SUMMER WORK TERM HIGHLIGHTS
FortisBC
SAP Canada
TELUS
Steve Nash Fitness World & Sports Club
learning about debits and credits in classes such as BUS 251 and 320 is one thing, but experiencing it first-hand is an entirely different story. This summer, I had the opportunity to practice the application of several years’ worth of technical knowledge. During my time at FortisBC, I have been entrusted with a multitude of tasks such as entering journal entries, recording account receivables, updating the figures in financial statements, and reconciling accounting documents with monthly banking statements.

During this term, I have worked primarily with Microsoft Excel and SAP. My skills with Excel have greatly improved as a result. Furthermore, as it is an important program used by a multitude of companies, learning to use SAP has been very beneficial to my skill set.

My experience at FortisBC has been an invaluable one. I have had an amazing time learning from my colleagues and superiors and I feel that my time in co-op has left me better equipped to tackle life after university.

SAP Canada: Marketing Specialist & Communications Associate

Eamon: My experience at SAP has been fulfilling from start to finish. From developing digital marketing strategies, creating graphics and videos, and participating in SAP’s largest event, I have been able to create and perform work that is both meaningful and relevant to my interests and passions.

I was able to travel with my manager to Orlando Florida to promote and demo our Mobile Analytics solutions for Business Intelligence at SAP’s largest event of the year, SAPPHIRENOW. This event hosts roughly 15,000 delegates every year who travel from all over the globe to attend.

Within my work term, I was able to leverage my creative skills & develop graphic designs, advertisements and videos for my team & others within the company. I worked closely with Solution Marketers on developing marketing & promotional strategies.

Jasmine: Who knew my design skills would be given a spotlight at a multinational tech company? But it did! Working at SAP has been one of the most fulfilling experiences as a designer and marketer. As the Global Communications Associate for the Technology Innovation Platform, I work with a talented team to solve communication problems in development. This includes design consultation, campaign ideation, print and media production, and content management to name a few. Not only am I fully immersed in technology trends and creative workshops, I am supported by a warm community who has taught me so much about myself, both work and life.
TELUS: Customer Solutions
Students were asked to relay their most valuable experience and the skills developed at TELUS (a) as well as the key qualifications (b) suited for their respective positions.

Executive Client Relations – Business Analyst I
a. Created weekly reports that are distributed to all the VPs, SVPs, and the ELT, supported a team of Executive Advisors who handled all escalations sent to the President, and worked on smaller initiatives with other Program Managers on the team.
b. You have to be a self-starter with the ability to adapt to change.

Customer Experience – Business Analyst
a. Contributing to the launch of several customer-impacting changes to telus.com and telusmobility.com. Tasks included assessing the projects, forming recommendations for implementation, analyzing impact on business resources and creating frontline communications.
b. Analytical skills are vital because projects must be evaluated based on how they will impact the customer experience and business resources in order to ensure successful implementation.

Business Product Solutions – Cloud Computing Product Analyst
a. I had the opportunity to take part in planning, developing, and executing the marketing of two new products during my term with TELUS. During this time, I produced internal training brochures, external collateral, website content and price strategies.
b. I strongly believe that one of the most important assets to have is a positive attitude (cliché I know), but when you’re open-minded and easy to work with, it definitely goes a long way.

Commodity Taxation – Financial Analyst
a. Enjoyed working with SAP & ACL software which sharpened my technical skills. I have done a variety of interesting projects, such as TELUS Open House for SFU & UBC students, with both Finance & HR teams.
b. I believe that communication, collaboration, software utilization, accounting, and time-management skills are most important.

TV Product Marketing – Marketing Analyst
a. Spearheading a nationwide internal video contest, collaborating with third party vendors, and producing communications tactics to promote our TV products.
b. Clear communications, time management, motivation and a positive attitude.

Steve Nash Fitness World & Sports Club: Junior Financial Analyst & Junior Accountant
On the basketball court, Steve Nash is known for his distinct “pass first” play style. This emphasis on teamwork & collaboration was also present during our co-op term. During the four months, we were given the chance to work with a wide group of professionals in a proactive work environment. Being part of a changing organization, we were also given the opportunity to contribute to ongoing improvements occurring within the company.
As Junior Financial Analysts, our primary responsibility was to facilitate the decision making process for other senior executives. Our duties generally include sales data analysis, key performance indicator reporting, and business process reviews. The overall experience was unique as the projects that were handed to us were challenging and eye-opening. As a result, we were able to greatly improve both our critical thinking and technical skills, which include data analysis and Excel modeling. Our supervisor also held a number of field trips where we met with other business professionals from PricewaterhouseCoopers and CIBC Wood Gundy. We were given an opportunity to ask questions about their career experience, & receive advice towards our future careers. Through making a personal connection with these professionals, we were able to further visualize & plan our future career path.

In summary, the experience we gained here has been extremely valuable. All fellow seeking students should definitely take advantage of this opportunity as a way to gain practical work experience and expand your professional network.

**Charting Your Path**  
by Michael Rankin  
**Beedie School of Business**  
**Career Management Centre**

It may sound cliché, but knowing yourself is a critical phase of the job-search process. Most of us think we know what we want, what we’re good at, & what motivates us, but then the obvious question arises: why do roughly 2/3 of university graduates dislike what they do? While there are many possible answers to this question, there is a substantial amount of research that shows this may be due, at least in part, to a lack of self-awareness.

My colleagues and I recently participated in an intensive training program for Career Leader, the business-focused self-assessment tool available to Beedie BBA students for a modest fee of $25 (or free with enrolment in one of our Self-Assessment workshops, soon to be required for all new incoming students as part of the Business Career Passport Program). Self-disclosure: I was already a fan of Career Leader before this training; however, I am now beaming with excitement to help coach you to use your report effectively and to use self-reflection to develop your career plan.

Career Leader identifies three key components to career success as identified by thousands of successful and satisfied professionals: Interests, Motivators, and Skills. Finding a career that matches your top interests, motivators, and skills will substantially increase your chances of success and job satisfaction. BBA students participating in the Business Co-op Program have the added bonus of being able to gain practical experience to help evaluate what they like and dislike, what motivates them, and what they are good at doing. Whether you are just starting your degree, mid-way to completion, or if you are a BBA Alum, I encourage you to take the Career Leader assessment and come discuss your results with an Advisor: we are excited to hear your story and help discuss your plans!