

# WEB EXPRESS

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# Benefits of a Vacationer Role

Summer break is right around the corner, and with that comes Vacationer Roles. Vacationer Roles are internships that you can complete within the summer university break that give you a taste of what full-time work may look like in a career path you are interested in. Many companies are opening up their applications for these programs, so now is the best time to start working on your application. To tell us more, our incredible co-vice president Krystal Lau will be sharing her experiences with a vacationer role and providing some top tips for our members looking to apply for one too!



Which vacationer program did you take part in and what was your role?  
What were some of your everyday tasks?

I took part in EY's Vacationer Program, and my role was a Technology Risk Consultant.

Some of my everyday tasks included:

- Coffee catchup with someone in the team/firm (e.g. Senior manager, Director, Partner, Career Counsellor)
- Team meetings for specific clients where I would gather with all team members looking after a particular client to discuss the progress on their deliverables
- Completing learning activities or readings on particular processes that the Technology Risk team conducts frequently (e.g. reading up on the types of legislative forms that are completed for each client to assess their system risks and mitigation strategies OR playing with a spreadsheet template that is used for each client to document their risk strategies)
- Completing tasks for Senior Consultants that go to the client (e.g. putting together presentation slides OR entering in data for a spreadsheet OR documenting minutes during a client meeting).

What drew you towards this firm and their vacationer program?

I don't have a strong idea yet of what part of the corporate world I would like to enter so my aim is to experience a diverse array of firms both public and private. Experiencing a Big 4 firm was part of this goal because Big 4 firms offer a very structured, professional work experience, which is beneficial for students who have no formal work experience and are looking to understand corporate company structures, processes, professional practices, and meet a broad range of people to grow their network. Furthermore, EY is known for promoting a strong diversity, equity, and inclusion policy across their activities and recruitment, which is great for women and people of colour.

## What drew you towards this firm and their vacationer program?

Given internships are short and you often have little skill or knowledge to contribute when walking in, prioritise using the time to **build your network** rather than getting obsessed with filling your time to do administrative groundwork. Some of this is always necessary and is how you prove your capability, but take the time to meet with people so you can learn more about their roles on a personal level and build connections that will provide the foundations for career and personal opportunities down the line.

Additionally, it is important to have **strong attention to detail**. It's easy to think you are good at checking for details, but you'd be surprised how easily you can make mistakes, which can weaken first impressions when submitting work to seniors. For instance, check dates, names, spellings, and data entries as these all stand out to fresh eyes; also find ways to verify things more accurately instead of relying on manual, human auditing.

## What advice would you give to our members who are looking to apply for a vacationer role?

Focus on **broad career factors** and apply for a range of companies that roughly meet the criteria – don't get pinned down in the nitty gritty and hole yourself into 1 or 2 companies (you are greatly limiting your chances of getting an internship).

- Think about the **sectors** you want to gain visibility to, remembering that it helps to be a bit more specific because sectors are very broad:
  - Public or private?
  - AI technology?
  - Green technology?
  - Journalism media?
  - Venture capital?
  - Capital finance?
- Think about the **circles of people** you want to meet and connect with:
  - Do you want to meet more traditional, corporate seniors?
  - Do you want to meet young entrepreneurs/start-up founders?
- Think about what **corporate culture** you want to know more about:
  - Larger, hierarchical firms?
  - Smaller, start-up-type firms?
  - Mid-sized, growing firms?
  - Look at the make-up of the leadership body to get a sense of what the diversity, equity, and inclusion may be like.
  - Do you want to work overseas in the future? If so, consider looking for companies that offer global transfers or have offices around the world

Once you have an idea of firms you might want to apply for, **USE YOUR NETWORKS** to help you get there in addition to applying cold:

- Connect with related people on LinkedIn
- Talk to your MQ convenors, tutors, lecturers who may have career experience or industry connections
- Talk to family and friends
- Talk to WEB alumni who have worked in your area of interest ;)

# Event *Recap*

## *Amstelveen's Risky Business Game*

We had an incredible evening at Risky Business with Amstelveen, where we learnt about the world of Risk Consulting. We got to gain insight into Amstelveen and experienced an interactive session which tested our skills and decision making. The night ended with networking with industry professionals and fellow WEB members. Thank you to everyone who attended the event and hope to see you all in future events.



[More photos](#)

## *Ace the Assessment Centre with PWC and Pinnacle*



[More photos](#)

Last week, we hosted Ace the Assessment Centre with PWC and Pinnacle at our city campus, where we got to learn about all things assessment centres! It was a great event that definitely eased the stress of applying for graduate or internship roles! It was great having so many members come and visit our city campus - many for the first time! Special thanks to everyone who came and to our sponsors for a lovely evening!

# Upcoming Events

## *In-House Law Panel*

We are hosting an In-House Law Panel to learn more about being an in-house lawyer, including insights and tips on how to navigate a career in law. We will have four panellists who will share their own experiences and a networking portion during the event for specific questions and advice. Spots are limited, so if you are keen to attend please use the link below!

Date: Tuesday 27 August 2024

Time: 5:30-8:00pm

Location: 25 Wally's Walk, C122

Attire: Business Casual

Registration: <https://forms.gle/nkycS96LpK6BE26C6>

If you are interested in finding out more about our upcoming events be sure to check out our Instagram for all the details!



# Opportunities

## *On Campus*

## **PASS**

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) involves experienced students running weekly student-led revision sessions that aim to deepen your understanding of unit content and facilitate your learning.

In these sessions, you'll develop study techniques, improve communication and group interaction skills in a team type learning environment.

PASS runs from Week 2 until Week 13, no registration is required.

Find out more: <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/peer-support/PASS>

## **GLP**

**Want to make the most of your Macquarie University experience?**

The Global Leadership Program (GLP) is a free, self-paced, program designed to help become a multifaceted global citizen and give students a competitive edge as a graduate.

They offer a range of courses, volunteering opportunities, internships, seminars and careers events to help you gain knowledge, experience and invaluable skills. Countless colloquial workshops are available throughout the whole year.

Find out more: [students.mq.edu.au](https://students.mq.edu.au)

Register now: [thrive.mq.edu.au](https://thrive.mq.edu.au)



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## ***Employability Connect***

Employability Connect offers job opportunities and career resources to help find paid employment and develop professional skills while studying.

- They offer Zoom or face-to-face appointments with Careers Advisors and workshops on topics including resumes, interviews, job searching, career planning and more.
- Provides careers events and networking opportunities, including industry-specific presentations, fairs, and seminars.

## ***Learning Connect***

Learning Connect offers expert advice on writing or studying needs including, academic writing, preparation for PACE placements.

WHERE: 18 Wally's Walk on the ground floor and to the left of Service Connect.

WHEN: Monday to Friday from 10am-4pm.

Need some

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New episodes coming soon!



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