

## Type of Experience – INTERNSHIP/TECHNICAL or RESEARCH PROJECT

### Georgia Tech's Global Internship Program

#### Program Description

As more employers look for college graduates who can work in diverse settings and approach problems from multiple perspectives, it is more important than ever for Georgia Tech students to gain global experience in their fields. GT's Global Internship Program (GIP) helps students accomplish this by facilitating short-term work experiences in an international context.

The GIP staff advise GT students on job search techniques and preparing to work in a new cultural setting. We also seek to make relationships with overseas employers to offer quality internships/co-ops for our students.

GIP is open to any student at Georgia Tech, undergraduate or graduate. Students can work one or more semesters during the fall, spring or summer. GIP participants build a powerful resume and develop a network of professional contacts around the world.

Global internships may take place in various settings, including corporations, research centers, university labs, non-profits, NGOs, government agencies, service, or field work. Internships must involve full-time engagement with defined tasks and learning objectives and a mentor/supervisor. The majority of global internships are paid.

#### Program Highlights

Our students are directly placed with overseas employers for internships ranging from 6-52 weeks (not through a provider). They are often the only GT student in their workplace (or only foreign student) and they must navigate the experience independently, so it is quite challenging yet very rewarding. Global Interns work on in-depth and high-level projects related to their fields of study, and develop practical, professional, and intercultural skills as a result.

#### Tips for Replication

GT places students directly with employers because we have a tradition of co-ops, and because we have significant industry ties as an institution. You must have dedicated staff to create and maintain employer relationships, and you need to know that your students are mature enough to handle being in such an independent setting. If your institution does not see this model as a good fit, work closely with a handful of vetted internship providers, your career/internship office, and your academic units to ensure that you are offering quality academically-relevant internships.

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**Link to website:** [www.oie.gatech.edu/gip](http://www.oie.gatech.edu/gip)

#### Program Details

- **Tenure of the program**
  - Official established in 2005
- **Participation rates (annual):**
  - Approximately 170
- **Target population:**
  - All levels and majors; majority of participants are Juniors, Seniors, and Master's STEM students
- **Duration of experience:**
  - 6 – 52 weeks (average is 3-4 months)
- **Engineering related?**
  - Yes – internships are directly related to students' fields of study
- **Course credit?**
  - No academic credit, but internship audit credit is recorded on transcript
- **Service component?**
  - N/A
- **Reflection component?**
  - Required end of term work report and optional re-entry activities including resume workshop



**Hallmarks  
Of  
Success**

