Newcastle University Regional Internship Projects 2017

Thomas Swan & Co Ltd

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| **Overview** | This is a unique opportunity to gain first hand business consulting experience with a respected and innovative 90-year-old UK company. Understand why it’s important for manufacturers to recruit business minds, gain an insight into the world of business in science and work in a global team with students from Newcastle, Groningen and Boston Universities.  |
| **Who?**  | Thomas Swan is a 4th generation family owned and run company, built on traditional family values – including integrity, respect and teamwork. Thomas Swan & Co is a leading manufacturer of performance and fine chemicals. Manufacturing over 100 products, from kilogram to multitonne quantities, they have offices in the USA and China and global network of distributors. Thomas Swan exports to over 80 countries worldwide and is well places to service British and International markets. |
| **Where?**  | You will be based at Thomas Swan & Co.’s headquarters in Consett, Country Durham for 4 days per week and based from Newcastle University Business School 1 day per week |
| **When?**  | The internship will take place for a three week period from Monday 24th July – Friday 11th August |
| **What?** | Last year’s students developed a business case for a plant derived chemical to be grown in a sustainable manner. The team worked on a daily basis with Harry Swan, M.D. of the company, to develop their recommendations and presented these to members of Thomas Swan & Co.’s Executive Board.  This year’s project will follow on from last year’s initial project. No prior knowledge of science/chemistry is required as students will be fully briefed on this prior to their internship commencing. Students will produce a report and present their project findings to the Board at Thomas Swan & Co. Ltd at the end of their internship.  |
| **Why?**  | Get the chance to influence the strategy of a global company based in the North-East region and gain exposure to senior management from the company, including the Managing Director of Thomas Swan & Co.  |
| **How many places are available?**  | 1-2 places available for Xiamen University students  |
| **What are the costs?** | Students from Groningen, Boston and Xiamen will expect to pay around £130 per week for their accommodation in the city centre (no food included) Travel to and from Thomas Swan & Co. will be reimbursed |
| **What did last year’s students say?** | “Our project felt like something exciting that could become a source of innovation and development for Thomas Swan in the future. Harry was a great boss, even though we were interns with little experience I felt he trusted us and was always there if we needed help”  |
| **Additional Information** | Harry Swan, M.D. of the company who worked with last year’s students said "we gave the students responsibility and they stepped up to it and did really well. The quality of their presentation at the end was right up there with senior business managers.”Company website: <http://www.thomas-swan.co.uk/>  |

Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)

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| **Overview** | Get the chance to work on a meaningful research project right here in Newcastle with the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) and work in a global team alongside students from Newcastle, Boston and Groningen Universities.FSB are looking for students with an interest in supporting the local economy to work on a secondary research project for them during their 3 week internship.  |
| **Who?**  | The FSB is the UK's largest campaigning pressure group promoting and protecting the interests of the self-employed and owners of small firms. Formed in 1974, it now has around 200,000 members across 33 regions and 188 branches. The FSB is a non-profit making and non-party political organization that’s led by their members, for their members. FSB’s mission is to help smaller businesses to achieve their business ambitions and it offers clients a wide range of vital business services including advice, financial expertise, support and a powerful voice in government. |
| **Where?**  | You will be based from a combination of locations in the North-East- from the Business School, as well as a Newcastle based tech-hub, designed to help technology start-ups.  |
| **When?**  | The internship will take place for a three week period from Monday 24th July – Friday 11th August.  |
| **What?** | Students in 2017 will work on a project looking at Government Technology (Govtech). You will be tasked with researching what government technology is, investigating best practice examples from across the globe and exploring how Govtech can be used to deliver public services more effectively. Teams will also look at how the North East region can utilize Govtech in delivering public services in the future across the region, and will produce a report recommending how the FSB can progress the Govtech agenda, how they can better raise awareness of it and what they should be lobbying the government on.  |
| **Why?**  | Get the chance to produce research which can impact the North-East region, working in a global team. Network with major players from the North-East’s technology industry  |
| **How many places are available?**  | 2-3 places available for Xiamen University students  |
| **What are the costs?** | Students from Groningen, Boston and Xiamen will expect to pay around £130 per week for their accommodation in the city centre (no food included)  |
| **What did last year’s students say?** | “The research and marketing plan that we completed for the FSB will be used as the foundation of a significant lobbying campaign for the FSB in the North East and that is something that we can be proud of.”“It was a really impressive experience working with students from different countries in a real international team. The team also offered many resources to help us grow a lot in terms of professional and personal business skills” |
| **Additional Information** | Previous projects students have worked on with the FSB have been shared with local councils, MPs and with Her Majesty’s Cabinet. Read about the work previous interns have done for the FSB in [The Courier](http://thecourieronline.co.uk/2015/10/26/business-students-promote-open-data-usage/) (Newcastle University student newspaper) FSB website: <http://www.fsb.org.uk/>  |