

CASE STUDY

KnowledgeEast Graduate Internship Scheme

University Of East London, Employability & Enterprise Team

Knowledge
East



Desariot Ademaj
BSc (Hons) Architecture

About me

My name is Desariot Ademaj and I graduated in 2009 from the University of East London in Architecture. I chose to go down this path as I have been passionate about Architecture just like my dad who is a major influence.

My KnowledgeEast Internship Experience

I enjoyed the KnowledgeEast Graduate Programme because it enabled me to increase my confidence in the internship as I was able to meet new people on site. My internship at an Architectural Studio gave me the opportunity to visit festival managers so that I could gather information for and promote the studio to them therefore I was able to make important contacts that would help me in my future career.

The internship has also built on my skills in communication as I had to interact with potential clients. Furthermore I liked the people I worked with who were extremely helpful and most importantly I've found the knowledge gained from the internship to be useful for my future prospects as I can now use this experience for future jobs.

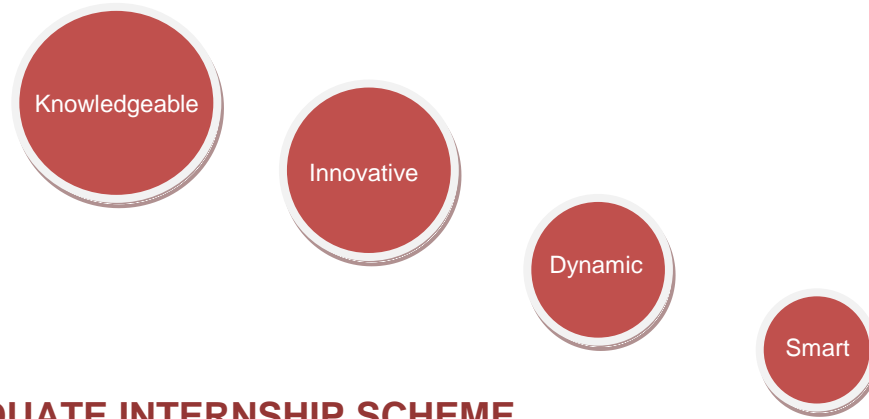
My time at the company has enabled me to build on my passion for creativity as I liked learning on the job.

My future

I would like to study further and then hopefully make a career in Architecture

"I was able to make important contacts that would help me in my future career"

Placing smart, dynamic graduates into forward thinking businesses...



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ABOUT KNOWLEDGEEAST GRADUATE INTERNSHIP SCHEME

In December 2009, a UEL-led collaborative bid on behalf of the KnowledgeEast HEI partnership was awarded funding to provide internship opportunities for unemployed graduates. Over the next 9 months, 500 paid internship opportunities will be created for recent graduates in local SMEs or larger businesses. This will be a valuable first step into the workplace for graduates who are entering the workplace in a challenging economic climate.

Recent graduates from the partner HEIs will be contacted about the project and invited to apply through a competitive process. The graduates showing most potential will be invited to attend a one day Preparation for Employment Event, followed by a one day Assessment Centre. The purpose of the two events is to ensure that the graduates are 'employer-ready' and that they are assigned to an internship where they have a high chance of success. The project will be very employer-focused to increase the possibility of the internship being converted into a full time post.

Through the KnowledgeEast partnership, the project will draw on the expertise of a range of colleagues in both the Careers/Employability and Enterprise teams of the partner HEIs. This project will complement and build on existing activity, including the work of the Knowledge East Enterprise Network (KEEN), our existing collaborative ECIF programme and the TGLP Internship Pilot delivered in 2008/9.

Femi Bola, UEL's Director of Employability said "The KnowledgeEast Graduate Internship Scheme presents a great opportunity for UEL to lead a scheme to help tackle one of the pressing issues of the moment, graduate unemployment, whilst continuing to build our understanding and expertise in the area of graduate level employability skills."