

Morgan Stanley, Global Wealth Management

Fall 2008

Describe your tasks and your internship workplace environment.

As a scholar intern, the main tasks are researching individual companies, making reports and do the short briefings for the broker, emphasizing on the fundamental analysis, not technical analysis. Additionally, it's part of my job to coordinate and organize the internship program, responding to questions, keeping in touch with other interns regarding new issues. Sometimes, I can get the education about the U.S Economy by attending conferences held by JP Morgan and learn how to communicate with supervisors by watching meetings between my supervisor and his assistant. It is mandatory to attend in the training lecture every week.

Regarding working environment, everything is busy, fast and flexible. Each broker has his or her own position and main task, thus their working hours are all different and flexible. As the New York Stock Market opens at 6 am in local time, the workers are supposed to be in office by 5:30 am and usually leave the office around 3 or 4 pm. They spend most of time on the phone with clients to explain their trading and market or with other department workers to get information about the market. The whole office is pretty quite and calm except the phone calls.

Did this experience make you more or less excited about a career?

Before I got my internship in Morgan Stanley, I was a student who spent most of the time just on studying in the library and had no idea about what the real world looks like. Even, I was wondering whether to choose finance as my major was a right decision or not. But, while working as an intern, I should read current issues, update financial data and report information I got for my supervisor. It gave me a confidence that I love this job and I can do it!

Were you able to develop particular skills and/or interests at your site?

The biggest skill I learned here was how to communicate with people in the work place. At my first day of work, I even wasn't able to ask to my supervisor that what I was going to do there because he seemed too busy to talk. In addition to the scare generated by talking in English to new people, I was a stranger and all the office people were unfamiliar, thus I didn't ask anything before my supervisor asked me first or I ate the lunch alone. However, I realized that there are no gains with any pains and, started to be active to create my position, my area and my people. It worked and figured out that the matters in communication are appropriate timing, politeness and courage.

Would you recommend this internship to a future Scholar intern?

Absolutely, I strongly recommend applying for this internship to the next Scholar intern, especially international students because the supervisor, Jeffrey, has big interest in Education and wants to help foreign students who have limited change to work in U.S.

What were the exciting or challenging experiences you had as a UCCS Scholar intern?

The most fascinating part in UCCS program was to meet new people, to get along with them and to build a network on the industry I want to work for. Every single scholar intern who has lived and studied together is adorable and respectful. Thanks to them, I could experience interesting cultural differences between South Korea and U.S. Also, getting along with office people was one of the exciting experiences.

At the same time, the most challenging part was also to get along with other intern students (for a while, not now). Especially as only one international student of them, who is not fluent in English and has different cultural, social background, sometimes it was hard to totally get involved in them and felt like stranger (but not now!). In addition, working in the office was one of the biggest concerns at first because I didn't know what I could do for supervisor even without the right to access to internet and he didn't know what he was supposed to ask me to do at first.