Student employee case study

Name: Fraser Lennon

Degree course: Computer Science

Job title: ODL Student Audio Experience Intern

Can you briefly describe your role and responsibilities?

My project was to showcase the importance that audio can have for the University. The department wanted a way to involve ODL (Online Distance Learning) students in the project - so I ran a campaign to encourage ODL students to send in spoken word audio clips of themselves talking about their perceptions and experiences of online learning. As part of the project, I created a website that allows students from all over the world to easily send in their content to us, then allows me to subsequently display that content on the website.

What interested you about this specific role?

I have an interest in media technology, so immediately I was attracted to the audio collection and manipulation aspect of the project. I thought it would be a great opportunity to get professional experience in the area. Prior to applying for the position, I didn't know the University of Edinburgh offered distance learning degrees, so I was curious to find out more about the process and opportunities available.

How have you benefitted from this experience?

There is no doubt I have taken a lot from the whole experience. I learnt about project management, which allowed me to explore different methods and techniques that I found very interesting and valuable. The biggest aspect for me though is the greater sense of career direction I now have.

What advice would you give fellow students looking to get a job at the University?

Your department is there to support you. Asking questions is the bedrock of settling into a new job/internship. It allows you to learn about your working environment, but also allows you to get to know your colleagues and build effective working relationships.