

Spring 2010

Student Spotlight: Nick Bauter Discusses the Internship Process



Nick Bauter

Nick Bauter, an Honors student majoring in Professional Sales and Management, has learned first-hand about the importance of internship opportunities. "If you are looking for a job after school, an internship is the best thing that you can do for yourself," said Bauter, who took advantage of the many resources available to William Paterson students.

His first step was to attend an internship orientation for business students that was run by Dr. Giuliana Andreopoulos, a professor in the Department of Economics, Finance, and Global Business. During the orientation, students learn a great deal of information about internships, and the various companies who regularly work with William Paterson students. The Sales Department at William Paterson also offers resources for internships. Each spring, the department hosts a job fair for students who are majoring in sales, and arranges for various companies to be present on campus to interview students.

Bauter also found the Career Development and Gloria S. Williams Advisement Center on campus to be a very helpful resource. The Career Development Center offers one-on-one meetings with career counselors, and also provides a service called WP Job Connect. Through this service, students are notified via email about various opportunities. It was through one of these email messages that Bauter learned about a career fair at Rutgers University.

He attended the job fair and was given the opportunity to circulate his resume and interview briefly with various companies. Through this event, Bauter was offered an internship with Sears. He is currently exploring internship opportunities with ADP.

Students who are interested in obtaining an internship can start by contacting the internship coordinator of their major department, or by contacting the Career Development Center located on the third floor of the Student Center. The most important thing, however, is taking that first step. "These opportunities will not just fall into your lap, you have to actively seek them out," said Bauter.

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Student Spotlight: Studying Abroad with Brian



Messenger

Brian Messenger

Brian Messenger, a sophomore Honors student, spent the Spring 2010 semester studying at the Leeds Metropolitan University in Leeds, England. Honors student Christina Freer recently interviewed Messenger to find out more about his study-abroad experience.

Why did you want to study abroad? What led you to choose Leeds, England?

BM: I wanted to study abroad, basically, just to be abroad! There was no language barrier in England, so that narrowed my choices too. I chose to study in Leeds because it's fairly centrally located in England, has a large student population, and is very cost effective. All of the shops are always in competition to offer better deals. It's a nice city with good resources with cheap and easy access to public transportation. I can hop on a bus or train and get anywhere in England easily.

Was the application process difficult?

BM: The application process itself wasn't too painful. I needed to have letters of recommendation, write an essay, get a copy of my transcript, and fill out certain forms. The most tedious part was the preparation. I needed to apply for a passport, find accommodations, apply for loans and scholarships, make a detailed budget, get international health insurance, get an international phone, and pack, among other things. I also had to communicate a lot with faculty and administrators to make sure my affairs were in order. I did get stressed before leaving, but all of that disappeared once I got on the plane!

How are the classes and the workload?

BM: My workload wasn't nearly as bad as I expected. I didn't receive much information about classes before I arrived, so I didn't know what to expect at first. I was only allowed a maximum of 4 classes, and I registered for 3: 2 music classes, and 1 history class. I chose to take only 3 because I arranged with some of my professors at WPU to do an independent study while abroad. I was surprised by the workload. At Leeds Met,

the grade only consisted of 2 or 3 assignments. This was almost too much pressure for me! This made me enjoy how the American system is run with more work to disperse the grade evenly. The system over here seems to put a lot more responsibility on the student, whereas America's system seems to be much more guided by the professor. But, it was interesting, and I learned a lot.

How has your experience been besides the academic aspect?

BM: I've had tons of great experiences! Class schedules are a little different outside of America, and students have a lot of liberty within their weekly schedule, so I was easily able to travel. Europe is very easy to travel around. Airlines are in constant competition, so I was able to find great bargains on flights for Easter break. In the two weeks I had break, I visited Ireland and Spain. I've also taken site-seeing bus tours around England. I visited London, [the original] York, Wales, Bath, Stonehenge and I may visit Scotland, depending on my budget. I didn't do too much travel because it is quite expensive with the currency ratio, but I made sure to include some funds for travel when I was planning my budget. Leeds attracts quite a large international crowd. I've met people from tons of countries, and I've also met awesome musicians. I'm glad I met those people so I could keep playing music while abroad.