and eye-shadow palettes. More specific, I worked with the team that was sourcing for colour cosmetics, which implies anything related to make-up packaging. Their main customers are brands such as L’Oreal, Oriflame, Boots, Superdrug, Chanel, Estee Lauder and Dior. Although it was difficult to get involved in any of the ongoing projects, I got a sense of the strong Chinese work ethics during my time here. Some of the most important traits I noticed were the speed and dedication.

The well-being and development of each employee is treasured by the company. There are a number of facilities and activities that we were able to take advantage of, such as a canteen and a café, a staff centre and a gym. The company also runs trainings and campaigns for employee engagement and communication, the most significant one being CARE – connect, appreciate, respond, encourage. The sense of a community is very strong at Li & Fung and the feeling that came across was that of one big family.

Even though my work schedule was not as packed as I was hoping it would be, I had various sporadic tasks to fulfil during my time at Li & Fung. My main duty was to help one of my colleagues book shipments for the company’s orders. Other than that, I was asked to attend a few meetings with suppliers and I was also able to attend some telephone conferences with sales representatives from the UK. I went on a couple of visits to factories, where I could observe the process of making a container – be it a bottle made through extrusion or a plastic jar made by injection machines. I also attended one factory inspection and assisted at checking the samples. I was glad to help the engineering team and once performed a sample review,

(Cont...)

“I believe that this internship has helped me step out of my comfort zone and made me more aware of the beauty of the unknown”

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where I had to test different samples for appearance or functional defects and produce a report. Another duty was to prepare colour range boards or spreadsheets when a new product was being developed.

I have been following many of my team’s projects and have been asked to keep track of when certain samples were due to reach the company. I have learned how one sources for suppliers once a customer sends a request for a new product and how to finally present the samples to the customer. I have also attended a training session on multiple retail formats, the only one in English, where I have learned the differences between convenience stores, department stores, supermarkets, hypermarkets etc, as well as two very important issues related to customers, namely 1. Know your customer and 2. The customer is always right. LF Beauty is a very friendly group of people and I am delighted that my colleagues have tried to include me in their group. Every Friday, we had an hour we called “Happy Friday”, during which everyone got together and enjoyed snacks or played in darts competitions. I never won, but it was amusing nonetheless! I was happy that many colleagues have made the effort to speak to me and fill me in whenever there were long discussions in Mandarin and I wouldn’t understand the topic or the comments.

Lasting Impressions
Coming to intern in China was, I thought, one of the bravest challenges I had set for myself. I had never visited China before and the mere thought of its size and the complex language, of which I knew nothing about, was enough to make me shiver. When I first arrived in Shanghai, I was shocked by the crowds and the irregular, chaotic traffic, as well as the high contrast between rich and poor places. I felt claustrophobic during our long train rides to work, or frightened at specific scenes I saw happening on the streets, so I cannot say that I loved it. However, by the end of the programme the city grew on me and I feel that it is colourful, vibrant and that it has a life of its own. I am now used to cars or motorbikes speeding by on the crossing, or to people insisting on taking pictures with you or of you, although I could never quite grasp what the purpose of those pictures was.

I love and will miss the view of Huangpu River, especially at night when the city is liveliest. Shanghai has many things to offer, especially if one is a little adventurous. I feel so privileged that I have been selected to be an LLIC participant in a group with such a strong sense of togetherness. I might consider coming to work in China, although I feel that speaking the language is essential in the working environment. On a personal level, I believe that this internship has helped me step out of my comfort zone and has made me more aware of the beauty of the unknown.

Toby Morris
Daily Life
In relation to the city, Lenovo’s Shanghai Plant (SHP) lies in a free trade zone on the outskirts of the city.

This meant that a long commute on the busy metro line was required each morning and evening. Although this would take over two hours out of every day, it quickly became bearable and was not a real problem given I was travelling with friends. The working day was then from 9:30am to 6pm, with a 1 hour 30 minute lunch break. Whilst the plant was split into an office block and a factory block, it was the office block that the interns spent most, if not all, their time. In contrast to Lenovo’s geographical position in the city, Lenovo was clearly central to Shanghai as a corporate brand. Indeed, it was exciting to see Lenovo’s branding and products all over the city. Two weeks into my internship period, Lenovo even rose to become the world number 1 PC provider.

(Cont...)
In many ways Lenovo was an obvious choice for the LLIC program: a Chinese company that symbolises China’s, and Shanghai’s, economic rise. Despite originally being very sceptical about my placement, given I study environmental geography and have little knowledge of the PC market, Lenovo certainly gave me an excellent insight into the working culture of a Chinese company. Outside of work, I also had an excellent experience of Shanghai. As a modern city, transport was easy and affordable, making it easy to explore the different areas. The tube was cheap and clean and when it wasn’t running, taxis were also very cheap. Although I have never said it about anywhere else I have visited, I would argue that the evening and night life in Shanghai is even more exciting than the day life. Though there is excellent shopping and some nice sites during the day to visit such as temples and parks, I would say they do not necessarily stand out when compared to the sites of other cities, such as Hong Kong for example. On the other hand, the restaurants and bars were certainly the best I have ever been to anywhere that I have travelled. What was particularly pleasing was that the group of interns bonded really well, with really good integration between the different universities. Amongst the interns, a number of meals and evening outings were arranged, with all interns making the most of the opportunity to make new friends and learn about each others’ cultures. Again, thanks to the fact that Shanghai is a relatively cheap city with a great selection of bars and places to eat, these group activities were easy and affordable for all. The interns also enjoyed a number of weekend trips together, as Shanghai is well linked to a number of exciting attractions. The first trip, which almost all interns went on, was to Hangzhou and West Lake. Being only a 45 minute train journey away, this could even be done as a day trip. Another trip that most interns did was a weekend trip to Beijing, where we were able to see the Great Wall and the Forbidden Palace. Yet perhaps my most memorable trip was when a small group of interns went hiking in the mountains of Huangshan. After taking a coach there, we hiked to the summit to see a stunning sunset over an Avatar-like landscape. We then camped out on top and woke early to see the sun rise over the many granite peaks that stretch out as far as you can see. This was a truly beautiful landscape and an adventure I will never forget.

**Work Projects**

In terms of my direct participation in company activities, I was very fortunate. All interns were given a series of informative courses about Lenovo and its different departments to really get to know the factory and broader supply chain. Moreover, I was welcomed into the HR department very enthusiastically and was expected to present weekly work plans at the department meetings from my first Monday onwards. My main working role was alongside my mentor, who was organising the Lenovo staff training programs. I was trusted to complete real company work and my opinions were highly valued when decisions had to be made. Perhaps the project I spent most time on was in the design, promotion, and launch of the general training program for all staff. For this project, I was involved in the graphic design of a handbook and other promotional material. (Cont...)
I also designed a logo and branding to be used on all documents linked to the program. Once finalised, I presented the general training programme to all of the department managers and the plant leader in a managers meeting. For opportunities like this, I am very grateful to my mentor, who always ensured I was busy and doing productive work.

**Lasting Impressions**

LLIC really has been an incredible opportunity for me. I really feel like I have made the most of the social, cultural, and business-based opportunities that LLIC has been able to offer in such a unique way. Moreover, the program has certainly allowed me to develop personally. Not only have I learnt a lot from Lenovo and the other interns, but I have developed a new confidence to work abroad in the future. Having managed to live and work in a culture as different as China’s, and more importantly enjoy the experience, I really do feel confident to take any international opportunities in the future that come my way. So perhaps my final message to any future interns would just be to throw yourselves into all aspects of the LLIC programme and take advantages of all opportunities, because the 7 weeks really will fly by.
HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION  
Hong Kong, China  
Geetanjali Normandale, 2nd Year Finalist, BA Experimental Psychology, Wadham College

Daily Life
For the first two weeks the other intern and I lived at the Hong Kong Institute of Education, and I spent most of my free time in the gym and outdoor swimming pool. Whilst the students always complained about the canteen food, I really enjoyed it! This was also where we experienced our first typhoon, which was disappointingly anticlimactic. We became close friends with some mainland Chinese postgraduates who took us out for meals and to see the city. On weekends we visited the token tourist sites and some of Hong Kong’s outlying islands with friends from Oxford who live in Hong Kong. After two weeks we moved into a tiny hostel in the city centre, which was both much more exciting and much more expensive. Coming from London I found it surprisingly easy to settle in; the city felt fairly westernised, it was very safe and people were really friendly. We spent around eight hours a day in the office, and with the addition of the hour long commute and our jet lag, work days quickly became long. However by chance my fellow intern was interested in local politics, and we became immersed into the vibrant and active political landscape, joining an organisation and even taking part in some campaigning in our free time. In return, I arranged for us to meet with local charities and feminist organisations, and found it really rewarding to exchange ideas and form new connections.

Work Projects
I was first tasked with contacting potential partner companies in the UK for the Institute of Education’s own international internship programme. Since this was met with mixed success, I decided to follow up by creating a lecture series to help students find their own internships abroad. I was then given the opportunity to put my well-honed Oxford pedantry to good use through copy-editing students’ submissions for various university publications. I found reconstructing their work fiendishly satisfying but altogether fairly dry, and I much preferred marketing, planning and leading English classes for the new students from mainland China and Taiwan. This allowed me to engage personally with students, and discuss our experiences and interests (mainly Harry Potter). I also learned to be highly flexible with lesson plans, as on some days thirty students would turn up and ask me questions about political history, and on other days I would have three students who just wanted to sing the ABC. As I was also interested in academic theory regarding teaching I was allowed access to the library and attended several brilliant conferences and seminars on global education.

Lasting Impressions
I loved living in Hong Kong and becoming familiar with a new city. I think the experience you get from living in a place is vastly different from just visiting it, and I am really glad to have had the opportunity to encounter new ideas and meet many interesting people. I also think that a lot of news from the area just doesn’t reach the UK, so you have to be in a place having face-to-face conversations with people to learn about what’s happening. Overall I felt really welcomed in Hong Kong, and look forward to returning.
Daily Life
Life in Kigali was a really good experience. Everything starts a bit earlier – work starts at 8am, which means leaving for work at around 7:30ish depending on where you choose to stay and mode of transport. In my second month, I lived with a friend I met out there, which made it really easy to explore the city and meant evenings were never dull. My biggest recommendation would be to try to make some friends early and avoid the easy but less rewarding experience of hanging out with expats and not learning any Kinyarwanda or getting to go to so many weddings!

Work Projects
I found that the work I did was probably more useful for me than Hope and Homes, partly because there wasn't all that much work planned for me to do in advance of my arrival. I was told to write a project proposal for an aid agency, which was a great learning experience for me but was never taken further because firstly the proposal was for if they established a good relationship with the agency – which they never did (at least to my knowledge) during my two months – and second, I did not have enough guidance to know the funding priorities or produce a realistic budget – it didn't help that my boss was away for the majority of my first few weeks and was often busy when around. Later I helped to compile an introduction pack about HHC’s work in Rwanda, which allowed me to make a greater contribution to the organisation. But, I still found myself having to create useful jobs for myself rather than being given them, which meant that things I did which might have been of value (like write an article about deinstitutionalisation) went unused.

Lasting Impressions
Rwanda is a wonderful country. I made friendships, both in and out of work, which I shall definitely keep. HHC does really important work and provides a great model for other organisations. The internship gave me an invaluable insight into the complex, frustrating, and rewarding NGO world - a world that, in part thanks to my time in Rwanda, I now intend to spend my career in.

"The internship gave me an invaluable insight into the complex, frustrating, and rewarding NGO world."
Alexandru Grozavu  
Daily Life

I was picked up at the airport by one of the students from my lab (Material Sciences Division). He then took me to my room and helped me get all the utilities I needed (electricity and internet). He also showed me how to make my way around the campus. The lab is 4 minutes away from my room. I usually go to the lab at 9 am and leave at 5pm. From 11:00 to 13:30 we have a break (I usually used it for a quick nap). Apart from work, the people in the lab like to go and play different sports around the campus like basketball, badminton, pool, tennis. They always make sure I am invited. The apartment where I live is only for international students. All of them can speak English. I managed to get to know most of them. There are a couple of places outside the campus where we usually go out. The Chinese people in the lab are not that interested in going out, so having people that are willing go out where I live keeps me entertained.

Work Projects

Ge nano-composites applications in anode materials for high performance Lithium Ion batteries. The goal of the project is to find a way to make the Li Ion batteries more efficient. This approach is trying to replace the classical anode material graphite with some sandwiched Ge oxides. In this way a higher capacity can be achieved. There are a couple of reasons why this is not working on an industrial scale, and the reasons are being analysed by the research team. Support I received: I have been given literature about the project. They also explained how a generic battery works and what is the mechanism behind its functionality. I have been shown how to synthesise the nanocomposite. I have been shown how to assemble and test batteries in order to test their performance. I have been shown the structure of the nanocomposite on an electronic microscope. I spent most of the time with my supervisor in the lab trying to change the conditions of the reactions and see if we get better results. I think this is really good as I felt I was part of the project. In the end he let me make my own batteries from scratch.

Lasting Impressions

I really have to emphasize that Chinese people hospitality has surprised me. The city is very big and nice, especially during the night, but too hot. I am not sure about returning to leave in Wuhan again but I am definitely considering returning to China at some point in the future, maybe as a tourist or maybe to work here for a short period. This internship helped me make sure that a PhD is what I want. What convinced me is the passion that the PhD student around put in their work. Also seeing them working on something that is about to make a change made me realise how much I want to further my studies and do research in medicinal chemistry. To conclude, I am very glad I took this internship because it gave me the chance to work with amazing people, and to make up my mind about further studies, but also it gave me the chance to experience a completely different culture that I had no idea about. (Cont...)
Samuel Banner  
**Daily Life**

I took a few days to settle in, which was taken into account when organising the starting date of the internship. I felt ready once I’d found a good church, a pool and a decent bike to ride! It took a few days to adjust to having noodles, rather than cereal and milk, for breakfast, but they, hot-dry noodles (regan mian, a Wuhanese speciality), quickly became a favourite and staple dish! My supervisor recommended taking the afternoon ‘as holiday’ due to the heat and the fact that I was here during my holiday, so I generally worked 8:30/9 until lunch, though sometimes (when I couldn’t resist) I carried on in the afternoon or even the night - that was the fun of it being so laid back. Out of work I ran, cycled, swam, saw the sights, travelled, ate, generally just hung out with friends as well as planning my travels and keeping in touch with friends and family back at home. I socialised with my friend Yaoguang, who I got on very well with, the other Oxford students, Alex and Gemma, and my African/American friends from church. ‘Work’ was on the other side of the campus (admittedly the ‘largest’ in China), so a good 10-minute cycle (had to take it slow in order to make it to the lab without being SATURATED in sweat or 30-minute walk (there was a campus bus that went most of the way, but I rarely indulged myself).

The food at the various canteens/local noodle bar was a definite highlight!

**Work Projects**

Whilst I was away in China I was taught all about DSSCs (Dye-Sensitised Solar Cells), how they work, why there’s hope in their future, where the current research is at in the different components of the cell (dye, working-/counter- electrode, electrolyte). On a more practical level I was introduced to the lab and how to use the different bits of apparatus (that I hadn’t already used in Oxford) to carry out the procedures specific to synthesising a cell. I was taught how to put the cell together and then given the opportunity to investigate the effect of varying a property (PEDOT Counter electrode thickness) on the overall performance of a bifacial solar cell – one that absorbs light from both sides – ideal for use as a window.

**Lasting Impressions**

Lasting impressions: China is a fascinating country, seemingly much better in the flesh than the Western media portrays. Its people are generally very friendly/happy to help but there are huge, complex, interesting problems, notably a massive wealth and generation gap. I don’t think I would want to live/work here long term. It has helped me to understand what it’s like to spend years doing research, from my taste and from getting to know others who are doing just that – it’s too early to say how it has effected my goals/ambitions, I’m still not sure whether I want to go into research or not, but it has taught me that you have to be REALLY enthusiastic to enjoy/find satisfaction in research due to it being hard and sometimes tedious work, with many failures and dead ends before the sought-after breakthrough (or small success at least!) is reached.
Daily Life
Get up at 6am and prepare for school. School assembly at 7.15am with flag raising, national anthem and pledge. Lessons in the morning or planning and administrative tasks, Lunch at 1.30, Afternoon devoted to Co-Curricular Activities (limited subject lessons until 4pm).

Work Projects
Project Work judging semi finals and finals – standardisation meetings
Reading and Reasoning programme.
Sabbatical week project Assessing strengths and weaknesses of curriculum from Sec 1 to Sec 4 (Years 8 – 11).

Lasting Impressions
I had already visited Singapore and I will be returning there to work full time at the school I interned at.
**Daily Life**

I started my day about 9 am and worked until about 5 pm. These hours were rather flexible but I was expected to work 8 hours including one hour for lunch. Sometimes I didn’t take my lunch break and came in to work at 9:30, which was still OK as long as I performed to my fullest during the time I was at the office. I settled in easily, despite the first project being very overwhelmingly because it wasn’t properly defined, even in my supervisor’s mind – that was my role to clarify the direction it was going to take. Apart from the initial jet lag and adjusting to the Canberra cold (I went from European summer to Australian winter.....) I settled in with ease as everyone was there to help me if I needed it. Since I was living on campus, in a residential hall, I quickly made friends with all the students there. Since everyone was so welcoming, it wasn’t difficult to find people to spend time with outside of work. At work, I met an older student too who also went out of her way to pull me into her friendship group and I am eternally grateful to her for that (if you’re reading this Natalia – you are the best person ever and I miss you!)

**Work Projects**

My primary project involved working on the format of a guidebook for universities about how they can make their campuses more sustainable. I was supervised by the Associate Director of the Division as he also oversees the Sustainability Office and is a member of the Steering Group for this project. I met with him once a week to monitor by largely self-guided progress. After the bulk of this was done, after about 4 weeks, I started on devising a campaign strategy and implementing it to promote the newly installed filtered water fountains around campus and to promote drinking tap water in general. This was largely self-guided as well but I found support in all members of the Sustainability Office if I had any questions about how to go about it. Due to the great deal of personal direction in these assigned projects I felt like a core team member with my own job to do and take responsibility for.

**Lasting Impressions**

It really was not difficult to fall in love with Australia and the people here. It also really wasn’t difficult to decide that maybe one day I would like to live and work here. Except for maybe Canberra during the winter, the climate and environment is ideal - I fell in love with Sydney especially and the Australian wilderness. The only downside is how far away Australia is from where I live and study. The internship itself gave me invaluable insight into corporate sustainability and how to manage sustainability from an office setting. This fit very well with what I would like to do in the future as a career – have an impact on environmental policy to affect people’s behaviour patterns instead of fixing what they have ruined with their faulty behaviour. The only thing that made me think twice is how complicated and difficult to implement these changes are. But that I suppose is the cost we bear for harming our environment in the first place.
Jonathan Ranstrand

Daily Life
I settled in fairly quickly - the research campus provides accommodation and food and I soon met my supervisor who showed me around a little bit. Aside from eating in the canteen, occasionally with local employees, I have spent some of my time outside work going to the local town (a few kilometres from here) or into Delhi. There is also a gym which, while very basic, has been a welcome addition to the daily routine. The working hours have been fairly relaxed (9:15-5, with an hour for lunch) and have also been flexible. For example, last weekend, I travelled further afield and was able to work longer earlier in the week so that I could end at lunch on Friday.

Work Projects
I am working on a review of developments and challenges in the design of micro-channel reactors, specifically for hydrogen production and for the removal of impurities in fuels. Indian Oil have provided access to some journals/books in their research library, and access to scientists working in related fields as well.

Lasting Impressions
I have enjoyed my internship and have learned a great deal about the planning and writing of a scientific report (IOCL have suggested submitting it to an academic journal once completed). More broadly, working here has been an interesting experience and allowed me to get to know India. I have enjoyed seeing the country (including some incredible sites - palaces, monuments, tombs and the like), speaking with local people and trying the local food. I am greatly enjoying spending time here, though it is quite exhausting: the heat (38-40C), humidity, manic traffic, honking cars, frequent flooding, people and animals everywhere do wear you down and the research campus (which is isolated from the chaos outside by barbed wire and armed guards) has been a welcome ‘haven’ to return to on several occasions. I am enjoying my time here but I’m not sure I would want to live in India in the future. However, after this experience I am fairly convinced that I would enjoy an engineering career, as I had previously imagined.

Elliot Smith

Daily Life
Indian Oil provided accommodation at the scholars’ hostel within the R&D campus. It has recently been built so was clean and had everything you could need to live in relative comfort. It was just across the road from the canteen and only a 5 minute walk to my office. Work tended to start between 9 and 9:30am and (Cont...)
After work we usually made use of the small gym at the hostel, went to the local market or chatted to the other interns staying at the hostel. There is not much to do in Faridabad itself but at weekends we could explore Delhi, lounge by a hotel pool or travel to one of the many fascinating cities in Northern India.

**Work Projects**
My project involved doing a critical analysis of the world cellulosic ethanol industry. It began as a research type project as I read various literature articles and was brought up to speed on the current technology used in this industry. The main part of my project was researching commercial cellulosic ethanol projects around the world by looking at company websites, news articles and doing patent searches so I could get as much information about each project as possible. I then had to give my analysis about how each project was performing, whether it had hit its targets and if it would be successful in the future. Then by bringing all this information together I analysed what could be learnt from these projects and how this could be applied to the scenario in India.

**Lasting Impressions**
I had a great time in India. Although the chaos and the culture leaves you disorientated to begin with you quickly learn to adapt to the way of life. Once you become used to the humidity, food, ‘queuing’ and avoiding being overcharged by auto rickshaws you get a real feel for the country and understand what it is that makes India so special. I learnt a great deal by having to adapt to this environment and it will definitely leave a lasting impression on me.
INFOSYS
Bangalore, India
Niloy Biwas, 1st Year, MMath Mathematics, St John’s College

Daily Life
Typical day: 9am: Arrive at the office. Journey time - less than 5 minutes as all interns are housed in the campus (very good accommodation). Midday: Go for lunch. There are many places within campus to go for food. Usually all the interns meet at a decided location for lunch. 5pm: Finish work. The hours can be flexible providing the work is being done, so sometimes it is possible to start late/ early, or work slightly less.

Work Projects
My eight week project involved analysing the US labour market: identifying any trends related to the human capital within organisations and potentials methods of response.

Lasting Impressions
(At the time of writing I am yet to finish the internship so lasting impressions not quite applicable!) India is a great country to live/ work in. There is great disparity within the population, but the quality of life (as least from my experiences here) seemed to be very good for the vast majority. I would consider working there at some point, dependent on the role.
Edoardo Borgomeo  
**Daily Life**

I worked from 9 to 5. I went to work with a colleague who came to pick me up every morning. Then I often did some kind of sport in the afternoon. Indoor football with my housemates or running. At night I often went out with my housemates. When I went to the field I spent more time working (7 to 7). The experience in the field was probably the most valuable because it allowed me to see first hand what it’s like to manage a coffee farm sustainably.

**Work Projects**

I was involved in a project looking at biodiversity conservation in coffee farms. I visited coffee farms; spoke to coffee producers and workers. Then I organized the information collected in the field to understand how agricultural management can contribute to biodiversity conservation.

**Lasting Impressions**

It definitely left me with the desire to come back for a longer period of time. The internship strengthened my interests in environmental issues. This experience confirms the stereotype that Brazilian people are friendly and open. I really don’t want to go back to Oxford now! Another good thing from this internship is the relationship I have established between Imaflora and the Environmental Change Institute in Oxford.

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Eleanor Rowbottom  
**Daily Life**

My daily routine involved waking at around 7.30am to catch the bus at around 8.30am or get a lift with a colleague. Every morning I would work on the projects ‘clippings’ and add events to the Observatory's calendar. For lunch I would usually spend an hour and go with colleagues to a local barbeque and buffet style restaurant. Lunch is the biggest meal of the day in Brazil and so is taken quite seriously! I would then use the afternoon to research and write articles for the Observatory, or finish any clipping that had been left from the morning if it was a particularly news heavy day. Every day at 4pm there was a break of about 20 minutes with (free!) food and a chance to catch up with colleagues and have a cup of coffee, as well as celebrate birthdays and any significant launches or achievements within Imaflora. I then returned home by bus or with a colleague at about 5.30pm. No day was typical in Imaflora as the organisation is always looking towards the future and seeing how it can improve. During my time there I took part in many strategy days and meetings where the organisation planned the next three years of its work. I also often had to visit the local council to carry out errands and visited a local school to teach the children how to get involved in politics. In the evenings I would go out with my housemates or meet up with friends or colleagues to go to bars, the local cultural club or the shopping centre. Some evenings I would go with colleagues to city meetings to observe public participation in politics in the city. I used the weekends to either meet up with friends in the city or travel around the south of Brazil. Travel inside Brazil is not that cheap but I managed to go to São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, the countryside inland and the beautiful coast and beaches between Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. Some weekends I also had to attend project planning meetings and participate in the local government conferences to distribute surveys to help the Observatory’s work. Weekends spent in Piracicaba were a lot of fun as the city has lots of food outlets, a beautiful river to walk along and at (Cont...)
night the bars and streets are full of people going out and having fun.

**Work Projects**

My project was based in the political part of Imaflora called the ‘Observatório Cidadão de Piracicaba’ (Piracicaba’s Citizen’s Observatory). This was a body that worked with other organisations in the city of Piracicaba to monitor the local government, promote public participation in politics and publish political data. My role in this project was to carry out the day-to-day tasks for the Observatory as well as researching and writing articles about different political systems to help the Observatory’s work in Piracicaba. Every day I would have to work on the project’s ‘clippings’. This involved reading the local news websites and the three local newspapers to find articles that interested the Observatory and then entering them into a database. This was a really fun job as it meant my Portuguese was being constantly tested and I was always up-to-date with the local news and events in the city. The political situation in Brazil at the time of my internship was particularly exciting as more and more people were taking to the streets to communicate their grievances to the different levels of government. My job was to document this and to also monitor how the local government responded to the citizens. Other big themes in Brazil at the time of my internship was the issue of transparency and corruption in politics, as well as increasing public participation through more formal routes such as public audiences, conferences and committees. I was in charge of a ‘Citizen’s calendar’ part of the Observatory’s website where I would post the details of upcoming events and meetings in which the citizens could get involved and have a say in the politics of the city. As well as these routine jobs I also researched and wrote articles for the Observatory which I presented to Imaflora at the end of my internship. These articles were about how other political systems tackle corruption and public participation. Corruption and lack of transparency are rife in the Brazilian political system so the Observatory was keen to see how other countries, particularly the United Kingdom, tackled these problems to give them an idea of how to solve corruption and participation problems in Piracicaba.

**Lasting Impressions**

As I am studying Portuguese at Oxford, I already had a certain amount of knowledge about Brazil before the internship despite never having been there before. However, nothing can prepare you for the sheer size, astounding natural beauty and friendly people of Brazil. I was located in the state of São Paulo which is known for being one of the most developed areas with the greatest European immigration and influence. This meant that there was a fairly solid infrastructure of roads and urban development in place alongside many festivals and events celebrating the ancestry of the population, such as an Italian polenta festival and a Dutch flower festival. I would definitely return to this area of Brazil as there is still so much more to see and I have made some great friends. It took me a while to get used to the vastness of Brazil as places that looked to be close by on map actually took a whole day to travel to. I would say to anyone interested in doing an internship in Brazil that it is essential to have at least some knowledge of Portuguese before arriving alongside a willingness to improve their language skills in the country. Although professionals may have some knowledge of English, outside of work Portuguese is essential for getting around and making friends. This internship has confirmed that I would like to return to work in Brazil in the future, and has also made me much more politically aware as well as sensitive to the other work of the NGO in agricultural certification and working with indigenous communities in Brazil.
Ana-Paola de Sousa
Daily Life
My hours were flexible, however our access cards only allowed us in from 7am-7pm. You had to apply for extended out-of-hours work, for instance if your experiment would need to run until 9pm, or if you had to check something over the weekend. I usually arrived between 9:30-10 am and stayed until 5-7pm depending on how much work I have to do. My accommodation was about 10 minutes walk away from the IFR, but if I hadn’t managed to get this accommodation, I probably would have done what many others do, which is cycle or take the bus to work. The bus to town only takes 20 minutes too, so going food shopping, among other things was relatively simple.

Usually I would arrive, check my emails and then my lab book, to see what I have organised that day. Some days would involve me working by myself to analyse lots of spectra, whereas other days would involve me working with others to prepare and grow the bacteria or carry out imaging on products etc. Each day was very different, so you had to keep on top of it, but it meant that you never fell into a monotonous routine. Every two weeks my department group (about 8 people) had a progress meeting where we would all catch up on each others projects and show everyone our results so far. Another girl from UEA was also assigned to my department and was carrying out a different but related project, so we saw each other a lot and became good friends. Many of the students (PhD, Masters, undergrads, international) all hang out and socialise together, and they were very welcoming and open, inviting me join them at lunch and hang out from the very first day. The Institute is not a large place, so you might as well get stuck in and get to know the people you pass in the hall every day! Outside of work, there were several get-togethers, sometimes in Norwich centre, sometimes on the university campus or in other parts of the Research Park. They were all very relaxed and so if you felt like it you could just turn up and join in. Lunch is a big part of the day as it is the one point where everybody turns up to chat and catch-up, outside or in the cafeteria (weather-dependent).

Work Projects
For my project I was involved with 2 departments at IFR, the Gut and Food Safety and the Metabolomics units. As part of my project I was growing up bacteria on different sugars and then analysing the products using NMR. As training I went to talks on Chemical Safety, Biological Safety, Transponder training and Quality Assurance and was trained on how to use different pieces of equipment related to my experiment. IFR also runs lectures, talks and seminars by visiting researchers which, as a member of the Institute, you have to opportunity to go to, which is a great experience.

(Cont...)
Lasting Impressions

I have had a great time at the IFR and it has given me much more of an insight into research as a career, so now I will have to thoroughly consider whether or not it is for me. I enjoyed being there and the social and work environment the Institute provided, however, I’m not sure whether the specific research done here is what I would like to continue with.

It is definitely something I am willing to consider, more so than before I started my internship. I’ve never been to Norwich before, so it was nice to experience a new city and get to explore a bit. I would definitely suggest this internship to others, particularly if studying Biochemistry, Biology or Chemistry, as everyone gets to apply some of their subject whilst also getting to learn about completely different areas of science too.

Chloe McCallum

Daily Life

I had a very easy route to work which took about 15 minutes to cycle. I generally worked from 9am-5pm, although the flexible working hours system meant that I could alter this if I wished and make up the hours another time. I spent most of the time in the lab, either preparing samples or testing my samples. This is a repetitive task as replicates of each sample are required in order to determine the reproducibility of the measurements. The rest of the time I spent in the office with the team, looking at data obtained or doing research on topics I was unfamiliar with. I settled into this routine quickly and made friends with other students also doing summer placements. I didn’t spend much time out of work with work contacts - apart from one work social which was good fun. I socialised with my new housemates and spent time with family who happened to live close by in Norwich.

Work Projects

I cannot disclose details about the content of my project due to confidentiality agreements. I was taught how to use two techniques to analyse the structures of compounds (infrared and NMR), and how to interpret the data obtained. I gained an understanding of the limitations of these methods, for example, for use in quantitation. Whilst I was part of a bioinformatics group without much recent wet-lab experience, I was able to ask other colleagues with greater lab experience for help, for example the protocol for sample preparation. I was also able to see my results after the chemometrics analysis carried out by colleagues in the bioinformatics group.

Lasting Impressions

The Norwich research park is a very active area for research, and is closely linked with the hospital, so it felt like there was a community of people with common interests. Norwich itself is a nice place, although I am not sure I would want to live or work there - it seems that once people do they never leave! The internship has given me lots to think about in terms of whether a career in research is right for me, and I am looking into other careers in which I can stay connected with science without doing research itself, in order to have a broader work experience.
Daily Life
I normally worked from about 9am to 6:30 or 7pm. Both to and from work I took the public bus for .80 centimos (about 10p!). Nothing beats cheap Peruvian prices! Assignments were completed mostly within the office, though occasionally there were some outside errands or tasks. The other staff were super friendly and relaxed. We would normally have lunch together in the Institute’s cafeteria. What’s more, the staff were really keen on interns getting the most out of our experience. This included urging us to travel within Peru and offering us the flexibility to take a day off on Friday or Monday to make travel plans easier.

Work Projects
The CEN of ISUR has many ongoing projects that seem to change every week - if not every day. The most stable, fixed, and forward-looking of them is the “incubadora móvil.” This project involved building a mobile incubator/accelerator for rural entrepreneurs who were, quite simply, too far away to come to our Arequipa offices for consulting advice. Several other projects included assisting the CEN in completion of their goals and assessment (since it has only existed for a little over 5 years), and setting out new goals for the short, medium, and long term. Lastly, one of the main projects was to assess and incubate business plans submitted by students of ISUR as well as local entrepreneurs, in order to prepare them for their presentation in front of a CEN board, which determined whether the CEN would give them “capital semilla,” or seed capital.

Lasting Impressions
The ISUR internship has confirmed my desire to seek a career within microfinance and economic development, specifically within Latin America. Peru has an incredibly dynamic micro-finance sector; indeed, rated one of the best - if not the best (by some surveys), in the world. In addition to the exciting work environment (wherein things can change at the drop of a dime), Peru is a traveller’s paradise with many great cities and cultural treasures accessible from Arequipa.

Daniel Timms

Daily Life
On an average day I would get up around 7, and catch a bus (an experience in itself!) at half 8 to work. From 9 I would work through to 5, stopping for an hour to have lunch with my good friends who worked in other parts of the Institute. Work tasks might involve meetings with entrepreneurs to discuss their progress, reviewing and amending business plans, travelling to the art workshop, creating articles for the centre’s facebook page, and so on. After work, I would either head to cookery classes, to church, or just home to spend time with the family, eating and watching some quality Peruvian television!

Work Projects
One week I went with Jorge to Orcopampa, a small town high up in the Andes, where we worked with an association of women who were producing clothes made from Alpaca wool. (Cont...)
During this time we performed a review of the organisation, conducted an inventory, and designed a simple excel spreadsheet for managing their finances and tracking their inputs. I also was entasked with overseeing a new business start-up, an art workshop for families. This involved regularly visiting to help them and assess their progress. Furthermore, I produced various documents for the Institute, for example a set of forms for the Mobile Business Incubator (which will travel around the region of Arequipa, helping businesses to develop) and an analysis of the problems the business centre faces.

Lasting Impressions
I will certainly warmly remember my time in Arequipa; the city itself was beautiful, and the people were very friendly and warm. I’d definitely be keen to visit there again, or just anywhere in Latin America, as I really do enjoy the culture, language and pace of life that exist there. So I certainly wouldn’t rule out working there in the future! It is also true that the experience did make me think more about starting up my own business, something which has no real precedent in my family. It has to be said that I had no fixed career goals beforehand, although I had mused on the idea of working in a Spanish speaking country, and this experience certainly confirmed that I would be able to (and would enjoy) doing so.

The experience did make me think more about starting up my own business, something which has no real precedent in my family.”
Cornelia Roibu

Daily Life

Monday to Friday 9am to 6-7pm I would be in the lab. I started by helping out and following a few people around to understand what their research was about and what techniques they used. I then launched into my project which I got stuck on several occasions because of a contamination issue I kept having. I did receive help from the lab and currently still sorting this out. Out of work I would spend time with the rest of the interns (5 of us) and we would decide on what to do together. Weekends were great, so full of activities I haven't had a weekend yet in which I stayed indoors.

Work Projects

I was involved with a small part of a project carried by a post-doc in the lab and my task was to analyse tissues from zebrafish mutant in an enzyme called telomerase and compare this with zebrafish which had cancer from an early age (cancer model). I was doing PCR followed by sequencing to detect the sequence of telomerase in the mutant fish, cloning and probe synthesis for in situ hybridisations and in situs to detect the presence and features of telomerase in both mutant fish and the cancer model. I felt very welcomed, the lab group was very friendly, my supervisor was very kind and supportive meeting me at least once a week for a tutorial-type interrogation and the director of the institute was very kind to meet with the interns and make us feel at home.

Yajing Xu

Daily Life

Normally, I arrived around 9:30am at the institute, then I stick with the lab technician to see how she works with mice and does genotyping. I am taught how to do it, and then do it by myself with her supervising me. Later on, when I got my own mini project and she was on holidays, I had to ask different people to help me with my work depending on who had time for me. With time comes practice, and I got more independent in the end. At noon, I go to the canteen to eat lunch together with the people from my lab. In the afternoons, when there was free time I would try to find some people doing bench work in the lab to observe how they do the experiments, and also get them to explain their projects to me. Around 6-7pm I finish my day and go back to the residence where we cook together with the other interns from Oxford or people in the residence and have dinner. On weekends I travel to Lisbon, and the cities around Lisbon. Sometimes I go alone, sometimes with people from my lab, but most of the times together with other interns from Oxford and people I met at the residence.

Work Projects

Because I am a first year student, and this was my first time in a lab, I didn't have a project at first and only learned techniques of how to handle mice, e.g. how to give them injections or to take blood, and how to do genotyping. I followed around different people in the lab and watched them doing experiments instead.

(Cont...)
In the last two weeks I got a mini project to investigate whether some of the mice are properly deleted for the Bvr-gene by taking peritoneal and bone marrow derived macrophages, extracting their RNA and proteins and using them for qPCR and Western blot to see the level of Bvr-expression. For the mini project I had people helping me by giving me the protocols of how to do Western Blot and qPCR, but unfortunately it was at a time where most people of the lab went on holiday, and the rest was busy, so it was a bit disorganised at times.

**Lasting Impressions**
What I will always associate Portugal with, is blue sea, dazzling sunshine, and the smiling, friendly and tanned faces of the Portuguese people. As well as the distinguished tiles on the houses and the narrow streets. Throughout my stay I realised how warm hearted and helpful Portuguese people are (and most of them speak English!). I would definitively return to visit my friends and for the unforgettable view of the seaside. This internship has firmed my decision to work in science and do research. It will be of great help in the future and with the coming lab work for my degree programme.

**Claire Bromley**  
**Daily Life**
When I first arrived in Portugal, I found it disorientating to have people around me speaking in languages I didn’t understand, however I soon settled in. One of the advantages of working in a scientific institute was that everyone speaks English - as it is the language science is communicated in - which made it easier to adjust to the new surroundings. The IGC sorted out accommodation in a residence that was a 5 minute walk away from the institute, which made it easy to get to the lab. Also, the residence was near the train station, making it easy to explore Lisbon or go to the beach on the weekends. Whilst I was in Lisbon, I tended to spend the weekends and some evenings exploring the area with other interns, whilst during work hours I had lunch breaks with members of the lab.

**Work Projects**
I was working in the Actin Dynamics lab group within the IGC, under the supervision of the PI and a technician. My project focused on investigating the role of F-actin capping protein in Drosophila. F-actin capping protein has recently been suggested to have prognostic value in gastric cancer, therefore this work has important implications for the cancer field. The new techniques I learnt during the project will be very beneficial to further study, as I plan to do a PhD.

**Lasting Impressions**
Lisbon was a really exciting city to live in- there always seemed to be a festival going on somewhere and there was plenty to do close by on the weekends. During my six weeks there I definitely didn’t run out of places to explore! I felt that everyone was really welcoming both within and outside of the institute, so I would certainly consider going back to work there. Before starting the internship, I already had planned to do a PhD but the placement confirmed my desire to pursue a research career.

**Pablo Baezo Centurion**  
**Daily Life**
We stayed at the Agronomic Station residence, a 5 minute walk from the lab. Lab work usually started at 10, with lab members arriving a bit earlier to have a coffee at the institute’s cafeteria. People would usually work until 6 or 7 and then leave (the lab members would have lunch sometime between 12 and 2, depending on the particular experiment they were doing) and there would always be someone (Cont…)
waiting to have lunch with you if you were the last one to finish an experiment before lunch. The IGC is only 25 minutes away from central Lisbon, so I often went to Lisbon after work, to explore new neighbourhoods or to visit a restaurant someone had recommended to me. This city offers a lot if you meet local people (which I did thanks to the internship programme) and the stipend was generous enough to allow me to enjoy the city without worrying about paying the rent. I mostly socialised with other Oxford interns but I had a great social experience with people from my lab and from the other interns’ labs.

**Work Projects**

Although I could have chosen to stay with just one research group during my time in Portugal, I chose to visit two separate groups at the IGC. Because I am still not entirely certain of what area within Biochemistry I would like to focus on once I graduate, I figured this would be a great opportunity to learn more about two very different aspects of biochemistry.

I spent the first four weeks with Dr. Colin Adrain, who is carrying out research on membrane trafficking inside the cell. I found his work particularly interesting because it could potentially lead us to a better understanding of the processes ending up in cancer or even autoimmune diseases. During my time with him I learnt a lot about the genetic and molecular biology tools used nowadays to study the signalling pathways inside the cell. One of the biochemical techniques I used the most is PCR. This lets us make millions of copies of a single DNA strand, effectively cloning it, which allows us to carry out experiments with DNA much more easily (it is much more straight-forward to use a test tube with many DNA strands than one containing just a few). It was very exciting to start a PCR reaction all by myself for the very first time, as this is a technique I have studied countless times since secondary school but which I had never actually had the chance to use. I was also taught how to culture mammalian cells (including human cells) and carried out several experiments with them. For example, I checked how the cells responded to a range of different stimuli and stress situations. However, what I enjoyed the most was transforming human cells with foreign DNA in order to manipulate their patterns of genetic expression. Who would have thought a few years ago that I, of all people, would be doing all those things you only ever read about in biochemistry textbooks or in science fiction novels? I spent the last four weeks with Dr. Ivo Telley. His research focuses on the physical forces underlying the mechanisms of nuclear division in the cells of fruit flies. Under his supervision, I learnt a lot about fly husbandry (there is quite some technique involved in getting your flies to mate with the partners you want them to!) and carried out many egg-laying assays. This involves collecting the eggs from those flies which have already mated and then analysing them in a number of different ways. I looked at the embryos inside the fly eggs under fluorescent microscopes (including some of the latest confocal microscopes and deconvolution microscopes commercially available) and, with the help of fluorescent tags, monitored the cell division events taking place in the mitotic spindle. Because Dr. Telley showed me how to use a special programme designed to manipulate images obtained from microscopes, I managed to produce short videos of the cell divisions taking place inside the fly eggs. This was great as it provided an easy way to share what I was doing in the lab with my family and friends back home, many of whom do not know that much about cellular biology.

**Lasting Impressions**

It was great to be able to do high-quality research in a country that is often on the news for reasons such as high unemployment or an economic recession. During the 8 weeks that I stayed in Portugal, I was offered a very rewarding “job” alongside a very high quality of life (good working hours, good food, nice and relaxed people... which does not mean they aren’t hard working!). I would not go straight back as I still want to visit other countries, but I would definitely consider returning to Portugal at some point in my life. Although I am still not sure what parts of biochemistry interest me the most, I have learnt how much fun lab work can actually be, despite many things not working out as you would expect them to. I am now certain that I want to pursue a PhD programme in the future (which is something I was not convinced of at the beginning of the summer).
Daniel Scott
Daily Life
The project I did was fairly work-focused. I was at my computer from approx 9:45-5:30, 5 days per week. Despite this focus on work, I was given plenty of opportunities to participate in organisation meetings, to talk to members of the organisation and to learn about what the organisation did. There was not a fantastic social scene in the organisation but we did have a group lunch one day and I did organise a catch-up at one point during the internship.

Work Projects
I was working on developing an assessment of the benefit, confidence and published outputs of the organisation’s AuthorAID programme from the period 2008–2012. This assessment was essential to the future measurement of added value for the next programme period (2013–2017) and provided an opportunity to do something of real help to the organisation.

Lasting Impressions
This internship has given me an invaluable insight into, and experience in, the industry that I would like to move in to after my D.Phil. Given the difficulty of entering this industry, this opportunity was particularly valuable as an opportunity to grab a foothold.

Iona Twaddell
Daily Life
Because of a lack of office space, I was mainly working from home, going into the office once a week. I live about an hour’s drive from Oxford, so I just drove into Oxford the days I was in the office. When I was working from home, I could skype or email my supervisor and I gave myself a working day schedule. In the office, everyone was lovely and made me feel very welcome. My supervisor organised meetings for me with different people in the office to get an idea of what INASP does overall. We also went for lunch on the last day that I was in the office. My general working day was 9.30 to 5, but it was flexible.

Work Projects
I wrote a 20 page report about INASP’s open access resources. INASP display a list of useful websites that are free for researchers to use, and they are a key advocate of open access scientific research. My report consisted of several sections. The first section detailed why open access is important and why it is especially important for INASP (supporting science in developing countries), and why they should display their own list. The second section was about the visual aspect of INASP’s open access resources and different options about how they could be displayed. It involved analysing different options for user friendliness and cost, informed by how other institutions display their resources. They are redeveloping their website so my (Cont...)
recommendations will actually be used. The final part of the report involved analysing how other institutions displayed open access resources. This started with universities in partner countries (all the universities I evaluated initially were in Africa).

By comparing these websites I came up with a list of recommendations for the best way to display electronic resources. I turned this into a best practice document that INASP can use at workshops to show partner institutions how to display electronic resources. I also evaluated how UK institutions displayed any open access resources, which was very different because they have library catalogues so displaying resources on their website isn’t as essential. The work from the report fed into a blog post I wrote with another member of staff, and I also gave a presentation detailing my findings to the key people involved. My supervisor was very useful in helping me write the report. I could email her queries at every stage, and she provided me most of the websites I should be looking at. She also gave me an outline of the report before I started writing it so I would know what to include to make it useful to them.

**Lasting Impressions**

The internship made me a lot more interested in development, especially from a scientific background. It reassured me that I am passionate about science and about science reaching as many people as possible. Therefore, it made me happy that my current plan is to go into science communication (particularly science writing), and maybe made me think about focusing on development slightly more. In terms of the place - it made me realise that Oxford is a working city, not just a university!
Daily Life
A typical work day is arriving at 9-9.30 and staying until 5.30-6.30. Generally you get an hour lunch. In the summer there are a lot of interns and it is quite easy to meet people. In terms of social life, there are always people to go out with if you are keen! The age group at IOM is quite young (20 – 40), and there is a large welcoming group who tend to hang out together, especially the permanent staff there.

Work Projects
I worked on three main projects during my internship. First, I was in charge of preparing the bi-annual newsletter. This involved soliciting input from IOM field offices, editing content and then designing the newsletter using InDesign. This was a project I completed start to finish. I also worked on a project that involved reading project documents, distilling outputs, and then categorizing project outputs using an excel database. Finally, I was exposed to the review process that goes into approving and overseeing project proposals and final reports.

Lasting Impressions
Working at IOM gave me an excellent insight into the world of IOs, international politics, development and migration policy making. It has confirmed that this field is both exciting and fast paced, but also demanding, especially in terms of life style. Geneva is a city that can feel very transient, much like the international development industry. The internship exposed me to many new ideas and challenges, and it has definitely left me with more questions than less.
Daily Life
I worked from 8am - 4pm each weekday and was completely free in the evenings to hang out with the other teachers who lived on Campus, play sports, swim, use the facilities. I lived in the campus (above the reception) and didn’t leave the campus during the week, except with other teachers to visit the malls or explore the village. The school is about an hour away from the city of Bangalore so I could only travel there during the weekends.

“it has confirmed my passion for teaching and given me an amazing foundation for a successful career”

Work Projects
I was able to observe and teach Maths lessons to students aged from 10 to 18. I was also involved in Oxbridge Applications and helped with mock Interviews.

Lasting Impressions
This was a life changing experience and I have made some long term friends from all over the world. The school is an amazing place and a wonderful place to teach in. It has confirmed my passion for teaching and given me an amazing foundation for a successful career in teaching. The country was wonderful and I love the Indian culture. I found it difficult at times being a white woman and I was unable to travel anywhere without another male, however I travelled with the other interns (Gap Year Students) and some of the teachers, which removed some of this initial worry. I would happily have stayed in the school for longer and will highly considered going back to India to work there for a few years after graduation.
Daily Life
My working hours were 9-5.30. As I was commuting from outside London, I normally took a 0718 train. This meant that I would get to the office a little early (8.30) but I therefore had time to settle in, grab a drink, and make sure I was ready to work efficiently at 9. The Head Office of the charity is small, and accordingly I had little desk space and used a laptop for the duration of my internship, but I do not feel this strongly compromised my ability to work effectively. I was given a good introduction to each role in the office, and could ask any questions I had at any time. I was given my own email account. Although the constraints of commuting made it difficult to socialise after work, I developed friendships with my closest colleagues during lunch hours. I was also able to leave Head Office and see the charity deliver its programme in centres across London.

Work Projects
I worked primarily in development and communications. In terms of development, I submitted applications to trusts and grant-giving organisations. I learnt the basics of compiling these applications and gained a basic knowledge of the range of funding sources available. I also helped to compile a ‘Core Case for Support’ document in order to make writing funding applications a less painstaking process for the charity’s development team. The Development Officers were always willing to discuss any queries I had, and we checked each other’s work. As time went on, I felt trusted as an equal in a small team. Regarding communications, I worked on the charity’s Social Media strategy, drafting a training presentation and Social Media Policy. I also analysed competitors’ Social Media presence, and contributed to the charity’s blog and quarterly publication. Again, I was able to ask any questions I had and contribute new ideas. I felt valued and trusted.

Lasting Impressions
Although I knew London well before the internship, I am more confident in navigating it and feel happy that I would be able to live there without difficulty. I took the internship with a view to gaining experience in a field I had not encountered before - the third sector. I certainly gained a lot, and understand now how the third sector operates. It is surprisingly - but not dishearteningly - business-like. Although I am not converted to passionately pursuing a life of charity work, I would certainly consider working for the third sector again. My real passion lies in the arts, and hopefully I will be able to apply transferable skills I have learned to a job in this sector.
Daily Life
I lived on campus and had breakfast every morning with one of the other interns, a Turkish girl I got to know really well over the 2 months. I could see the lab building from my room, so it was a short walk. Work started anytime from 9-10am and finished at approx. 6:30 every evening, however the hours were extremely flexible, they just depend on what reactions you have running and what stage the project is at. After work I would usually do something with the other interns like getting the train into the town centre of Bremen or having a BBQ.

Lasting Impressions
My lasting impressions are that whilst I enjoyed the project, I did not like living on the mostly empty campus that was quite far away from the town centre. I now know that I want to work in a large city. I got the impression that people are very proud of where they come from in Germany, which was refreshing. However I would not return to live or work in Bremen or Germany. I am unsure how it has affected my future career ambitions, but I feel more informed about what a PhD would entail and what working in a lab everyday is like.

Work Projects
I was working with a PhD student as a supervisor in an Inorganic lab on a chromium based polyoxometalate cluster. My aim was find a method to reliably synthesise single as oppose to poly-crystals so that the structure could be analysed on the XRD machine. The host organisation supplied me with a desk to work on in the lab, glassware and chemicals.
Daily Life
When in Delhi (the vast majority of the time), I would get up, get an autorickshaw (tuk tuk) to work (which would take 30–60 minutes). I’d normally work 10–6.00 and 10–1.30 on Saturdays. Then back home. Sometimes I would hang out with colleagues or other friends after work, either round their places, or out and about in Delhi. But this was mainly on the weekend, as I was generally too tired during the week.

Work Projects
I travelled around north India, undertaking photography work, directing my own short videos designed to showcase various locations, and writing the company blog. The blog was a travel blog, designed to entice potential clients to book a holiday with Kamalan.

Lasting Impressions
India, of course, is amazing. It’s made me reconsider whether communications is for me.
Daily Life
Mumbai is a constantly busy city where I found everything to be in your face the whole time but once you got used to that sort of atmosphere, I found I settled in fine. My working hours were 9am to 5pm and my accommodation was a 5 minute walk away from my office so I could walk to work. Outside work I tried to see as much of the city as I could and experience the culture. It was also monsoon season in Mumbai - so that took some getting used to. Sometimes this would be hard on week days because it got dark quite early and it was not wise to travel around alone or meet with people who were far away from me (Mumbai was a very big city!). Therefore, on weekdays I would socialise with people I met where I was staying. Because I stayed in the YMCA, there was a lot of international guests, many of whom were also undertaking internships. We would socialise in the hostel, go shopping or to bar in the local area or occasionally take a taxi further afield to visit a tourist attraction. On the weekends, it was much easier to get to other parts of the city to and socialise with other people I met – other Oxford interns or other students and we would do similar things.

Work Projects
My time at K.C.M.E.T coincided with the approach to the deadline for submission of the Education Trust’s annual report, therefore the majority of my work was in relation to this. They had previously travelled around India and interviewed those that benefited from the Trust’s work - I had to transcribe many of these interviews and ensure their format was suitable for case study material in the annual report. I was also involved in drafting the foreword for the annual report. Both these project I did by myself although the drafted foreword will now go through many more drafters. I prepared some other draft documents for KCMET relating to their ethic of CPR and the programmes they undertook which was to be sent to other organisations. The majority of work I did was of this sort of nature and I undertook it alone, although I was invited to attend a meeting with Trust’s director regarding the annual report.

Lasting Impressions
My lasting impressions of Mumbai are mixed. Although, I met very nice people and managed to settle in, daily life in such an intensely busy city was a challenge. Nowhere in Mumbai was remotely peaceful wherever it was or whatever time it was. I would not return to work in Mumbai and found the general work culture very different and inefficient compared with Britain.
Maria Lacayo

Daily Life
Settling in was rather straightforward, as I was able to keep my usual room in college accommodation. Otherwise, I generally spent between seven to eight hours at work (which was less than a five minute walk from my room) and would return to dinner with college friends and a few hours of academic work or organizational activities.

Work Projects
I've been involved in a variety of projects, from legal research to research on Oxford alumni and research activity. My supervisor was engaging and passionate, and the people around the office were friendly and warm.

Lasting Impressions
The most rewarding part of my internship was knowing my work could produce lasting, transformative support for legal scholarship at Oxford. Otherwise, it was informative to see what sort of careers Oxford alumni have embarked upon, for many of those options seemed potentially attractive courses for my own future.

Ashley Francis-Roy

Daily Life
I generally worked 9–5 everyday. The working hours were quite flexible and there was often room for working late/ overtime or coming in late. I usually took an hour for lunch.

Work Projects
I was responsible for managing two publication projects for the Faculty of Law. This involved liaising with those who were providing content (students, academics), editing the content, liaising with designers, printers, proof readers and overseeing the whole project. I had regular weekly meetings with the publications officer at the Faculty of Law.

Lasting Impressions
I've learnt that administration is an interesting career. It helps you be really organised as you have to clearly structure your day and work to deadlines. An attention for detail is pivotal. There isn't much room for creativity and a dry, efficient approach works most effectively.
Daily Life
As the internship was unpaid there were no exact set hours but I generally worked 8 hours a day on week days from the flat in Edinburgh for a month. During the rest of the internship, when I was based at home, the working arrangements were far more flexible and I could work at my own pace, fitting my internship duties around other commitments.

Work Projects
I led a project on Thatcher’s relationship with clothes and the fashion industry more general, with the aim of creating a page for publication on the website. In collaboration with Chris I designed the content and did the extensive research required, including Freedom of Information request to the Cabinet Office and communicating with academics in relevant fields.

Lasting Impressions
It has greatly improved my knowledge of the Thatcher era.
Daily Life
The day at the office starts with a 9am meeting where everyone gives updates on their work and informs the others what tasks they will be working on for that day. Throughout the day, you were given the space to work on the specific tasks set. Supervisors tended to trust us with the tasks and generally left us a great deal of discretion in terms of how we would approach the projects. However, they were always ready to help should we find ourselves stumped by a particular task. There are some meetings throughout the day sometimes. It was great that the interns were allowed to not only sit in on these meetings but actively contribute to strategy development discussions. Altogether, the internship programme was very well structured. They give you an overall idea of the tasks you’d be involved in on the first day so you would know what to expect and thus how to organise your work. The tasks were generally not complicated (and if they were, the rest of the team were always there to help!). It was easy to settle in quickly given the great, welcoming team they had.

Work Projects
The work was carried out by the interns as a team. The internship was organised such that we would be exposed to all the key areas of application development. As a result, the kind of projects we worked on were quite diverse. Some tasks included market research, brainstorming of an ‘entry’ strategy into universities, giving feedback and potential ideas on the design of the application and website. The support from MarketSpringPad was incredible. Everyone was really approachable and helpful. On top of that, it had been arranged such that for each week, there was an assigned supervisor, should we need specific help on the tasks.

Lasting Impressions
The internship experience exceeded my expectations. I had not worked in a startup before and found the experience extremely positive and rewarding. Such an experience has prompted my interest in startup and enterprise work.
Daily Life
The people at The Mathworks were very welcoming to me and it took no time at all to get settled there. I cycled the handful of miles to work each day for my 9-5:30 shifts Monday - Friday. My internship inspired me to improve my coding skills so some of my time outside of work was done doing this. I also went away most of the weekends either for climbing trips, cycling or visiting friends. There were a few team socials organised during my time there, these were great opportunities to get to know the team.

Work Projects
I cannot go into full details of the project I was working on as the exact material I worked on is not yet in the newest release of MATLAB. However I can talk about the topics I worked on: I was given 2 projects during my time at The Mathworks, both of which were based around Simulink, which is used for model based design. These projects were challenging, fun and rewarding. I worked on all sorts of different things including: hardware support packages, Processor-in-the-Loop and Software-in-the-Loop Simulation modes, accelerated simulation modes, code coverage, code generation, non-inlined and inlined S-Functions, communication channels between separate processes and execution profiling. This work involved looking into part of the huge code base and working out which files need changing and how, I enjoyed this part the most. My supervisor was extremely helpful and I was made to feel like an important part of the team during my short time there.

Lasting Impressions
I was inspired by my internship. It showed me how fun working in the real world can be. I particularly liked the relaxed friendly atmosphere there - we could turn up in shorts and t-shirt and no one would blink an eye! I would definitely return to work there, both due to the friendliness of the people and the satisfaction of the work. I applied for this internship to work out if software development might be the career path I would like to take. I can now say that certainly yes it is, hopefully with The Mathworks!
Daily Life
Settling in wasn’t a problem, as I’d already lived in China, and had friends in need of a new housemate. I worked from about 9.30 to about 5.30, with some time off for lunch. I am now quite well acquainted with the various little restaurants around my office. I spent many of the evenings during the week teaching English to private students in order to support myself. At the weekends, I would then return this money to the city via its bars and McDonald’s!

Work Projects
I wrote or am writing the cover features for the September, October and November editions of the Shanghai Business Review. I also wrote a number of other articles and some advertorial pieces, and I attended a number of events as a representative of the magazine. Other members of staff were very happy to suggest contacts for interviews, and other help when necessary. When I didn’t need help they let me get on with things by myself. Most crucially, they have offered, and I have accepted, a full time job as deputy managing editor. It is quite possible I will be reading applications from Oxford Internship programme applicants in about 9 months time!

Lasting Impressions
I have been offered and accepted a full time job at the magazine. I’m still not sure where my career is going, but at least I will now have more experience to call on when I decide.
Daily Life
A day at work began with the five minute walk from my room to ‘the office’ at the Bode Museum. I then worked on an ongoing task in the study room until lunch at 12, where Dr Dahmen and I were joined by whoever was in the office that day for lunch at the Humboldt University dining hall. The best day was when they served pancakes as a main course for lunch! It also provided an opportunity to chat with other people about the day/plans and for me to be informed about aspects of German culture (for example, did you know that in Germany, leaving food uneaten at lunch is taken as a sign that it’s going to rain?). After lunch I worked until 4.30pm, when I got to leave. The rest of the evening was normally spent making the most of my paid travel card to explore the city! Luckily I had friends visiting for most of the time that I was in Berlin, so I always had people around to sightsee with. Highlights included a trip to Potsdam, visits to the Olympic Stadium, Tempelhof airport and the Reichstag dome and an awful lot of currywurst consumption.

Work Projects
Projects I carried out included: - researching the British WW1 Next of Kin memorial medals that are held in the Berlin State Museums’ collection, and writing an article on their context and significance to be translated and published in a German numismatic journal. - electronically cataloguing the coin cabinet’s collection of coins of the 3rd century Roman military commanders Carausius and Allectus, and finding references to the coins held in Berlin in the literature on the subject. This was a task I was carrying out for the department at the request of the British Museum, who are collecting information on the coins of these two rulers. - ascribing nomisma IDs to classical mint locations in Greece, Turkey and Italy as part of a scheme to standardise global cataloguing practices with regards to classical coinage. - electronically cataloguing 19th century British medals, finding references to them in secondary literature and researching the individuals involved in their production, and those who feature on the medals. Researched in detail a set of Elgin medals produced in 1820 to commemorate the British acquisition of the Parthenon marbles, establishing which parts of the sculpture were represented on each coin using literature and the British Museum catalogue. I got loads of help with this from Dr Dahmen. He provided me with the literature (mostly in English and some of it from his own personal collection!), and went through everything with me to make sure I understood what I was doing (very important when you don’t speak much German and you’re trying to catalogue coins). He made an effort to always be there if I wanted to ask something, and stressed that the point of my internship was for me to learn as much as possible and thus to take my time and experience as many different time periods and tasks as possible.

Lasting Impressions
I’m so glad that I did this internship, as it’s been an amazing opportunity. It’s definitely strengthened two beliefs that I already had- that I want to work in the museum industry, and that I’d love to live abroad for a bit. Exploring a foreign city has been so exciting! I’ve learnt a lot about German culture and also dispelled a lot of the myths that people have about the Germans and some of their attitudes! I also managed to pick up a few German phrases along the way which has been nice, although I think I’d still have a lot of work to do if I wanted to get to a standard where I could actually go and work in Germany permanently. Pieces of advice that Dr Dahmen gave me have also made me determined to try and apply for masters courses to help me get a job in museums - he told me to persevere and forget the rejections and focus on the positives and not give up, which in a competitive career like museums and curation will probably be useful!
Daily Life
Usually a beep outside the cottage at around 9.30 welcomed our work day in, then it was a five minute drive to Murphy Media Headquarters behind Morgan’s house. Luckily the work in the office tended to be quite varied and we would spend a lot of time researching for the book, making sure our contact lists were accurate as well as liaising on the phone with restaurant owners, chefs and people who were involved in PR. As a representative of Murphy Media we were constantly promoting his brand and we gained a lot of skills in PR throughout the trip. We usually worked until 5.30 and were dropped off home, sadly the social opportunities were limited due to the rural location of where we were staying without a car but Morgan’s friends were very welcoming to us and a number of times included us in their gatherings.

Work Projects
The book we were researching for was ‘Bourbon and Bacon’ so we gained a great deal of insight into distilling and farming. In the first few weeks we researched possible distilleries and farms we could include in the book. Morgan was very receptive to our suggestions and it was really satisfying visiting locations which we had personally researched. On the road we spent most of our time filming and taking photographs and for someone who is not particularly tech-savvy being thrown in at the deep end was the way to learn! By the end of the trip it was really satisfying seeing an improvement in the footage we made.

Lasting Impressions
Spending the majority of our time in rural Alabama allowed us a strong insight into an area of the American south which is not often frequented by tourists and it made our cultural experience all the better for that. Speaking to many ordinary people of the American South dispelled in my mind the myth of the southern redneck as I never came into contact with anyone who wasn’t friendly, worldly and hospitable. Whilst I don’t think I can be converted to Bourbon anytime soon, it was really exciting eating food which is so instrumental to the identity of the South. I would still consider working in the media as the internship did give a well-rounded experience of all the different skills needed for working in media and journalism.
David Cheek
Daily Life
Usually we start work at around 930 and we leave late - 7/730. We take about 2 hours off for lunch, which includes a game of football or tennis, or a gym session. All my friends work at INPE. And outside of work, there are occasionally birthday parties, bar trips, trips to see music.

Work Projects
Validating a map of burnt areas in the Mato Grosso region of Brazil. And more generally developing techniques to assess the accuracy of thematic maps.

Lasting Impressions
I’m very happy to have taken part in this internship. It certainly has helped me consider my career ambitions.

Takeshi Inagawa
Daily Life
INPE had great facilities for working, dinning and sporting.

Work Projects
Quantifying secondary forest extent in Brazilian Amazonia based on remote sensing data and an empirical model.

Lasting Impressions
Sao Paulo was an exciting place to travel and socialise.
Benjamin Sharrock

Daily Life

I worked 9-4 Tuesday to Friday as the furlough, budget cuts, meant that employees were suspended on Mondays. These free Mondays were used for cultural outings with all the other interns. I was in a house with 12 other interns around my age and made fast friends with them very quickly. I walked to work which took me about 30 minutes each way. I visited lots of museums, monuments, baseball games and classic American food outlets.

Work Projects

I was a curatorial intern, researching American naval anti–slave trade efforts in the 19thC. Focusing on the African Squadron and using this research to create a museum exhibit which can be made in the refurbishment of the national Navy museum.

Lasting Impressions

I loved it. The internship was very relaxed but still interesting. I look forward to returning as soon as possible, mainly to see a new friend that I have made, rather than for the city or internship. I had a fantastic time but would rather visit somewhere I haven’t visited before.

Richard Coxford

Daily Life

Wake up at six, leaping from bed to turn off the alarm playing questionable pop music from a local Washington channel. Watch BBC World News over an apple and then walk to work. Have your passport fingered more times than previously thought possible, as everyday policemen or Marines at the Navy Yard gate check it along with the flimsy paper ID provided. Walk in to the library three minutes’ stroll later, around seven a.m., and bury yourself in yesterday’s piles of Congressional Hearings, Naval Journals and extraneous books.

After the boss comes down at eight to provide the day’s emergency task, work until noon. Grab overpriced food and free drinks at the food court while gawping at the innumerable uniformed personnel. Work rather more sluggishly until 3, then catch the circulator in the general direction of ‘home’.

Watch Friends, Futurama, and other familiar afternoon delights on T.V., then once the interns you live with get in at 5/6, party (drink) until the wee hours before retiring to your awkward ‘European’ style mattress with laptop on bent knee. Curse when the civilian furlough ends and you no longer just work Tuesday to Friday. Marvel at the scarcity of postcards in D.C. compared to any city in Britain. Sleep then repeat, with occasional time for walking to Monuments on weekends.

(Cont...)
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Work Projects
It was an unprecedented time for the USN’s History division, both with sequestration, and the tasks our group of interns were given. Besides the usual intern-friendly Chronology project [a timeline of Naval mishaps in my case] we did research papers on nine ship classes, xeroxed enough Congressional, GAO and Journal information on incidents or Procurement Issues to fill whole boxes, and incredibly, designed and completed a chart with footnotes on previous first-in-class ships which the Chief of Naval Operations used (at least in some capacity) to defend the U.S. Navy’s newest vessel, the LCS, from Congressional criticism.

We were such atypical interns that when official tours came to the Navy Library to see if the Histories division was worth its stake in the budget, were pointed out as indication of the library being fully used, and how industrious interns are.

Lasting Impressions
Serving the United States Navy by providing historical research to justify their present procurement plans impressed upon me how fulfilling it would be to do this for our Royal Navy, and also how few people would actually believe the importance of some tasks we were given.

Christopher Ward
Daily Life
The museum is fairly flexible with when you come and go, though most people work 9 to 4. I tended to arrive around 8.40 and left at 3.40. I stayed at a hostel called Lofstel in north D.C. and it took me about 40 minutes to get to work each day on the metro. The metro in D.C. is really not that bad and far cheaper than the London underground. Outside of work I socialised with other interns from the NHHC and my hostel, and did a whole range of things. There are many museums (which are free) and other notable sights to see. In short I didn’t get bored during the 9 weekends I spent in D.C.

Work Projects
I worked on developing an outline for a new exhibit on the Pacific theatre in WWII to replace the current rather dated exhibit. It took a while to get a sense of what kind of thing the museum wanted me to produce, but they generally allow interns to use their imaginations in this respect. Over my 9 week stay I will have completed a 60 page exhibit outline.

Lasting Impressions
Doing the internship at the Navy Museum was a great way to experience the USA for the first time. Working with people is a good way to get to know the culture, which is both similar and different. Having worked in the museum sector before, I hope the internship may allow me to pursue a career in this field.

Nikita Hayward
Daily Life
I got up at 7am but honestly had no need to. I was living in WISH housing in Eastern Market, and so was only a 20-25 minute walk away from work. I would arrive at work by 9am and we would all talk together about our plans for the day ahead before our supervisor would check that everyone had something to work on. Working in the same space as 7 or 8 other (mainly American) interns made for a great atmosphere, especially as the staff in the Education Department and museum itself are already very tight-knit.

We would eat lunch together in the lunchroom or in the park if we were running a camp, and after lunch we would continue the individual projects we had been working on, or form a production line to make up folders and binders needed for one of the camps.
(Cont...)
We were always finished by 4pm, and on Mondays we had field trips (to the Botanic Gardens, the monuments) organised by the museum.

The flexibility of work allowed for plenty of time to explore the city and organise trips of our own to places of interest, like the Capitol buildings. After work I would go and get some frozen yoghurt with the other Education interns, or visit other Oxford interns around the city, or at social events organised by the museum.

The evenings were filled with film screenings on the National Mall, Jazz in the park (in the National Sculpture garden) and performances at the Kennedy Performing Arts centre (also free!) On the weekends, we took day trips to surrounding states and I made a trip to New York City, easily accessible from D.C by bus.

Combined with the multitude of free museums and galleries in D.C there really is more than enough to do. I would recommend visiting all different parts of the city, including the U-Street area and Dupont Circle, using the Metro system, which is easy to navigate and very convenient.

**Work Projects**

I began by writing lesson materials for the Girls Make History summer camp (slideshows for the lessons, parent and teacher help sheets). This involved researching the historical context of the American Girl dolls, with the aim of getting more girls interested in STEM and naval history. My supervisor, Karin, outlined what she wanted with reference to pre-existing materials, and I worked with another American intern. After this I prepared craft materials and folders for a home-school summer camp, which had a focus on technology and robotics. Despite knowing very little about electronics, I worked with the other interns to help lead the group through the instructions to construct an underwater, remote-controlled vehicle. Though this sounds complicated, we would have team briefings practically every morning, and some of the other interns would demonstrate the practical steps needed for that day’s tasks.

Our supervisor made sure that we all had time to practice before the parents and students arrived, so that we all felt confident in what we were doing. I think having quite a large team of interns helped here, despite the fact that we were primarily history students, we all had different areas of expertise, and past experiences, which was a force to be reckoned with when combined! There was a break between the camps, in which I re-wrote part of the museum’s curriculum for their home school programme. This was similar to the lesson planning I had done before, using books from the Education department to get an idea of appropriate activities for students of different ages. I liked the fact that I was paired with an American intern, and whilst she researched the American Home Front, I looked at the British Home Front during WW2. This was especially engaging for me as I was able to incorporate parts of my local history, including information on Bletchley Park and the Allied code breaking effort. (Cont...)
In my last two weeks I worked with all of the other Education interns on the big annual summer camps that the museum puts on. They were both STEM focused, and aimed at students aged 8–12, but they were divided by gender, and the girls’ camp covered more historical as well as purely scientific material.

Our role as interns was to generally supervise activities, help out the students with practical activities and lessons, and set up and clear away everything used that day. In general, my projects each lasted about a week, yet we were left in charge of the timeline for our own work and the working environment was always relaxed and lively.

**Lasting Impressions**
I feel as though you’d be hard pressed to find a better city for interns than D.C during the summer. I met interns from the museum, from Capitol Hill, from the Smithsonian, and from the myriad of other government organisations based around D.C. I have also never been in a place that has so many free events and attractions.

D.C is so diverse that even different ends of the same quadrant gave off different vibes, and had their own entertainment to offer. This internship has made me seriously consider urban living and working in a big city in the future. I have also been able to add more details about the daily lives of those who work in “education” or “government” jobs. Although I really enjoyed my time in the U.S, and would consider working there, I don’t see myself moving there permanently in the near future.

**Anna Davies**
**Daily Life**
I worked from 9 until 3 or 4 Tuesday–Friday. Sometimes we had field trips on Mondays which included a trip to the zoo where they have giant pandas, the botanical gardens and a night tour of the city’s monuments. With such an early finishing time I made the most of my afternoons and often headed to one of the numerous free museums after work. I had to get the metro to and from work and so the journey took about 45 minutes in total. It was very easy to get used to life at the Navy yard since everyone was so friendly and welcoming, and all the Oxford interns got on well and ate lunch together. Out of work I spent most of my time with the people I was living with. I choose to live at the International Student House and am so glad I did.

I met amazing friends from around the world and had chances that I probably wouldn’t have had otherwise including attending a pool party and heading to Connecticut for a weekend by the beach. With so many active people living in the house I got to play basketball and American football! Washington DC is such a great city— I was here 7 weeks and never ran out of things to do!

**Work Projects**
I was working with the Communication and Outreach Division for Naval History and Heritage Command and so in short my role was to promote Naval history. I was given two projects. My first was to make a number of Powerpoint presentations to promote the Navy’s travelling art exhibits. The second, which posed more problematic, was to make podcasts from existing oral histories. The security restrictions within the navy made it impossible for me to gain access to the oral histories within the time I was here and so I had to adapt the project so that I basically created a step by step guide and built all the foundations for someone to go ahead and make the podcasts in the future.

(Cont...)
Lasting Impressions
The main thing that will stick with me about the internship are the people I met, and Washington DC as a city. It was not somewhere I had ever thought about visiting but would now recommend it to anyone!

Hannah McDermott
Daily Life
On a typical day during my internship I’d wake up around 7ish, get ready, and then be out of the house by around 8 to catch the metro to the Navy Yard. I stayed at Loftstel, the cheapest place I could find in the area, which took about 20 minutes via the green metro line. Ed and Jennifer, our bosses in the curatorial department, were pretty relaxed about what time you arrived, but most of us got there by 9. My day at work would usually consist of online research or working on the outline. Some days I would head to the Library of Congress to do research instead. At lunch time, if it wasn’t raining or over 35 degrees, the interns would sit outside on the benches to escape the freezing air conditioning. After work (we normally left around 4pm) I’d head back to Loftstel. I tended to spend my evenings either skyping family, doing work for my thesis or going out for dinner with some of my roommates. Staying at Loftstel, though lacking privacy as most hostels do, meant that there were always people around willing to get up and do something, and for that reason I’m glad I chose it for my accommodation. At the weekends, I went to museums (DC has a ridiculous amount and most are free), monuments, visited Virginia, Maryland and New York, strolled around Georgetown and made the most of what DC has to offer.

Work Projects
During my time at the Navy Museum I was given the task of working on an exhibit outline, the subject of which was underwater warfare during the American Revolutionary War. This involved carrying out research into the topic, finding artefacts and images to go into the exhibit and writing all accompanying introduction texts and captions, as well as formatting it within the expected guidelines. There were also, at times, activities that involved all of us working in the curatorial department, for instance helping other interns with a game they were developing for younger museum patrons, and updating the intern binder for future interns that would work at the museum.

Lasting Impressions
I’ve always been in love with the US, probably from my exposure to American television from a young age! DC was different to my previous experiences in the US (Houston and Florida) in both scale and content. Home to the US government, and all that entails, it was a hub of political activity. This was in addition to the sense that the city was the keeper of all things cultural in the US, housing countless museums, the National Archives and the Library of Congress within 10 square miles, there was a definite emphasis on the past. I would like to work in the US in the future but despite my enjoyable experience at the NHHC, I’m not sure if it will be in the museum industry.

Naomi Rowe
Daily Life
I didn’t actually work in the Navy Yard itself all that much, I tended to spend my days in the Library of Congress which was absolutely beautiful. I was a five minute walk to the library and 30 minutes to the Navy Yard. Outside of work I socialised with my roommates and the other interns who lived in the building- I would guess there were around 60 of us. We explored the city and took advantage of the free Smithsonian museums.

Work Projects
I was researching the role of the US navy in Provincial Reconstruction Teams, my boss was a historian employed by the Navy to write a history on the War in Afghanistan. He was very helpful in providing me with resources and we interviewed some people

Lasting Impressions
I really loved Washington DC and as I was based there for a full 9 weeks I truly felt that I lived in the city and that I was not just visiting. I would definitely consider returning to live and work there. (Cont...)
Rhiannon Main
Daily Life
It was strange at first being in a new city and not really knowing anybody but once I'd started work I began to feel a lot more at home. I was staying at a long-stay hostel called Loftstel in northwest Washington, as long as you don't mind bunk beds and sharing a bathroom I would highly recommend it - close to a metro, good facilities and the people there were very friendly. My internship was later in the summer which meant that many of the American interns had already left, and many of the British interns were leaving too. However the remaining Oxford interns were all lovely and we organised things together. I got to work everyday on the metro which I found really efficient and good-value for money. The Command are very relaxed about hours, I generally worked from 9am until 3.30pm (with longer hours during the summer camp). Outside of work there is so much to do in Washington DC, I spent my time exploring the Smithsonian Museums, and generally visiting the different areas of the city (Eastern Market and Georgetown both recommended). It really is an amazing city and you’ll never be short of something to do.

Work Projects
I worked in the education department and my supervisors were great, very encouraging and a really enthusiastic environment. My first week was spent helping at a day camp held at the museum entitled ‘Girls Make History’. I helped out with the activities, supporting my supervisors who were doing the main teaching.

This was a lot of fun; encouraging the children during the hands-on science activities, helping the children learn more about American history and of course, the glow-in-the-dark dance party at the end of each day! The rest of my internship was spent on various projects; the main one was creating a home school programme; this entailed writing lessons and finding activities that could be done with the children around this subject. I also helped design question sheets and updated some past activities.

Lasting Impressions
Although at first it seemed really daunting living in another country on my own, I soon got used to the country and felt at home and I would love to go back to the US, either as a tourist or an intern. I really enjoyed my internship; I’m not sure whether it’s what I want to do as a job but so much fun nonetheless. As long as you throw yourself into the experience you’ll be fine, as you’ll begin to feel you know the city and you get to know the people. I found doing this internship has given me more confidence to go out, to do something like this again but also generally, as the life skills you learn from doing an internship abroad are wide-ranging and the fun I had whilst there confirmed to me that it was a great decision to spend a month of my summer holidays there!

Beau Woodbury
Daily Life
My work was largely desk-bound, however as the Foundation hosted a steady stream of visitors – some formal, some informal – I met a range of people whose work related to that of the Foundation.

Although the Navy Yard is something of a world unto itself, the surrounding neighbourhood has recently (Cont...)

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continued.....
become increasingly attractive and I often explored this on my lunch-break or on my way home from work - for lunch I was sometimes joined by my colleagues, who were themselves curious to see what was new in the area. I also occasionally got to view elaborate naval ceremonies taking place on the parade ground directly across from the Foundation offices. Living out in the suburbs meant I relished opportunities to stay on in the centre of town after work, so I often met up with the other interns in the evenings or took advantage of museums and galleries which had late opening. The Foundation also encouraged us to seek out major events, such as the 50th anniversary commemorations of the March on Washington. Labor Day gave the opportunity to fit in four days in New York, but normally my weekends were spent exploring the city centre.

**Work Projects**
I was asked to look into a number of specific publicity initiatives, including setting up a youth group for the US Navy Museum and holding an event to publicise the Foundation’s work amongst military families. I also researched how some of the topics covered by the Museum were taught in different US states, and how competitor institutions were developing and marketing themselves. Eventually, I integrated my findings and recommendations into a comprehensive marketing plan which I presented to the Foundation leadership. I also assisted in a small amount of archival research for an upcoming book being published by the Foundation.

**Lasting Impressions**
DC’s position at the centre of world events means that spending time there is fascinating, and working at the Navy Yard provides its own unusual perspective on this. In addition to being a great tourist city, DC is also an increasingly lively place to live.
Maciej Bargiel
Daily Life
I was renting a single room in a house about 20 minutes from the office, along with two other interns. I had flexible working hours.

Work Projects
I created a project management system for Ocado, which is going to be used by the company in everyday business.

Lasting Impressions
I definitely would return to live in the UK, as I still have three years of my degree left.

Joseph Zammit
Daily Life
“Core” working hours were 10am-4pm, and it was expected that you be in work for 8 hours a day on average. This was flexible, though, provided you did 40 hours a week. A free shuttle bus operates between the rail station and head office. Out of work, there were social occasions with the other interns, and everyone is invited to company fun-days weekends etc., although I couldn’t make this.

Work Projects
Robotics project to make a point of presence robot for the office with autonomous navigation and manual control using SLAM and ROS.

Lasting Impressions
I enjoyed my work here and I would be interested in working here again. The transport links are good, the area is pretty good too.
Daily Life
Oghma is a small organisation and at any time there would be between 2–3 to 12–13 people in the office (which we shared with another smaller firm). Each day was different and there was always something to be getting on with. Typically I would commute into Bond Street and walk two minutes to the smart offices on Brook Street, opposite Claridges. I would arrive by 9a.m. and would get on with one of several projects that I completed, both independently and in conjunction with the other employees. There was freedom in how we structured our days, so I could choose when to take lunch, stay late if I needed to and was allowed to take time off to attend meetings with recruiters and job interviews. Being based in Mayfair was also an advantage, as after work I could meet up with friends or go to the gym on Oxford St. On other occasions I had opportunities to try new activities with my colleagues such as dragon boat racing, which is well worth trying if you ever get the chance!

Work Projects
There were several ongoing projects while I was at Oghma. I initially worked on profiling companies as potential acquisition targets for clients. This included financial profiling and the need to read balance sheets to extract financial data - the team were very helpful with teaching me this skill, which often proved less than straightforward. I also produced an extended profile on a large biscuit company and was tasked with scanning through industry magazines for interesting articles on companies and brands that we were not yet aware of or had not yet profiled. However, my main project was to produce an analysis of acquisitions deals from 2003–2013 that involved companies that produced ingredients. Again, this involved finding companies’ financial information from databases or news reports online and calculating transaction multiples. I also gathered and analysed further information to build up a picture of ingredients deals by type, sector and geography among other metrics.

Lasting Impressions
Oghma has a fantastic culture. Everyone in the organisation works hard, works well as a team and wants to help grow the firm. The two analysts who I met in my first week took me under their wing and became good friends of mine, as did all members of the team. One of the partners, Mark, helpfully put me in touch with several graduate recruiters and was always willing to discuss my options and career path and encouraged me to attend interviews. Indeed everyone was willing to offer me their own perspective and opinion on the financial services industry and I am grateful for all the help and advice that I received. I would thoroughly recommend the internship for anyone considering a permanent job in the city.
Daily Life
Work was from 8am to 4pm. Although the office is outside Ljubljana, usually arrangements were made to carpool to the office, making the journey only 25 mins. It would be approximately 1 hr by bus otherwise. Pace of work was comfortably Southern European albeit without a siesta. Things nevertheless pick up several notches as deadlines approach. After work, I usually ate out using the student meal vouchers, then either chilled at home, had a drink with friends, or hit the nearby gym. Colleagues were mostly in their 30s and had families, so my main social group consisted of housemates, other foreign interns (from other companies), and Slovenians I met outside work. Getting to know locals may not be easy, and one may have to be prepared to take extra effort in doing so. However, once you know them, Slovenians are among the warmest people I have met. Certainly no stiff upper-lips and assertions of an empire that once was here.

Work Projects
Worked on an EU funded project regarding recycling of waste poultry feathers. Conducted a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) of various recycling technologies, and eventually made a recommendation. Thereafter, wrote a CBA guide for the firm to use in future projects. In between, I also had to help out in econometric analysis of some data for a separate project.

Lasting Impressions
Slovenia as a country, is underrated as a tourist destination - the natural beauty of this country is stunning, from the Soca river to the lakes of Bled and Bohinj to the caves of Postojna. Mountains also form a significant portion of the landscape and avid hikers will be more than satisfied. In terms of cultural relics such as museums churches and castles, Slovenia is no Rome, London or Paris, but it has its own little gems. That being said, it borders Italy, Austria, Croatia and Hungary, so road trips are easy to organize. Living or working here long-term without speaking Slovenian is likely to be difficult, so no can do. Internship wise, we were thrown in the deep-end and independently learning how to get the job done was an invaluable experience.

“Slovenia is no Rome, London or Paris, but it has its own little gems.”
Christian Butcher
Daily Life
I worked 9-5.30 Mon-Fri, with free university bus travel to and from work. The bus stop was near my accommodation but only stopped at limited times. There was also a public bus but then at personal cost, and still only twice or three times an hour, depending on time of day, and not after around 8 pm. Food was good, some days I cooked and brought packed lunch, other days I ate in the cafe at work. Scuba/swimming some evenings or at the weekend, along with some visits to cultural sites on trips lead by OIST.

Work Projects
Studying fluid flows in bathtubs/rotating cylinders/rotating cuboids. Computer simulations and experiments, along with literature review.

Lasting Impressions
Really nice place and people. Currently looking into remaining here for another 6 months, and/or applying for the PhD program. Much more friendly and supportive than Oxford whilst still offering independence to study/experiment at a rate of your choosing.

Cameron Deans
Daily Life
Daily life was very relaxing. There is a university bus that picked us up from our apartments, work was supposed to start at 0900 so we tended to get the first bus at 0830. Each days work was varied in what you did or how much, for me often depending on how much I asked what to do next. Hence it was never rushed or stressful. Lunch hour was from noon until 1, though again most people had no time constraints so took as long as they wanted depending on who they were talking to or how many people were around. The buses home started at 1740 mostly people got this one as work finished at 1730. However, people often stayed later to play tennis, football or go to the gym etc. The bus went to the supermarket if you needed to go otherwise the interns tended to go to the beach next to the apartments in the evening to swim and watch the sunset. We would then either cook dinner and eat together or go out to one of the nearby restaurants. After that we tended to do something as a group for example going to a bar/karaoke/sitting on the roof.

Work Projects
I worked in the Quantum Dynamics lab assisting the professor and a visiting professor on their current research project. The work involved performing low temperature experiments in a cryostat to study the spins of nuclei in a crystal sample.

Lasting Impressions
Okinawa is an incredible place to visit and somewhere that I feel I will come to visit again. Most of the interns have the opportunity of coming back next year, for another few weeks. There is also the option of applying here for the PhD program. It has very much confirmed my ambitions for graduate study.

Scott Melville
Daily Life
Travelling around Okinawa is not easy without a car, but OIST arrange a shuttle bus service to drive from (Cont...)
student apartments to campus and back in the mornings (~9am) and evenings (~6pm). This forms the backbone of any daily routine, as getting on and off campus otherwise is difficult. With a large number of interns frequently visiting OIST, there are often many others in a similar position - and groups of friends readily form.

At the weekends I visited many of the tourist attractions on the island, and went for walks along the coast - the picturesque setting is definitely one of the highlights of this internship. OIST offer a beginners course in Japanese, which I strongly recommend. Learning the local language was not only very enjoyable, but also made living there (buying things in shops, navigating, communicating with local people) much easier and trips much more rewarding.

**Work Projects**

I worked for ten weeks with the ‘Quantum Systems’ Unit of OIST (the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology), under Professor Busch and one of his postdocs. They are a theoretical group, with access to impressive computing facilities, and working alongside them was a delight - the group emigrated en masse from University College Cork; and are among the most likeable people I have ever met. There was a strong sense of friendship within the group, and I felt comfortable and included throughout. I met regularly with my supervisor, and was given a great deal of independence in deciding the direction of my research, while under his constructive guidance.

**Lasting Impressions**

I learned a great deal about Okinawan history and culture, and now appreciate the degree to which this differs from that of mainland Japan. I will definitely return in future to visit this university, both to continue collaborations with its talented researchers, and to visit the many good friends I have made there. This internship provided excellent experience as a researcher, and gave me a real sense of what life as a postdoc will be like - heartily confirming my aspirations to stay in academia.

**Raphael Chow**

**Daily Life**

The flat provided was luxurious by student standards. Porch with a sunset view over the sea, beach 5 minutes walk away. Many quality restaurants within a 15 minute walk radius. Travel to work was provided for by means of a free shuttle, but they only departed and returned at set times. Before the car rental was made possible, getting around was difficult. Working hours were 9/9:30 - 5:30. Outside of work we had hikes to waterfalls, visits to the Shuri castle and the peace memorial. Socialised with OIST students and the intern group, as well as others who lived in our building (Cont...)
Work Projects
Investigation of Tor signalling crosstalk with other pathways in S. pombe. Post-doc gave me a lot of help in gathering and presenting data to my professor and at the seminar towards the end.

Lasting Impressions
Very positive.

Sophie Carruthers

Daily Life
Work was usually 9-5.30 but it was not unusual for interns to stay later in the evening out of choice. OIST provides a free shuttle bus that takes you to/from work and the apartments. Most evenings we would end up on the beach watching the beautiful sunset followed by dinner up in our apartments or at one of the local restaurants. At weekends we explored the island and with the help of the OIST hire cars (take an international driving permit!), we managed to explore all corners of what is a deceptively spread-out island with many areas to explore. As a group of interns we were made up of students from Oxford, the US and Canada who all got on really well and have continued to keep in touch.

Work Projects
I had several projects during my time at OIST. Firstly I was introduced to the realities of clinical psychology. As this is a field I am keen to go into, this was an extremely valuable chance to learn from trained clinical psychologists. I also conducted an independent literature review under the supervision of Gail Tripp into the pragmatic impairments of children with ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorders. This project will continue over the next few months. Through working with clinical psychologists I learned how to use certain measures that assess intelligence (e.g. WISC) and cognitive functioning (in the form of some computer tasks) in children. In addition, throughout the two months I learned to code the responses of children with, and without, ADHD to social problem solving questions. This involved being trained in the coding technique and assisting with the development of the manual.

Lasting Impressions
This internship was an incredible experience and I would encourage anyone with an interest in science to apply. There are labs in most scientific fields and OIST try to match you up with a lab that suits your interests. For me, the work I did during the day would have made my summer an incredible experience alone, but being in Okinawa makes the whole experience so much more enriching. It’s a fascinating culture, and the island has many beautiful sights with opportunities galore to try new things. I’m already planning to return to Japan in the next couple of years.

Jessica Wong

Daily Life
The work/life balance in Okinawa was great – working from Mon-Fri 9–5:30, with the evenings and weekends completely free to do as we wished. As all the summer interns (there were about 12) lived in the same accommodation block, we quickly became a close-knit group, and so there were always a group of people to socialise with. A typical day started with a bus ride (OIST provides a free bus pass) with the other interns (about 15 mins) from our accommodation block (where all rooms had a sea view!) to OIST. Work then consisted of experiments or modelling for most interns, and we would always take a decent lunch.
break sat outside in the patio area of the campus. Traditional bento boxes or freshly made sandwiches and salads were available for a reasonable cost, and lunchtime allowed all the interns to catch up with each other. In the afternoons we had the occasional Japanese lesson - OIST provided an optional ‘Survival Course’ which taught us the basics. After work, some interns would go to the free onsite gym, play tennis, or go to the local beach. Living in such close proximity to a beautiful beach (5 mins walk) with white sand and warm waters was one of my favourite aspects of the internship! OIST also provide a free daily shuttle bus to take interns to a large supermarket so food shopping was easy. In the evening a group of interns would often eat dinner in one of the local restaurants, go to a bar, or even karaoke! The accommodation is located in a touristy area so there was a large range of restaurants to choose from. At the weekends, we would go on excursions, explore the sights of Okinawa, or relax at the beach. One weekend we caught a ferry to Zamami Island, camped next to the beach, had a BBQ, and went snorkelling (there were some stunning fish and coral, but the highlight was seeing large turtles swimming close to the shore!). Another weekend was spent at hiking to reach a beautiful waterfall, we also had the opportunity to see many summer festivals which offered a fascinating insight into traditional Okinawan music, dancing, and food. OIST also arranged excursions to a big aquarium, Shuri castle and Naha city. Hiring a car either from OIST (for free) or a local car hire company (OIST employees received a generous discount) allowed us to see many areas of natural beauty, such as Cape Hedo and Manzamo Bay.

**Work Projects**

I spent seven weeks working within the Developmental Signalling Unit at OIST on a project investigating mutant clones in fruitflies. The support I received from my supervisor and other members of the lab was excellent – they provided me with sufficient training in a range of techniques such as dissection, staining and imaging, which allowed me to work independently for the majority of the time. My project allowed me to gain experience in developmental biology research, and the fact that OIST is very well funded meant that there was a range of high tech equipment available for me to use.

**Lasting Impressions**

My lasting impression of OIST is that it is an exceptional place to work and study, and the fact that there are no departments makes it a truly multi-disciplinary environment. OIST are very well funded, and so can afford to have well equipped labs with the latest technology, and more importantly attract the best researchers. The internship was very well organised, as I did not have to worry about either finding or paying for my flights or accommodation. Okinawa is a fascinating island, and although it can be difficult to get around without a car, there were plenty of opportunities to experience all that Okinawa has to offer. I would like to return to Japan in the future for a holiday to experience different aspects of Japanese culture. The internship did not change my career goals although it did give me a unique experience to work in a different country.
Fiona Young
Daily Life
I worked regular hours from 9.30-5.30 with a 1 hour lunch break. There was one other intern working in the same department as me and so I spent a significant amount of time with her, travelling to work together, having lunch together, and also socialising in the evenings. A typical work day generally consisted of responding to any emails in the morning then continuing on whatever work I had based on the project I was completing. We had weekly pub lunches with the rest of our team and several social events were put on by the company which were good fun to attend and a good way to meet other people.

Work Projects
During my internship I worked on several large projects. I completed data analysis in the first week and made Powerpoint slides to be used in a conference in Miami. I researched and wrote a blog post for the company website. The next big project I worked on was with my boss and the other intern which was on researching and writing a paper on The Single Factor of Personality for the annual BPS occupational psychology conference. This involved large amounts of data analysis of several large datasets and interpreting and writing up our main findings. I also helped complete the final write up for the submission. The paper has been accepted by the conference and I will be presenting at the conference in January 2014. The last large project I worked on involved creating specific job competency models for a variety of roles, which involved a large literature search in order to identify important competencies for certain job roles. Throughout my work I was supported with any help I needed, and had regular meetings to assess progress with projects.

Lasting Impressions
The internship confirmed that I would like to go on to complete a Masters in Occupational Psychology in work within this area. I feel the internship gave me a great experience in what life in this sector would be like and also helped me develop key skills I would need.

Leonie Nicks
Daily Life
We were given a good amount of training, introductions and reading time at the beginning of the internship to get settled into the office and prepared for work on psychometrics. Our hours were very standardised and regular, 9.00-17.30 every day with a 1 hour lunch break, and we had the flexibility to take half an hour off of our lunch break if we wanted to leave half an hour early. I got to work by driving (with the other intern), it took about 15 minutes. Outside of work, I tended to go home or to London at the weekends, and saw people I knew in Oxford/the other intern during the weekday evenings. We had 5 paid days of holiday, which I often took off on a Friday so that I had a long weekend to travel or go to festivals. (Cont...)
Work Projects
Making presentation slides to go towards a presentation on MBTI and culture. Writing blog posts for the company. Helping to develop a social media platform for personality tests. Doing extensive research for a BPS DOP conference submission about the single factor of personality. Developing an internal ‘knowledge wiki’ of the R&D documents and files at OPP. Creating job competency reports from research and OPP’s competency frameworks. Learning about psychometric tests and taking them. All of these projects were well supported by the team, who were happy to answer any questions as we went along and gave us a good instruction for the job we had to do (both ensuring we knew what they were looking for without telling us exactly what to do).

Lasting Impressions
We were given the kind of challenging work that made me feel valued and respected but was also really exciting in itself. I hadn’t really thought about research and development before, but the flexibility and creativity of the work was something that I really enjoyed. I had a strong input into my work, and it was real work that was useful to the organisation. The ethos and culture of the company was highly admirable – even as an intern, I was never made to feel as though I was bottom of the pile even if I technically was. It made me seriously consider the benefits of working in a medium-sized company, where there is both opportunity for exciting work and an individual identity. I certainly would like to work in this area, and I will be pursuing a Masters in Occupational Psychology. I liked the easygoing nature of living in Oxford, and there was certainly a lot of time in the week to do other things outside of work, which is not always the case in London. Overall, my expectations were exceeded by the internship and I will certainly be pursuing the area.
Daily Life
I would either take a tro-tro (bus) or a shared taxi to the office, followed by a short walk. I arrived at work at 7.45am each day, to participate in morning “Devotion”, a 45-minute prayer, song and dance session of Christian worship. I then usually went for some morning “Waakye” - a dish made of rice, beans, casava, stew, fish and pasta! (Yes, I put on a lot of weight whilst in Ghana!) I would then carry out my work for the day and leave around 5pm. After work I usually relaxed, cooked dinner or went out for drinks with friends from my accommodation. On the weekends I travelled extensively with friends. Over the course of the internship I visited Ada Foa, Wli Waterfalls, Cape Coast, Kakum National Park, Kumasi, Adomwomase, Lake Bosomtwe, Tamale, Mole National Park and even Lome in Togo.

Work Projects
I worked in the Operations department of Opportunity International Savings and Loans Ltd. (OISL), a Microfinance organisation. My first project involved re-writing the Banking Operational Policy and Procedure Manual, which involved observing all processes and visually representing them using Microsoft Visio software. I also designed employee test and answer booklets based on the information in the manual. My second project was re-designing and updating OISL’s internal service level agreements, which involved interviewing all the various departments, from Credit Risk, Legal and Finance to HR, Admin and Data. I also completed various tasks on the side, creating and delivering presentations and meeting clients.

Lasting Impressions
I felt so fortunate to visit such a vibrant, diverse and fascinating culture and it was an amazing introduction to West Africa. I was privileged to learn so much about local customs, languages, cuisine, music and history from my colleagues and friends and I will never forget this truly unbelievable place. Participating in the internship has actually influenced me to the extent that I now seek to apply for an MPhil in Development Studies, with the prospect of returning to the region in future. Visiting Ghana only made me realise how much of Africa there is left to explore and I hope I can return to the country or visit more of West Africa in future.
OTSUMA GAKUIN: PRIVATE UNIVERSITY
Tokyo, Japan
Jeremy Boydell, 2nd Year, BA English Language & Literature, Magdalen College

Daily Life
I commuted from a student dormitory to the school via the underground system each day.

Working days varied from time spent helping in the office and studying Japanese to teaching large classes for about 6 hours total each day.

Out of work I made friends with the other students in the dormitory, but also explored Tokyo by myself.

Work Projects
I taught classes of conversational English and was assisted by a co-worker.

I also was able to talk to University students to try and demystify the Oxford application process.

Lasting Impressions
I really enjoyed it - although Tokyo can be very isolating (in terms of the distance from loved ones at home) I would definitely like to work there in the future.
Nia Madden

Daily Life

For the internship, settling in was a little choppy. However, after a slightly rough hostel, we were put up in a lovely hotel within easy walking distance of work. I taught for around 6 or 7 hours a week and occasionally observed other lessons being given, or joined in with role plays. Outside of work I went exploring, visiting the sights in Ningbo - temples, museums, shops - and travelling to the nearby city of Hangzhou where there is a beautiful lake and some forested mountains. Evenings were spent doing Tai Chi in the local park, or in a bar and I even went to karaoke.

Work Projects

For my internship, I taught Chemistry and Oral English at a Chinese summer camp to a class of 6 students. The host organisation organised accommodation and travel within China. Regarding the teaching, the organisation was very "hands off" which was great as I had the freedom to structure my own course and teach the parts which I thought would be most useful and interesting.

Lasting Impressions

China is a fantastic country, full of heritage and tradition and wonderful contradictions. The internship has made me think hard about working abroad, and I realize now that I could never work in Asia - it is too different from England. As for a career, I am still considering teaching; the internship certainly hasn't discouraged me!

Calypso Blaj

Daily Life

I woke up at 8am to be at school by 9am with all my necessary documents for the day’s lessons printed out. I had one class in the morning and one in the afternoon, each 3.5 hours long with breaks of 10-15 minutes every hour. We had lunch with the students and sometimes if I was lucky I would have afternoons off! After lessons were over I played badminton with some of the students, or used the local swimming pool, then went back to my accommodation and planned work for the next day. In the evenings I sometimes went to the bar with the other teachers including those at the school, or played pool and relaxed. I had the weekends free which was fantastic as I travelled round Hangzhou and Suzhou which are both beautiful water towns.

Work Projects

I have found the camp here to be fairly intense but consequently rewarding. As there are only two of us here, it means that we end up teaching for on average 2.5 - 5 hours Monday to Friday. We each have two classes: the first is PET which has two students of similar ability (about 17yo), and the second is IELTS which has one advanced student (19yo). The students are very well-behaved. I cover reading and writing, so a big part of my lesson plans are reading comprehensions which we go through as a class, stopping every (Cont...)
line with them underlining vocabulary they don’t un-
derstand which I then explain to them. The coordina-
tor is particularly indispensable at this point, as some
of the concepts are so abstract and difficult to explain
(eg. ‘general’ or ‘dignity’) that a direct translation from
English to Chinese is necessary. I referred to the text-
book when constructing my lesson plans, but mostly
they were my independent creations. I used resources
from the internet and covered areas that I thought
each particular class would find interesting - whether
on aspects of British culture, current affairs etc. I liked
the freedom I was given as being allowed to devise my
own material demonstrated a certain respect and trust
towards me on behalf of the school that made me feel
welcomed and enthusiastic.

Lasting Impressions
I found China absolutely fascinating, and being there
forced me to reassess a lot of my own previously-held
thought-systems and modes of life that I didn’t real-
ise were so deeply ingrained in me. I ate foods I didn’t
know existed, met some very welcoming people as
well as other great students who were also on the in-
ternship, and above all got the travel-bug. I intend to
return to China, particularly to go to Xi’an, and from
there to move on to other parts of Asia that I didn’t
have the time to see this time round. Before doing this
internship I had vague plans of taking a year out after
my degree to teach English in China, but now I am con-
sidering other options which involve me seeing other
parts of the world. I learnt that whilst I find China to be
a fun and exciting place to travel round, working there
is different and would have been stressful without my
angelic Chinese co-ordinator to take me through the
protocol and explain things to me. As for my career
goals, it has shown me that teaching English abroad is
a good way to earn an enviable amount of pay whilst
also being able to travel extensively - an innate skill
worth capitalising on! I am incredibly grateful for the
experience and would do another internship of a simi-
lar ilk without hesitation.

Natalie Fernandes
Daily Life
You work 8 hours a day 5 days a week. The school I
worked at was next to the hotel which meant I could
walk there each day and didn’t need to get a bus - al-
though quite a few interns including myself also bought
a cheap bike to make it easier to get around the city.
On days off you have the chance to visit nearby cit-
ies - so for example one week I did a mountain hike in
Nanjing

Work Projects
I taught to students between the ages of 12 and 24
with varied levels of English ability.

Lasting Impressions
I would recommend this internship – especially to any-
one who has not been to China before as its flexible
enough to allow you to travel around the country both
during and after the internship.

Melissa Varney
Daily Life
Got to work on the local bus, after crossing the busy
roads and avoiding the scooters. Would arrive in the
office at 9am and prepare for teaching. After teaching
(Cont...)
for a full day, I would work until around 4pm. Usually having some street food for lunch and some noodles or egg fried rice and dumplings for dinner. The evenings were mainly shopping, eating, watching TV, and preparing lessons. It was too hot to be outside, even during the evenings.

**Work Projects**
Worked with over 100 students in the school. The first project was a week long and gave the students a taste of university life in US/UK. The second project involved 3 weeks of an intense language, preparing the students to take the IELTS exam.

**Lasting Impressions**
I absolutely love China and want to go back to work there next summer. The culture and people are fascinating. There is so much history and many beautiful buildings. It has definitely confirmed I would like to become a teacher after leaving university and has made me realise that it is possible to teach anywhere in the world.

**Gemma Robson**
**Daily Life**
I would work 5 days a week and had two days a week off, which were spent cycling to other towns or the Yangtze, visiting local places of interest and discovering new kinds of food.

**Work Projects**
I worked from 9–6 or 12–9 5 days a week. We taught a minimum of 5 lessons of an hour each, with additional marketing and planning tasks also required.

**Lasting Impressions**
I have completely changed my opinion of China, and Chinese students, for the better. Before I was probably quite influenced by media portrayal and I have now realised that I was very prejudiced. I would consider taking teaching to a higher level once I graduate, and I will certainly teach EFL again.

**Caroline Greenfield**
**Daily Life**
As an example of my day, I would wake up at about 8am, go to the fruit shop next store (who now know I want 1 weirdly unripe banana to put with my porridge!), get to school at 8.45am (15 minutes walk alone as only one of us teaching the class at a time) to teach 9am–12noon. Wander back to hotel via local canteen or food market; very cheap and tasty food! In the afternoon would probably not be teaching if I had taught in the morning so would find who else was not teaching and explore city, walk around beautiful Moon Lake or chill. We were lucky to be in a decent sized city (8 million) with a Laowaitan (Westerners town) full of bars which were perfect for meeting other travellers and hanging (Cont...)
out as a group in the evenings. Mainly socialised with other Seminar Leaders (6 in our group) but met some other travellers who we often co-ordinated with in the evening.

**Work Projects**

All schools or ‘camps’ varied slightly though the basic brief was be prepared to be flexible, speak English, build confidence (big one for Asian students) and have fun. First week of teaching I did was actually an emergency fill in for a girl who had fallen ill; class of 14 teaching a summer English course. First time I had done any formal teaching so good to be thrown in at the deep end and I think students are very receptive of a teacher’s interest in them/their future so this and adapting lesson plans (all provided for in advance this week) to varied standards was more than enough. Main teaching block was 3 weeks in Ningbo.

The original plan was 2/3 hours maths teaching a day to two classes of 20. But I ended up teaching one morning of maths a week and a couple of afternoons of very informal English to a class of 6.

Finally helped at a pre-high school programme in Shanghai. Probably my highlight; class very bright, school very nice, free meals and a chance to go to a military camp with the class for 5 days. One of the most memorable experiences of my life to date! As may be gleamed from Ningbo experience, Chinese organisation can change 24/7 and at the last minute. OCSEP supported us very well in the face of this; they provided co-ordinators (bi-lingual Chinese university students) who navigated us through/gave us cultural pointers, we were given phones and sims and constantly updated on what was ahead and I felt safe at all times.

**Lasting Impressions**

Living and working in a place for 7 weeks is such a good way to ‘feel’ a country and its culture. I was bowled over by the Chinese hospitality: constantly being asked if I needed help; was offered magazines, people would want to talk; if there were no taxis families would offer lifts to the station etc. The flip side was that personal space (very big in Britain) was almost non-existent but this only got to me on one occasion. Definitely want to return to China; so much more of the country to see. Would not, however, work there or anywhere else other than London (home) in the long run. Working on a performance entitled ‘passion’ with a class in Shanghai confirmed, cheesily, that passion in a profession is important. Also remembered that I have to do something that requires brain power in professional life. Slightly clearer on future career goals then, perhaps, but also assured that I will be fine whatever happens.
Stephanie Jackson
Daily Life
We lived in hotel accommodation for the month. We either had a 9am or 12am starting time. We bought bikes there to cycle to work, Shifts were 9 hours. When work finished either at 18:00 or 21:00 we would usually go for a bike ride (we being the other interns) or get some food somewhere and relax. 9pm shifts usually ended in a quick meal and then heading home.

Work Projects
Our job was to create lesson plans each day and teach for 5 hours out of a 9 hour work day. The support we received were example plans and the ability to shadow a few lessons before we started. We also participated in a marketing stunt.

Lasting Impressions
It has made a positive impression about China on me, and I want to return perhaps next year for a longer period of time. Although I am interested in the education sector, I do know that I do not want to be a fulltime teacher; one month was fun but I would not want to do it fulltime.

April Vlahakis
Daily Life
We had an amazing apartment in central Xi’an, I settled in very quickly, work was a 10 minute walk away, the students were so amazing and sweet. Our shifts were very variable, some days 9-12pm, then 9-5pm, then 13pm-5pm depending on what was required. When work was finished we visited new places, tourist stuff, went to restaurants, socialized with Chinese people, had fun. But we also spent about 2 hours each day planning lessons.

Work Projects
Debating Teaching English (reading, writing, grammar, listening, speaking)
University experience camp; Sports day; Cultural exchange; Organising events. We received a certain amount of support in terms of a teaching guide, but we had to rectify and change lesson plans according to the children’s English abilities.

Lasting Impressions
I would definitely go back, it was one of the best experiences of my life... the cultural experience was just indescribable.
Daily Life
I worked 8 hours a day, 5 days a week, and lived about 30 mins walk and metro from the office. Generally I’d get into work around 10.30, and leave around 6.30, and after work I would either get a coffee with a friend from work, have a Russian lesson, or head home and relax. On the weekends I would usually hang out with friends at one of Moscow’s parks, galleries or other attractions, or at one of our flats.

Work Projects
My internship was entirely devoted to a single research project - a study of Russian and Soviet scholarships to African students and their impact. Oxfam gave me considerable responsibility in the project, allowing myself and another intern to take the lead in planning, conducting and writing up our research, but guidance was always on hand when we needed it.

Lasting Impressions
Moscow is a peculiar city - it is very imposing, with huge Soviet buildings and hurried stone-faced pedestrians, but it is also extremely beautiful, to such an extent that it is difficult to walk for more than a few minutes in the city centre without spotting another breathtaking building or sculpture. Working at Oxfam has been an incredible experience; to feel part of such an inspiring organisation has been a very fulfilling experience, and one I would very much like to replicate in the future.

“...to feel part of such an inspiring organisation has been a very fulfilling experience.”
William Dutton
Daily Life
Each morning I would get up and go to the refectory and grab some quick breakfast before walking down to the nearest tube station and travelling to the centre of London. On arrival I would settle into office and have a catch-up with the leader of the team by Google hangouts or in person if he was there. Then I would work on the current task until lunch. At lunch I would head down to the canteen for some lunch - the canteen has a wide variety of meals and snacks so there is always something you will like! After lunch there would be video call conference with the other members of the team to report what you did, what you are going to do and if there are any problems. The rest of the afternoon I would continue working until the evening. The hours are flexible so you could leave any time providing you are putting in 35 hours a week. The evening I would usually pop into a large supermarket on the way back to grab some food to make dinner with and chill out for the evening. Occasionally I would meet with another friend on a similar internship and some of his friends. The weekend you have to yourself to do anything you like - be it exploring London or just chilling out for the day. The trip also includes a week to New York to work at the office there - they put you in a nice hotel and take you out for meals out regularly! You also can have a couple of days to sight see which I did and I also managed to meet up with a friend who was around the area at the same time!

Work Projects
Creating a website front end to a search engine that the team have been working on. Transforming and extracting information out of specially formatted objects so that the information can be added to the search engine.

Lasting Impressions
This was the first time that I did actual real work that I was being paid for! It really made me feel good when I realised that I was able to learn lots of completely new things and produce something of value from them that was appreciated by others. It really raised my confidence about being a programmer and helped me see that it was something that I can do and enjoy. With regards to travelling to New York - It actually made me appreciate the culture in England some more than I used to! The culture in New York is more different to England than you might think and I didn't particularly like it though it was nice to try out. However I do think it will definitely appeal to some people!

Omer Sheikh Mohamed
Daily Life
I’d get in at 9 then catch up with my supervisor to see what the goals were for the day. I would then complete the work that I was set and also attend several meetings during the day. The trip also includes a week to New York to work at the office there - they put you in a nice hotel and take you out for meals out regularly! You also can have a couple of days to sight see which I did and I also managed to meet up with a friend who was around the area at the same time!

Work Projects
I was analyzing data regularly and presenting my findings

Lasting Impressions
It’s helped me focus my career goals and has also provided me with valuable experience which will make me more employable
PERM STATE UNIVERSITY
Perm, Russia
Rachel Mumford, 2nd Year, BA Biological Sciences, New College
Yuqian Gan, 1st Year, MSc Earth Sciences, University College
Ruth Amey, 3rd Year Penultimate, MSc Earth Sciences, St Anne's College
Katherine Williams, 2nd Year, BA Biological Sciences, Wadham College
Bhavik Lodhia, 3rd Year Penultimate, MSc Earth Sciences, St Anne's College

Rachel Mumford
Daily Life
There has been not typical day in the last two months. We had to be prepared for very varied living conditions from camping to hostels to log cabins. The work was equally varied, working with different professors and students in different areas of Biology which has made for a great summer. We have met so many people evenings in Perm city can always be filled by inviting over or meeting up with various students we have been on trips with.

Work Projects
4 days spent bird watching by a lake. Really fun and we got to swim and kayak however a field guide in English would have helped a lot as none of us had much previous knowledge of bird varieties. 7 days spent doing botany, zoology and entomology. The professors were friendly and helpful however the course was very much geared towards recording Latin names of species. Basegi Nature Reserve - 3 days walking up a mountain and characterising different plant communities, an incredibly varied and beautiful place although again we didn't learn very much! 10 day international summer school with students from Italy, Russia and Poland. A great social experience as well as studying many different subjects including Geology! A day Botany field trip all over Perm State, We learnt a lot from the professor who took us to the varied and important habitats of the region. River trip - 4 days spent rafting and camping for fun, 4 day mushroom course at a field centre. We learnt a great deal from the professor and got to eat our specimens too!

Lasting Impressions
I have really enjoyed living in Russia, I have made friends with lots of people and I hope to keep in contact with them in the future. I would definitely like to travel here again however I can't imagine living here. My lasting impressions will be of interesting hygiene standards, lovely people, incredible natural beauty and interesting food.

Yuqian Gan
Daily Life
We live in student accommodation in the university with three beds in a room. If we are doing work in university, then we usually get up at 9, going to the lab or classroom at 10, having lunch in the student canteen at 1, finishing working at around 5, go to the supermarket buy food and cook dinner in accommodation kitchen. Sometimes we invite friends we made here for dinner or we go out for a walk or drink. During weekends we would go to the city centre for post office etc. When out in the field our timetable is more irregular, but generally get up at 8am and finish the day at 6pm.

Work Projects
Projects: Summer school on ecology with Russian, Italian and Polish students; geophysics survey using georadarr and seismic methods; Stratigraphic logging of limestones; Biologic survey in Basegi Natural Reserve. Rafting down the river; various laboratory visits.

Lasting Impressions
The area is of great natural beauty and people of great kindness. I really enjoyed my stay and would like to go back, both for the geology and friends I made there. (Cont...)
Although I am still undecided about my careers and goals, this opportunity did allow me to explore more of the subject.

Ruth Amey  
**Daily Life**
There’s no average day. This internship consisted of six different fieldtrips, each completely different in terms of accommodation (flat, hotel, log cabin, tent), length (from two to ten days) and occupation (taking resistivity or seismic data, making stratigraphic columns, doing ecology or biology).

You must be prepared for any living conditions, and also not knowing what they will be (and how long you’ll be in each place for) until you arrive, as the university was often not very specific about it.

**Work Projects**
- **Geophysics in Berezniki** – Three days taking resistivity data in Berezniki, then three days analysing the data to produce a short report, focussing on potential risk of sinkhole formation.

- **Stratigraphy in Gubaha** – One week creating stratigraphic logs and making detailed notes on fossils that are used to date the epochs in a limestone section.

- **Geophysics in Sarkaevo** – Investigating a recently opened sink hole. Two days making georadar and seismic data, then a week processing and interpreting the results to produce a draft report. We will continue to converse with the professor after the internship to produce a research paper.

- **Biology in Basegi** – Botany based activities, joint with Oxford biology students.

- **Preduralie International Field School** – A range of activities including geology, forestry, ecology and botany, with students from all over Russia, Italy and also Poland.

- **Rafting** – a recreational, four day rafting and camping expedition.

**Lasting Impressions**
Previously, I never thought I would go to Russia. But this internship has given me such a good impression of Russian culture and particularly Russian people, who are incredibly friendly and hospitable, so I’m now sure I will return. Many places we have been to in Perm region are exceptionally beautiful, and I feel very lucky to have visited them. The geophysics work I have done has confirmed my interest in a career in this sector, particularly as the data we have collected and interpreted has a genuine practical application to people’s welfare, because we were investigating sinkholes which are a huge problem in this region. (Cont...)
Katherine Williams  
**Daily Life**

When we first arrived, a group of Russian students from the English language faculty showed us around the city and helped us to settle in. They were available any time we needed them and were very helpful. We stayed in the student accommodation at the campus while in Perm but during the many expeditions we were either in tents (only two periods of four or five days) or wooden cabins. We travelled to each location by bus or occasionally train but this was all organised for us and was prepaid. During expeditions, the hours in the field were very variable and some days were very long while others were surprisingly short. There were always plenty of tea breaks though, which made the irregular meal times perfectly acceptable! Our translators in the field (either biology students who spoke good English or trained interpreters) were so friendly that we spent time with many of them during the time we were in Perm.

**Work Projects**

We went on several expeditions in small groups with a couple of professors and one or two students from Perm State University, during which we learned about an aspect of the fauna, flora or ecology of the region. We were asked to produce short reports on the plant species of several areas though little written work was required. Mostly the time was spent experiencing the biology and learning about the plants, animals or mushrooms rather than carrying out any actual research. We also spent a week at an international summer school where people from Italian, Polish and Russian universities came to learn about the region and present their own research.

**Lasting Impressions**

Though the first few weeks were a bit difficult, getting used to the differences between British and Russian culture, I can honestly say that by the end of the internship I was in love with Russia - its landscapes, and more importantly its people. Everyone we met was so friendly and welcoming and willing to do anything to help us out. It has made me realize how self-absorbed and focused on unimportant things we have become in the west. I don't think I could live or work in Perm because I don't like the city and I'm not sure I could deal with -40 degrees and 6 months of snow! On the way home, though, we spent two days in Moscow and I might consider living and working there at some point. I would need to learn more Russian though! The experience has shown me that despite the fact that I love working outdoors and carrying out field work, I would not want to do this all of the time or for a career. So it has changed my views.

(Cont...)
Bhavik Lodhia

Daily Life
Daily life was completely varied, during my time in Perm City it was based around the working day with free time in the evenings. When in the field, we would work during the day and set up camp etc in the evening, and I would collect/cut firewood myself.

Work Projects
- Russian Language & Culture - Geology, Geophysics & Geochemistry lectures - Geological & Geophysical data acquisition & interpretation - Scientific report writing - Geological/Biological fieldwork - Adventurous pursuits, such as climbing, kayaking, caving and a river expedition.

Lasting Impressions
I would like to return to Russia in the future. I would not like to live permanently in Russia, due to the trouble that Russian citizens have with visas etc when traveling abroad. However, I would consider living and working in Russia for a limited time in the future should it be necessary for my future work.
Rebecca Lee
Daily Life
The office was quite relaxed, and everyone there was very friendly. It is a small office, and is open plan, so it was easy to get to know everyone very fast. As an intern, I worked very flexible hours as my work depended on projects coming in to the office, but they were generally 9AM - 5.30PM. Their office is in central Oxford, so I was able to cycle by the river every morning on my commute, and was often overtaken by my speedier colleagues! Interns were warmly welcomed by everyone there, and we were included in office social activities, which included many pub trips and a lunch in town.

Work Projects
I worked as an Editorial Assistant at Richmond ELT, which included proof-reading drafts of new manuscripts, editing proofs before they went to print, and checking printed books for errors before they were reprinted. Additionally, I learned how to use the software to make changes to digital books, with integrated audio and video. I also had the opportunity to be involved in some of the marketing, and wrote some blog posts and Twitter updates for the website. Everyone in the office was extraordinarily friendly and welcoming, and was always happy to answer questions or explain things.

Lasting Impressions
This was an excellent opportunity to get some valuable experience in the Publishing industry! The office was very small and tight-knit, so it was easy to learn about the whole process from commissioning to editing, to design and printing. Educational publishing, especially ELT, is a sector of Publishing that is only getting bigger, and it was exciting to learn more about the new digital e-books that are being produced. I would happily go back for another summer.

Emma Finlayson
Daily Life
9am-5pm working day. I cycled to work from Cowley. I socialised with my friends but occasionally with coworkers when there was a pub trip organised.

Work Projects
I edited an educational Music course in English but designed for primary school Spanish children.

Lasting Impressions
It was in Oxford. I enjoyed publishing but I don’t think it’s the career for me, partly because it is changing so rapidly with the development of technology.
Daily Life
I cycled or got the train to arrive between 9 and 10, worked until 1 in an office with one other person, took an hour lunch break in which I might go for a walk, read in the library or visit the onsite museum. I would finish around 5pm.

Work Projects
I helped at a research grant interview day; updating the website; gathering information from a database.

Lasting Impressions
The atmosphere and people were both great, it was very relaxed and friendly. I would work there again.
Daily Life
35min bus to work. Hours were 9–5, with a lunch hour. Settled in fine, only for a short period so didn’t really matter. Other interns (non-Oxford) were there so easy to socialize during lunch hour. Outside of work met established friends.

Work Projects
Preparation of a multi-stream events calendar detailing future conferences relating to global health, creation of a database of global health related UK courses, production of a report into the financing of global health initiatives by the private sector to be used to consider their possible investment in RSTMH, marketing of a special programme for World Hepatitis Day

Lasting Impressions
Internship was good for two weeks as an insight to the work of RSTMH, but not something I’d want for a career (never the expectation, so goals unchanged).
Daily Life
My work day started between 8.30-10, when I’d go downstairs, grab breakfast and help set up for any incoming sessions/tidy from previous ones. Most sessions start by about 11am, and we would often be out in the woods by 12. I might be helping a group set up a campfire to cook sausages, or seeking out hidden animals and minibeasts with toddlers. After the session had finished, I would help pack up and plan for the rest of the week. My work day was normally over by about 4.30 so, unless there was a group staying for an overnight residential (which meant evening badger watches and roasted marshmallows), this was free time for me to explore the local area.

Work Projects
I was involved with a number of groups associated with the Hastings Wild Things Project, which aims to increase access to the woodland as a means of natural, environmental and animal education. This meant I got to work with teens in the Youth Group, or from local secondary school William Parker, right down to toddlers & mum’s in the bi-weekly Young Parents’ sessions. Not only did I get to help run sessions and trails within Mallydams, I also got to go and trips further afield, with events in local beaches and parks. I was also on hand for the monthly Open Wood, when Mallydams is opened to the public, as well as the annual Open Day, which saw Bill Oddie as the celebrity guest! I learnt a lot about handling sometimes challenging groups, and about tailoring sessions to the needs of the participants, whether they be limited by aims, age or curriculum. I also benefited from being part of team meetings, through which I learnt the importance of feedback, particularly in being able to secure funding.

Lasting Impressions
My experience at Mallydams was downright amazing. The staff are incredibly friendly and welcoming, the site and local area are beautiful and I found the work both fulfilling and useful. I am now much better prepared to facilitate projects for a wide range of age groups, and have a new-found respect for the importance of outdoor activities and taking children and teams (not to mention parents) outside of their comfort zone. I felt supported throughout, and benefited wholeheartedly from the experience.
RUSH UNIVERSITY
Chicago, USA
Sarah Burd, 2nd Year, BA Biomedical Sciences, Lincoln College
Imogen Sharkey Ochoa, 2nd Yr, BA Human Sciences, St Catherine’s College

Sarah Burd
Daily Life
Daily life in the lab was very varied; however it may entail a couple of hours working with mice (measurements or applying treatments). Alternatively it could be focused more on molecular experiments and in vitro work. In the between time, background research of the literature could be studied.

Work Projects
I have been working in the Immunology Laboratory looking at the relationship between immunity and skin melanoma formation and progression. This has involved both in vitro and in vivo models to measure the effectiveness of new cancer therapies and to investigate the mechanism behind melanoma formation.

Lasting Impressions
I have really enjoyed my time on the internship - both in the lab and exploring Chicago. It is a great city and I could definitely see myself returning for a longer period to work here.

Imogen Sharkey Ochoa
Daily Life
Typical day: 8am wake up, 930am start. Worked downstairs with the mice for a few hours, lunch, logistical and data collection organization, perhaps some molecular processing, flow cytometry, and data analysis. Leave around 6pm. Sometimes, it was necessary to come back into the lab late at night, around 10/11pm, and on weekends to keep up with experiments.

Work Projects
I was involved in experiments regarding mice, tumour instigation, and immunotherapy. Different therapies were tested against controls to see if they made any significant difference. Cutting edge new nano-technologies were also used in the experiments, something that was invaluable given that nowhere else in the world would a professional, let alone an intern, be doing this kind of work.

Lasting Impressions
I would certainly return to Chicago, and to Rush. It was a FANTASTIC facility. The best in the world, I have no doubt. Quarters were small, but the work going on inside that lab is incredible, and the future for cancer research is laden with potential. I can’t quite believe I was able to contribute to it in some way. It has changed my career goals simply in that I don’t see myself doing research. It is not that I didn’t enjoy the internship, I did. In fact, it was a hugely great summer and I wouldn’t have spent it anywhere else. However, I realize that my passion is not fitted for lab work.
John Musson
Daily Life
Nice early starts, I set my alarm for 6:15 am to get my room mate and I alive and about awake for a 7 am start, normally on a coach with some kind of breakfast in a bag, a variety of little bakery items and soy milk. Then, if it was a good day, it'd be straight off to some excursion, like Mount Qingcheng, home of one of the most important Taoist sites in China; a great day walking up a lot (a lot!) of steps, chatting with students from Oxford and Sichuan alike, marvelling at why all the Chinese women were wearing high heels up the mountain and how all the grannies were fitter than you, sweating away in the humid Chengdu air and enjoying a cold mango juice purchased for the princely sum of 10p. We were left to our own devices from around 4pm most days, so it was relax, perhaps a quick shower, check up on evening plans with people sharing our accommodation (students from Queen Mary's, London and Singapore University were sharing our building) and then over the road to the free cafeteria for a shared dinner around a lazy Susan.

If the next morning was nothing too strenuous, a lecture or maybe even a morning off, it was a 15 minute walk down to a large collection of bars, half of which included karaoke (which is a big thing in China), and two clubs; beer was very cheap, albeit very weak, at a pound a bottle in most bars, less in supermarkets. Being Caucasian also gets you access to a large number of free drinks, we sat with the manager most club nights, a round of beer shots in return for him getting a photo of us with him was the theme for more than one visit. However, if it was a bad day, the morning would consist of maybe a 45 minute journey to the university main campus, followed by a 2 or 3 hour lecture, often in Chinese, with varying levels of translation (varying from literally nothing, just a very dull opaque Chinese monologue, to a lecturer fluent in both languages, swapping every sentence), with subjects on varied topics such as Taoism, disaster prevention, personal image design (how to dress to be a good Chinese housewife, no example photo showed an item of clothing designed post 1990) or one day spent listening to science projects from the students. Lunch on the main campus canteen was at least always pretty good, though food in Chengdu could be dangerous, hot pot and pig's ears are nothing compared to chicken’s feet. This followed by an afternoon of what I like to think of as a lesson in Chinese organised fun, orienteering or a team building exercise. Days were hot, often interesting and with a fair bit of free time in the afternoon/early evening.

Work Projects
Highly varied, insofar as you could call it work, really many things were quite touristy, 3 different mountains, pandas, Jinli Street and a couple of museums.

Lasting Impressions
A great experience, absolutely worth going, especially with the generous contributions of the Li and Fung Scholarship, China is different in a way that you cannot experience in Europe or North America. I'd recommend getting someone to write down "please take me to ..." in Chinese for the cab before you land anywhere in China, because outside of Beijing, Hong Kong and Singapore, English is not the standard it is across Europe (mostly non-existent). Chengdu itself reminded me of Rio, with the juxtaposition of new and old, prosperity...
and privation and this internship gives you the unique interaction with students living there, something a holiday couldn’t give, that makes this such a unique and eye-opening fortnight.

Thomas Macdonald
Daily Life
Days typically started early with breakfast provided at 6:30am and activities beginning at 7am, although this was not really an issue due to jet lag. We were usually transported to where we needed to be by a coach or minibus, but we occasionally had to take a taxi, although these are very cheap. We generally had activities alongside students from Sichuan University and students from other universities such as Queen Mary’s, London and the National University of Singapore. We would finish work at around 4 every day and be free to do what we wanted. Meals were provided at a canteen across the road, but food elsewhere at restaurants was inexpensive.

Work Projects
During the internship we were asked to present at a number of conferences taking place within the two weeks. These included a competition based on the presentation of original research to a panel of academics and a forum on innovation in education. We also took part in team building exercises.

Lasting Impressions
I would be unlikely to return to work or live in western China, but it was an incredible place to visit and I would highly recommend it.

Samuel Fletcher
Daily Life
Most days started with breakfast at 6am, 7am we were normally on the way to something exciting: expeditions to climb Mt Emei, site of the first Buddhist temple in China in the 1st century A.D; archaeological dig sites; giant panda reserves; ancient streets and tea markets. The scheduled day was normally over by 4pm, meaning we would then normally go off in search of food with the other students that we met while we were there. All food was traditional Sichuan cooking; so many dumplings (also for breakfast), unidentifiable meat, and lots of chilli. The weather was hot and humid, at least 38 degrees each day and over 90% humidity.

Work Projects
While there, the six of us Oxford students in our group each had to do a presentation at some point in the trip, always to at least 100 staff/students and sometimes with only a couple of hours notice! These included giving more general talks about our cultural experiences and what we had gained so far, to making “elevator pitches” or posters and Q&A’s on our latest research topics.

Lasting Impressions
A real eye opener of a trip! An invaluable opportunity to travel to China’s “wild west”, and something I would be unlikely to have done otherwise! It was really fun going somewhere where it was such a culture shock, (Cont...)
the language barrier was sometimes problematic but we took flash cards!

Jonathan Bryant
Daily Life
The average day started relatively early at around 07:00. We would then take part in structured activities organised by the university for most of the day, separated into a morning and an afternoon session.

There was usually a different focus in each of these two sessions. Our structured schedule would terminate an hour before dinner, at which point we were free to explore Chengdu and Sichuan at our own leisure, and get to know the city ourselves. We were able to socialise with other visiting students, students of Sichuan University (who'd usually accompany us during the day and during the early evening), and the local population, who were very friendly and often enthusiastic to get to communicate with foreigners.

Work Projects
Participated in a university competition that provided the opportunity to give a talk on a subject you were interested in, discuss your project with university tutors from around the globe, and create a presentation in order to make your work accessible to the general public. While the academic work put into the project was largely completed independent of the host organisation, they were very helpful when it came to producing the presentations itself, and making sure all the necessary materials were available to me and the other competitors.

Lasting Impressions
Chengdu is a city of many contrasts, and it was great to be able to visit it before it became a truly global centre, but when you could clearly see the aspirations of the city to become one of the most prominent in China. Sichuan province allowed you the opportunity to visit a rural China, a developing China, and an extensively developed China, and gave you a broad insight of what life is like for many Chinese living in many different economic and social conditions.
Daily Life
Skyworks is a small company, consisting of (probably) less than 10 people, so I immediately got to know everyone in the office and the very basics. The atmosphere in the office was quite informal: it was normal to have quite long conversations. The people were interesting and always ready for a serious (or not so serious) philosophical discussion. And yes, it was quite surprising to see that people in the TV business are so into philosophy! This meant that there were no boring coffee breaks, and also that some coffee breaks took much more time than is appropriate. As for the work itself, I have spent the first week or two familiarizing myself with the workflow of the company, gathering the files the data I needed was stored in and studying their structure. It was surprising to be trusted (and expected to perform well) from the very start. For example, during the second week, when I still wasn’t very far with my project, I was sent to a big data management conference at Soho as a representative of Skyworks - and was expected to pick the things of interest to the company. Also, my proposals on the development of the internship project were always taken seriously and thought-through by other employees, even although at times they were quite radical. I certainly didn’t expect to have so much freedom. All in all, I was a fully responsible, genuine member of the Skyworks team.

Work Projects
Skyworks makes money from selling short aerial footage clips. To be able to sell more efficiently, the company needed to use various metadata (say, the description of the objects depicted or the geo-coordinates) which would make the clips more easily discoverable via a web search. As a matter of fact, a lot of important metadata was already gathered for other purposes, and simply had to be reused. So, the initial goal of my project was to write a program which would find all already gathered metadata associated with the clips and transform it to the required format. However, in the course of the internship, the project has changed its shape and I started making a more general system, which interlinked the most important bits of data that the company stored together and made the data management at least a little easier. I have received lots of support where the people in the company were able to give it - I was constantly disturbing them with questions and proposals. Sadly, the more down-to-earth, programming side was something no one else in the company knew enough to help. Therefore, apart from the project-management side, my work was mostly individual and done alone.

Lasting Impressions
I really liked London - something I didn’t expect - and I wouldn’t mind returning to live and work there. Skyworks itself also left a positive impression. I liked working in a friendly atmosphere of a small company, developing my own project with a real value for that company, and getting to know some interesting people. So, the internship was a freshening and reassuring experience. However, it didn’t (and in fact couldn’t in principle) help to better understand what I want from myself as it included elements from cinema/TV production, programming and project management, and reaffirmed that I could take a career related to any of these areas.
Daily Life
I was stationed at NPIC, located an hour away from downtown Phnom Penh, and fortunate to be offered free accommodation there as well, managed by the Institute’s very own hotel management school. The project coordinator, who picked me up from the airport when I arrived late on a rainy Saturday night and with whom I became good friends, took me downtown to visit SNV’s headquarters, get my mobile phone set up, and so on soon after my arrival. As I stayed on the NPIC campus, getting to work was just a two-minute walk from my room to the office building across the road. Work hours were flexible, but typically from 8 to 4. Outside of work, I got to know the students and staff at NPIC, who I met up with on weekends while downtown and shared with me their lives and aspirations. I was often invited to nights out after work at “beer gardens” (pubs) and karaoke bars, and to join them in imbibing locally-produced Angkor lager and trying exotic local foods, including fried insects in chilli sauce. The main ways of getting around were by tuk-tuk (auto rickshaw) and motorcycle (scary experiences at first because of the chaotic traffic!). I also took longer trips on weekends: to see the S21 prison cells and killing fields used by the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s around Phnom Penh; the 12th century Angkor Wat temples by Siem Reap; and the more recently developed beachside city of Sihanoukville.

Work Projects
I worked on the Waste to Energy (WtE) project in partnership with the National Polytechnic Institute of Cambodia (NPIC). The project aims to promote the sustainable production and consumption of milled rice, especially by converting rice husk to energy via standardized and regulated rice husk gasifier technology. I assisted the project team at NPIC by reviewing the training curriculum, plan, and manual. I also helped prepare assessments of candidates applying to operate gasifier machinery by reviewing candidates’ applications, helping select assessment questions, and ensuring that the appropriate measurement and welding tools were set up.

Lasting Impressions
Cambodia left me with a lasting, positive impression. Before I went there, I knew little about the country or its culture and history, but was told by people who had lived or visited there that Cambodians are unusually friendly and welcoming. They were right. I was inspired by the way in which Cambodians take things in their stride, despite having experienced one of the most brutal regimes (the Khmer Rouge) in recent history and political disturbance due to the more recent elections. Many Cambodians I spoke to were open-minded and forward-looking, striving to rapidly develop the country while learning from its neighbours. Even those from an older generation often spoke fondly of their study abroad experiences in the Soviet Union, Korea, Japan, and Indonesia. I certainly want to return to the region in the near future, and my internship in Cambodia has confirmed my strong desire to seek rich international experiences.
Daily Life
On a standard day, we’d try to be ready to leave the house at 8.30 am as it was a half an hour walk from our neighbourhood to Mandala House. Work would start at 9.00 am as we’d open the Library for our regular readers and get started on projects in the Archive. Generally we alternated between the Library and Archive, taking shifts for both these duties. The lovely proprietors of Mandala Cafe, Giorgio and Lois, were very kind in giving us a reasonable discount on lunches and even when we had packed lunch it was nice to go downstairs and have a coffee break in the beautiful gardens around Mandala House. We’d generally get a mixture of tourists, regular readers and people new to Blantyre coming to visit and would either give them a general tour of the rather grand rooms in the Society of Malawi or would help them in their research. After closing up at about 4.00 pm, we’d walk home and think of something to do in the evenings. Nightlife was quite varied but generally there was quite a lot to keep you occupied in Blantyre. As we were provided with house sitting accommodation in Blantyre, it was maybe a little bit harder to meet people our own age in the city but generally Malawians are incredibly friendly people and it’s never difficult to meet new people. As it gets dark at about 5.00 pm, it was a little slow at first but by really putting the effort in you can meet enough people in order to have fun in the evenings or at the weekends. If I could give one piece of advice, it would be to find some way to travel around this amazing country on your weekends. We were fortunate enough to be taken on boat trips, lent cars and to go on road trips with people we met. There is so much in Malawi to keep you occupied between the beautiful scenery, safari parks, tea estates, Mount Mulanje, areas of historical interest, Zomba Plateau and of course Lake Malawi.

Work Projects
Aside from our main purpose in keeping the library open over the summer months, our main work project was finishing off the long-term cataloguing project in the Archive. Once this was complete, we were able to move onto cataloguing the fascinating Rangeley papers and, perhaps the most fun aspect of Archive work, sorting through old photographs and working out which ones should be included on the digital archive. This involved sorting through some truly eclectic material but there were some stunning old photographs of Malawi and the rest of Africa to be found. We also helped in the annual check on books, in order to make sure none were missing and tidied up some IT problems for the Society. Other side projects involved setting up social networking for the Society and exploring alternative funding options. There’s plenty of scope for interns to explore their own projects for the Society and it might be a good idea for interns either to gain some experience of bookbinding and other restorative skills or to utilise more IT skills for the Society’s slow but sure digitisation process.

Lasting Impressions
My lasting impressions of the internship are the benefits of its relaxed nature and the opportunities for interns to really work from their own initiative. The internship was a fantastic opportunity for me as I had never worked closely with African history and this was a valuable way of learning more about it. Learning how libraries and archives work first hand was also a valuable experience and has really helped me to think about where I’d like my career to take me and in what fields I am interested. Living in Malawi was an amazing and unforgettable experience and one I’d thoroughly recommend to anyone. It’s a truly amazing country and I’d love to return and explore it more thoroughly.
Daily Life
When I arrived, Sue, our office manager had found me a fantastic apartment to live in, just 50m from the beach. Whilst living on my own was strange after coming from a college atmosphere, I soon settled into a daily rhythm and which was helped by how easy everything around was to access, and how I enjoyed work. An average day: 8am: Wake up, watch the news over breakfast 8.50am: Cycle to work 9am: Arrive at work, carry on with my projects – creating maps to show clients, or following up potential leads. 11am: Go out for a coffee with Paul to discuss how our work was going. Afternoon: Carry on works in progress, go to meetings. 5–6pm: Cycle home, perhaps go to the gym or go for a run along the beach. 8pm: Head into the city, or Jetty Road for a drink with a friend. Australia shuts shop early during the week though! I had some amazing experiences on the weekends – travelling with friends all around South Australia camping, wine tasting and walking. I recommend couchsurfing.org as a way to meet people! Without it I would have been a bit stuck!

Work Projects
During my time with Spatial Scientific, I covered a wide range of projects. At first, I spent a couple of weeks learning how to use GIS software, and familiarising myself with the work and results which the company produced. It also eased me in to an understanding of who the company’s key clients were, and how the business worked. This was essential experience to take through to my major project: finding and increasing customer value for the company. I then moved on to researching opportunities for growth within the South Australian mining sector. The knowledge I had gained meant that I was confident in talking to potential clients about our work. Indeed, in my third week I attended a mining conference, and through this was able to set up a meeting with the environmental department of a multinational mining company. I was given the opportunity to take part in presenting our work at this meeting, and it has resulted in a significant investment in our services. The support I received in this from Paul, my sponsor, was fantastic. He was extremely appreciative of my networking, and we spent a lot of time together preparing for the meeting, including the four hour drive each way to get there! In the second month of the internship, I focused on increasing the value of our viticulture customers. Again, I was able to set up a promising meeting with a group of grape growers, at which I took responsibility for presenting our services. Hopefully this has resulted in an investment from one of Australia’s largest wine producers (I wish I could stay to follow up the lead!). It was fascinating getting to know how the viticulture industry works, and how remote sensing technologies I learnt about in my degree applied to these widely varying industries. It was also a perk that a few of our meetings were followed by trips to the clients’ tasting rooms!

Lasting Impressions
I would certainly return to Australia to travel – the country has some incredible sights to see, and I only touched the surface. You could do a lot worse than living by the beach for a couple of months, only 10 minutes walk from work! The staff at Spatial Scientific made my time here really enjoyable – Paul made sure I saw and understood the company’s whole structure and business. I even got to go flying in their small aircraft! Rather than in previous internships I have done, where you feel like another slat in the big conveyor belt of interns, I know that the work I did for Spatial Scientific was important, and genuinely helped the company. Spatial Scientific is a unique place to do an internship. It’s a small operation, but holds some big contracts with important clients – you’d struggle to find an organisation willing to give an intern so much responsibility anywhere else.
Daily Life
I worked approximately seven to eight hours every week day, starting from 9:30 and ending at 17:30. Some events I stewarded or volunteered at fell on the weekends, but I was more than happy to come in for them as I lived in college accommodation five minutes away on foot. I gradually became familiar with most people working at the museum, and they gave each intern a thoughtful gift and a farewell tea party on their last day, which in itself speaks for the caring, good-natured people I worked with!

Work Projects
I was responsible for advertising and documenting Alice’s Day across Oxford, an annual event celebrating the original inspiration behind “Alice in Wonderland”. I also documented and designed a scrapbook on behalf of the museum for Maggie’s Day, an annual event in honour of Maggie Evans that celebrates the power of storytelling, often with local schoolchildren. In addition, I prepared an initial report on the variety of existing Friends schemes to help the Museum set up its own scheme, amalgated media reports for a funding bid, stewarded and sold tickets for theatrical performances at the museum, and updated databases of media contacts and of the museum’s collection of children’s literature. There were always people in the office who I felt comfortable asking for help if I needed it, and they welcomed me into their tight-knit family, introducing me to everyone and including me in their daily activities and meetings. At the same time, they let me prioritise the tasks I was given and trusted my judgment on carrying them out, which increased my motivation to do my best.

Lasting Impressions
I would love to return to the museum to work there; I still firmly believe in everything that it stands for and works towards. My experience there led me to research volunteering opportunities at other museums aimed for children, such as the V&A Museum of Childhood in London.
Daily Life
I worked in a fantastic office, with an incredibly friendly and welcoming team of people. Daily life involved arriving at the office at nine, talking to my colleagues, and checking emails. I had weekly meetings with my boss, directing my projects, but other than that was left to work mainly under my own steam. However, the office is very much a team effort, and I was involved in helping with little tasks in other projects, whether that was doing some research for our database officer, or contacting alumni for our head of alumni relations.

Lunch was provided in the college dining hall which was lively, as it provided the opportunity to talk to other members of the college, and find out about other aspects of work at St. Peter’s! A ‘normal’, event free day ended at around five.

Work Projects
I had two broad projects. One involved the history of the St. Peter’s Boat Club, the other past JCR Presidents. Both involved extensive research and communication with a huge variety of people, and extensive ‘data cleaning’. It was very satisfying watching them ‘grow’ throughout the summer! As well as that, I helped with numerous ‘day-to-day’ tasks from my colleagues, ranging from recording communications, to beginning to process events payments. During the last few weeks of my internship the Development Assistant left, and I took over that role. It gave me a really good insight into what being on the ‘front line’ was like! I also helped our alumni relations officer with the alumni weekend events. This was great fun, and a real eye opener in terms of the level of planning and organising involved in these seemingly effortless events! My boss was also fantastic in terms of letting me ‘shadow’ him in various meetings.

Lasting Impressions
Working at St. Peter’s has certainly left some ‘lasting impressions’. It has certainly heightened my respect of development work, and given me an insight into what working in an office team is like. Most of all, however, that the Development Team at St. Peter’s are such a hugely dedicated and enthusiastic group of people showed me how rewarding and enriching jobs like this can be! I really am very, very grateful to them!

“St Peter’s College
Oxford, UK
Alice Holohan, 2nd Year, BA English Language and Literature, St Hilda’s College

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STUDENT FUNDER
London, UK
Pollyanna Wigley, Penultimate, BA European & Middle Eastern Languages, St John's College

Daily Life
I worked 9–6.30 which was slightly longer than my contract, but there was a lot to do and never any pressure to stay longer than necessary. The office is in Victoria and there is a market close by as well as a huge number of small cafes and shops just round the corner. The whole team goes for lunch together normally and sometimes we met up outside of work for drinks or dinner. Tonight, for example, we are going to the cinema thanks to the bad weather in the wake of the heatwave!

Work Projects
My area was technically Marketing but I was involved with other projects too, specifically PR. I had only a basic knowledge of marketing but that didn't seem to matter and most projects were simple enough, like using social media. Finding new ways to target people and how to do it for specific services was more of a challenge but the CEO was very helpful and supportive. Writing press releases was something I specifically enjoyed and I was given more writing tasks as the internship progressed. There was a feedback session early on and regular informal check ups to ensure I was getting what I wanted out of the internship.

Lasting Impressions
This internship has done exactly what I had hoped it would; introduce me to business. With no past experience in the area and no firm career plans I wanted to explore it a bit and Marketing and PR is useful for many jobs. More than that, my knowledge of finance and current affairs in both finance and education has improved hugely. Due to attending meetings and conferences through the company I feel more comfortable networking and am better placed to take advantage of opportunities as they arise – I think!
Daily Life
I settled in really easily as everyone was so welcoming and friendly and the teacher I was staying with was lovely and introduced me to her friends early on. Most days I got up between 6.15 and 6.45, depending on how early I had to be at school and travelled to school by cycling, getting the MRT (like the tube) or a lift by car. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays there was staff briefing at 7.30, where it was nice to chat to teachers from different departments, have breakfast and find out important announcements. Before lessons started I would usually look over any personal statements or EPQs that had been emailed to me or work on upcoming presentations. In an average day I helped out with about 3 chemistry lessons, spent free time working with students individually on their personal statements or EPQs and I got involved with many different extra and co-curricular groups in school. In the evenings Sian and I would often go out and see many different things in Singapore and often ate at food courts which offer fantastic quality, amazing variety and great value for money. One of the teachers at the school introduced us to her son, so we met up with him and his friends quite often; it was great spending time with them and meeting more people our age. We had a long weekend in Bali which was amazing and I was lucky enough to see some of the Grand Prix. Every aspect of the internship was incredible: the work, the social side and the cultural experience.

Work Projects
For the majority of the internship we were based in the careers department and in the first week we had a meeting with the head of Oxbridge applications about how we would support students with their applications to Oxbridge and which other academic and extra-curricular activities we wanted to get involved with at Tanglin. Over the course of the six weeks we delivered presentations to students and parents on studying at Oxbridge and the various aspects of an Oxbridge application. In smaller groups I worked with the science students on interview preparation and gave mock interview practice. I also worked with individuals on their personal statements and several students who were doing their Extended Project Qualifications or Extended Essays in scientific areas. At the beginning of the internship I met with the Head of Science to discuss how I could help in the department; I helped with the Chemistry Olympiad group and the STEM group, where I gave a presentation on one of the books I am studying for my course. In Sixth Form chemistry lessons, I provided assistance with lab work and led parts of some lessons as well as providing support when students had difficulties. In the English department we acted as judges for class debates and gave feedback on improving debating technique, as well as helping the debating society and with the World Scholars debating and research. Apart from the academic related work, we also attended the NYAA (similar to DofE) camping trip with year 10 students on Pulau Ubin (an island just off Singapore) and I also did some coaching for the school swim team.

Lasting Impressions
I loved Singapore and would definitely like to return in the future. Everyone at the school, both students and staff, were exceptionally welcoming and friendly and the experience confirmed the fact that I would like to work abroad in my career.
TRADEWIND BOOKS  
Vancouver, Canada  
Rachael Goddard-Rebstein, 2nd Year, BA English Language & Literature, Lady Margaret Hall

Daily Life  
I worked four days a week from 10:00 to 4:00. I attended meetings with editors and authors and helped edit the latest manuscripts. I also sent e-mails on behalf of the publisher and organized invoices. I went out for lunch every day with the other intern.

Work Projects  
I helped edit the manuscripts of chapter books for children. I read through the manuscripts and provided feedback to the author and publisher.

Lasting Impressions  
The internship has given me valuable insight into the process of publication and encouraged me to think seriously about my own goal of getting work published.
Daily Life
On average, my working hours were 9 to 6, and I rarely stayed beyond this time. I travelled to work on foot or by bus due to the proximity of my accommodation to the office. In the office, the atmosphere is fairly relaxed. My boss took me for coffee every morning and often made time to have lunch with me as well. Outside of work I met friends who were in Sydney, played tennis at a club and went to a nearby gym.

Work Projects
During my internship at Trident Real Estate Capital I was given responsibility for undertaking the research and drafting of a paper that was subsequently released to clients. The task was frequently overseen by my boss and any questions I had were willingly answered. Other than conducting research, my role involved providing support on logistics for various construction projects being undertaken, including provision and delivery of suitable tools and machinery to the site. In addition, I was given the opportunity to undertake site valuations, which allowed me to gain an understanding of financial modelling in the real estate sector.

Lasting Impressions
The internship experience gave me a positive impression of living in Australia and Sydney specifically. On the whole it was a positive experience and confirmed my career ambitions as well as opening new avenues through giving me exposure to the real estate sector.
Daily Life
I worked eight hours a day (for me this was normally about 8am-4.30pm, but others preferred to put their time in a couple of hours later!). My commute was about 40 minutes each way, on the subway. Free lunch was provided, except on Fridays, and an abundance of snacks filled the office. At the weekends I had lots of opportunities to be touristy and explore Boston. One weekend I was able to head into New York.

Work Projects
Engineering interns at TripAdvisor are treated almost identically to new graduate hires. It’s an exciting place to work, because you get complete ownership of what you do – backend, frontend, testing, etc. You then get to watch your code go live the next Monday. Java was the predominant language, but you’re expected to learn new technologies when needed. I got to take part in a book discussion group, reading through the book ‘Effective Java’. I found myself needing plenty of help understanding the somewhat large and complex code-base, but the experienced engineers know this and are very willing to help. I was assigned a ‘buddy’ as a first person to ask if I couldn’t figure something out alone. Although there are about 200 full time engineers in the building, then the senior management of the company are easily accessible. We had two Q&A sessions: one with the CEO and another with the Vice President of Engineering. The latter also met us all in groups of five to chat about how our internships were going. A highlight of the internship was the Hack Week. For this we formed a small team (in our case cramming five interns into an office cube that normally holds just two of us!) to spend a fun five days creating a mobile game. The day before presentations, we were having so much fun that my team willingly spent 15 hours in the office finishing off the details! Some other team’s ideas were useful, innovative and profitable enough that they may find a permanent home on the TripAdvisor website.

Lasting Impressions
Before this summer I had never seriously thought there was the remotest possibility I’d work in the US (or anywhere outside the UK) but my internship has opened my eyes to this opportunity.
TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY  
Beijing, China  
Justine Schluntz, 3rd Year, DPhil Engineering Science, St John’s College  
Anna Blum, 2nd Year, BA Philosophy, Politics & Economics, Balliol College  
Margarita Schlackow, 4th Year, DPhil Systems Biology DTC, Keble College  
Owen Leyshon, Finalist, BA Biological Sciences, St Catherine’s College  
Russell Black, 2nd Year, BA History and Economics, Brasenose College  
Harriet Easton, 2nd Year, BA History, Lady Margaret Hall  
Sonia Jacobson, 2nd Year, BA Philosophy & Modern Languages (French), Queen’s College  
Sophia Clark, 2nd Year, BA History, Jesus College  
Rachel Butler, 2nd Year, BA History, Worcester College

Justine Schluntz  
Daily Life  
During the weekdays, I was teaching from 9-4. I spent the weekday evenings preparing for the next day of teaching and also doing a few hours of my own DPhil work. On the weekends I visited many of the popular tourist sites in and around Beijing. This included the Forbidden City, the Olympic Park, the Lama Temple, the Confucius Temple, Tienanmen Square, the National Military Museum, and the National Museum. I also attended a trip to the Mutanyu section of the Great Wall that was organised by Tsinghua University for the visiting teachers and volunteers.

Work Projects  
I was assigned to teach one group of 40 students for the entire 3 week teaching experience at Tsinghua University. The mornings consisted of a lecture (for my students or other groups of students), then oral English classes (with my students). The class time in the afternoon was filled with preparation for English-based competitions (singing, speech, drama). The instructions from Tsinghua for these activities were not always clear, but discussion with the other visiting teachers, especially those who had participated in previous years, provided more clarity.

Lasting Impressions  
The experience was my first trip to Asia. I came away from it with a new understanding of the complex relationship between the people and government in China, not because I asked anyone, but because the students I was teaching always chose very relevant topics to present. I would not return to live or work because the smog unfortunately took a toll on my health by the end of the month I spent in Beijing. The experience has confirmed my belief that teaching is something that I am passionate about.

Anna Blum  
Daily Life  
During the week, we were focused on teaching the students. Each day, we would cycle to the teaching buildings for a 9:00 lecture. Then the other volunteer I was paired with and I would teach half of the class (30 students) for 50 minutes, and then switch with our supervising teacher and teach the other half of the class for 50 minutes. At 11:30 we would have a lunch break until 2:00, and then the entire class would come together to work on activities and competitions structured by the camp until 4:00. To make the most of our time in Beijing, we then either tried to go sightseeing or into the city centre after work. Most of the weekend was spent sightseeing as well. I think that the bulk of my socialising was with the other volunteers, both from China and from the US and UK, although some of (Cont...)
the socialising was done with the students. Overall, I rarely felt like I was bored or had nothing to do, and it was an extremely enjoyable experience.

**Work Projects**
The focus of the summer camp was on improving the spoken English of the students in the summer camp. To that end, we focused on creating activities that encouraged the students to engage with each other and with us in English.

**Lasting Impressions**
I really enjoyed this internship. I think I learned a lot more about the people and culture of China. Though I wouldn’t want to live or work permanently in Beijing after graduation, I think it was a really fun trip and I would love to go back to explore more of China or East Asia at some point.

**Margarita Schlackow**

**Daily Life**
An example of my day would be: 9–10am - 1 hour lecture to be given; 10am – 10.45am - class to 20 students (usually practicing oral English); 10.50–11.35am - usually the same class given to another set of 20 students; 2–4pm - prepare students (all 40 from the two classes above) for singing/speech/drama/movie dubbing competition; 4pm–5pm extracurricular camp activities, I taught a dance class.

**Work Projects**
I had to teach English to 40 Chinese students after their first year of university. Some guidelines what to prepare them for were given.

**Lasting Impressions**
I fell in love with the country a little bit. People are very warm and welcoming. I would love to go back to work there for some time. Not permanently though, as unfortunately the air pollution is terrible and the cities are just too busy for my taste.

**Owen Leyshon**

**Daily Life**
Socialised with both western and Chinese friends including some of my students. Days started early at 8.45am with a 2 hour break for lunch starting at 11.30am. Work ended at 4pm so short work days although I often socialised and got to know my students better during lunch and after class through various activities such as playing sport with them.

**Work Projects**
Provided with an outline of what we were expected to teach the students but were allowed to impart a lot of our own experience and ideas. Prepare the students for a speech and singing competition as well as teaching them about drama. Improve their oral English skills through a variety of activities and exercises.

**Lasting Impressions**
Everyone involved in the camp was extremely kind, enthusiastic and hard working. The students were a pleasure to teach and were incredibly bright, attentive and friendly. The internship offered an insight into Chinese culture and has invoked in me a passion and desire to return and explore more.

**Russell Black**

**Daily Life**
The undergraduate volunteers were in charge of some lessons, but at other times were classroom assistants to the postgraduate teachers. The hours were very light. The programme is very large; it comprised over (Cont...)

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a hundred foreign students, all accommodated in the same place on campus, which facilitated socialising.

**Work Projects**
We planned lessons with the aim of improving students’ spoken English. Much of the time this was running games and activities (such as role-playing). The students were proficient in every other part of the English language.

**Lasting Impressions**
It has definitely encouraged my interest in China. I am now more determined to learn more Chinese, and to maybe work in China or East Asia later in my career.

**Harriet Easton**

**Daily Life**
08.00: Wake up, shower and meet some other volunteers to grab breakfast in one of the campus cafeterias before cycling to the teaching building in time for the start of lessons at 9am.

09.00 – 09.50: Sit in on a lecture being given to my class by one of the teachers. Today’s topic is ‘American Football as a Cultural Metaphor’.

10.00 – 10.45: After a short break my volunteer partner and I give a lesson to one half of our class (about 25 students). Our chosen theme is dating so we teach them some English and American chat-up lines and then host our own version of the TV show ‘Take Me Out’, with the students as the contestants.

10.50 – 11.30: Swop with the teacher and give the same lesson to the other half of our class.

11.30 – 14.00: Lunch break. Chinese mealtimes are much earlier, so a group of volunteers and some of our Chinese students cycle straight to one of the cafeterias to have lunch. Eating with chopsticks is still tricky and we spend a bit of time chatting with our Chinese students, so we don’t finish until 12.30. At this point the Chinese students head back to their dormitories to take a nap, whilst the English volunteers go to the mini-supermarket on campus to stock up on bottled water. After that there is time to go back to my room and work on some lessons plans for later on in the week.

14.00 – 15.00: The first of the afternoon activities is movie dubbing. At the start of the week my volunteer partner and I set our half of the class the challenge of dubbing 6–8 minute clip from an English film, using their own voices and sound effects. Today we have to judge their performances and select two groups to go through to the final class-level competition tomorrow.

15.00 – 16.00: We join forces with our teacher and the three of us coach the whole class for the camp singing competition. Our chosen group number is ‘Lean On Me’, so we run through the song multiple times, working on the pronunciation of the lyrics and choreographing some simple dance moves.

16.00 – 17.00: Lessons are over for the day, but the teachers and volunteers are encouraged to join in with the after-school activities that have been laid on for the Chinese students. Some of the American volunteers from South Carolina are teaching a dance class in the lobby, which you have to walk past on your way out of the teaching building, so I get roped into learning some ‘shag dancing’.

17.00: Cycle back to the accommodation block with some of the other volunteers, discussing our plans for the evening along the way. We decide to meet in the lobby at 6pm and go to the Silk Market. (Cont...
18.00: Cycle off campus to the nearest subway station at Wudakao and ride into the central Beijing, alighting at a subway station right next to the silk market. After some noodles at one of the restaurants in the basement, we explore the six levels of this vast shopping centre. We haggle fiercely with the shop owners over prices by punching figures into a calculator; sometimes they are prepared to drop the price if we make an effort to use a smattering of the Chinese we have picked up since we have been here.

21.30: Having purchased an array of silk dresses, chopsticks, painted scrolls and very convincing fake Ray Bans we decide to head back to Tsinghua since we have to get up early for lessons tomorrow.

23.00: Arrive back at campus in time to take a shower before the hot water is turned off at midnight. My body-clock is still adjusting to the seven hour time difference and I am struggling to get to sleep, so I flick through my guidebook of Beijing to get ideas for sightseeing at the weekend.

Work Projects
Every year Tsinghua University runs a three week English summer camp for its first year undergraduates. Though most of the students have been learning English since primary school, they have rarely been taught by (let alone met) a native speaker and have had very little opportunity to practice their spoken English. The majority have never travelled outside of China. Thus our main objective as teachers and volunteers at the camp was to introduce Chinese students to western culture by organising fun and interactive lessons, which also aimed to improve their speaking skills. One teacher and two volunteers were assigned to a class of around fifty students. As well as teaching lessons, we also had to help the students prepare for the camp singing, debating and drama competitions. The camp is now in its seventh year and takes place on a very large scale (involving 2000 Chinese students and 150 English-speaking volunteers) so there are very good provisions for those undertaking this internship. We were provided with accommodation and meals on the university campus, picked up from Beijing airport and were given an induction and some training before the camp started. Teachers and volunteers are not expected to have any knowledge of Chinese (all of the camp activities and teaching are in English), so each teacher and volunteer trio is also assigned two Chinese volunteers (first year undergraduates whose English is so good that they are exempt from the summer camp). The Chinese volunteers were on hand in case of communication problems during lessons, but they were also happy to act as interpreters/tour guides around the university campus.

Lasting Impressions
The internship provided me with an insight into a culture which I previously knew very little about. The Chinese students and volunteers were very keen to explain the reasoning behind their cultural practices and this helped me to understand why and how they are so different to western ones. I was impressed by the Chinese work ethic and incredibly touched by their generosity and hospitality. I admired the students’ dedication to learning English and their curiosity about western culture – it is a great shame that this is so rarely reciprocated in western attitudes towards the East. Having thoroughly enjoyed the experience of living and working abroad, this internship has confirmed my desire to apply for an international relations-based master’s programme after my undergraduate degree in Oxford. I will certainly be taking options in China as well as Europe into consideration.

(Cont...)
Sonia Jacobson  
Daily Life  
The work hours were 9am to 4pm. We were assigned a teaching partner (or ‘volunteer’) and a supervisor (or ‘teacher’) planned lessons with them. The first hour of the morning was dedicated to the morning lecture where the teacher spoke of a topic such as ‘The Beatles’ ‘Dating in the US’ ‘NBA sports’ ‘The future of Education’ etc. We then divided the class into 2 groups of 30, and went over the morning lecture topic in a more playful and detailed way. We had a 2 hour lunch break. Then came the afternoon with the preparation for the students of the singing/speech/drama competitions. This involved mostly supervising the students and making sure they were speaking English while they planned and practiced. The evenings were always busy with socializing with the other volunteers and teachers or sometimes going out to dinner with the students and exchanging about cultural differences etc.

Work Projects  
We were in charge of organising activities for classes. The main projects we were involved in included guiding students through drama projects, singing and speech competitions etc. We planned lessons in order to teach English to students in the most effective way.

Lasting Impressions  
I enjoyed my experience at Tsinghua very much. Not so much on the professional level as on the social and cultural level. Meeting people our age who had never been out of China or Korea was fascinating. It made me want to go back to China as soon as possible. It has made me realize that I am not made for a career in teaching for the moment, but confirmed my love of travel for certain.

Sophia Clark  
Daily Life  
Teaching took place between 9am – 4pm each weekday, with a 2 hour break for lunch between 11.45 and 1.45. The morning consisted of a lecture and two classes, rotating between the separate classes taken by the volunteers and the teacher of the group. After lunch hours were dedicated to preparing for certain competitions; these included movie dubbing, a singing competition, a speech competition and a drama competition. After 4pm we were free to do as we wished, and most days we would head out of campus and visit some sites. However the activities on campus were vast and many made the most of the extensive sporting facilities there.

Work Projects  
The whole internship can be seen as a ‘work project’. Each student volunteer from America and England worked immediately alongside a fellow volunteer and a postgraduate teacher. As a volunteer you are responsible for teaching a lesson each day for two separate classes (Cont...)
classes of 30 students. You were also required to lead activities in order to prepare for the various competitions that take place throughout the course. Tsinghua University spent 2-3 days before the start of the camp briefing us on what was to follow. They also provided us with a handbook which listed suggested themes to follow each week/day in the classes. However, flexibility was a strong motto of theirs and so it was possible to tailor the daily lessons as we saw fit, and based on the demands of our students.

**Lasting Impressions**

The internship has made me increasingly curious about Chinese culture, and especially their work ethic. I definitely want to visit again, most likely for a prolonged period of time. I am looking into finding work experience there for when I leave university.

**Rachel Butler**

**Daily Life**

8am - get up and head to one of the canteens for breakfast then cycle to the teaching block 9 - listen to a lecture on an aspect of British or American culture given by a visiting teacher given to our class 10 - work with half the class usually giving a brief presentation, playing language games/anything to wake them up!, doing question and answer or doing other activities 10.45 - repeat the lesson (with improvements!) for the rest of the class 11.35 - lunchtime! - meet up with other volunteers as we came out of lessons and cycle to a canteen for lunch. Then go for a cycle ride around campus, head to the store to pick up supplies or work on a lesson plan for the next day 2 - cycle back to the teaching block for the afternoon activities. Working on movie dubbing with half the class or drama 3 - with the whole class working on the class entry for the singing competition (by the end of 2 weeks I knew all the words to Hey Jude!) 4 - Chose from a list of activities published earlier in the day but often joined the big Dance sessions in the lobby or went to a movie in one of the classrooms 5 - head to dinner with some of the volunteers 6 - cycle to the Metro station to head into Beijing to go sightseeing or to have a drink in one of the bars near the station. Otherwise spend the evening on campus watching a movie or planning the lesson for the next day then sleep!

I was nervous about going but the moment I arrived in China I felt really welcome. I was met by some really friendly Chinese volunteers who took me to the University and made sure I checked in alright. Then I went to dinner with the people who had arrived at the airport with and by the end of dinner we were all getting on amazingly! Everyone was so friendly that throughout the camp whenever you saw someone in a camp t-shirt everyone stopped to ask how their classes were going and what they were up to that evening.

We all hired bikes on the first day as that is the best way to get around campus and to the metro station. Every evening there were plans for different things to do. Sometimes they were organised by the Camp like an acrobatics display, a dinner, a Chinese lesson and even a trip to the Great Wall. Most evenings though we had free and everyone just got into groups by inviting anyone they saw during the day to join them and we would head out of campus to go shopping or sightseeing or to a bar. Other evenings we would just have chilled evenings exploring campus or watching a movie.

**Work Projects**

Each summer Tsinghua run a massive English Summer Camp for their first year students. There are over 2000 Chinese students and British and American volunteers are split into mixed teams of three each team working with around 50 students. The aim of the camp is to give them a chance to speak English with native (Cont...)
English speakers and learn about British and American culture. The role wasn’t really about teaching them anything as their English was already so good, it was more about giving them the confidence to actually speak. Each week had a broad theme which helped give some direction of what to plan lessons on but beyond that it was free choice. My partner and I worked together to plan lessons on all sorts of things. We often took it in turns to do a day each so they would learn about say American sport one day and English sport another day. Each lesson we tried to do a quick game or something at the start like a music quiz, afterwards we would give a quick presentation about the topic then set them off on a speaking activity in groups or as a class for the rest of the session. Some examples are British sport - a brief introduction to some mainstream and obscure British sports then they had to research one in groups and feedback to the class Campus life - presentation on Oxford then working out what the similarities and differences between life at Tsinghua and Oxford are. Table Manners - (by request!) how a table is set and how to use cutlery then in pairs they had a pretend date/business dinner and the rest of the class pointed out any mistakes! We also spent two days doing a version of The Apprentice in which they had to design and pitch products to us with incredible results.

**Lasting Impressions**

I had an amazing time in China. I learnt a lot about the country whilst I was there and made some amazing friends from across the world.
Michael Livesey

Daily Life

I work from 9am to 6pm. In the evenings I spend time with the other Oxford interns, who I share a flat with. We’ve explored much of Amman and Jordan in our spare time, and have found people here friendly and helpful.

Work Projects

I’ve been involved in projects related to employee relations and development. These include designing an app and an online feature for employees of Umniah. I’ve also taken part in the daily life of the HR department: managing CVs and applications, organising online learning for Umniah employees, and handling the annual appraisal process. I’m about to start a project with other Oxford interns to re-design the company website.

Lasting Impressions

I’ve found the internship itself useful – it will be an asset for me when I apply for jobs next year, but on the whole it has not challenged me or tested my abilities thus far. More valuable to me has been the opportunity to live in this part of the world - one that is truly challenging and exciting. I’ve travelled widely before, in Sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia, but being able to spend this much time in the Middle East has been a particularly memorable opportunity for me.

David Hansford

Daily Life

Work was only a 20 minute walk from our apartment so most days I walked to work. Work hours were 8-5 or 9-6 with an hour for lunch, however during Ramadan the hours were 10-4 with no lunch break. I settled in socially very quickly, the team members in the Engineering department were very friendly and I spent a lot of my spare time socialising with them. I also joined a local gym and made great friends there too. I am still in contact with many of them. The weather was constantly hot and dry (low to mid 30s every day). The four of us from Oxford lived in an apartment together, we all got on extremely well and enjoyed socialising and playing sport every day after work.

Work Projects

I was taken into the field regularly which meant I saw much of the country very quickly. However I wasn’t given any real projects for a month and found myself often bored at work despite asking for responsibilities.

Lasting Impressions

I loved being in Jordan, the people were very friendly and welcoming. I wouldn’t work there long term as salaries are not particularly high but living costs aren’t very low! Many people there are desperate to move to richer countries for a better standard of living. I loved the climate but was glad to see some grass when I came home!
Vellore Arthi
Daily Life
Hours were typically 9–5 or 5:30, and I worked with my other co-intern from Oxford, and with our immediate supervisor. As interns, we worked independently and our day-to-day work was almost exclusively self-directed. I got to work by subway - typically an hour each way. Out of work, I focused on making progress toward my thesis and academic work, and occasionally met up with friends to see the city.

Work Projects
As a part of the internship, we worked on the creation of a business development framework and roadmap for UNDP to grow its policy portfolio. As a part of the process, we conducted interviews to establish a sense of the organization's strengths and weaknesses, and created a set of business strategies to guide corporate practice. Beyond the internship, and out of a desire to engage with actual development policy work, I sought out and took on work for the HIV and Human Development team helping out with the writing of a brief on the importance of universal health care to post-2015 development agendas, and also reached out to the Post-2015 team to assist with the revision and creation of both internal and external-facing briefs on civic engagement and agenda-development work, as well as to document theories of change pursued by other departments working on policy directly.

Lasting Impressions
New York has been an interesting experience. I might consider living there in the future depending on the professional opportunities I take up and cost-of-living concerns, although it would likely not be a top-choice city for me. Similarly, I am not completely clear yet on whether a career at this organization or in this sector would be more appropriate to my skills and interests than other alternatives - I hope to continue exploring this question before I commit to a career path. Being on the ground in a development agency certainly provides a unique view into how such organizations work, and in that way, I feel this experience has given me a more realistic idea of the sector.

Alexandra Zeitz
Daily Life
I worked 9 to 5 or 5:30, walking to work or taking the subway when it was too hot (it gets very hot in New York in the summers!). During the day I worked closely with the one other intern on my team (also from Oxford) and checked in every other day or so.

“...I am left with an appreciation of having seen the inside of a large and very complex international development organization.”
with our immediate supervisor. Most of the work was conducted independently. Outside of work, I enjoyed the city (free concerts in the park, plays in the West Village, visits to the Brooklyn flea market) and did work on my Master’s thesis, going to New York public libraries.

**Work Projects**

At the UNDP, I worked in the directorate (the management body) of the Bureau for Development Policy. The other intern and I came up with a Business Development Framework for the UNDP to guide strategic growth at the UNDP in the following years in the context of a changing development landscape. To do this, we conducted interviews with different sections of the organization, which introduced us to the work of different practice areas and regional bureaus. We prepared and gave several presentations on this business development framework to a variety of senior personnel within the Bureau of Development Policy. In addition to these immediate responsibilities of the internship, I helped out in the teams working on the post-2015 development agenda and on South-South development cooperation, conducting research work and writing briefs.

**Lasting Impressions**

I really love New York and was very happy to spend the summer here. I think I would enjoy living and working in New York City at some point in the future. I am left with an appreciation of having seen the inside of a large and very complex international development organization - reading about it is not the same as working within it!
Daily Life
I was in the fortunate position of being able to look for accommodation once I’d arrived in Beijing, as I could stay in a family friend’s flat for the first three weeks. Through a popular Beijing expat website I found some sublet options and - after going to see quite a few - found a great shared flat with two Italian girls. Beijing has a good public transportation system - at least during the day - and I mostly took the metro to work. We had flexible hours, so I aimed to get to the office closer to 9.30 than 9am in order to avoid the morning rush during which people would run into the wall of people already on the metro to use the momentum to help them create enough space for themselves... The working day was around nine hours (including an hour’s lunch), so most days I left after 6pm.

Although I like running, in the summer it’s too hot to exercise outside, and often too polluted as well, so I settled for yoga without running to balance it out. I went once or twice a week straight from work, and the yoga studio was a haven from the crowds and the pollution. Not that we didn’t have other ways of relaxing! I befriended a guy on our team who happened to start his internship at the same time as me and together we muddled through getting to know the organization and the city. Every so often we’d celebrate Friday with western food and a pint and discuss the office personalities, projects and politics from a comfortable distance.

Despite the high turnover, interns formed something like 40% of the office workforce and sightseeing and little trips over the weekend soon became almost a weekly occurrence. In addition to this, I had a couple of friends outside the office that I met up with, largely for similar activities, or over dinner. I know one or two interns were going out a lot (Beijing has an active expat bar scene, if that’s what one is looking for), but I did not have the energy for it constantly.

Due to summer sublets I ended up living with four different girls during my two-month letting period. My European flatmates were great company and softened whatever culture shock or homesickness I was experiencing. I feel that sense of home was important for my stay. Finally, I had the chance to travel beyond Beijing twice: Once to meet my cousin who was in Shanghai and Suzhou for business, which also allowed me to pop into Nanjing (former capital) on my way back. And the second time to make use of the long weekend of the mooncake festival during which my flatmate and I went to Chengdu (capital of Sichuan province) and Mount Emei (one of the holy Buddhist mountains).

Work Projects
I was not given pre-assigned duties in specific project(s) upon my arrival. I thus spent the first week wondering what I would perhaps want to get involved in and advertising my availability for work (like in most of my previous internships), (Cont...)
but from then on was given a number of tasks ranging from speech-drafting to project proposal template designing to newsletter compiling to proofreading. The biggest single task I had was working on a law review on HIV, and on the section on key populations, specifically. I drafted a sub-section on sex workers from scratch up to the third draft, part, or all of which are likely to be used in the final report used for both training of lawyers as well as policy-advocacy. The consultant leading the project was very helpful and supportive from the start and gave very good instructions as to what the final aim was, and what our approach should be. The newsletter was completely managed by the team's interns which worked well, and the ad-hoc communications tasks usually direct requests from someone in the team, or the Deputy country director.

Lasting Impressions
If China continues on the path it's on, I doubt I could return to live there for decades to come. It will be too polluted. Furthermore, I do not personally feel at home there. However, China will form one of the centres of international politics (my field) for years and decades to come, and I feel incredibly lucky to have had the chance to live there, however briefly. Also, whereas previously I felt quite ambivalent about the UN, now I am very keen to apply for a job there once I graduate, because I know that even where the conditions and structures are not ideal, the organisation attracts some very capable, ambitious and passionate people who can do impressive things with limited resources, and I would love to be a part of that.
Daily Life
For the first few weeks I stayed at the house of one of my supervisors while she was away on leave. This was in a suburb called Runda where many of the UN staff and other expats live. I had to catch a taxi to work and back as there was no public transport from that part of town. This proved very costly so I later moved to a suburb called Parklands. From there I caught a “matatu” to work. Matatus are the local minibus taxis that constitute the major mode of transport in Kenya. I was at first a little worried about using them as most are old and close to falling apart and the driving leaves much to be desired. However, after a short while I grew to really love my morning and evening commutes and the 20p per ride was a total bargain. I stayed in an apartment with a local Kenyan-Indian and another UN intern. There was a local fruit and vegetable market right next door so I would often stop there on my way home to buy bananas and other in-season fruit and vegetables. I liked staying in an apartment rather than at one of the standard intern places such as Slum Gardens (yes, it really is called that!) because it felt more like a home and my Kenyan housemate was always happy to provide useful advice about Nairobi and trips to the surrounding areas. Nairobi is a gateway to some great places, most of which are located not too far away. I spent a weekend in the Maasai Mara during the Great Wildebeest Migration, took the train down to Mombasa for a relaxing few days in Diani Beach and went on several other day trips to national parks. Nairobi itself has a lot to offer in the form of markets, delicious Ethiopian food and local music. It’s not the safest place to live but the crime is mainly petty so provided you keep your possessions close while in a matatu or other public places, you should be fine.

Work Projects
Working at the Dispute Tribunal is a first instance employment tribunal that forms part of the UN’s internal justice system. It hears disputes brought by staff members against the UN Administration relating to a range of matters from termination of employment, non-renewal of fixed-term appointments, and challenges to performance appraisals to misconduct and disciplinary matters. (Cont...)
It has both a judicial review and merits review function so regularly conducts hearings where witnesses testify and counsel for each of the parties argues their case. The Dispute Tribunal has three registries, one in New York, another in Geneva and a third in Nairobi. In Nairobi, there is one permanent judge, one ad litem judge and one part-time judge who are supported by the Registrar, several legal officers, and a couple of support staff. I worked mainly for Judge Boolell, a former judge of the Mauritian Supreme Court and the permanent Nairobi judge. He read law at Balliol. Judge Boolell was a great mentor and I worked very closely with him, assisting with legal research, drafting orders and judgments and discussing interesting points of law. I really felt that my input was valued and that I was able to make a meaningful contribution to the work of the Tribunal during my time there. It was a rare privilege to be able to work so closely with such experienced judges and one that I think not many other interns would have the opportunity to experience. It is a perfect internship for someone who is self-driven, proactive and dedicated, as interns are given a high level of responsibility. Judge Boolell was also great at taking me along to events, such as Bastille Day celebrations at the French Embassy. I typically started my day at around 8am and left at 5pm though the official working hours of the UN are 8.30am to 4.30pm. The UN’s headquarters in Nairobi are located on a beautiful large ground full of yellow fever trees and monkeys that occasionally break into the offices and steal whatever food they can find. There is a recreation centre in the complex with a pool, gym and running track and the UN subsidises membership for employees.

**Lasting Impressions**

I have spent the last three months at the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in Nairobi, Kenya. I have had a fantastic time and cannot recommend this internship highly enough. My three months here have simply flown by and I feel reluctant to leave. I would happily have stayed longer if I had not had other commitments after my internship. I have learnt a great deal about the UN, international administrative law, case management, and the process of drafting judgments, to mention but a few. Perhaps most importantly, I have met some wonderful people and have been inspired to pursue a career in the law.
Daily Life
The hours we worked were very reasonable and allowed enough time to do other things during the day. In the mornings I had time to read or do some exercise before having to go to work at 9am. We would stay at work till about 5pm, but around 12:30/1pm we always had a nice lunch to break up the day and to socialise with other interns. After work I was free to do whatever I wanted and it often involved me going out with some friends to dinner. Every weekend I would travel with some friends to see various sites and in the time I was there I was able to visit every major location in Jordan and also travel to Jerusalem and the West Bank, which was a very eye-opening experience.

Work Projects
A significant amount of my work involved me conducting research into different areas of jurisprudence to compile summaries of the relevant case law and applicable principles. I also participated and assisted with several hearings during the course of the internship, which I found to be quite interesting and insightful. In addition, I would assist with any other administrative tasks that needed to be accomplished. The host was extremely kind and helpful and assisted me in finding accommodation, getting to and from work everyday and offered me any clarification when I was confused. In fact, everyone in the office was extremely supportive and pleasant to work with and it made the atmosphere extremely enjoyable.

Lasting Impressions
The internship was great at exposing me to a career as an international lawyer and about the UN in general. I also learned a great deal about the region and what living in the Middle East is like. I definitely felt that I left the internship with a better understanding of what it takes to work far away from home and I would definitely like to visit the region again.

UNRWA DISPUTE TRIBUNAL
Amman, Jordan
John Tertan, 1st Year, BA Jurisprudence, Somerville College

“...everyone in the office was extremely supportive and pleasant to work with and it made the atmosphere extremely enjoyable.”
You Li

Daily Life
I took the metro to the office and usually worked 9 hours a day. We sometimes could have dinners with senior management or advisors.

Work Projects
As a summer analyst in Vermilion Partners, I got the opportunity to play an important role in both business development and live deal projects.

Lasting Impressions
It was a great chance to learn about M&A and investment banking.

Sale Lilly

Daily Life
Nine hours of work punctuated by one hour lunch break, with usually one administrative meeting per week. Average work hours were 9am to 7pm. Transportation to and from work was on the incredibly cheap Beijing Metro (40p return ticket!)

Work Projects
I conducted translations of proprietary documents in support of client briefing books (Mandarin to English). Conducted research on industrial or consumer industries in support of pre-merger talks (most projects lasted 4-5 working days in length)

Lasting Impressions
The internship helped confirm that I would like to work with Chinese firms, but it also made me aware that I would have to carefully select which particular city I choose to live in, as Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong all have very different business and social climates.
Daily Life
I generally worked between 8:30 AM and about 6:00 PM. I would generally work with GIS or statistical data sets, prepare and give presentations, or attend meetings regarding my work both in and outside WaterSHED. I worked closely with the manager of the monitoring and evaluation unit to evaluate and improve the unit’s functioning and future data collection. My colleagues and I would eat lunch together at Khmer restaurants close to work over leisurely (and much needed) lunch break that was rarely shorter than one hour. Outside of work, my colleagues and I would travel in and around Phnom Penh, sometimes going further afield to major tourist sites like Sihanoukville’s beaches or the Angkor Wat temples in Siam Reap. There is a vibrant music scene, and we would grab dinner at a Khmer BBQ restaurant before attending one of several rock or jazz shows at local clubs. My friends and I also had a standing salsa dance class on Tuesdays.

Work Projects
As a data analysis intern, I was tasked with several projects. First, I provided support to the Monitoring and Evaluation team at WaterSHED in terms of data organization and opportunities for further analysis to better understand the organization's internal data. Second, I was tasked to find methods of using external data to contextualize internal sales and marketing data to get a better sense of WaterSHED’s impact on the WASH sector in Cambodia. Third, I researched proxies for measuring WaterSHED initiatives' sustainability. I interfaced with professionals across Cambodia’s WASH sector, including the World Bank, UNICEF and other NGOs and social enterprises. A highlight of my work was pushing for open source and open data incorporation in the WaterSHED data approach, which culminated in a sector-wide meeting to further that initiative in Cambodia to improve development project planning and outcomes.

Lasting Impressions
Cambodia is a difficult place to leave. I have established so many solid professional and personal relationships in my relatively brief time here. The Khmer are genuinely friendly and generous, and the physical reminders of the country’s recent turbulent history make this fact all the more remarkable. I knew woefully little about Cambodia and East Asia before coming here; I feel as though I’ve had a positive and formative experience during my 8 week introduction to Khmer culture and hospitality. I would strongly consider returning to Phnom Penh to live and work. As a result of my time here, I see the strong possibility of including Cambodia in my DPhil research as a comparative case study to flesh out my previous work on networks in WASH governance in the Middle East. There is a lot happening in the development sector in Cambodia, particular in WASH, and it has been a very exciting time to be on the ground.
Mitchell Riley
Daily Life
I found an apartment on Craig’s List in a great area of Rome (Testaccio). I would catch the train to and from work each morning. Italian trains are rarely on time! Work was officially 8.30–5 with an hour for lunch, but in reality I was normally working until 6.15 on average, which I did not mind since the work was great. During the week I would go for runs, catch up with the other interns for aperativo, learn French or go out for dinner. On the weekends I would see the sights of Rome or travel.

Work Projects
I worked on a range of legal issues, including international humanitarian law issues, internal governance issues, various contracts e.g. for the distribution of cash and food, contracts with donors, financial contracts, etc. The tasks I was given were extremely interesting and varied. They were more complex and important that what I had expected during an internship, which was great.

Lasting Impressions
The internship was a great experience. It confirmed for me that I want to work for the United Nations. I loved living in Italy and would happily return to live or work there.

Eleanor Mitchell
Daily Life
Working hours were generally 8.30am to 6.00pm. We caught the train to work from Testaccio, as WFP is located outside the city centre - the commute took around 45 minutes, and was difficult in summer when trains ran seldom and often late. Weekends provided ample opportunity for exploring Rome and travelling to different parts of Italy.

Work Projects
As part of the Administrative and Employment team, I worked on appeals from staff members, disciplinary cases, and matters raising issues connected with WFP’s privileges and immunities. Common tasks included legal research and the drafting of memoranda, submissions, and diplomatic communications.

Lasting Impressions
I will retain a lasting sense of connection with WFP and its work around the world, and a lasting fondness for Rome itself.