

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Morgan Barnhart

Graduation Semester & Year: Fall 2019

Semester & Year of Internship: Summer 2019

Major: Management: Accounting

Minor: N/A

Hometown: Hummelstown,
PA



Hobbies: Exercising and drawing

Campus Activities:

Future Plans/Career Goals: Obtain a career in the accounting field, go for my CPA, and continue my education. I plan to get my Master's Degree in Supply Chain Management.

- **Internship (company/your title):**

Hersha Hospitality Management- Corporate Accounting Intern

- **How did you find your internship?**

I found this internship by browsing the internet. I specifically looked for internships that were in the Harrisburg area so that I was able to live at home while completing it. This internship was on Indeed.com where I ended up applying.

- **What were your duties?**

- Created bank and other account reconciliations
- Prepare and post any entries needed to close the month
- Research and save invoices to complete FF&E Draws
- Assist Staff Accountants with daily tasks such as guest ledger reviews and Birchstreet tracking
- Balance revenue and statistics in the software BRAINS
- Prepare financial and owner's packs for hotels

- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**

This was a full-time internship for the summer so I was there for 40 hours per week.

- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**

In general, I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Hersha, but the part I enjoyed the most was the ability to close multiple hotels for a month. It gave me exposure to so many different areas of accounting and allowed me to learn new processes. I was able to post accruals, communicate with General Managers of the hotels, and review the general ledgers to finalize for the month.

- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**

The most difficult part of the internship was learning the different types of journal entries and knowing how to accurately post them. My biggest fear would be that I posted to the wrong account and then it would mess up the general ledger. However, I have learned through this internship that you should always ask questions especially when you are just learning.

- **How did your experience at UPG and in the Accounting department prepare you for your internship?**

My experience at UPG and the Accounting department helped me to prepare for this internship. If I didn't know the basics of accounting including the principles and different accounts then it would have been hard for me to understand why I was completing some of the tasks. Furthermore, being introduced to the variety of accounting reports allowed me to become familiar with it before I saw it used in real world applications.

- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**

(over)

My internship has showed me that there is certain processes that will take more time and require accuracy whereas others are simply spelled out right in front of you. This internship has also gave me the ability to explore software that I have never used before and might use in the future.

- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**

My biggest recommendations is always be willing to help whenever you get a chance and ask questions. Internships are meant to be a learning experience and the more questions you ask the more you will be able to understand. Another important thing to remember is that don't get too frustrated if you can't seem to grasp a specific concept. There is most likely a lot of new things you haven't seen so it is okay if you don't get it the first time.

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