Project SEARCH
Newsletter: March

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The Interns’ Second Visit to Sainsbury’s, see full story on page 6

Ben visited his Mentor Abi at Zenith Resources with her colleague Andy on page 4
Welcome Message from the Project SEARCH University of Aberdeen onsite Team.

Hi Everyone, during March we have held an information stall at the International Women’s Day Conference in Elphinstone Hall at the University of Aberdeen and the Interns took part in further team building exercises. Project SEARCH, along with the Aberdeen Grampian Chamber of Commerce, hosted a Lunch and Learn event called “Spotlight on Project SEARCH”. The Interns completed their final workshop with visits to Sainsbury’s, Skills Development Scotland, a recruitment event, as well as training sessions from staff at the University.
Andrew, Catriona, Heather and I had a stall for Project SEARCH at the International Women’s Day Conference held at University of Aberdeen, in Elphinstone Hall. It was a good day for people to learn more about Project SEARCH and the ways to get involved; as mentors for the next year’s Interns, business advisory council for advice on job markets, or hosting curriculum workshops for the interns to teach them skills like preparing for interviews. Anyone who is interested either contract, an.thomson@nescol.ac.uk or catriona.mccarle@inspiremail.org.uk.
On the afternoon of Monday 7th of March, the Interns took part in a Group building Activity which involved one of the interns to be blindfolded while the rest of the class try to guide them through an maze of tables to a clown’s face to put on his nose.

On Wednesday 23rd of March, Ben went to Zenith Resources to meet his Mentor Abi and her Colleague Andy where he did some work in a workshop there.
Lunch and Learn AGCC Event: Spotlight on Project Search

Neva Haites and Anne O’Bryan gave speeches at the event to inform the AGCC delegates about the project. This lunchtime event gave general information on the background and aims of our Project, as well as the opportunity to meet members of our team and find out how businesses can become involved. Interns were also in attendance and manned stalls where they discussed a variety of things they had done at Project SEARCH. The event outlined the support available to business to recruit one of our Project SEARCH graduates.
On Tuesday 29th of March, the Interns went to Sainsbury’s Berryden for their second interview skills workshop, where they took part in activities and asked work related questions. Interns were able to take part in a walk-around interview used by the store. Brian the General Merchandise Manager at Berryden, was running the workshop with his colleague Margaret, a Manager at Garthdee. Interns enjoyed learning more about the variety of roles available within the company.
Intern of the Month
March 2016

Callum Menzies

REASONS:
1: He is great with other interns, spending a lot of time with the other interns and has developed a lot of patience when working with one of the interns in particular.
2: He helps other interns with their job searching i.e. a University admin job where the job description & person specification had matched the skills and experience of another intern.
3: He has be challenged by concentrating on his work with also sometimes helping other interns if they are struck.
Wednesday 30th of March:
Skills Development Scotland Visit and Moving on Recruitment Event

The Interns spent the morning with Natasha Finlay and her team at Skills Development Scotland where they took part in job skills exercises and prepared for the recruitment event later that day.

In the afternoon, the interns went to a Moving on Recruitment Event at the Aberdeen Town House, where they engaged with employers and businesses there, looking around the stalls.

What’s Happening Next Month?
- Aberdeen City Council meet the Interns 1st April
- 2016-2017 Intern Recruitment Interviews on 25th April
- Interns 3rd and final internships