Octagon China

Joy Zou '17 Beijing, China

My Job Description

- Duration: 8 Weeks, June 15, 2015 August 7, 2015
- Location: Beijing*
- Main Responsibilities:
 - Market Research: Finding background information on various performing groups in order to make educated proposals for their upcoming activities.
 - Project Logistics: Working out the details and proposing ideas for various upcoming projects including the promotion of multiple singing groups (i.e. Karen Mok and Bon Jovi), an inter-bank basketball tournament, and a soccer association.
 - Project Management: Helping with the facilitation of promotional events including the management of staff at the event.
 - Translation: between English and Mandarin to ease communications between our offices and our partnerships. Documents include but are not limited to presentations, press releases, media articles, etc.

*Interns normally work at both the Beijing and Shanghai office, but I asked specifically if I could stay in the Beijing office for the entire duration of my internship and they agreed.

The Office

- China Life Tower, 17th Floor
- Closest Subway Station: ChaoYang (Line 2)
- Nearby:
 - U-Town
 - San Li Tun
 - Galaxy Soho
 - Worker's Stadium



Sample Day in the Life

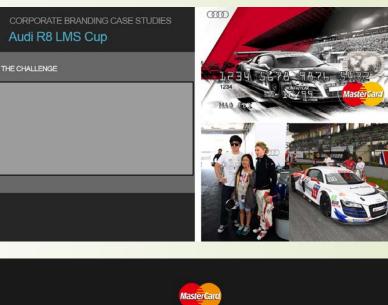
- 8:00 AM Wake Up, Morning Exercise, Breakfast
- 9:30 AM Leave the Apartment for work
- 10:25 AM Get into the office and sort out e-mails
- 11:00 AM Start working on projects, mostly using Word and Powerpoint
- 1:00 PM Grab Lunch at U-Town (a mall) next door with co-workers
- 2:30 PM Meeting with our MasterCard client to go over the current status of our various projects
- 5:00 PM Head back to the office and get started on making changes or developing on the current plans
- 6:30 PM Get off work and walk around the city for a bit
- 7:30 PM Go home and make dinner, maybe watch some Chinese dramas
- 11:00 PM Sleep

Most Rewarding Aspect of the Job

Out of everything, I was very happy with the level of responsibility that I was given at my internship. I was also extremely pleased with the amount of freedom I had in my work and the respect that the other coworkers had towards my ideas. I was grateful that they treated me more like another full time employee rather than an intern. In addition, I enjoyed the range of material for the projects I was given, so the work never became too tedious or monotonous.

Sample Work Projects









Impact on Career and Academic Plans

- What this internship showed me:
 - Work Environment in China
 - The Sports and Entertainment industry
- Impact on academic and career plans: Through the summer, I gained an invaluable insight into not only a completely foreign industry, but also a new working environment that I previously had no idea about. Though I do not know if I will continue to develop my career in China post graduation, I think that this summer has given me experience with which I can use for future reference.

Cultural Impacts

- Standout differences Beijing had with any other city include:
 - The population
 - The people's culture
 - The level of development and the spectrum of socio-economic tiers present
- The contrast between Beijing and other cities I have lived in shocked me at first and was a bit difficult to adjust to. As I began to understand the culture more, I was able to comprehend some of these differences. This summer has given me a greater appreciation of Chinese culture. It has also taught me a lot about my own background and how I have been affected by this part of my culture.

Exciting Beijing Sites

- Fragrant Mountain
- The Great Wall
- XiDan Shopping Center
- SanLiTun TaiKooLiChaoYang Park



Thank You