

Internships: Guidance

The Department of Statistics strongly encourages graduate research students to undertake an internship.

Embarking on an internship or a work placement, while generally often beneficial, can be disruptive for research. Here are a few points to consider.

1. For students and supervisors: Before embarking on an internship, make sure that the internship takes place at a time which does not conflict with major events which are crucial for the research (such as major conferences, or external visitors to the department whom the student may considerably benefit from interacting with). The timing of the internship should be agreed between student and supervisor(s).
2. For students: Metaphorically and physically, tidy up your desk – collate your results to date so that you can pick them up quickly when you return. Your desk may be used by a visitor during your absence, so leave it in a state in which you would be happy to have it used.
3. For students and supervisors: before the start of the internship, make a plan of how to resume research upon return.
4. For students and supervisors: keep in touch informally during the internship, to check that the internship is going according to plan. Pastoral care extends to the internship period.
5. For students and supervisors: After the internship, discuss the internship experience. What could be learnt from it regarding research or career planning? Then make a plan how to best get back into the research project. Allow a couple of weeks to refresh your memory!

GDR

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