

# Carnegie Mellon University

Summer Internship Experience Fund

Summer 2017

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The CMU Summer Internship Experience Fund (SIEF) was available to current undergraduate students who were going to participate in low paying or unpaid internships located in the United States during the summer of 2017. The SIEF was designed to encourage early career experiences that would support students' academic goals and career exploration. The Career and Professional Development Center coordinated the dispersal of Carnegie Mellon institutional funds that had been set aside to enable students to have a high-impact summer experience.

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**Carnegie Mellon University**

Career & Professional  
Development Center

Below is a list of the 41 students who were able to participate in an internship thanks to this funding, and, on the following pages, reflection essays that these students have written about their experiences. Of these students, the SIEF was able to help 12 rising sophomores, 15 rising juniors, and 14 rising seniors.

## **COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (p. 1)**

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| Benjamin Stern   | 2020 |
| Brenda Mokua     | 2019 |
| Cindy Weng       | 2018 |
| Emma Hoskins     | 2018 |
| Lucas Moiseyev   | 2020 |
| Priscilla Chung  | 2020 |
| Yugesh Ramsaroop | 2019 |

## **COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS (p. 6)**

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| Alexandra Miele      | 2018 |
| Anna-Jamieson Beck   | 2019 |
| Antonio Ferron       | 2020 |
| Ashley Chan          | 2019 |
| Brennan Felbinger    | 2018 |
| Cameron Wise         | 2020 |
| Cassidy Pearsall     | 2019 |
| Christian Strange    | 2018 |
| Daniel Neale         | 2020 |
| Eric Wiegand         | 2018 |
| Jack Dentinger       | 2018 |
| Jamie Phanekham      | 2019 |
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| Joey Santillo        | 2020 |
| Jordan Plutzer       | 2018 |
| Kelli Clark          | 2018 |
| Megan Forster        | 2018 |
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| Malaika Handa        | 2019 |
| Maria Navarro        | 2018 |
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| Sally Zhao           | 2018 |

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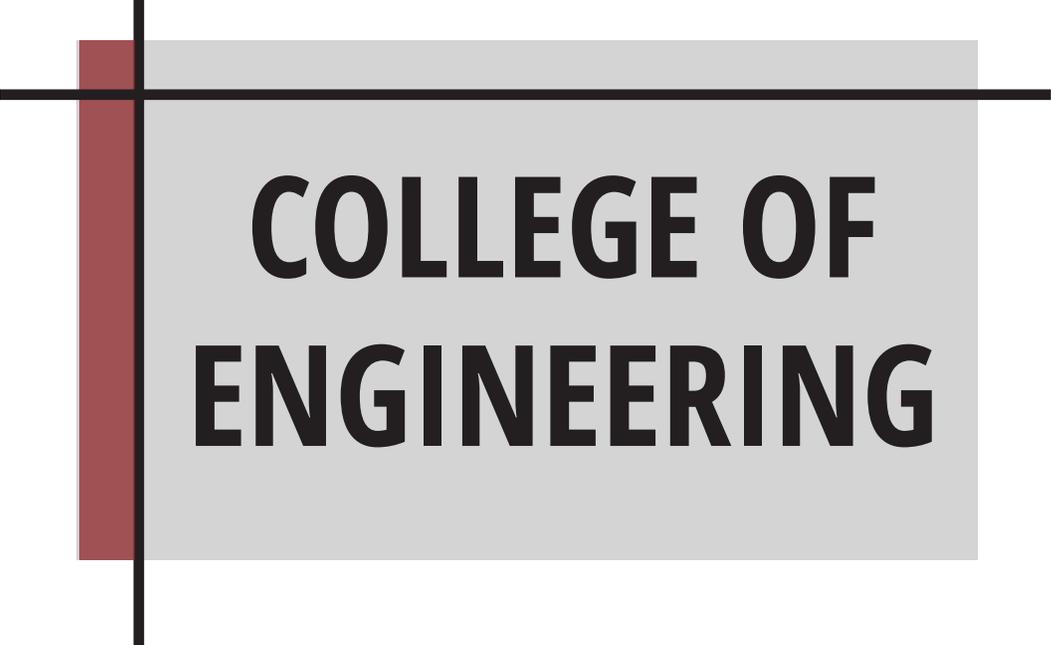
|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| Janet Choi   | 2020 |
| Sara Graves  | 2019 |
| Sarah Deluty | 2018 |
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## **SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE (p. 28)**

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## **TEPPER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (p. 30)**

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| Charles Li   | 2019 |
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# **COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

## Benjamin Stern

Mechanical Engineering, 2020  
Mechanical Intern

Rail-Pod  
Boston, MA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship taught me skills that I wanted to learn so that I could be more helpful around the workshop including better soldering techniques, stress analysis, thermo, and workshop tips and tricks. Stress and Thermo are classes that I will be taking so it seems like I am on the right track.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I built subsystems and installed them on the robot as they arrived. Some examples include: the exhaust system, the lift jack, the lift jack fail-safe system, the generator oil drain system, and the power cell wiring.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned a lot about what kind of work environment I would like to find. I know that I need a very organized space, and Rail-Pod, as a three year old company, was not very organized. I did a lot of work to make it more organized, but I think a more developed work environment would be better for me.

## Brenda Mokuia

Chemical Engineering / Engineering & Public Policy, 2019  
Student Volunteer Intern

Department of Energy  
Washington, DC.

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

My additional major in engineering and public policy was very applicable to my internship this summer. At the Department of Energy, I had the opportunity of working in a non-technical role and observing the policy aspect of renewable energy and energy efficiency. Further, it was interesting to see the interaction between technical experts from the national laboratories and the employees within the office, especially during staff meetings and special topic technical presentations.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

During my internship, I worked on two major individual projects. I created a resource for state and local governments, and K-12 schools, that displays and describes the technical assistance opportunities offered by the Department of Energy to help organizations fulfill their energy goals. Essentially, the project was supposed to help our partners have easier and faster access to resources. In addition, I edited a data management guide and highlighted the key content and tools, which was then translated to a web format by the National Energy Renewable Laboratory. Similar to the technical assistance project, I was optimizing state and local government access to resources. Furthermore, I was responsible for small tasks, like filling out excel spreadsheets and more.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned that I enjoy working within a small and close knit office culture and that I want to work within the clean energy industry.

**Cindy Weng**

Civil Engineering, 2018  
Research Assistant

UC Berkeley  
Berkeley, CA

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I hope to apply to graduate school and it provided me with more insight on laboratory work and microbiology.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

Some of my responsibilities included running experiments and attending group meetings.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I discovered that having an available PI is very important to me.

**Emma Hoskins**

Civil Engineering / Engineering & Public Policy, 2018  
Corporate and Government Development

Special Olympics Chicago  
Chicago, IL

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

It gave me a break from the engineering world to determine whether I want to pick up a business minor, possibly go for my MBA, or get into the business development world.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I led a team of three interns to write grants, pinpoint potential new corporate donors and sponsors and create a database of these new targets, create proposal documents, and meet with these companies as well.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I got to meet, work with, and see the athletes I was impacting in my own community. As a result, I created life lasting sponsorships and relationships with these companies for the Special Olympics and myself alike.

## Lucas Moiseyev

Electrical & Computer Engineering, 2020  
Production Engineering Intern

Hibersense  
Pittsburgh, PA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

It allowed me to get incredibly valuable experience with real world engineering and taught me a lot of lessons about how to run a startup.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

As an intern at a startup, I had to work on a wide range of tasks from designing and testing sensor boards to making CAD models.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I really got a great understanding of how a tech startup works and is run. I realized that creating a startup while at college is a concrete and achievable goal.

## Priscilla Chung

Materials Science / Engineering & Public Policy, 2020  
Development Intern

Assemble Inc.  
Pittsburgh, PA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship helped me better understand how to work in the context of a larger organization and also have more hands on experience in collaborative work that did not necessarily involve me meeting all the people who were working on the same project. My supervisor was also very helpful in sending me to relevant seminars regarding the non-profit sector and how they convey their goals and gain support, which was in line with my EPP side.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I attended and contributed to Board Committee meetings when possible, and helped specifically with their planning and outreach for their main fundraising event, MakerDate. I, along with another intern, renewed Assemble's EITC eligibility. I also was in charge of analyzing past and current summer camp rosters for trends for continual student outreach and better engagement.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I took away from this internship were both the connections I have with Assemble and the betterment of my ability to convey my ideas in a way that engages others and inspires them to care. Not only do I feel confident about being able to construct and convey ideas that inspire but also demonstrate a clear plan behind it.

# Yugesh Ramsaroop

Chemical Engineering / Biomedical Engineering, 2019  
Research Assistant

Drexel University  
Philadelphia, PA

## **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship experience supported my academic and career goals by giving me an introduction into what a typical research job looks like at a university. I now have a better understanding of what a work environment is like at a university; this will help me decide if I want to go to grad school after graduation.

## **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

My overall role was to create a GUI to analyze data taken from the experiments. This task included designing a versatile and compatible system to be used in general by the lab.

## **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I took away from this internship was learning exactly what a work environment expected of me as well as learning what I expected of a work environment.



**COLLEGE OF  
FINE ARTS**

## Agatha Woodbury

Drama, 2020  
Company Management and Artistic Direction Intern

The Hangar Theatre  
Ithaca, NY

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I was able to watch the practices I learned in my academic classes take action in a real life situation. I also met an abundance of people in the industry that I will be able to contact for advice and connections after school.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

The artistic half of the internship was spent assisting the Artistic Director with the daily operations of theatre (including running the theater itself and producing the fourteen-play season.) The company management half consisted of taking care of the visiting artists while they were not in rehearsals (picking them up at bus and train station, getting them items for their apartment, and flipping those apartments between artists' stays).

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

This internship showed me a lot about the importance of communication and timeliness in management. I enjoyed being able to observe how people interacted with one another in stressful situations, and how different approaches to these situations resulted in different solutions. Going forward, if put into a management situation, I will be able to approach it knowledgeably and successfully.

## Alexandra Mieles

Drama, 2018  
Scenic Artist

Heritage Theater Festival  
Charlottesville, VA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship supplemented the one year of scenic painting classes that I took in junior year. As a designer, I will need to have the skill to paint my own shows. Working as a scenic artist for eight weeks really solidified any questions I had from my classes and gave me the confidence I need for my future career.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was responsible for maintaining the shop cleanliness, and organization. I also was given my own projects to do either by myself or with someone.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I solidified my understanding of how to be a scenic artist in a professional setting. In class I learned how to paint and techniques, but I never got the experience of working with other people and being in charge of larger projects. Without this internship, I would still be missing that knowledge.

## Anna-Jamieson Beck

Dramaturgy / Professional Writing, 2019  
Development Intern

Round House Theatre  
Bethesda, MD

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

The internship experience supported my academic goals because I practiced skills I had learned in the classroom in a real world professional setting. I went into the internship with the academic goal of learning how a theatre/ arts organization makes money, maintains donor relations, and continues to grow as a business. Because of this internship, the people I worked with, and my constant questions to my co-workers, I was able to take away all I could academically from this company in the time given. This internship supported my career goals because I was able to see what arts administration careers were like on a day to day basis. I learned that I potentially want to make fundraising and development my career through completing this internship.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

Throughout the summer, I was responsible for completing all projects in a timely and professional manner. As an intern, I worked on executing one major event (the Backstage Tour for donors) and completed over ten projects. Some of these projects were two major event comparisons, in-kind gift research, a writing piece for the semi-annual donor newsletter, and a renewal project. For the newsletter piece, I was responsible for interviewing a professional at the theatre company and writing a two page spread based on the interview. I was also responsible for attending weekly department meetings, monthly company meetings, the company retreat, three donor events, a grant writing webinar, and a one on one workshop at the Foundation Center in Washington D.C. to learn about grant writing, research, and grant application processes.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I took away from this internship was learning that I love development and working in fundraising for the arts. Through this internship, I was able to see how a professional theatre company runs and how my skills I am learning at CMU can transfer into the real world when I graduate.

## Antonio Ferron

Drama / Design, 2020  
Props Intern

Public Theatre  
New York City, NY

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I was able to experience a lot of the things I wanted to this summer because of my internship. I got to work for a professional company and now understand the structure of the industry that I will be working in in the future. The connections and resources I now have access to because of my internship will be the most valuable things I take out of my experience.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was building in the shop with the staff for numerous productions. I also did a lot of shadowing at meetings throughout the summer at different levels of production.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned about the structure of the industry and how to maneuver myself through the professional environment.

## Ashley Chan

Art, 2019  
Communications Intern

Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse  
Pittsburgh, PA

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I was drawn to working for Creative Reuse because of its mission to help the Earth and decrease the amount of materials going into landfills through material reuse and repurposing. As an artist, Creative Reuse was a source to buy materials for projects and I wanted to have the experience of working for an organization that shared the same values as me. I wanted to have the experience of working for a non-profit organization because, as an aspiring graphic designer, I wanted to know what it was like to work within that field versus a more corporate environment.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was responsible for designing physical and digital flyers, posters and signs advertising for Creative Reuse's events and fundraisers. Two versions were often made for physical copies and for social media posts. When I wasn't designing posters, I helped with various administrative tasks as well as in the shop. On one particular day, all of the interns were responsible for replacing a carpeted section of the store with wood floors so that we could create a gallery space for visiting artists.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

This experience was huge for building my portfolio. Designers are often criticized because there's the idea that we create to better the 1%. Since designers work with clients, our work is often tailored to places that can pay the money to create content-not necessarily created for those who deserve it the most. In my case, I was able to create content that actively bettered an organization trying to better the whole world. I felt fulfilled within this internship because of the shared mission to save the Earth through reclaiming and reusing of materials and I felt happy creating content that would increase support for this organization.

# Brennan Felbinger

Drama / Stage and Production Management, 2018  
Stage Management Intern

Wicked, LLC  
New York City, NY

## **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

Before working at Wicked this summer, I had never had the opportunity to explore the challenges of both working at a long running show, which presents a myriad of difficulties from a stage management perspective, and I also had never had the opportunity to experience the lifestyle of working as a professional stage manager in New York, working 8-9 shows per week. I was curious, prior to the internship if this is something that I would even enjoy doing, constantly having to work nights and run the same show every night. It was also a massive goal of mine to explore what it would be like to work in a very commercial atmosphere, particularly on Broadway. Many stage managers aspire to work in the Broadway atmosphere, and this internship gave me the opportunity to learn in that atmosphere at a very fast pace and very early in my career, which is very helpful in terms of knowing whether or not I should continue to work towards the goal of actually becoming a professional Broadway stage manager in the future.

## **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

Every day I was responsible for helping with the distribution and creation of all pre-show paperwork, including information that told all of the technical crew who would be performing that evening and if there were any rehearsals that day. Because they were putting in new cast members in the time that I was there, I was also present in rehearsals during the day time, helping the Production Stage Manager and Dance Captains with the set up and running of the rehearsal room with the six new principal cast members that were rehearsing. This included presetting rehearsal props, changing furniture layouts in between scenes, and being on book during the running of scenes should performers need to call for a line. I also got the opportunity to shadow, during the performances, all of the different stage managers and their respective show tracks as well as members of the technical crew across all departments including but not limited to hair, wardrobe, sound, carpentry, and props.

## **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing that I took away from this internship with Wicked was that this position requires an immense amount of attention to detail and forward thinking. Especially during rehearsals I found myself struggling to stay ahead of the Production Stage Manager, who had been working with Wicked for over 11 years. She expressed that she always wanted me to be one step ahead of her in terms of preparedness for each scene and for each rehearsal, which became a massive challenge for me as she was able to run a rehearsal like clockwork, and I was very new to the show. So for me it was all about learning how to be one step ahead, and then being one more step ahead of that.

# Cameron Wise

Drama, 2020  
Casting Intern

Paskal Rudnicke Casting  
Chicago, IL

## **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

As I plan to enter the theatre/film/television industry upon graduating CMU, time spent existing in a hub central to Chicago's art & entertainment scene proved incredibly beneficial. As a Casting Intern at PR, I had the opportunity to participate in the actual casting process. I experienced the audition process through a casting director's eyes, from which I gleaned empathy for those on the other side of the (audition) table who are looking to find the folks who will suit their projects. I also gained a greater understanding of what the criteria required to book a job, which allowed me to refine my audition technique. Furthermore, the Casting Directors recognized the acting skills I possessed, and called upon me to audition for their projects, which meant I got to put my newly-acquired education in casting to the test. I also developed some wonderful relationships that I know will be fortified if/when I return to Chicago to work; the Casting Directors of PR offered me a position running audition sessions if ever I am in the place to take it!

## **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I spent the majority of my time in audition sessions, making sure everything ran smoothly. I worked both the camera and computer as I created audition tapes, I facilitated conversations between producers and actors, I brought in actors and instructed them on what we needed from them, and I made sense of paperwork essential to the casting process. I also spent a significant portion of time in the office, doing administrative duties that required casting decisions. Such duties included generating role submissions, casting calls, bookings, and more. I also performed functions most expected of an intern: making coffee runs, taking messages, ordering meals for clients, tidying the workspaces, and filing papers.

## **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

From this internship, I learned the great importance of professionalism. I came into this internship, having done extensive research on what I would be doing. I entered work early everyday, prepared and available for whatever was asked of me. Evidently, my dedication was received, and well-received at that, because I was met with a great deal of positive feedback, and was immediately interwoven into PR's system. With that respect, came responsibility. I recognized that I was in a place of work and that the focus of the agency was on its current projects, not my education. That in mind, I took every opportunity as one of learning, but remembered that I needed to remain a dependable worker bee, and prioritize the needs of the company. I took feedback, never made the same mistake twice, and did above and beyond what was asked of me. I also communicated when I needed clarification, and asked questions that incited creative conversations. As a result, my knowledge of casting protocol and creative people to aspire to, which was nonexistent prior to the internship, grew exponentially.

## Cassidy Pearsall

Video / Media Design, 2019  
Video Intern

International Festival of Arts and Ideas  
New Haven, CT

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I learned many practical skills in my field from a seasoned professional!

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I accompanied the crew to set up, filmed live events, edited promotional content, and many other small jobs.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important parts to me were the breadth of technology I got to work with and gaining a great new contact in my field.

## Christian Strange

Musical Theatre, 2018  
Acting Intern

Illinois Shakespeare Festival  
Bloomington, IL

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This summer I got the amazing opportunity to work at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival in Bloomington, Illinois as an acting intern. The internship ran from May 23 through August 12. The program allowed me to step into the shoes of a professional Equity actor during a summer repertory season. As a current Musical Theatre student in the School of Drama, this experience revealed to me the realities of a hard-working professional actor.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

Throughout the course of the summer I was involved in three productions: I Heart Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and the intern show entitled Sleeping Beauty. Each day, I would start rehearsals at 9:00 a.m. and would leave the rehearsal facilities at 10:30 p.m. each night. I had the challenge of learning all of my lines and blocking for all three of the shows in which I played highly developed supporting characters. The interns also got the opportunity to under-study the main characters in Midsummer which allowed us to sink our teeth in the wonderfully iconic characters that William Shakespeare created.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

As an intern, I was able to have personal sessions with the more experienced actors, discussing the highs and lows of their careers. I was also assigned a personal mentor, who also helped me in creating connections in the Chicago area. I can honestly say that he will be a life-long connection.

## Daniel Neale

Musical Theatre, 2020  
Resident Acting Company

Surflight Theatre  
Beach Haven, NJ

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship supplemented my classroom experiences at CMU by allowing me to perform in a professional setting.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

My primary responsibility as an intern was to rehearse and perform in all of the mainstage productions. I danced in the ensembles of "Footloose", "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat", and "Hairspray". I also played the role of Davey in Newsies.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important skill I improved upon was speed. Since time is money, theaters are always looking for actors who can get it on the first try. Putting on four shows in two and a half months really helped me refine this skill.

## Eric Wiegand

Musical Theatre, 2018  
Summer Intern

Arts in the Armed Forces  
Brooklyn, NY

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship fulfilled and exceeded my expectations, as far as giving me a taste of the service world of the arts as well as the daily work of any serious arts organization. The office was small, and I got to spend everyday alone with the Executive Director and Program Manager of AITAF, working for them as well as understanding all of the work they were performing. Three of the four primary leaders in the organization had conservatory acting training, so it is extremely motivating to see people who have the same education as me go on to run this nonprofit. I also got to see the way this sort of organization interacts with performers, regarding casting and contact. This is a terrific deepening of my perspective on what professional life is like for actors and artists. Beyond the incredibly educational experience that I had, this internship afforded me the opportunity to meet and get to know professional artists who I will continue talking with for years to come. Having a community of intelligent, inspiring people in my life makes me feel like I'm on a solid ground going forward in my career.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I did a great deal of data entry. They were in a transition between online databases, so I consolidated a great deal of information on the sites. I compiled extensive information on the current and upcoming Broadway and Off-Broadway seasons, and provided detailed lists with information on current trained actors and contemporary plays for the organization to consider. I accompanied the

team to Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn for a performance, passing flyers out to service members and families and helping with the set-up. I read a role in an internal office reading of a play along with three other people, including the two founders of the nonprofit and my supervisor.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The two women I worked for on a daily basis came into the office everyday and performed at the top of their intelligence with relentless care for every piece of the nonprofit. They perpetually carried with them a clarity about AITAF's purpose, and used all their best qualities to further its success. I'm taking away so many things from this internship, but this example they gave me just in the way they worked is what I will remember the most.

**Jack Dentinger**

Directing, 2018  
Development Intern

Ars Nova  
New York City, NY

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship gave me hands-on fundraising experience for a nonprofit theatre company in New York. I intend to found and create my own company, and feel that I now have the knowledge and skill set to be successful at it.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was responsible for research projects on donors and community outreach, and reviewing grants for proposal. I also took notes on major budgeting meetings.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I took away a deep understanding of the detail-based skills that are required of a development staff member at a nonprofit theatre company. Learning to understand the language of grant-writing down to the syntax and punctuation was also incredibly useful to me for the future.

**Jamie Phanekham**

Scenic Design, 2019  
Scenic Design Intern

Williamstown Theatre Festival  
Williamstown, MA

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship was incredibly helpful in learning hard skills I need to pursue my career as a scenic designer. I made models for professional shows as well as drafted, and worked with professional designers. I also had the opportunity to work on smaller shows with young designers and directors

whose connections will be helpful when I leave school and move to New York. I can say without a doubt that both these connections, and the hard skills, I learned will help me in designing and assisting at school this year.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

My roles as an intern included model-making, drafting, and other miscellaneous jobs for the main-stage shows at Williamstown. I also was an assistant on a larger show in their black box space, where I was in charge of making the model, editing, drafting, and sitting in tech. I also designed two small shows in the black box space and was responsible for designing, helping with painting, and teching each show over the course of a couple weeks. My other jobs included organization of the company's drop stock, as well as helping organize the company's showcase.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I learned was definitely how to manage working at such a fast pace. It was also important to understand how to maintain positivity and professionalism in a difficult setting. Furthermore, I learned how to build relationships with future and present collaborators.

## Jasmine Lesane

Design / Production, 2019  
Electrics Intern

Williamstown Theatre Festival  
Williamstown, MA

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship was incredibly helpful for the forming of my goals, because the internship had several seminars and guest speakers throughout the summer who had essentially mastered their various parts of the industry. Seeing them work showed me what I didn't know. They also gave me extremely detailed advice about what I needed to improve on while still in college in order to be competitive when I graduate in 2019.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

One of the great things about the Williamstown Theatre Festival is that throughout the summer you end up wearing so many different hats and obtaining so much knowledge. I was most often an electrician, where I loaded in shows, focused their lighting equipment, kept inventory in stock, programmed the board, and eventually struck the shows all along side Broadway designers. I was also an assistant Master Electrician twice, and the Master Electrician on a smaller scale show. These higher roles mean assisting with labor and money budgeting, drafting, scheduling, running meetings, leading projects, and much more.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I took from this internship would be the connections I made, both with the 11 other interns, and with the staff department of the entire festival. I feel like I can tackle literally any problem, because I can call one of these people and so easily get an answer. I also feel like I can go to them for advice, and for work when I do graduate. After this summer, I think I have finally entered the "network" that everyone is always talking about.

## Joey Santillo

Music Technology, 2020  
Assistant Producer and Engineer

HOBO Audio  
New York City, NY

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship has been the best thing to happen to me yet, academically. It showed me that what I want to do with my life is real, and I can actually do it. I learned more in the field at my internship than I have learned in my first two years of schooling.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

My low level duties included being in charge of studio cleanliness and taking care of clients. High level duties included sound design for mainstream media, television in film, as well as foley recording, recording voice-overs, and ADR.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The skills and techniques taught to me by the full time employees were extremely beneficial to my education.

## Jordan Plutzer

Musical Theater, 2018  
Producer Intern

Gotham Comedy Club / Manhattan Comedy School  
New York City, NY

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship gave me a vast knowledge on the inner workings of the comedy world. It's a very different world than the world we are taught here at Carnegie Mellon. Theater has a little more etiquette to it's practices. The comedy world, however, is gritty. The work is about putting foot to pavement and walking to bars to ask if they would be willing to host a night of comedy for the producer of Gotham Comedy Club. It was exciting, hard work.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

Comedy interns were tasked to: lead improv warmups on free improv Saturdays, manage social media, scout for talent, schedule, learn the operations of Gotham Comedy Club, edit videos, practice comedic writing, and find new places to host new talent.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I took away from this internship was learning how to work with people I didn't like. Statements that most would consider offensive could often be heard because they were passed off as "humor". My comedy intern companions in arms were amazing. We all came from very established schools, Harvard, Yale, and Brown to name a few, but our talents weren't used as much as we would have liked. I learned that the comedy world, though interesting, isn't going to be my world. I will always be thankful for this experience, but it was difficult.

**Kelli Clark**

Fine Arts / Animation, 2018  
Motion Graphics Intern

Blue Visual Effects, Inc.  
Philadelphia, PA

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

It gave me exposure to a part of production I wasn't aware of-- ad production. Not only did I get to provide my skills for the company but I was able to learn the inner-workings of a commercial production company. It wasn't an industry I was planning on going into after college but after working there I am considering it.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I had some secretarial duties (answering phones, doors) but for the most part I would assist on projects where they were lacking people. I would revise ads in Illustrator, mask videos in After Effects, assist in shoots, etc. I had tasks that were simple, but still required an intermediate knowledge of video editing / production.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned that while working in a commercial industry, it is all about what the client wants. As much as creative people enjoy bringing their own ideas to the table, it is important not to get too attached to your own input because at the end of the day you are producing content for another company.

## Megan Forster

Musical Theatre, 2018  
Development Intern

Laguna Niguel Community Theatre  
Laguna Niguel, CA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I made connections with a Managing and Artistic Director of the theatre in my community and I was able to develop my skills in Photoshop, and expand my media networking knowledge. In addition, I researched and recorded different arts grants and types of successful crowdfunding and I am now one of the founding members of my own theatre company. These skills were very helpful in learning how to secure funds, make connections and a media presence for my own company.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I updated and kept track of donors and donation amounts, researched and wrote grants that applied to this specific company, contacted other theatre artists about the best way to crowd fund for a community theatre, and I designed a poster for an upcoming production. I also met with the artistic and managing director weekly to discuss development strategies for the future and sat in on Board of Directors meetings.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I took away resources that will help me research grants in the future, and a system of organizing donors and funds for my own company.

## Ramsey Pack

Drama, 2019  
Performance Intern

Broadway Dreams Foundation  
New York City, NY / Charlotte, NC / Philadelphia, PA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

It gave me a wider view of what I wanted to achieve from my profession. It also put me in contact with other individuals that are very connected in this industry.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was responsible for assisting a specific faculty member every week. In addition to that, I needed to be present and keep watch after the kids that were assigned to me every successive week. However, the main portion of my internship experience was performing and learning how to stay healthy and focused in a physically demanding atmosphere.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing that I took away was how to make a successful career out of what I'm doing here at Carnegie Mellon. I learned about the layout of the current industry and how to meander to obtain what I want successfully.

# Tahirah K. Agbamuche

Design / Production, 2020

Colorado Shakespeare Assistant Design Intern

Colorado Shakespeare Festival

Boulder, CO

## **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

It allowed me to build more professional experience on my resume, as well as giving me the opportunity to learn many new skills that I would not have been exposed to otherwise.

## **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

One of my roles as an intern was becoming the assistant designer for CSF's Original Practice where I stepped up from intern to full time staff member. We were expected to use the skills we learned throughout the summer and apply them to the show we were working on. I was responsible for creating and maintaining all of the paperwork throughout the run, a skill I feel I have improved the most in.

## **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned how to pace myself. Just because you can do everything, doesn't mean you should do everything, it just means you'll burn yourself out before the finish line.



**DIETRICH COLLEGE OF  
HUMANITIES AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES**

## Malaika Handa

Statistics / Machine Learning, 2019  
Operations Intern

Ascend Public Charter Schools  
Brooklyn, NY

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I learned a lot about coding, I am much better at Python and have a very good understanding of how to use command line and SQL.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

During the internship I wrote a script that calculated household income for the families of students, and another script that transferred data stored in Excel spreadsheets to a centralized SQL server. I also helped 4th graders with math twice a week.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I learned was understanding the importance of SQL in administrative environments. I hadn't learned anything about it at school, and it was a central part of how the company operated.

## Maria Navarro

Global Studies / Professional Writing, 2018  
Teaching Fellow

Breakthrough Collaborative  
Santa Fe, NM

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship was incredibly hands-on and impactful. I was in charge of my own classroom and taught over 120 students with lesson plans of my own design while heading the College Bound de-partment. As someone who has considered teaching as a career, it was invaluable to be in a classroom and to also serve in additional leadership roles within the program. Because I was working with bilingual, underserved students, the internship also gave me an fresh perspective on educational inequity, a topic I am examining in my senior thesis.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was responsible for writing daily lesson plans for both a core and an elective class while integrating feedback from my mentor. I taught 3-5 classes a day and graded homework. I also served on various committees dedicated to the daily grind of the program and attended staff and departments. I helped plan games and activities for events within the department and the program as a whole.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I took away a tremendous deal of perspective on issues of minority education and education equity. My experience has prompted me to continually examine my views and my privilege and to bring that knowledge back to my work in school as well as my personal life. In addition, my experience in the classroom and my role as a returning teacher have given me greater insight into my leadership ability and my capacity to possibly pursue teaching a career.

# Mikaela Wolf-Sorokin

Global Studies / Hispanic Studies, 2018 The Political Asylum & Immigration Representation Project  
Undergraduate Intern Boston, MA

## **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship enabled me to continue working with asylum seekers and immigrants from Central and South America. As a Global Studies and Hispanic Studies major, these regions have been my primary focus of study. I learned more about the history and current climate in the Northern Triangle Region, the area that will be the focus of my senior thesis. This experience also pushed me to think more about the politics of gender, the criminal justice system, and how children are considered in a global context. I hope to explore these themes through my classes this semester. Furthermore, this internship gave me an inside perspective on the legal system, and I better developed my research and writing skills. I am now more certain that I want to go to law school because I like this type of work. I also hope to pursue social work because it seems like an essential skill to have in helping victims of trauma.

## **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

As an intern I worked on the asylum project and the immigration detention project. For the asylum project, I interpreted and translated from Spanish to English and English to Spanish for several clients who were preparing for their asylum interviews or hearings. I also assisted in preparing asylum applications, reviewing documents, and conducting asylum intake interviews. For the detention program, I attended weekly jail visits where I conducted intake interviews with immigration detainees, databased the information, and then reviewed the interviews with the lawyer to screen for potential relief. I also was available for open telephone lines Monday through Thursday for two hours a day where any detainee can call PAIR to ask questions. Finally, I worked closely with several teenagers seeking the Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) status. I worked with these teenagers to prepare their declarations and gather the relevant documents to file in Family and Probate Court.

## **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

This internship showed me the enormous impact that a single person can have. Because I am not a lawyer, I could not do everything to help a client, but looking clients in the eyes and listening respectfully to their stories when so many people have not done, that makes a huge impact. This shows clients that someone cares. By interpreting clients' stories from Spanish to English I helped them express themselves in a way that allowed them to pursue asylum or other forms of legal relief. Watching lawyers advocate in court for their clients showed me how much a single person can do to help others. Finally, each client had an even bigger impact on me; clients exposed me to new injustices in our society, different ideas and perspectives about family and culture, and taught me to be a better listener and stronger advocate.

# Sally Zhao

Information Systems / Human Computer Interaction, 2018  
Network Software Intern

Mimosa Networks  
Santa Clara, CA

## **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

My role as a Network Software Intern aligned perfectly with the courses I'm taking in school and thus, I was able to apply my knowledge in industry. Also, I met a lot of people who guided me and helped me explore the different options within software development.

## **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I worked mostly on the front-end and implemented design mockups into interactive screens. I had the opportunity to design several features for the dashboards and towards the end of my internship, I worked on integrating the back-end data.

## **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

From this internship, I learned a lot about myself and the career path I want to take. Prior to this summer, I thought I wanted to work for a top tech company, but after interning in this startup, I realized I prefer small to mid-size companies. I also got a better sense of what working on front-end is like and collaborating with various teams across the stack.

The logo for the Mellon College of Science features a dark red vertical bar on the left, a horizontal black line crossing it, and a light gray rectangular background to the right. The text "MELLON COLLEGE OF SCIENCE" is centered in the gray area in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**MELLON COLLEGE  
OF SCIENCE**

## Janet Choi

Biological Sciences / Psychology, 2020  
Student Research Intern

NYU Medical Center  
New York City, NY

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

As I hope to have a career in the medical field, getting to see how the science knowledge we learn from textbooks are obtained in real life was a valuable experience.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I worked on two different projects:

- 1) Sucralose/Sucrose Project- I did a two hour behavioral assay on food-restricted mice everyday and recorded how much sucrose/sucralose they drank.
- 2) OXTR-2 Antibody and HEK-293 Cells Project- I helped a postdoc test if his oxytocin antibody was specific by overexpressing the oxytocin receptors in Human Embryonic Kidney cells using a series of transfection, bradford assay, gel electrophoresis, western blot, and incubation.

I also practiced other skills including perfusing mice and rats, sectioning rat brains on cryostat, surgery for cortex and cerebellum in mice, etc.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned how much work goes into a project that seems so simple. A lot of the lab work involves waiting and hoping that each step works. And if, during the middle, something goes wrong such as your cells dying or using a bad batch of gel for the gel electrophoresis, you need to start over. I have a great appreciation for those who do any kind of research as they need to exercise patience as well as organization.

## Sara Graves

Physics, 2019  
Gender Equity and Environment Intern

The Sierra Club  
Washington, DC.

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

It allowed me to explore the public policy side of the environmental research I have done, and help better understand how I can combine those two things in future career steps.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

Some of my responsibilities included researching issues and creating fact sheets, lobbying, contacting congressional offices, and developing protest tactics.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned that doing good for the world is more important to me than making money.

## Sarah Deluty

Chemistry / Neuroscience, 2018  
Hospital Intern

National Aviary  
Pittsburgh, PA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

This internship was fantastic! I want to be a zoo veterinarian and this was my first experience working in a zoo hospital. I gained invaluable hands on skills and great insight into what my future career may be like. I also secured a recommendation for school applications that will hopefully strengthen my application!

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was responsible for the daily cleaning, feeding, and monitoring of hospital birds and assisted the veterinarians in medical procedures and surgeries. I was also responsible for assisting in emergencies and communicating between various aviary departments. In down time, we were asked to study medical journals and present an original presentation to the hospital staff.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I love the zoo environment and this internship solidified my desire to invest and pursue this work.

## Sarah Klotz

Biology, 2020  
Summer Intern

Indiana University School of Medicine  
Indianapolis, IN

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I plan on going to medical school so this internship was a perfect way to explore research in a medical academia setting. My lab was studying age-related macular degeneration so I learned both about the disease as well as the scientific methods used to research it. In addition to my lab research, my faculty mentor helped me get shadow dates set up with physicians at the adjacent clinic, so I was able to experience both sides of medical research. In terms of academic goals, I knew I wanted to do research being that I am a Biology major. While the summer internship was a rewarding experience, it did confirm that my preference for a career is not in a lab but working with patients. Also, I feel more confident beginning my chemistry lab course now that I have had "real world" lab experience.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was given an independent project to complete in my nine weeks in the lab. Due to the fluctuating nature of the personnel in the lab, I worked under the supervision of a PhD student or the lab technician, depending on the day. My mentor and I met frequently to discuss the goals and progress of my project. During the first few weeks I was shown how to perform the necessary experiments, then, once I had mastered the techniques, I worked independently to isolate genomic DNA, run PCR,

run double digests, gel purify samples, transform E. coli cells with experimental plasmids, and grow cells on LB-ampicillin agar plates. I was also responsible for giving one presentation of a scientific paper during lab meeting and giving an end of the summer presentation about the outcomes of my project.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

In addition to the valuable lab experience I gained, I think the most important realization I had was that I don't want to work in a lab long-term. Research sounds great and on the cutting edge of science, but I found actually conducting research to be a long, slow process. I much preferred shadowing physicians and getting to interact with patients. For me it was important to realize this because it helped confirm the current plans I have for my future.

## Yisu Zhou

Computational Finance, 2019  
Equity Research Analyst

JGR Capital Partners  
New York City, NY

**How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

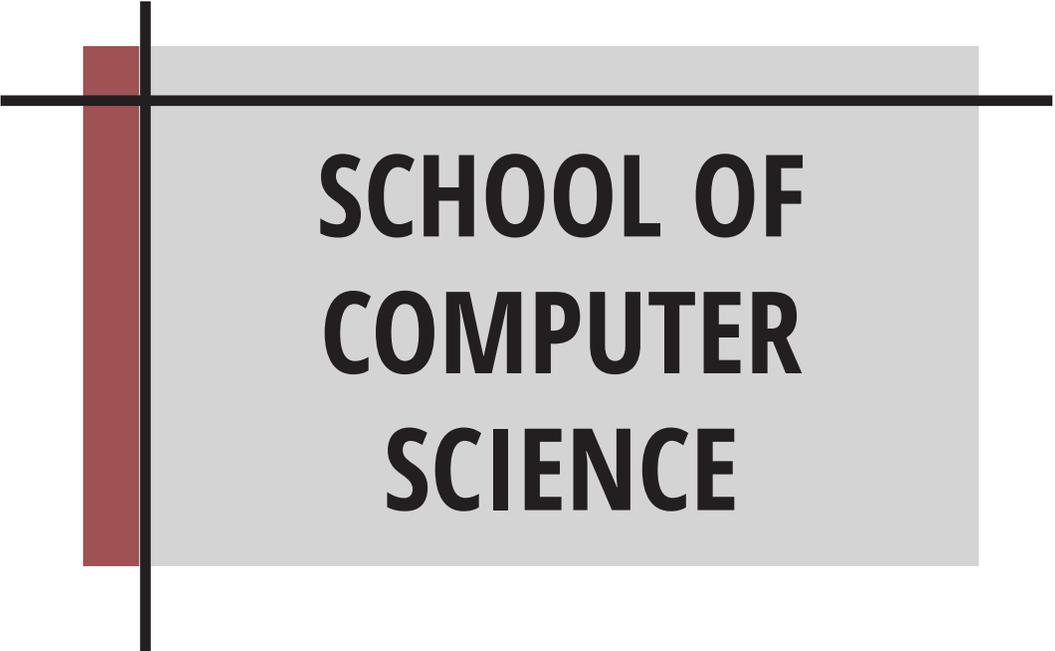
I was able to have exposure to the equities market and gained a much deeper insight into the finance industry. I also networked with many professionals in the field. All of these experiences will prepare me to start a career in trading.

**Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

Two of my responsibilities included conducting fundamental research and authoring initiation reports on two small cap tech companies.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

It was helpful to me to experience working in the real world.



**SCHOOL OF  
COMPUTER  
SCIENCE**

# Martha Cryan

Computer Science, 2020  
Outreach Assistant Intern

Assemble Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA

## **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

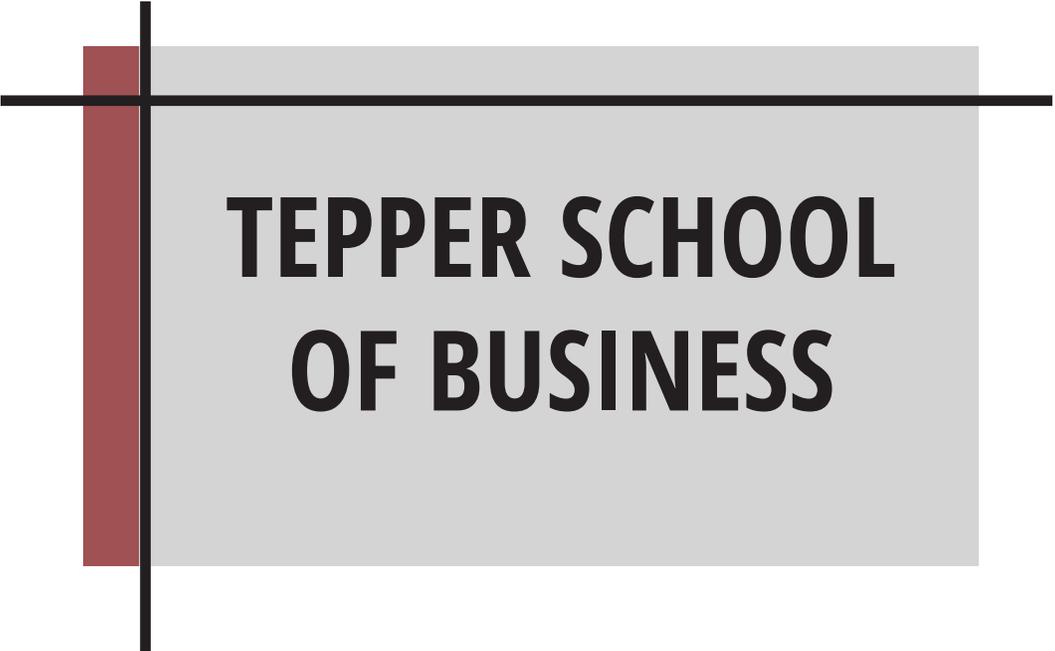
As a computer science major with an IDeATe minor, being able to contribute to an organization that promotes the joining of technology and art was a valuable and gratifying experience.

## **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

My job varied from organization and logistical help with various events held by Assemble to reaching out to local businesses for donations and contributions.

## **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

Contributing to, and participating in, an internship with an organization that shares goals with you makes the work you do academically feel more focused and valuable.

The logo features a light gray rectangular background. A dark red vertical bar is positioned on the left side, partially overlapping the gray rectangle. A black horizontal line crosses the top of the gray rectangle, and a black vertical line crosses the left side of the gray rectangle, intersecting the red bar.

**TEPPER SCHOOL  
OF BUSINESS**

## Angela Huang

Business Administration / Human Computer Interaction, 2019  
Private Equity Intern Analyst

Search Fund Accelerator  
Boston, MA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

During the internship, I gained exposure to numerous financial concepts and skills, such as evaluating Confidential Information Memorandums (CIMS), calculating the Adjusted EBITDA, and building simple three-statement financial models in Excel. I experienced what it is like working in the financial services industry, which is perhaps something I would like to pursue in the future.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was placed on the financial team in which I, along with my intern partner, conducted financial due diligence on a leveraged-buyout candidate. I worked on and audited the overall financial model for the target company to estimate different scenarios of the company's value. I also built a cost projection model, in which I calculated future cost amounts for each type of product and service using Excel formulas. In addition, I was involved in conducting competitive and voice of the customer analyses as well as sourcing companies and researching industries to find appropriate companies to pursue.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

Tasked with various projects for the acquisition during the four-month period leading up to the transaction's closing date, I learned how to juggle multiple tasks simultaneously while maintaining accuracy in the high-pressure and fast-paced environment. I also attended weekly team meetings and formal business calls, which provided me with more experience and exposure.

## Charles Li

Business Administration, 2019  
Private Equity Intern

Search Fund Accelerator  
Boston, MA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I was given the extraordinary opportunity to sit in on client meetings (which is rare within the financial service industry) as well as to give weekly investment pitches. This was instrumental in tying together a lot of the coursework I took at Tepper, but also opened my eyes to what exists in the industry and as a result was a fantastic building block for me moving forward. I am now even more excited and interested in the financial services industry.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I was tasked with giving weekly investment pitches, searching for companies to acquire, preparing for client meetings and working on due diligence assignments.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

I learned how to work in a financial services setting. It taught me how to perform in a financial setting, and it gave me so much hands on experience.

## **Quinn Zsido**

Business Administration, 2019  
Quality Assurance Strategy Consultant

Goodwill Southwestern Pennsylvania  
Pittsburgh, PA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

I have a passion for strategic interpersonal business work. This allowed me to apply many of my studies directly and efficiently.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

I worked on strategic consultation for Goodwill SWPA Human Services job placement by providing direction for creating more efficient placement, positions, and client work inside of Goodwill SWPA. This involved interviewing Goodwill SWPA personnel throughout the area, defining where improvements could be made, and communicating that advice effectively to upper management.

### **What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

No matter your line of work, it is the people around you, and how you interact with them, that makes the difference for both your project and yourself.

## **Ryan Chan**

Business Administration / Statistics, 2019  
Private Equity Associate Intern

Generational Transfer Entrepreneurs  
Pittsburgh, PA

### **How did this internship experience support your academic and career goals?**

Prior to this internship, I was interested in the field of private equity and was looking forward to gaining real work experience and mentorship. As the internship went along, I learned more and more about private equity and had great mentors who were invested in my professional growth. Having completed the internship, I feel much more ready for my future internships and career.

### **Describe some of your roles and responsibilities as an intern.**

As an intern, I had numerous tasks. These included: Researching 50+ potential acquisitions daily within the healthcare and defense industries using small business databases; evaluating confidential information memorandums based on key financials, investment considerations,

industry characteristics, and macroeconomic trends; conducting phone calls with investment bankers and business owners to receive updates on potential acquisitions and financials for valuation; utilizing DCF and LBO valuation modeling to calculate ideal purchase multiples and financing schedules based on different growth scenarios; and spearheading the blog component of the company website to be read by business owners, business brokers, and potential investors.

**What is the most important thing you took away from this internship?**

The most important thing I took away from this internship was how to improve my teamwork and leadership skills. It was my first real work experience, and working with a small group of interns for 12 weeks taught me how to work together in a team for an extended period of time. I hope to continue honing my skills in future internships.