Click to read more about these students' internship experience!



Cooper Abrams

SDSU Alumni, Marketing

Minor in Counseling and Social Change



**Gwen Khor**Senior, Marketing



Lorena Espinoza Senior, Foods & Nutrition, Minor in Women's Studies



Alvin Scioneaux

Graduate Student

Mechanical Engineering



Jordan Harrison SDSU Alumni, Marketing Minor in Social Psychology



**Vivek Shah**SDSU Alumni,
Masters in Computer Science



Jeremy Juybari
SDSU Alumni, Economics
& Interdisciplinary Studies



Alexis Wise
Senior, Finance

#### How has SDSU Career Services prepared you for entering the job market?

SDSU Career Services has provided numerous resources such as career counseling, resume builders, and career fairs that have helped me understand what employers are looking for in college students.

## What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

The best advice I have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship is to go above and beyond in everything you do! Each email, phone call, and interaction you have with an employer is a representation of your brand, and you must understand the importance of maintaining a high level of professionalism throughout the interview process. Utilize your network on campus and do not be afraid to reach out to anyone!

## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

I interned for 3M Company during the summer and traveled to Minnesota, Texas, Seattle, and Oregon. 3M has a partnership with a small number of universities across the country to facilitate the Frontline Sales Program, which is an 11-week internship that develops sales and marketing students for entry-level positions. Also, the internship itself allows students to travel and experience the day-to- day life of working for a large corporation.

## What has been/was the most rewarding part of your internship? What have you learned?

The most rewarding part was receiving a full-time offer at the conclusion of my internship.

### What do you wish you knew before interning that you would like to share with other students?

I would tell students to believe that they are fully capable of achieving whatever they want. Don't let someone's past experience determine yours, ask a lot of questions, and do not be afraid to speak up. Show up on time and bring a positive attitude, the rest will take care of itself.

## Would you recommend other students complete an internship? Why or why not?

Yes, I think internships can serve two purposes: students will gain experience in a field they enjoy or realize they would like to take a different career path. In the end, an internship will give students a chance to apply their experiences and knowledge gained in the classroom to a "real-world" experience.

## **Cooper Abrams** *SDSU Alumni, Marketing*

SDSU Alumni, Marketing Minor in Counseling and Social Change



#### How has SDSU Career Services prepared you for entering the job market?

Before I began working at Career Services, I knew nothing about how important internships were. I also had no idea about the importance of networking. The more I talked with the counselors and regular students the more I learned how valuable it is to have an internship on your resume, especially in the competitive job markets after graduation. Besides that, the Summer Internship Program helped me understand the importance of internships and where to look for them.

## What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

Don't get discouraged! I applied to two positions before my first internship and got disappointed when I didn't get them- especially because internships in Nutrition are somewhat hard to come by. I kept searching, however, even though I was afraid of rejection. I eventually found a position that will benefit me more than the others would have. Everything happens for a reason!

## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

My previous position was a Nutrition Internship at Feeding America San Diego. I am currently a research intern at the South Bay Latino Research Center, part of the Institute of Behavioral and Community Health. It is an affiliate of the SDSU Research Foundation.

## What has been/was the most rewarding part of your internship? What have you learned?

This is quite personal. After gaining experiences I have had, I was able to come out of my shell and be more outspoken than I ever had been before. I'd always wanted to come out of my shell but didn't know how. Being constantly surrounded by coworkers and always having to be working as a team, however, it leaves you no choice. It's a great way to put yourself out there, and now I feel more confident than ever.

## What do you wish you knew before interning that you would like to share with other students?

It's frustrating to not have as much time to do school work while doing unpaid work; knowing that it will help you in the long run makes it worth it, though. Making enough time—I'd say at least a week before an important test or projecthelped me tremendously in maintaining my grades.

## Would you recommend other students complete an internship? Why or why not?

Yes! Not only does it help your career development, but it helps you know whether or not a field is right for you.

### Lorena Espinoza

Senior, Foods & Nutrition, Minor in Women's Studies



## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

I interned for 3M Company during the summer and traveled to Minnesota, Texas, Seattle, and Oregon. 3M has a partnership with a small number of universities across the country to facilitate the Frontline Sales Program, which is an 11-week internship that develops sales and marketing students for entry-level positions. Also, the internship itself allows students to travel and experience the day-to- day life of working for a large corporation. I was also given a map of 100+ Home Depots that 3M wanted me to visit and study. I had the freedom to make my own schedule daily and I decided when I wanted to start, end, and what I would do during the day. I was responsible for making sure that merchandising teams had our 7-8 different display sets at Home Depot correctly set to planogram. I also did new product demonstrations to management with focus of increasing knowledge and sales. Lastly, I worked on return to vendor (RTVs) and customer satisfaction analytical projects to gauge consumer usage and complaints of products to find gaps and give suggestions to business units on how to improve.

## What has been/was the most rewarding part of your internship? What have you learned?

My internship experience was truly rewarding. I really understood after this experience that you have to really have a passion for what you do because 9-5, 5 days a week can be tiring and frustrating if you aren't enjoying your work. This internship also introduced me to the "corporate" world with a fortune 100 company. I understand the importance of company culture and making sure that your values align with the company's is important. This experience increased my understanding, professionalism, and excitement for work after graduation. I traveled weekly to different cities and states while staying in top hotels. I was given a corporate car, credit card, iPad, and all my expenses were covered by 3M.

## What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

Go for the challenging, new experience that will help you grow! Over prepare and give 100% because you are always interviewing. Get involved and use your friends, professors, LinkedIn, and any other outlets to

### What was your biggest challenge as a student intern?

truly stand out.

My biggest challenge was dealing with the constant moving and learning curve pretty much alone. It was a great deal of learning daily about not only my job but the company culture (and software programs) and how to execute on goals.



SDSU Alumni, Marketing Minor in Social Psychology



#### How has SDSU Career Services prepared you for entering the job market?

SDSU Career Services reviewed my resume and offered insightful revisions for my initial draft. By incorporating the edits my resume is now polished and professional.

## What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

Reach out to your Professors, peers, family members, and current co-workers and describe the type of internship you are seeking along with a summary of your qualifications. Do not be afraid of rejection, this is a numbers game.

## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

I am interning at Reality Shares, a financial startup based in downtown San Diego. They provide investors with innovative asset management.

## What has been/was the most rewarding part of your internship? What have you learned?

I have learned so much about finance and computer programming; it keeps me very interested. Furthermore, I have learned a lot about the professional office environment, how to handle everyday situations, and have realized the value of a diverse workforce.

### What do you wish you knew before interning that you would like to share with other students?

Realize that we do not know as much as we think. I have learned/relearned things that I thought I had mastered.

## Would you recommend other students complete an internship? Why or why not?

Yes, because it provides an opportunity to apply knowledge learned from the classroom to the business world.



Jeremy Juybari SDSU Alumni, Economics & Interdisciplinary Studies

#### How has SDSU Career Services prepared you for entering the job market?

Career Services provided support in the process of getting my internship. I have been to several informative workshops such as the Career Fair, and joined the Aztec Mentor Program. I also attended walk-in hours to meet with counselors and they provided helpful feedback to my resume. Besides that, Aztec Career Connection is a very helpful site that helped me to get my internship.

### What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

It is very hard to find an internship with no experience, so, I asked myself: How do I even start? With no professional connections, I began by volunteering at a non-profit organization as a marketing intern. Additionally, I also joined several marketing committees and organizations on campus. After a few months, with some experience, I was able to get an international marketing intern position. Throughout the process, I believe it is important to not hesitate and just do it. If you really want the internship, you should go for it! Apply to as many positions as you can. Be confident and really put in effort.

## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

I was an international marketing intern for Euramco Safety, which specializes in manufacturing firefighting products for hazardous locations. There, I localized the marketing materials by translating them into Mandarin. I also assisted the marketing manager with trade show preparation, video shooting, content writing, website and social media management.

## What has been/was the most rewarding part of your internship? What have you learned?

Being able to experience the real-world setting is the best. It helps me understand what kind of career I want to pursue in the future. Also, I became more appreciate of higher education and having the opportunity to learn.

## Would you recommend other students complete an internship? Why or why not?

Of course, everyone should do it! Although it is important to gain experience, there is a lot more that comes with having an internship. You can learn how to better manage your time when you are still in school. You can also learn how to have appropriate conversations with professionals. Having professional networks is also important. You can also know what kind of career you want to pursue in the future.



**Gwen Khor**Senior, Marketing

#### How has SDSU Career Services prepared you for entering the job market?

It helped develop my approach to job hunting, interview skills, and network. All these things have a positive impact on my career success, for which, I am thankful.

## What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

My advice would be to stay active and stay the course in your search. The only difference between winners and losers is that losers give up.

## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

Solar Turbines, Aerodynamic Test Engineer. I disassemble, build, and calibrate gas compressors which then allows me to test and compare various operating specs to difference computer generated calculations.

#### What made you pick your internship(s)?

The combined learning experience, company environment, and good compensation provided the best opportunity for me.

## What has been/was the most rewarding part of your internship? What have you learned?

The chance to learn form some very smart engineers that genuinely want to share their knowledge with you. I have learned a lot about the components of turbo-machinery and different engineering tactics that are used to help with the process of development.

## What do you wish you knew before interning that you would like to share with other students?

I am real big on progressing toward the future apposed to regretting the past. I don't know of anything that I would with I knew before interning, but I will say that you get out the process, what you put into it.

## Would you recommend other students complete an internship? Why or why not?

I would recommend students to complete internships. For the simple reason of better marketing yourself and learning more in your desired field. That is the whole point of going to college in the first place, right.



### **Alvin Scioneaux**

Graduate Student Mechanical Engineering

#### How has SDSU Career Services prepared you for entering the job market?

SDSU career services was very helpful and I attended various seminars for Self Presentations, Resumania, etc. It was of great help where I learned the power of linkedin, how to contact a recruiter on Linkedin, how to contact a HR for feedback after an interview, Things that should be taken care of while filling a job application, eg. Not to disclose SSN info etc. Also what all points needs to be covered in a HR interview question "Tell me something about yourself". The Summer Internship Program helps you to prepare for entering the job market. It always helps to have some practical IT industry level experience as what we do in IT companies is not related to what we study in the books most of the time. And you never know, summer internship itself leds you to an offer for fulltime job.

#### What services have/did you used at Career Services?

Career Counseling, on campus interviewing, Resumania, Linkedin seminar, Career Fairs, organizational presentations, and class presentations

## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

I was a part of summer internship program at The Walt Disney Inc. and currently working as a Software Engineer at Healthfusion Inc. (Recruited through SDSU Career Fair)

## What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

I recommend to attend SDSU career service's seminars / presentations to enhance soft skills and improvise the public profile that a recruiter/HR view. Keep on applying all the possible job positions related to your profile and never lose hope till the end.



**Vivek Shah** 

#### How has SDSU Career Services prepared you for entering the job market?

This past summer I completed a 12-week paid internship with Dr. Bronner's. I initially learned of their program after attending an SDSU Career and Internship Fair during the Spring 2017 semester. If it were not for SDSU Career Services putting on the Career and Internship Fair, I wouldn't have been exposed to this opportunity. Additionally, prior to attending the Career and Internship Fair, Career Services reviewed my resume and helped to ensure that I felt prepared for my internship search.

## What advice/tips do you have for current SDSU students looking to get an internship?

My biggest piece of advice would be to start your search early, as many summer internships close their application periods months prior to when the actual internship begins. I would also advise looking at opportunities out of your comfort zone. While you may have always had your eye on a certain company, you never know what other opportunities could be at your fingertips.

## Where have and/or are you interning? What is/was your title and responsibilities?

I interned for Dr. Bronner's, a manufacturing firm (well known for its 18-in-1 Soap), located in Vista. CA. Dr. Bronner's is the top-selling brand of Organic and Fair Trade body care in the United States. My title was Operations Administration- Fair Trade Intern. My responsibilities included conducting purchase orders, communicating with suppliers, maintaining inventory within the company's ERP system, accounting for inventory transfers and Fair Trade premiums.

## What has been/was the most rewarding part of your internship? What have you learned?

The most rewarding part of my internship was learning from an organization that is economically viable and socially and environmentally responsible. It was amazing to gain a firsthand understanding of how to successfully combine the concepts of social responsibility and profit.

## What do you wish you knew before interning that you would like to share with other students?

The number one thing I wish I had known was how early internships start filling up. I began looking for a summer internship as soon as my spring semester began, and at that point, many had already filled up.

## Would you recommend other students complete an internship? Why or why not?

Yes, schooling provides you a foundation of skills for entering the workforce, but there is nothing like true work-experience to prepare you for life after college.



**Alexis Wise**