School of Information Summer Internship Survey 2009

This third annual report includes information pertaining to the MIMS students’ internship search process, salary, employer information, and profile prior to studying at the School of Information. Traditionally, there are no courses offered at the School of Information during the summer and a majority of the students utilize this time by participating in an internship.

Of the 40 students sent the survey, 32 provided information regarding their status as of June 19, 2009. The results showed:
- 27 had secured an internship for the summer
- 1 had not yet found an internship, but was still looking
- 4 had not yet found an internship, but were not looking

**Job Sector and Industry**
An estimated 56% of the students indicated they are working in the private sector, 28% are working in the academic sector, and 16% are in the non-profit sector.

In terms of the type of industry, 35% are in Technology (including Policy, Social Networks, Startups, Software Development, and Web Development). Higher Education, Healthcare, and Research (including Mobile Devices and Public Policy) were the next most prevalent. There was only one respondent for each of the following industries: Advertising, Automotive, Consumer Products, Finance, and Oil.

**Job Titles**
The job titles for the internships were varied. Specific titles included: Administrative Resident, Business Product Development Partner, Business Analyst, Engineering Intern, Gates Foundation for ICT Agriculture Intern, Product Management Intern, Programmer, Programmer Analyst, Research Engineer Intern, Researcher, Usability Analyst, User Experience/Interaction Designer and Developer.

**Companies and Location**
The companies or organizations at which students accepted offers included: AdRoll, Center for Democracy and Technology, Chevron, CloudControl, Collective Mind LLC, Computer Research Association, Docomo Labs USA, Inigral Inc., International Computer Science Institute, Intuit, Philips Electronics, Salesforce.com, Stitcher, UC Berkeley, UCSF Medical Center, UCSF Positive Health Program, UC Office of the President, Volkswagen Group of America - Electronics Research Lab, and Yahoo! Inc.

Other companies not previously mentioned from which students reported receiving an internship offer, but chose to decline, included Food First, Stanford University, and Waterfall Mobile.
77% of the respondents elected to stay in the San Francisco Bay Area for their internship. These cities included Berkeley, Menlo Park, Oakland, Palo Alto, San Francisco, San Jose, San Ramon, and Sunnyvale. Several students accepted internships in cities outside of the Bay Area including Richmond, VA, San Diego, CA, and Washington, D.C. Students also reported serving internships in international locations such as Kenya, Singapore, and Uganda.

**Salary Information**
The average hourly rate for internships was approximately $27.90 (n = 14, median = $29.69, range between $13.14 – $37.50). At least three respondents reported serving unpaid internships.

**Internship Search Methods and Timing**
The primary methods used during the search were the School of Information Career Fair and references from friends. Other common methods included networking with faculty, the School of Information recruitment events and listserv, and the UCB campus-wide career fair. The main methods that students cited as being responsible for the internship they eventually chose were networking with faculty, friends, and the I School Career Fair.

A majority of the respondents began their job search in the Fall semester, primarily in the month of October during the time of the I School Career Fair. Approximately 28% of the students started looking in the Spring semester (between late January and April). Most students started their internships two to four months after receiving the offer.

The range in the number of internships students applied for was between 1 – 25, with the average being 6.16. Students went on an average of two interviews (range between 1 – 4), and received an average of one offer (range between 1 – 4).

The students mentioned a variety of methods used in their internship search. (n = 27):

- I School Career Fair (70%)
- Friends (67%)
- Faculty (52%)
- Campus-wide Career Fair (52%)
- I School jobs listserv (52%)
- I School recruiting events (52%)
- Alumni (26%)
- Staff (26%)
- Online Career Site (22%)
- Former Job or Internship (19%)
- Other – including Craigslist or non-job specific website (30%)

The methods that were cited as being most responsible for the internship they eventually accepted were faculty and friends. Students also mentioned the I School career fair and the I School jobs listserv as being the next most effective methods to secure their employment.

**Student Profiles Prior to the School of Information**
- **Average Salary**: $57,365.60 (n = 25, median = $60,000, range between $15,500 - $98,000)
  
  The average salary figure included at least one converted income from Indian currency.
- **Average Number of Years of Professional Experience in the Industry**: 5.12 years (n = 26, median = 3 years, range between 0 – 15 years)
- **Professional Industry**: 62% of the students came from the Technology industry (including Internet, Research, Software Engineering, Semiconductor, and Web Design), 11.5% came from Non-Profit, 11.5% from Education, and 15% from Other (Banking, Biotech, Government, and Volunteer Work).