

Austmine STEM METS Career Pathway Program

Post Program Interview 2020



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What drew you towards applying for the Austmine STEM Program? In particular, why did you apply for your current internship position?

Austmine STEM program was one of those very rare programs/firms that accepted international students, so it provided me with that first breakthrough I was looking for. I always wanted to be working in the engineering consulting area and this internship gave me exactly that – beginning my career in a well-recognised consulting firm.

Do you see yourself as having a career in this sector? Has your view towards the sector changed since prior to your internship?

Yes, I am looking forward to working in this sector as the engineering involved is not the typical work or problems you would encounter in residential and commercial areas, it is all different, more challenging and rewarding. I initially thought the mining sector caused major environmental harm, but I realised it is not the case since most firms have strict operation guidelines and ambitious sustainable plans.

What key skills have you learnt through your internship that you feel are transferrable for future roles?

I learnt the importance of working in teams at GPA and with time, I grew my teamwork skills, as this was essential in my role. Being open minded and working with everyone will always be vital in any role I do.

What task or experience was particularly memorable as part of your internship?

I joined in with a Civil and Environmental background, and the first job I was given was to write a stormwater management plan for a rural site in WA. I really enjoyed this since I enjoyed doing environment work and implementing what I had learnt at uni.

What was the biggest challenge you faced during your internship and how did you overcome this?

The biggest challenge I faced was designing a switch room from start to finish. I completed my Structural courses a couple of years ago so I had forgotten some calculations. I overcame this by communicating my problems with one of the graduates and he was super helpful in showing me the way forward without giving me the correct answer.

Would you recommend the Austmine STEM program to future students?

Yes for sure, I will surely recommend it to someone who would be interested in doing different type of engineering works than that which is commonly discussed.

Do you have any further comments you would like to make about the Austmine STEM Program?

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for giving me this platform to commence my career. It was difficult getting a paid internship while being an international student in Adelaide. Therefore, a big thank you for this.