

CASE STUDY

KnowledgeEast Graduate Internship Scheme

Knowledge
East

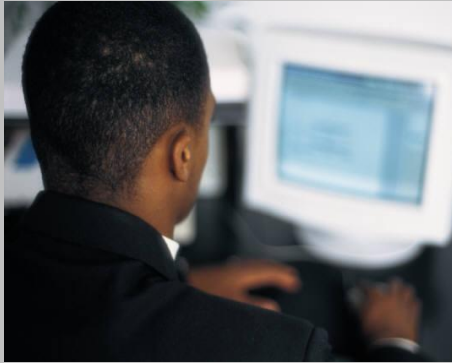


Photo courtesy of clipart.com

Rohit Deshmukh
BSc Computing

About me

My name is Rohit Deshmukh and a graduate in Computing from London South Bank University. I decided to study this degree as I have a long standing interest in computing and a plan to be a professional Software Consultant.

My KnowledgeEast experience

I enjoyed my internship with a social, economic and environmental charity. I worked as a Web specialist assisting the organisation with edits and improvements to their website pages using content management software. I was also responsible for video event uploads to the website and online communication and promotion via Twitter and Facebook.

In addition, I worked as part of the team organising local citizenship events where I was responsible for the internal communication of the event and co-ordinating work with other partnership universities. I was involved in internal meetings to develop 'ideas and brain storming exercises' to ensure our events were a success.

My internship has helped me build on and develop a number of my transferrable skills, including my communication skills, my listening and questioning ability, my leadership capability and my ability to work as part of a large team. I also gained experience of working to project plans and deadlines.

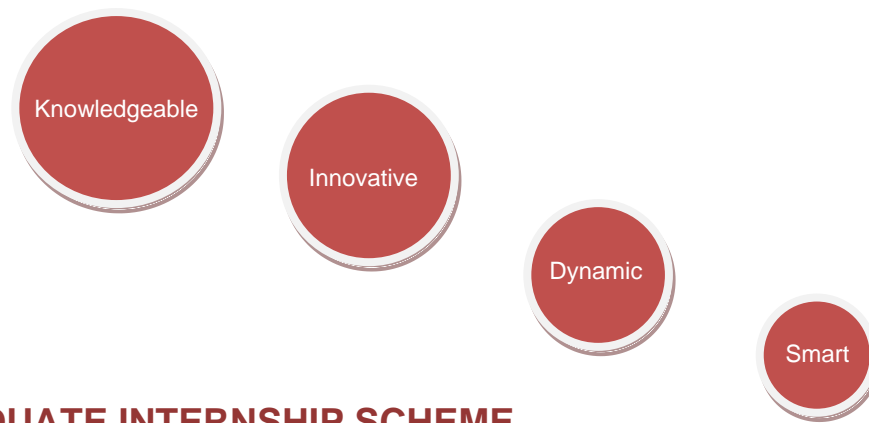
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My future

I am looking to build up my work experience as a Software Specialist and this internship has significantly helped me to achieve this.

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



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."