Trading quality: Roubini intern enjoys prominent placement

UCL student Jakub Szukalski (BA Economics and Business with East European Studies, second year) was looking for a productive way to spend the months leading into his final year at UCL. So he jumped at the chance of an internship with Roubini Global Economics (RGE (www.roubini.com)) – the research company headed up by the distinguished macro-economist Nouriel Roubini. The partnership proved to be a win-win situation.

Competitive edge
Aware of the fierce competition in the job market, Jakub was seeking a placement to give his CV the edge. “Internships are very helpful for finding graduate jobs. And I’m interested in the financial industry so I wanted to spend the summer doing something along those lines.”

Having made it through challenging selection rounds, Jakub’s placement was more than he had hoped for. “When the RGE opportunity was offered, I knew instantly I wanted to work there – I knew the firm well and the founder is a very prominent economist, Nouriel Roubini. So I was fascinated. I was delighted when UCL Advances confirmed my placement there,” he said.

Quality work on complex topics
His supervisor at RGE was Brunello Rosa, head of the company’s Western European economics and G10 sovereign rates strategy teams. He was impressed by Jakub’s self-motivation, “He was knowledgeable from a technical standpoint, both in economics and with Excel and computer skills in general. He was extremely quick in delivering and could work with little supervision,” said Brunello.

Demonstrating a firm grasp on global issues, Jakub turned his hand to producing daily and weekly coverage of economic and political events. Brunello said, “Jakub joined key meetings and contributed to several research pieces on topics including the impacts of Eurozone low growth and the monthly interest rates dashboard. He was very well equipped to research and write on economic issues.”

A valued exchange
Jakub’s high-quality work was a huge help to the team, who knew they could rely on him. Brunello said, “We saved a lot of time producing routine as well as bespoke output. We could trust that Jakub’s work was accurate, which cut the time for final editing and fact checking. We definitely hope to take more UCL interns of the same calibre in future – they do add value.”

Jakub was pleased to see his name in print as a result of his efforts. “Two research pieces that I helped to write were sent to clients via the website and printed in a Spanish newspaper, featuring my name. It’s great to have published work already.”

He feels his internship will shine on his CV, particularly given the standing of the company.

“I improved my technical skills – and I’ll benefit from the prestige of working at Roubini”.

Jakub Szukalski, UCL student
About UCL
UCL (University College London) was established in 1826 and is ranked as one of the world’s top-ten universities. The university is a modern, outward-looking institution, with more than 4,000 academic and research staff committed to engaging with the major issues of our times. It has a global reach, with 34% of its students coming from outside the UK, from almost 140 countries.

www.ucl.ac.uk

About UCL Advances
UCL Advances, UCL’s centre for entrepreneurship and business interaction, helps anyone who wants to learn about, start or grow a business. Its primary role is to promote a culture of entrepreneurship on campus and engagement with entrepreneurs and small businesses beyond UCL’s boundaries. It works to support start-ups and small businesses across London by helping them to access the technical and business expertise of UCL’s staff and students, through a series of programmes to help support ambitious young companies.

UCL Advances is affiliated with UCL Enterprise, which provides UCL’s structures for engaging with business for commercial and societal benefit.

www.ucl.ac.uk/advances
www.ucl.ac.uk/enterprise

About Student Engagement
UCL Advances helps students learn about business, start their own enterprise or help them grow an existing venture by offering a complete programme of support which includes access to training, mentoring, one-to-one business advice from our in-house business advisors access to loans and the use of our Hatchery space.

One of these support initiatives is the Student Internship Programme (SIP) – aimed at supporting interns while they gain valuable hands-on work experience. The interns are based within a micro, small or medium sized enterprise to carry out a range of activities intended to help their host business grow.

This includes training, shadowing and work-related tasks specified by the business. It is an 8–12 week full time programme for which the intern is paid a training allowance by UCL Advances.

www.ucl.ac.uk/advances/support/internship-programme

About Business Support
UCL Advances provides direct business support for internal and external organisations through a variety of programmes and activities such as 1–1 advice, problem-solving through student consultancy, student internships, mentoring and others.

• We help London-based businesses grow and develop by analyzing business needs and connecting them to relevant interventions such as industry mentors;
• Through pairing teams of UCL and LBS students with businesses we deliver short-term consultancy projects addressing specific organisation needs;
• We broker relationships and fund exchanges between new and aspiring entrepreneurs with experienced entrepreneurs in another member state of the European Union;
• Individual angel investors connected to UCL provide seed investment to SMEs engaged with UCL Advances programmes; and
• We offer fully-funded SME Internships where UCL students spend eight to twelve weeks in a London SME working alongside the director(s) to deliver real results and lasting impact in the host organization while learning about enterprise.

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