



PACIFIC EDGE
CANCER DIAGNOSTICS COMPANY

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Dunedin-Based Biotech Opportunities, 2022-2023

Join Our World Class Team

Pacific Edge specialise in the discovery and commercialisation of diagnostic and prognostic tests for the detection and management of cancer. Our expertise extends from discovery to market, and includes cancer genetics, bioinformatics, clinical pathology, molecular oncology, technology development, and marketing.

This summer we're looking for interns to support us on several key projects.



Projects Available

We have five projects for which we'll appoint the best qualified intern to work alongside the team, providing essential support.

Internship 1: Validating Cxbladder to Detect Urothelial Carcinoma Using an OpenClinica Data Capture Platform

Internship 2: Single Cell Sequence Analysis

Internship 3: ddPCR Assay Optimisation

Internship 4: Buffer Validation

Internship 5: PowerBI Mission Critical Dashboard (IT/Digital Project)

Next Steps

- Email us at recruitment@pelnz.com for more information.
- Review the Q&As on our Careers Hub at pacifiedgecx.com/careers to learn about the experience from previous interns.
- Applications close 30 Sept. Successful applicants will be appointed by mid-Oct, with work commencing at our Dunedin offices and lab in the Centre for Innovation on Campus Nov/Dec 2022. Each internship is for 400 hours over 10 working weeks.

Eligibility

1. Be studying, or have recently completed, an undergraduate or postgraduate degree or qualification at NZQA level 7-10.
2. If study has been completed, the closing date of your final semester should be less than 6 months ago.
3. Be studying science, technology, engineering, design or business at a New Zealand tertiary education institute.
4. Be legally permitted to work in New Zealand. Not have been previously employed at the business unless part-time or temporary.
5. Have not undertaken more than two Experience Grant internships with the same business.

LEARN MORE

Email us at recruitment@pelnz.com
Visit us at pacifiedgedx.com/careers



PROFILE

RACHEL HANSEN

Qualification

Bsc (Hons) Genetics

Role at Pacific Edge

Research Associate

Rachel recently made the transition from Intern to Lab Technician, and is now working as a full time Research Associate. We asked her some questions about her internship and what it's been like making the shift.



What drew you to applying for an internship at Pacific Edge?

I was looking for a job where I could apply the skills I'd developed throughout university, as well as continuing to learn new things. The internship at Pacific Edge seemed the perfect job to do this and learn more about a new side of science that I didn't know a lot about beforehand.

What did you most enjoy about the internship?

I really enjoyed being able to be creative. The internship allowed me to apply a lot of my own ideas and 'think outside of the box', which I hadn't had to do a lot of before this internship. Also, the team at Pacific Edge is so friendly and supportive which made the whole experience really enjoyable!

What aspect of the internship did you find most useful?

The most valuable part of the internship was being able to contribute my own ideas and help design experiments, along with my supervisor. My internship was a lot of trial and error, so there was a lot of adapting and developing new experiments to see what worked. This allowed me to develop further critical thinking and independence in my research.

How have you found the transition from university to a commercial setting?

I found that it was a good transition, as I was still able to apply similar techniques I had learnt, however I was applying them from a different angle. It was more just a change of what the overall goal was and trying to think more innovatively.

What do you love about the Dunedin lifestyle now that you've finished university?

Dunedin is a relaxed and friendly environment, which makes the transition out of university into the workforce much easier. It is very social and I have more time to explore and enjoy the city now that I have a structured work schedule.

Any general advice or tips for aspiring interns?

The main advice that I would give would be that you are not expected to know everything coming out of university, you learn a lot on the job. You just need to be enthusiastic and willing to learn! As well as this, don't be afraid to contribute your own ideas, it is really valuable to have different perspectives.

PROFILE

FINN DUSTERWALD

Qualification

Bsc (Hons) Genetics

Role at Pacific Edge

Research Associate

Finn recently made the transition from Intern to full time Research Associate. We asked Finn some questions about his internship and what it's been like making the shift.



What drew you to applying for an internship at Pacific Edge?

I was looking for a job over summer and wanted to stay within something science-based to gain some experience and further develop the skills I had gained during university. An internship sounded like a great opportunity to get some hands-on experience in a commercial setting. I had heard a lot of positive things about Pacific Edge and the research sounded like it was both innovative and had a real-world impact, which made it extremely exciting.

What did you enjoy about the internship?

I enjoyed all aspects of my internship! Everyone at Pacific Edge was extremely welcoming and provided me with a lot of support during the 10 weeks. The most enjoyable part of the internship was all of the new things I learnt. Within my project, I was able to work with various pieces of cutting-edge technology, as well as develop new scientific skills which I had previously not had the opportunity to learn.

What aspects of the internship did you find most useful?

I think being out of my comfort zone and working on research that wasn't familiar to me was extremely beneficial. I was also given a good level of independence within my project, which allowed me to think creatively about my experiments and build on the skills I had gained during my Honours year at university.

Tell us about your new role at Pacific Edge

My role at Pacific Edge as a Research Associate provides me with a lot of variety in the things I am involved in, as well as a good level of independence. I have continued working on various projects which involves planning experiments, working in the lab, and analysing the data I generate. I also get to expand my knowledge on cancer and cancer diagnostics, as well as continuing to develop my bioinformatic skills and collaborating with other scientists.

How have you found the transition from university to a commercial setting?

I found the transition good - not only were the Pacific Edge team extremely welcoming, but I was also provided with a lot of assistance. The internship helped a lot as it was a great way to make the transition from academia to a commercial environment and to see if I would enjoy the change. I really enjoyed being able to still work on interesting science but in a more applied way. I found it rewarding to see that our research directly impacts the lives of people, compared with the mostly fundamental research I had been used to in an academic setting.

Any general advice or tips for aspiring interns?

One piece of advice I would give is to ask lots of questions. If there is something you don't quite fully understand, or are interested to know more about, don't be afraid to ask questions. You aren't expected to know everything coming out of university and there are so many knowledgeable people around, with lots of experience, who are more than happy to answer any questions you have.

PROFILE

LIBBY WILLOCKS

Qualification

Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Hons)

Role at Pacific Edge

Product Development Technician

Libby has recently made the transition from Intern to full time Product Development Technician. We asked her some questions about her internship and what it's been like making the shift.



What drew you to applying for an internship at Pacific Edge?

After completing my Honours year at the University of Otago I wanted to get hands-on experience over the summer break. As an undergraduate student I had heard about the exciting, innovative science they do at Pacific Edge and wanted to get involved. Pacific Edge appealed to me as it was a way to use the skills from my degree whilst improving the lives of people affected by cancer.

What did you enjoy about the internship?

The team at Pacific Edge are very welcoming and supported me during my transition into the summer internship role. I gained new skills and got to work with cutting edge technology. I felt like my work really contributed to the company and their vision. My project was super interesting and relevant which made the experience that much better.

What aspects of the internship did you find most useful?

Being offered a job in the field I studied was an amazing opportunity and would help anyone going forward in their science career. My internship project gave me the ability to approach science in an innovative way, whilst also building on the skills I had learnt throughout my study. The most useful aspect of the internship was presenting my research to experienced scientists in a professional environment, where I could really grow as a young scientist.

Tell us about your new role at Pacific Edge.

Since starting full time work at Pacific Edge I have

continued to work in the same area that my internship project was in, but have been able to broaden my research and have since designed my own experiments. The awesome thing is, I have gained a level of independence whilst still being able to collaborate with the team around me.

How have you found the transition from university to a commercial setting?

It was a smooth transition and I was provided a lot of support and guidance throughout the early stages of my internship. Commercialised science is quite different from the academic research I was used to, with different goals and challenges associated. It is exciting to explore other avenues of science whilst being supported by a great team.

Any general advice or tips for aspiring interns?

Apply! You learn so much throughout the process that you can take with you into any scientific career. The internship position would be suited for someone who has a strong foundation in a lab setting, gained usually through a fourth year of study. You are likely to stand out if you are able to think outside the box and are ready for a new challenge.

My advice for an aspiring intern would be to make the most of the opportunities given. Be prepared to get really involved in all areas of Pacific Edge throughout the 10 weeks. Don't be afraid to ask the people around you for help, collaboration is where you learn the most and how you will see the best results.