

Intro: You are on with career talks presented by the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech a regular podcast featuring students, alumni, and friends of the school offering advice to help you succeed in your career endeavors.

Q: welcome to career talks a podcast service of the Academic Services Office of the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech. We are here with Grace Huber. So tell us a little bit about yourself, your name, major, year, where you're from and why you chose to come to the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

A: Ok so yeah like you said, my name is Grace and I am a rising third year International Affairs major with a concentration in Public policy. And I chose Georgia Tech, I always wanted to go to Georgia Tech since I was little. I actually came in as biology but I quickly switch to the Sam Nunn School because like I'm math and science oriented but I realize that even within the liberal arts college here there's a lot of empirical research that can be done there's a lot of math and science incorporated into our classes. And the Sam Nunn School is really broad so my degree I'll be getting a master's in International Affairs and that can take me to a lot of different places so it really stands out compared to then compared to like other International Affairs programs at other schools but it also just opens up a ton of opportunities for me.

Q: So we're here to talk about your experience as disasters services intern at Points of Light. Can you tell us about the work of Points of Light? How you found out about the position and application process.

A: Point to Light as a nonprofit. They have offices in Atlanta, D.C., and New York and their Atlanta office is located like half a mile from Georgia Tech. So I saw the internship from an email that was sent out from my advisory Stephanie Jackson. And it was just like a Thursday job posting and there were a bunch of internships and they're just a part time internship so I was taking classes at the same time and I applied like mid-August or beginning of September. So it's kind of like once the semester had already started and the application process, I just sent my resume and I think they got to get some other resumes from other places around maybe from Georgia Tech but I think from other schools as well. And then a week or two later I did an interview and then I found out a few days later that I had the offer. And so then I just basically started right away. So it was it was a short internship I think it was about two months instead of a full term but it was just like a part time.

Q: What did you find most enjoyable about working with the nonprofit?

A: So something I really loved about working with a nonprofit is you really do know that people are genuinely interested in what they're doing and they really want to help people. But that kind of sounds cliché because it's a nonprofit but that's really true. If you're not in it for the money you're definitely and because you're passionate about it. So I was working in the Disaster Services Unit so that meant we did a lot of trainings for different companies and programs that would respond to disasters. And the people, the leadership they were all really passionate about what they were doing at Points of Light. I also felt like there was a good

amount of positivity surrounding, I think you have to be really positive if you're working with people in situations that are kind of difficult or hard to stomach, you definitely have to stay positive. And the last thing, I would say that I really enjoyed about working in a nonprofit is the value of making connections and networking. So they really like to hire from within so that kind of varies from company to company but I think that generally the trend I've seen just in looking at the reviews of internships from nonprofits is that they do like to hire from within. So interns, you know can move up when they graduate and so forth.

Q: So what was your typical day like at Points of Light?

A: So I worked, half of my work was remote and half my work was in the office. So it's every day for two or three hours sometimes I would go over to their office and sometimes I would just work like out of the Georgia Tech library. So the main thing I did was I managed their social media. So every day I would craft like tweets and Facebook posts and save them so I kind of had like the next few months planned out. And then I just had to special projects whenever they needed my help. So for example, there was a big disaster planning training at the end of my term and so we spent several weeks planning for that so I helped like book flights, helped look at venues and then helped in developing training ideas and then I also assisted with just setting up an implementing the training for disaster response.

Q: How did Georgia Tech or the Sam Nunn School prepare you for this internship?

A: I would say the biggest thing about Georgia Tech is it kind of forces you to think as a self-starter and it makes you have like an inclination to always go above and beyond. So I felt like I was constantly asking them like what can I do now, what can I do now? I couldn't just sit still and not do anything which I think they really valued. You know is obviously at the bottom of the totem pole as an intern but I made myself valuable by just asking people if they needed anything else done or if they needed any help in any way that was maybe a little bit outside of what I was usually doing. And then efficiency is also very valued at Georgia Tech so like I would always look for a more, a better way to do stuff maybe using technology in a different way or something like that which is a very Georgia Tech mindset. So yeah definitely her apparently well for this internship really and the other internship I'm sure.

Q: Do you have any advice for interested students working for a nonprofit?

A: My biggest advice if you want to work for a nonprofit is to not settle for the first nonprofit that you, that accepts you or that you stumble upon. So I think in the future like I would look for more internships. I mean I definitely loved this internship and I don't think I mean I know I would have found a better one however if you are really set on working for a nonprofit and that's the only avenue you want to go down, I would definitely suggest looking for a lot, searching, applying to a lot of internships. Because chances are you might you're not going to get the first one you apply to or you might find one that you like better you're more interested in something that's more challenging. And then if you also want to work in a nonprofit, there are a lot of government jobs that are kind of equivalent to the work that nonprofits do. If you're

more interested in getting a paid internship because a lot of times nonprofit ones aren't paid. So obviously the experience is different but you can get the Federal Jackets Scholarship through Georgia Tech to work for a federal agency in D.C. and you can also sometimes get paid by the government to do those jobs so definitely like the like cast a wide net because like if you apply to a bunch of things, you will definitely have more options when it comes to picking just one internship to do.

Q: Very good advice. That concludes my questions is there anything you would like to add or any concluding thoughts?

A: Yeah, thank you for interviewing me, my last thought I would say would just be, this kind of goes back to my last answer. I've entered for like a few different types of departments so nonprofit, government and then the U.N. agency and I definitely like know which one I favor and I know which one, which fit me best. So I would suggest just interning a few times. They don't have to be big extravagant internships in foreign cities, they can just be you know things that are in Atlanta, all my, two of my internships have been in Atlanta they don't have to be paid a time but just different things so you can get different types of experience so that when you graduate you have a better idea of kind of where you want to fly.

Q: That concludes our interview. Thank you for sharing your insight in the expertise with our audience today.

A: thank you.

Outro: This has been career talks a podcast of the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech brought to you by the Nunn School academic services this and other podcast can be found on our website at www.inta.gatech.edu. Thank you for listening.