

BOILERS WORK INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

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As a rising 4th year Ph.D. candidate in Biomedical Engineering, doing an internship was imperative to help me decide what career path I will take on next. Furthermore, it was a puzzle piece missing in my training. During my undergraduate studies, I was a research fellow working on cancer therapeutics development. I enjoyed applying what I learned in my courses to pharmaceutical applications.

After completing my undergraduate degree in Biochemistry and Cell & Molecular Biology, I got a job as a research assistant at the Houston Methodist Research Institute in the Department of Nanomedicine. During my time there, I developed implantable medical devices for the controlled and sustainable release of cancer immunotherapeutics. While this work was very rewarding, I wanted to learn more about diagnostics and early prevention.



My doctorate work at Purdue University is focusing on imaging and diagnostics of neurotrauma. Being emerged in various research projects such as magnetic resonance imaging hardware development, sequence optimization, and clinical pilot studies, I often wondered if my skills would be useful in real-life applications. My

Boilers Works Internship at MED Institute was an amazing opportunity to learn new skills as well as apply my theoretical knowledge to the clinical hurdles of large medical devices as well as pharmaceutical companies. Our work has helped them further their product to the market or clinic, reaching millions of people. Furthermore, it has helped me realize that I do have the skills required to enter the workforce and that the training I have received has prepared me to systemically approach a problem and work toward the solution.

However, as it is well known, the academic environment is very much different from than industry environment. While both are highly competitive, at MED Institute we worked as a team toward a common goal. It took some time for me to go from a one-person team to a larger team. I enjoyed team comraderies, and it was extremely efficient and enjoyable tackling problems together.

My role was very fluid but always well-defined. My mentor at the MED Institute was outstanding, and there was never a conflict or criticism directed toward me or any of my team members. I think the reason for this is the exceptional communication that was implemented in every task. Whenever a client had questions or complaints, we all communicated solutions in a professional manner. Not

only was communication inside the team outstanding, but the whole company was also welcoming and inclusive. On my first day, everyone came by my office to introduce themselves and welcome me to the team. From the CEO to lab technicians. This was truly special.

After my time there, I was offered a part-time position that could result in a full-time position once I graduate. However, due to the few changes in my research studies, I could not accept the part-time position that was offered. I am hoping that with my graduation approaching, and the professional relationships I built during my time at MED Institute, I will have an opportunity to continue my career there. There were so many memorable experiences, and it is hard to differentiate just one. I enjoyed meeting clients from world-leading companies for medical devices and having a casual conversation with them, as well as solving how to image small fiberoptic threads using an MRI scanner. I would highly recommend Boilers Work Internship to every graduate student no matter what career path they want to take.

