2017 February Newsletter

Robert's Experience Interning with Rolls-Royce in the UK!

What made you want to do this program?

I participated in the Rolls-Royce International Internship which was based in Derby, UK. I have always been interested in the aerospace industry and at some point I wished to gain experience in the aerospace field. After I learned of this international internship which would allow me to not only gain experience in the field but to also be immersed physically and culturally in another country, I could not pass up the opportunity!

How did you learn about this program?

I first heard about this program through various email advertisements through the Industrial and System Engineering Department, and after attending Engineering Expo and speaking with Rolls-Royce I was encouraged to apply for the program by one of the recruiters.

What did you learn about your host country?

Working as an intern at Rolls-Royce provided me with an insight into foreign work environments and customs, from team dynamics to meeting etiquette. Also, while in the UK I had the opportunity to live in a house with 6 other people from different areas of the UK, Germany, and New Zealand. Through this I was able to learn more and be immersed in not only the culture of the UK, but also that of Germany and New Zealand.

How did this experience affect your future plans?

Having the opportunity of working abroad definitely broadened my perspective of working cultures in other countries, and it was also a lesson of independence that forced me to step out of my comfort zone. Previously I was hesitant of working abroad, however after this experience I definitely am open to working abroad again.

What was your favorite part about interning abroad?

My favorite part of working abroad was definitely the opportunity it provided to meet different people with a plethora of backgrounds, experiences, and interests. My internship felt like a gateway to explore not only the culture in the UK, but also that of other areas in Europe through my diverse team at Rolls-Royce, my roommates, and also through traveling. While working I had the opportunity to explore areas around the UK, and I was also able to visit Budapest, Prague, and Copenhagen. Through these trips and my internship, I discovered new ways of life and made friends that I will have for a lifetime.

What was your least favorite thing about interning abroad?

My least favorite thing about interning abroad was probably the lack of a vehicle. I didn't really realize how accustomed I was of having my own vehicle until I went to the UK. There was certainly a bit of a learning curve navigating the public transportation system especially when traveling to airports, however after I got acclimated to the transportation system it became quite convenient.

If you had to do the experience all over again, what would you have done differently?

If I had to do the experience over again I would definitely try to spend more time planning trips around Europe. Some of my trips were a bit spontaneous so I had to travel at inconvenient times and the trips were a bit more expensive, especially regarding train tickets to the airports. If I planned them early, I could have avoided some of the extra costs.

Would you recommend interning/researching abroad and do you have advice for students who are looking to go abroad?

Definitely! Going abroad was an incredible learning experience for me, both socially and professionally. I think its very important to find a program or opportunity that aligns with your goals. Having international work experience is also extremely beneficial in today's workforce. Being able to gain a large amount of experience while also having the opportunity to travel around Europe is a perfect opportunity! Also, interning or researching abroad presents the opportunity to build an international network of contacts that includes both mentors and friends. When considering an international opportunity it may appear to be too daunting, but there is a tremendous amount of resources and support offered by Virginia Tech to make sure that you will be prepared to have a fun and fulfilling experience! sea

Visit the Global Education Office's website at
https://www.globaleducation.vt.edu/
or visit during their walk-in advising to start planning your own experience abroad!

Upcoming Summer Program Deadlines

WASH in Malawi

Summer II, 2017 (July 9-July 29)

Deadline: February 25, 2017

Contact Dr. Ralph Hall for more information

rphall@vt.edu

VT in Senegal

Summer II, 2017 (June 18-July 29)

Deadline: March 15, 2017

Contact Dr. Medoune Gueye for more information

mgueye@vt.edu

Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines

Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship

Deadline: March 7, 2017 11:59pm Central Time

Www.iie.org/programs/gilman-scholarship-program#.WK29ym8rJ9M

National Association of Women in Construction Founders Scholarship

Deadline: February 28, 2017

www.nawic.org/nawic/NFSFScholarships.asp

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SEC

Scholarship

Are you planning on studying abroad this Summer or Fall? Apply to the SEAC-SEC Scholarship!

Amount: $1,000 per recipient

Eligibility: Engineering undergraduate students participating in an international experience during Summer 2017 or Fall 2017

Deadline: March 3rd, 2017

Application Link: https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_3yk27ZbZ9TLGjYN

Meet the Newest SEAC President Stephanie Imbriaco!

Stephanie is a sophomore studying Industrial and Systems Engineering with a minor in Business. She loves traveling and is thrilled to be taking on the lead as the new SEAC president!

SEAC Officers

President
Stephanie Imbriaco
imbriaco@vt.edu

Vice President
Anna Frazer
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Faculty Advisor
Nicole Sanderlin
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Graduate GEER Assistant
Heather Lyne
engabroad@vt.edu

Visit our webpage at
https://www.eng.vt.edu/seac
or like us on Facebook!

Check out the newest GREEN Program in Japan!

Introducing: The GREEN Program - Fukushima Japan

Disaster Mitigation & Nuclear to Renewable Transitions
August 3 - 12, 2017

Visit https://thegreenprogram.com/japan-interest-form and enter your information to stay up to date on the program

U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility!

Student Engagement and Campus Life (SECL) has opened a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility in Squires Student Center. Trained agents process all official State Department passport forms as well as offer passport photos.

These services are available to all students, faculty, staff, and community members who are traveling abroad for education, business, internships, competitions, and/or fun.

All services are provided by appointment only. To make a 30-minute appointment, clients should call (540) 231-9844.

For more information on the new passport acceptance facility, please visit http://campuslife.vt.edu/Squires/passport-acceptance-facility.html .