

INTERNZ

AUT

HELPING
NEW ZEALAND
GRADUATES
EXPERIENCE THE
WORLD



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WELCOME

New Zealanders have a reputation for a can-do attitude, innovation and generosity of spirit. Geographically isolated but adventurous, young Kiwis are driven to experience the world.

For a small, export-led nation on the edge of the world, cultural competence is an important commodity.

Through our Internz programme, Auckland University of Technology (AUT) is proud to support some of our great graduates to experience the world, transition into work and develop global business acumen.

This unique scholarship program that encourages immersion into a new market and culture at the very beginning of a career, is one of the reasons for AUT's #1 university ranking for international outlook in New Zealand.

Since 2014, the Internz scholarship has been awarded to 150 AUT students from a variety of study areas from finance to fashion.

While each scholarship recipient's story and the impact on their career path is different – each starts the same: a door was opened, a pathway was offered, and the field was levelled.

There are many visionaries and benefactors behind our recipients who saw the value of offering university graduates from our remote part of the globe an opportunity to succeed through experiencing a new culture and industry.



We are deeply grateful to AUT's alumni and friends from a variety of industries who have made this special cultural exchange possible.

It has been our visionary US-based foundation, Friends of AUT Inc, that has provided local knowledge, vital expertise and many industry connections. What began as a trial giving one AUT graduate a three-month internship in New York, has become a program accessible to many of AUT's graduating students, providing them with the opportunity to get their first taste of working life in up to 10 different cities each year across three continents.

AUT is New Zealand's newest university but its history of providing industry relevant education is over 110 years old.

We are grateful to all our global hosts, partners and stakeholders who support our mission to create great graduates who are relevant to, and supported by, business and industry.

Derek McCormack
Vice-Chancellor, AUT



MEET THE FRIENDS OF AUT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friends of AUT Inc. is a USA-based non-profit organization that promotes closer ties between AUT and its USA-based alumni and explores educational and research partnership opportunities.

Since AUT launched its global internship program, Internz, Friends of AUT Inc. has championed it and have hosted and funded many of the interns.

It is governed by the following members:

- **PRESIDENT**
Derek McCormack
Vice-Chancellor, AUT
- **VICE PRESIDENT**
Bill Middleton
CEO, Corporate Capital Group, Inc.
Member, USA Rugby Board
- **SECRETARY**
Andrea Vujnovich
Assistant Vice-Chancellor,
Corporate-General Counsel &
Governance, AUT
- **Chelsea Winstanley**
Producer-Director,
MANAGEMENT
- **Danella Le Cren**
Partner, Linklaters, New York
- **Gordon Smith**
Professor, University of Maryland School
of Medicine
- **Helen Klisser During**
Global Art Projects: Art Advisory &
Photojournalism
- **Joff Mitchell**
Managing Director,
AlixPartners, New York

"Eight years ago, we talked about the possibility of creating internships for graduating AUT students in the United States, and it's remarkable to see it become a reality. This opportunity for students to come and work in the United States is a tremendous career-building opportunity. New Zealanders are a competitive and ambitious bunch, and AUT students are the best of the best."

Joff Mitchell

"The wonderful thing about the internship program is that it provides a unique perspective for both sides. It's actually reciprocal. I've seen first-hand the calibre of interns that are associated with the Sundance Institute for example. They don't want to let them go, they are so good."

Chelsea Winstanley



2017 AUT interns at FCB West in San Francisco, creative team Martha Lees and Thomas Klaassen, both 2016 graduates of AUT's School of Communication Studies.

WHY HOST?

Partnering with AUT to fund and host a graduate intern will appeal to businesses wanting to diversify their talent pipeline and welcome fresh perspectives into their organization.

Since 2013, 150 great graduates from a range of disciplines including design, communication studies, hospitality management, marketing, sport, business and finance have been invited to intern for host companies in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Washington DC and now in cities further afield including Vancouver, London and Singapore.

Hosts speak highly of business outcomes and enjoy fast-tracking their selected graduates' careers by providing enriching placements.

World-class New Zealander, Academy Award winner and film making icon Taika Waititi addresses attendees at the New York benefit dinner co-hosted by Friends of AUT and Kea that raised funds for the 2018 Internz International Scholarship Program.

AlixPartners, New York

A succession of seven great graduates from AUT experienced their first taste of working life interning in the New York headquarters of AlixPartners (previously Zolfo Cooper), a leader in the consulting industry. All graduates put their business degrees to use in the results-driven global firm, which specializes in helping businesses successfully address their most critical and complex challenges such as turnaround and restructuring, performance improvement, and investigations and disputes.

Friends of AUT Board of Trustees member Joff Mitchell is Managing Director of AlixPartners and has championed the Internz program since its launch in 2013.

"For a New Zealander to come to the city that is the financial and economic driver for the world

is really an extraordinary experience and I hope one that will be life-changing for the interns selected."

For Josephine Cane, a 2019 AlixPartners' Turnaround and Restructuring Services Intern it was a surreal feeling to be working in New York among some of the world's leading firms.

"My role involved working alongside a team that engaged with international companies facing critical and complex financial and operational distress. Due to the rigorous world of New York corporate finance, no two situations are ever the same, resulting in the need for decisive, informed, and often urgent action to be taken discreetly and efficiently – something AlixPartners is renowned for."

Josephine Cane
Bachelor of Business in Finance,
Economics and Management



Sundance Institute, Los Angeles

Sundance Institute had never hosted an indigenous intern from another part of the world in its Indigenous Program prior to becoming an AUT Internz partner in 2017. Director of Indigenous Programming and renowned industry leader Bird Runningwater says his first AUT Intern, Toiroa Williams, set a new standard for interns at the institute and created a strong legacy.

"It was very exciting for Sundance Institute to host Toiroa. He came to Sundance with a strong cultural perspective that fed into the larger organization, and I feel that after his experience of being the first Māori intern and employee at the Institute that there are going to be some very large gumboots to fill."

For Toiroa, the experience interning in what he described as "the incubator for developing tomorrow's filmmaking talent" was life changing. After completing his three-month internship, he moved to a role in the Sundance programming team, where he supported preparation for the Sundance Film Festival.

"It's like training with the All Blacks. You are going to get better at what you do by just surrounding yourself with these people. I would

never have thought I'd be in LA but now I have a vision, I have a goal, I can see which way my waka is going. I want to create films that mean something, I want to create content that is entertaining, and I want to tell stories that haven't been told yet."

As well as leaving an enduring legacy at the Sundance Institute by applying his thesis topic to influence the Indigenous Program's five-year plan, Toiroa made his presence felt in the community outside of work. He became an ambassador for Education New Zealand to promote New Zealand as an education destination and became a star player for the Ventura Rugby Club – which he helped to win the state championship title for the first time in its history.

Toiroa's achievements during his 2017 year demonstrated his enormous leadership capacity. He was recognized by AUT, Kea and the Friends of AUT board of trustees at a benefit dinner held in New York that year, where he was acknowledged alongside renowned Kiwi filmmaker Taika Waititi, Nancy Gilbert and Bill Middleton.

Toiroa Williams
Master of Arts in Māori
Development
Bachelor of Communication
Studies in Television and
Screen Production



HOW IT WORKS

AUT offers graduate interns from a range of degree programs and will work closely with hosts to meet specific talent requirements and handle program administration.

AUT students in the final stages of their undergraduate or postgraduate study who match host company requirements are invited to apply for these annual internships.

Hosts are provided with a shortlist and given the opportunity to interview and select their preferred candidate, with AUT handling advertising, initial interviews, the creation of shortlists and the administration of visa, flights, required insurances and outbound orientation to set them up for the best possible start in their host city.



Investigate our study options to see if AUT produces a great graduate right for your business:

aut.ac.nz/study/study-options



"It's by no coincidence that I landed with the Curator of Globalization who has a strong interest in the Pacific. It wasn't until I flew 9,000 miles away that I really understood what it meant to be Polynesian."

Jamey Va'aetasi Solomua William Bailey
(Samoan/Ngāti Porou)

Bachelor of Communication Studies in Television and Screen Production
Curatorial Assistant Intern at Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, 2019



"It's really exciting to be at a young company carving a reputation in sustainability in one of the most competitive markets of footwear."

April Gourdie

Bachelor of Design in Textile Design
Intern at Allbirds, San Francisco, 2018

MEET SOME OF AUT'S GREAT GRADUATES

AUT produces great graduates with industry-ready technical skills and, while grades are important, our students are also supported to develop their 'C' skills while studying at AUT: communication, creativity, curiosity, collaboration, cooperation and a sense of community.

Meet a few of our great graduates who have previously been selected for Internz scholarships by industry hosts.



"Receiving this internship was a huge achievement, and I feel proud to be a young woman working in the male-dominated rugby industry. It's a challenge and that's what I enjoy. I feel so much stronger as a person."

Madison Doughty

Bachelor of Sport and Recreation in Health and Physical Education
Youth Development Mentor at Play Rugby USA, New York, 2018



"I decided to apply for the AUT Internz internship because there was nothing to lose and everything to gain. Red Antler has a well-considered approach to design, and is constantly redefining what it means to be a brand. They're pushing the boundaries with each project and as a designer I couldn't think of a better environment to be."

Toni Clark

(Te Āti Awa, Taranaki, Ngāpuhi)
Bachelor of Design in Communication Design
Digital Design Intern at Red Antler, New York, 2019



"Having international experience is an excellent way to make your CV stand out. The Internz programme sounded like the perfect way to enhance my employability and have an exciting adventure."

Jessica Kate Tweed

Bachelor of Design in Communication Design
Trainee Art Director at Facebook Creative Shop, New York, 2018



"The return is massive. You're giving someone who's come out of university the opportunity, and for me it's built a lot of loyalty."

Johansen Miller

Bachelor of Business in Finance and International Business
Intern at Westpac Institutional Bank, New York, 2018



"What could be better than the opportunity to work overseas in an area that I'm interested in? My work is being used on an international platform and I get to work on projects that I couldn't have dreamt of. I also get to live in Chicago, which has become my favourite city in the world."

Sharleen Shergill

Bachelor of Communication Studies in Radio and Bachelor of Laws

Content Intern at TimeZoneOne, Chicago, 2018



"To come out of university with very little experience and for people to put faith in you and your future is really, really cool. It means a lot."

Mitchell Donnelly

Bachelor of Engineering Technology in Mechanical Engineering
Engineering Intern at Babcock, Plymouth, United Kingdom, 2020



"I get to work at a great international ad agency with big clients on exciting projects. It's been a little bit of deep end swimming, and there are things that aren't like home. However, it's been a time full of learning experiences and new skills I'm going to take on with me throughout my career, and my life."

Sophie Aitken

Bachelor of Communication Studies in Advertising Creativity
Copywriter Intern at FCB West, San Francisco, 2019



"New York was a busy and rewarding experience in its own right but now it's time to take my experiences and get on with sustained mahi – work that's more permanent where I can begin to make lasting impacts."

Kaden Wilson

(Ngāti Rangitihi)
Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws and Master of Human Rights
Indigenous Program Intern at the New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York, 2018

MEET SOME OF AUT'S GREAT GRADUATES



"This internship was a great opportunity to further develop my skills, work at a company that is a market leader and make contacts, which is very crucial in the fashion industry. I love that I'm constantly learning new skills and being able to apply my knowledge to problem solve, which I highly enjoy."

Aishwarya Angadi

Bachelor of Design in Fashion Design
Design Intern at Lululemon, Vancouver, Canada, 2019



"It's such a great opportunity to get a glimpse into New Zealand's international trade processes and presence on the global stage."

Laura Perry

Bachelor of Business in Economics and Management
Intern at NZTE, Vancouver + Wellington, 2017



Cognito

"I had always told myself that I would come back here to live and work, but never in my wildest dreams did I think that it might happen so soon! Singapore is a centre of finance, fine food and a portal to access the entire region of South East Asia – what better place to kick-start a career?"

Jono Buxeda


Bachelor of Communication Studies in Public Relations
Public Relations Intern at Cognito Asia, Singapore, 2019



"The Internz programme has been life-changing! I've gained a lot of insight into how recording labels and their artists work. I've also been able to meet a few cool celebrities – they love asking about the New Zealand accent."

Eden Wairua-Orme

(Te Whānau a Apanui)
Bachelor of Communication Studies in Creative Industries
Intern at Paramount Recording Studios, Los Angeles, 2019



Our great graduates have used the Internz scholarship program to create inspiring legacies.

The collective impact of these scholarships will be felt by them and their communities for many years to come.

✉ internz@aut.ac.nz



AUT