

Tomasz Andrzejewski

Degree course	MPhys Mathematical Physics
Current year of study:	2nd year
Internship details:	Industry Engagement Benchmarking Intern, ERI
How long was your internship:	12 weeks



Description of your role and responsibilities?

I worked with the Business Development Team of Edinburgh Research and Innovation (ERI) on a project conceived to assess UoE performance in industrial engagement against Russell Group and a selection of Scottish universities. My main goal was to see how available metrics can inform the team strategy so UoE performance can be improved. To this end, I gathered comparative data over the past 5 years and represented it graphically. I also documented case studies of major strategic partnerships and conducted a University website review, in which I analysed how industry-friendly the UoE and ERI websites are and compared them to the websites of 10 other business-engaged universities.

What interested you in this specific role?

I hoped to gain some experience in collating, analysing and presenting data which is useful for future research projects. I also wished to learn how the University engages with businesses and how research is commercialised. The project gave me a chance to learn all this and develop a range of skills.

How have you benefited from this experience?

I learned about research commercialisation and got some insight into the functioning of the Technology Transfer Office. I feel that my employability increased greatly, as I had an incentive to deeply self-reflect and I enhanced my planning and organisation skills. My knowledge of Word and Excel expanded as well. Furthermore, I am now more confident in working independently and using my initiative.

What advice would you give to future interns?

Even if not asked, make a strategic action plan at the first 2 weeks of the internship, in which you'll plan your work identifying how much time you need for your project, and what you need to do for the final summary project/report. Consult this with your supervisors and correct the plan according to their guidance.

