



BULLETIN

Fall 2016 | Internships

Past Events:

- Chervon, a Nanjing-based power tool R&D manufacturer, came to the Flagship Center on November 22nd to recruit interns.
- On November 28-29th, the 2016 Spring Cohort completed their AC reading and listening, as well as OPI testing!
- The Internship Staff met with students on January 6th for a final Internship Briefing before students begin their internships.
- From January 4-13th the Fall Cohort took their mid-program telephonic OPI assessment. Congratulations on completing the academic portion!

Upcoming Events:

- Welcome the year of the Rooster! China's Lunar New Year holiday starts January 27 and ends February 2. Most students will begin their internship the following Monday, February 6, 2017.



Chervon Recruitment

In late November, three Chervon representatives discussed the company's history, brand, work environment, culture and values, as well as recruiting procedures with the Fall Cohort. Chervon is ranked among the top 10 power tool industries worldwide, and acquired international brands such as FLEX, DEVON, EGO, HAMMERHEAD, etc. The company's headquarters, R&D, and testing centers are all located in Nanjing's Jiangning district.

The presentation was met with favorable responses from the students, and those interested stayed behind to discuss internship opportunities with the representatives. The internship staff is looking forward to inviting Chervon back for future recruitment workshops.



Fall Cohort Final Internship Briefing

The end of finals concludes the academic phase, but also marks the starting point of the internship module. Before students were allowed to leave Nanjing, everyone attended a full-day internship workshop held on January 6. The workshop was divided into morning and afternoon sessions.

- Morning :
1. Students reviewed the internship manual, including policies, expectations, grading, disciplinary policy, insurance, reporting, communication, etc.
 2. Chinese Development Course instructors discussed class session topics, purpose, and scheduling
- Afternoon :
3. The guest speaker, Mr. Matt Su, gave an introduction to Chinese business culture, dress, and mannerism standards
 4. Mr. Su addressed how to communicate/address Chinese colleagues, superiors, and clients



Student reactions to the workshop were very positive; however, some recommended the afternoon speaker focus less on business dress and more on communication tactics. There was another suggestion that the workshop be divided into two days as one full day workshop was too demanding.



Internship Status Update

With finals complete, the Fall 2016 Cohort worked diligently to settle internship placements. The Internship Staff maintained constant contact with the students to guide them through the complex paperwork process, and provided extra resources for students who had internship search difficulties. As of January 26, 2017, all 44 students have completed their academic requirements and secured an internship! Almost 90% of students will be interning in Shanghai, Beijing, and Nanjing. Other internship cities include Hangzhou, Guangzhou, and Shenzhen. Specifics regarding internship placement will be available in next month's newsletter.

2016 Spring Cohort Post Program Testing

From November 28th-29th, the 2016 Spring Cohort returned to the Nanjing Flagship Center to partake in post program testing. The first day of testing consisted of AC reading and listening exams. Despite some minor connection problems, both students were able to successfully complete their testing. Students returned to the internship office on the second day to take their telephonic OPI exam.

2016 Spring Cohort Says Their Farewells

December marked the end of the internship phase and, consequently, the end of the Flagship Capstone program for the 2016 Spring Cohort. Since the start of their internships in August, the spring cohort has undergone a vast number of experiences – changing internships, working with well-known companies, coping with Chinese work environment and schedule, on-the-spot translation, international business trips, etc.

Before they left Nanjing, both Alexandra Norman (WKU) and Eric Brown (SFSU) shared a little of their experiences interning in China:

Alexandra Norman, Western Kentucky University

“...my verbal and listening comprehension skills improved immensely (during my internship with Yu Theatre), and the new words I would encounter off-the-cuff fluidly became a part of my daily communication out of necessity...A vast vocabulary of work lingo...is now already constantly available to me, a vocabulary permanent engrained through my desperate need for them in the workplace.”

“...communicating with and translating for amazingly diverse group of artists, producers, and media professionals...(was) a highlight of my internship at Yu Theatre”

“...my experience at Yu Theatre Workshop was really good for me, and I am so glad that I interned here...I’m even looking forward to staying on next semester.”

“I was able to learn the ropes of the Chinese theatre and media business process, how to be aware of honoring others and making sure that the important people feel important and just generally being extra respectful to everybody, and how to be at once both an artist and a businessperson.”



Eric Brown, San Francisco State University

“One thing that I did learn about office culture here in China is the importance of sharing...For instance, if one person brings in a snack, they often bring enough for everyone, even if it isn't a special occasion...pictures, or selfies are very important to the team and the company...if an individual wasn't present for candid pictures, they would often do make-up pictures to represent everyone in the team.”

“I feel like Edelman was a great experience for me to get an inside look on how international companies operate abroad, and in China...I grew my professional network while I was here...(and) got the chance to be on the inside of how companies use PR to establish their brand and even enter a new market.”

“Working for an international company as a native English speaker in a foreign country led me to believe a few things. First, English is so important in the world of business and that my main asset to the company was the fact that it was my mother language. Second, a lot of Chinese professionals can speak English to a certain degree, making them bi-lingual. The ones that speak English well seem to be in better positions with larger responsibilities. Lastly, I think that to market myself in the future to international business, it won't be as much about the language as it will be about my experience with the culture of China, and have living experience in China.”

