

**DISCOVER**  
**FUTURE TALENT**

**EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT**

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# WELCOME

## Welcome to Employer Engagement at the University of Southampton

As a founding member of the Russell Group, the University of Southampton is one of the top research universities in the UK. We play an active role within our region and local community, collaborating with businesses on projects and connecting you with motivated students and graduates who bring fresh thinking and innovation to your workforce.

The University has over 17,000 undergraduates and 7,500 postgraduates based in our 5 campuses across the cities of Southampton and Winchester and in Malaysia. With a history dating back to 1862, we are renowned internationally for our pioneering research, first-class facilities, academic excellence, ranking 15th in the UK (Times Higher Education World University Rankings, 2019) and in the top one per cent of universities in the world.

In recent years, the University has invested significant time, energy and resource into developing our employer engagement offering. This has led to an impressive growth of work experience opportunities for our students. We are now placing over 800 students with employers annually whilst developing the variety and quality of experience.

We work with an ever-increasing number of employers who wish to attract University of Southampton students as interns, volunteers, on placement and into graduate employment. Collaborating with us brings tangible benefits not only for the organisations who tap into our students' knowledge, expertise and creativity but also for the students who gain invaluable work experience to enhance their future employability.

The University strategy is built on the 4 core principles of quality, collegiality, sustainability and internationalisation. As we work towards delivering a quality experience for all stakeholders through employer engagement, these principles underpin our actions, activities and achievements.

Whether you partner with us regularly, or are considering engaging for the first time, I hope that as you browse this brochure you will find something of interest. Contact us today to find out more, we would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Ann Cooper**  
Head of Placements and Work Experience



**We have a mixed gender split**

with 56% of our students being female, 44% male



**25% of our students are international**

from more than 130 different countries



**Our global community of alumni has over 200,000 members**

living in 178 different countries

# WHY SOUTHAMPTON?

We are proud of our employer engagement activities that deliver tangible benefits to all stakeholders: organisations, our students and us as a University. You benefit by engaging talent to support your work whilst developing a future recruitment pipeline. Our students gain invaluable work experience, life skills enhancing their employability and an understanding of the jobs market. These students become graduates supporting our institutional strategy of “changing the world for the better”.

Whether you are a large graduate recruiter, SME or a charity/not-for-profit organisation there are many ways of connecting with us. We aim to understand your needs, recommending solutions that meet your requirements, timeframes and resources.

The relationships we have with organisations of all sectors and sizes are hugely valued and we are delighted when companies keep returning year-on-year or begin engaging in multiple programmes. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with you and introduce you to our talented and motivated students and graduates.

## PROGRAMMES TIMELINE



## EVENTS, FAIRS AND SPONSORSHIP TIMELINE

**MyCareer is our online platform connecting employers with students. We invite organisations to register, specify their interests and upload their internships, volunteering opportunities and graduate roles free of charge. All University of Southampton students have access to MyCareer, graduates are invited to register after their studies and this is the best place to begin collaborating with us.**

### Next Steps

To register your organisation, visit this link: [mycareer.soton.ac.uk](http://mycareer.soton.ac.uk)

We recommend creating your profile to be as enticing as possible and include your organisation's logo. We link your profile to the events and opportunities that we develop together.

**Do you have a project that could prosper from fresh ideas? Our Student Innovation Projects offer you the opportunity to benefit from the capabilities, competencies and creativity of our talented students.**

Students from a mix of subjects work together to deliver innovative solutions to your business issue. Previous projects have included examining engagement of target audiences, exploring possibilities for company expansion and streamlining processes for efficiency. Alongside their studies, teams work part-time developing their recommendations and creating a report and presentation for you.

There is no cost to organisations participating in this programme however all projects are subject to an application process. Projects run twice a year, starting in October or February.

### Next Steps

For more information, please contact us and visit our website to download a client application form:

[www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/placements/student-innovation-projects.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/placements/student-innovation-projects.page)

**Email:** [Employ@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:Employ@southampton.ac.uk)

**Telephone:** 023 8059 3501

### Benefits

- Gain a fresh approach to addressing your business issues from bright, enthusiastic students
- Diverse student teams bring a varied skillset and approach to your business issue
- Receive insightful, bespoke recommendations through a presentation and report

# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON INTERNSHIPS

**Do you have a project of value to your organisation but require extra resource? Are you looking for new ways to advance your business needs? Through University of Southampton Internships you can recruit students and recent graduates to contribute to your organisation. Our Internships can take place during University vacation periods or part-time in term-time.**

Whether you're familiar with hosting internships or have never done so previously, we have experience of collaborating with a diverse range of organisations.

## Next Steps

For more information about the programme please contact us or visit our website, where you can download our Employer Handbook containing our guidelines:

[www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/internships](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/internships)

**Email:** [Employ@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:Employ@southampton.ac.uk)

**Telephone:** 023 8059 3501

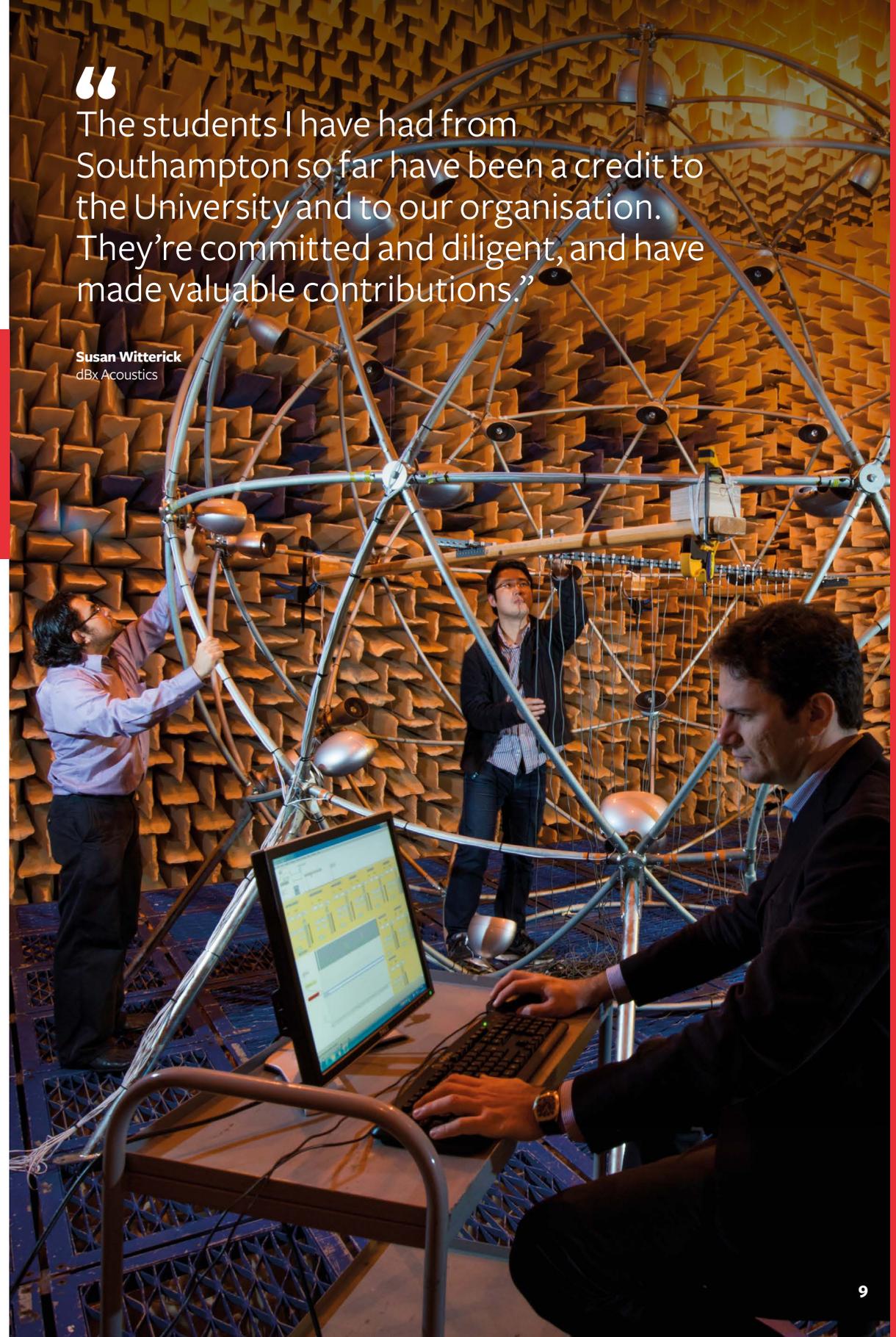
## Benefits

- An additional resource providing support to a specific project or role
- Welcome dynamic new ideas and energy to your organisation
- Targeted marketing of your opportunity to a diverse student body
- Guidance and expertise from us saving you time and effort

“

The students I have had from Southampton so far have been a credit to the University and to our organisation. They're committed and diligent, and have made valuable contributions.”

Susan Witterick  
dBx Acoustics



# YEAR IN EMPLOYMENT PLACEMENTS

Ashleigh Cameron,  
Final Year Fashion Design Student  
Placement: Urban Outfitters

**Our Year in Employment Placements offer you the opportunity to recruit outstanding students to work in your organisation for up to 12 months, bringing fresh perspectives and innovative ideas!**

Students derive from a range of disciplines across the University and undertake the Year in Employment after their second year of study. With an excellent academic grounding, they are in a brilliant position to have a positive impact in the workplace.

Increasingly, employers are using placements as fast-track recruitment and we're especially keen to welcome organisations who have never previously recruited a placement student.

## Next Steps

For more information about the Year in Employment, please contact us or visit our webpage:

[www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/placements/year-in-employment.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/placements/year-in-employment.page)

**Email:** Employ@southampton.ac.uk

**Telephone:** 023 8059 3501

## Benefits

- An effective means of identifying potential new graduate recruits
- A flexible low-cost recruitment solution for up to 12 months
- Promotion of your role to targeted students

“ I completed a placement year myself so I really understand the value in the opportunity for a student. The hands-on work experience cannot compare to studies, as it requires completely different skill sets. I cannot recommend it enough. I also couldn't be happier with our University of Southampton student.”

**Claire Pereira**  
Office of National Statistics

# VOLUNTEERING BANK

**Our Volunteering Bank provides charitable and non-profit organisations with an additional platform to promote their volunteering opportunities to our socially-minded students and graduates.**

## Next Steps

For more information about the Volunteering Bank, please contact us or visit our website:

[www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/volunteering](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/volunteering)

## Benefits

- Raising your profile on campus to our students
- Free promotion of your opportunities through our online platform MyCareer
- Post as many opportunities as you like to ensure you get the volunteer resource you need

# CAREER MENTORING PROGRAMME

**Would you like to pass on your career knowledge and expertise? Can you support the transition from study into graduate employment? The Career Mentoring Programme is a fantastic opportunity to inspire others whilst supporting your own professional development.**

Mentors are matched with a student based on each person's experiences, skills and preferences. The programme consists of a number of academic meetings across an academic year between mentor and mentee.

There is also the option for specialist mentoring:

- Business Mentoring
- Career Contacts
- Diversity Mentoring

## Next Steps

For more information on how to become a Career Mentor, please contact us or visit our website:

[www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/mentoring](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/mentoring)

**Email:** [Mentoring@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:Mentoring@southampton.ac.uk)

## Benefits

- Inspire your mentee to explore their future career
- Opportunity to develop personal mentoring skills
- Insight into our students to unlock and discover talent



“

I would thoroughly recommend the mentoring programme to colleagues and friends, as it is a great way of passing on experience and advice to a next generation of students, who are entering a complex and tricky working environment at this time.”

**Mentor**

UoS Career Mentoring programme

# FURTHER ACTIVITIES

## Events Calendar

**We offer useful guidance helping you achieve the most from your student engagement on campus. Our Events Calendar provides you with the opportunity to deliver:**

- Presentations
- Workshops and Assessment Centres
- Insight Into... talks
- 1:1 Activities
- Ad hoc bespoke events

A dedicated venue is reserved within our Careers Centre for the Recruiter in Residence sessions, 1:1 activities and employability workshops. Other activities involving 12 or more students are usually hosted in academic venues. We also partner with SUSU and our Hospitality Team to facilitate bespoke events for you to further connect with our remarkable students.

## Faculty and Alumni Engagement

We work closely with all faculties to ensure that you can target a wide range of students, or focus on attracting students from particular disciplines. We value your input into the curriculum, supporting students to apply their learning to real-world problems. Each department has a dedicated Career Practitioner who will be happy to discuss opportunities with you.

We also have suggestions to connect you with our alumni community. Alumni of up to 1 year since graduation can participate in our Excel Southampton Internship Programme. Members of our Recruiters' Club also have the opportunity to submit posts for our LinkedIn group of 17,000 alumni.

## Student Enterprise

Are you looking for students who can use their own initiative, take educated risks and solve business problems?

We are proud that the Enactus Southampton social enterprise society has achieved first or second place in the Enactus National Competition every year from 2010 to 2016, and in 2015 became the only UK Enactus team to win the World Cup.

We instil an enterprising mindset within our students by providing enterprise development opportunities such as business challenge days, unique workshops, leadership development activities and much more.

If you want to get involved with these ambitious students, through setting business problems, sponsoring challenge days or supporting student societies, then get in touch with the Student Enterprise Team.

**Email:** [StudentEnterprise@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:StudentEnterprise@southampton.ac.uk)

**Telephone:** 023 8059 3501

## Careers Fairs

Would you like to come to campus and engage with a large number of students? Our Careers Fairs held throughout the academic year offers you the opportunity to meet our high-calibre students, engage in quality conversations and identify potential new recruits. We coordinate three Careers Fairs a year, with our two flagship autumn fairs - the IT, Science and Engineering Fair and the All Sectors Fair - both hosted in October. We also have a Spring Fair in March. All three fairs typically attract between 1,500 and 2,000 students and receive great employer feedback.

### Benefits

- High student attendance provides an excellent opportunity for engaging large numbers of students
- The cost of attendance incorporates a comprehensive package including Wi-Fi access, parking, electrical sockets, table and tablecloth, networking, breakfast, lunch and refreshments throughout the day

## Next Steps

Register on our system: [mycareer.soton.ac.uk](http://mycareer.soton.ac.uk)

You will then receive an email once booking opens.

[www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/fairs](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers/fairs)

**Email:** [Fairs@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:Fairs@southampton.ac.uk)

**Telephone:** 023 8059 3501

“Great students, good questions and a lovely atmosphere!”

**Will Jones**  
Aldi

## Recruiters' Club

As a member of the Russell Group and a leading research institution, we attract exceptional students who would be an asset to any business.

Our Recruiters' Club has been running since 2016 and offers exclusive benefits to partners including priority booking and sponsorship options; access to student data; advertising opportunities; alumni engagement and exclusive event attendance.

## Next Steps

Membership of the Recruiters' Club is limited and by invitation only, however if you are interested in finding out more please email us at [Employ@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:Employ@southampton.ac.uk)



The partnership between The University of Law and the Recruiters' Club has been exceptionally successful for us this year. The ability to reserve a prime space at fairs is a great advantage, and the relationships with our account managers has been second to none.”

**Hannah Pike**  
University of Law

# SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to our collaborative opportunities to engage students, we offer other avenues to raise your profile within our community. There are sponsorship opportunities as part of our Careers Fairs and ways of advertising within our student-facing publications. Our publications are reviewed on a biennial basis and please let us know if you'd like to discuss our opportunities further.

## Careers Fairs

**IT, Science and Engineering (ITSE) Fair – October**

**All Sectors Fair – October**

**Spring Fair – March**

- Exhibition stand in a prime location
- Company logos on promotional material
- Full page colour advert in fairs brochure
- 200 word company profile, double the space of other organisations

## Advice and Guidance Publications

- Full page advert on the inside back cover
- Half page advert or company profile
- Choice of two guides – Interviews and Assessment Centres or CVs and Covering Letters

## Careers and Employability Service Guide

- Full page advert on the inside back cover
- Online and hard copy brochure

## Mentoring Programme

- Company logo on student facing promotional material



**For further information on the above**

please contact us at [Employ@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:Employ@southampton.ac.uk)  
or on 023 8059 3501



“

Bright, curious and friendly  
students- very impressive talent”

**Jenny Grant**

Graduate Recruiter, Merkle Periscopix



**Find out more:**

[www.southampton.ac.uk/  
careers/employers](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/employers)

[Employ@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:Employ@southampton.ac.uk)

023 8059 3501