School of Information Summer Internship Survey 2011

This 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 39 students sent the survey, 30 provided information regarding their status as of July 2011. The results showed:
- 25 had secured an internship for the summer
- 4 had not yet found an internship, but were not looking
- 1 did not specify his/her current situation

Job Sector and Industry
Fifty-six percent of the students indicated they are working in the private sector, with 28% working for a non-profit organization, and four respondents working in academia.

The number of students deciding to accept a non-profit internship increased dramatically from previous years. The introduction of the Non-profit Internship Grant, which gives eligible students up to $6000 for their summer internship, may have had an influence in the increased interest.

Fifty-seven percent are in Technology (including Software and Electronics). There were two respondents each for Consulting (including Quality Assurance), Research, and Education. There was only one respondent for each of the following industries: Environmental, Film, Government, Radio Broadcasting/Production, and Telecommunications.

Job Titles
In addition to the ubiquitous title of intern, specific job titles included: Business Line Intern, Chief Technology Officer, Data Analytics Intern, Database Analyst, Developer II, Graduate Student Researcher, Information and Communications Technology Adviser, Instructor, License and Compliance Engineer, Quality Assurance Intern, Research and Development Intern, Software Engineer in Test, Technology Consultant, UI/UX Intern, User Experience Integrator Intern, User Interface Designer and Developer, UX Research and Design Intern, and Visual and Interaction Design Intern.

Companies and Location
The companies or organizations at which students accepted offers included: Adobe Systems, Autodesk, Beyond the Arc, Cityspan Technologies, Inc., Code for America, Eddelman, IBM Research Lab – India, The Kitchen Sisters, LG Electronics, Location Labs, MobileWorks, Inc., National Parks Conservation Association, Pivot Learning Partners, Pixar Animation Studios, SAP Labs, Sendme Mobile, Sprint, Tubemogul, Plan USA, and UCB School of Information.

Other companies not previously mentioned from which students reported receiving an internship offer, but chose to decline, included: Amyris Biotechnology, Bank of America, Bay Citizen, Chevron, Livescribe, MarkLogic, Palantir Technologies, and Urban Mapping.

An overwhelming majority of the respondents (88%) elected to stay in the San Francisco Bay Area for their internship. These cities included Berkeley, Burlingame, Emeryville, Palo Alto, San Francisco, and San Jose. Students also reported serving internships in international locations such as Bangalore (India), Seoul (Korea), and West Africa.

Salary Information
The average hourly salary for U.S. based internships was $32.84 (n = 19, median = $31, range of $15 – $80).

Several students accepted unpaid internships. These students also received additional funding through the Non-Profit Internship Grant.

A few respondents reported receiving additional perks and stipends as part of their internships, including stock options and travel reimbursement.
**Internship Search Methods and Timing**

The students mentioned a variety of methods used in their internship search. (n = 21):

- I School Career Fair (76%)
- Friends (71%)
- I School jobs listserv (57%)
- Online Career Site (43%)
- Campus-wide Career Fair (43%)
- Faculty (38%)
- Alumni (29%)
- Former Job or Internship (24%)
- I School recruiting events (24%)
- I School Staff (19%)
- Other – including Craigslist or non-job specific website (14%)

The methods cited as being most responsible for the internship the students eventually accepted were references from Friends and the I School jobs listserv. References from Faculty proved to be the next most effective resource.

Seventeen percent of the respondents began their job search in the fall semester. A majority of the students (81%) started searching in the spring semester, primarily in January and March.

The range in the number of internships students applied for was 1 – 20, with the average being five. Students went on an average of three interviews, with a range of 0 – 10 (including phone interviews) and received an average of two offers (range of 1 – 3).

**Student Profiles Prior to Entering the School of Information MIMS program**

- **Average Salary (excluding salaries based in international currencies):** $57,806  
  
  - (n = 17, median $58,000, range of $26,000 – $90,000)

- **Overall Average Salary:** $50,965  
  
  - (n = 23, median = $50,000, range of $6,000 - $90,000)
  
  - The overall average salary figure included converted international currencies from India, Korea, Spain, and the Netherlands.

- **Average Number of Years of Professional Experience in the Industry:** 6.44 years (n = 23, median = 3.25 years, range of 0 – 17 years)

- **Professional Industry:** 52% of the students came from the Technology industry (including Internet Software, IT Services, Mobile Technology, and Web Development). There were two respondents for Aerospace, and one respondent each from Academia, Architecture, Biomedical Research, Graphic Design, Market Research, Media Production, Print Media/Fundraising, and Professional Services.