April Report

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Now that I am nearly at the half way point of my internship in Fidelity Investments I feel I have really settles into my role. I have been working on a proof of concept project which has been stirring up talk with all the executive teams within Fidelity. The is being developed in Ireland but as more demonstrations are being held for major figures within the company there is more talk of the application rolling out to a global audience.

Being part of this project team has given me a huge insight into the major parts of a project but also a proof of concept project. A proof of concept project follows a similar progress as a normal project would be doesn’t have as many controls or restrictions to it. This allows the developers to experiment with new technologies and features. This freedom has been clearly used by the team during the development process as new ideas and features are thought of that would not have been possible if there was a budget and deadline assigned to the project.

This project might not have a strict release deadline but each task assigned to a team member will have a deadline to insure the project keeps moving forward. This has been a great experience having to deal with a deadline in a working environment is something every intern should experience. As it teaches intern’s better time management skills and development tactics that a college deadline doesn’t teach you. This is because you have limited working hours unlike college where you are free to work at home or in other lectures to cram to get the best possible project completed with less time constraints as you are in a working environment. These deadlines in a working environment really made me rethink my time management process of just sitting down to get things done to actually having to assign time in my calendar and arrange meetings to get other employees feedback and access to devices to test my update and new features. These are just some of the very important skills that have been improved because of this internship that I didn’t think would need to change that much.

Two weeks ago we had the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of our department who is based in the head offices in Boston visit Ireland. This was a great experience as my manager was part of the team in charge of his visit I got some chances to see and listen into what is involved in orchestrating a high level visit and see how they manage his time and to get to see how he interacts with everyone around him. Our department had two key meetings with the CIO as he had a town hall and a floor walk.

The town hall was a one and a half hour conference type meeting where the CIO talked about how we were doing on a global level and also where Fidelity Investments board members see our department moving towards within the next few years. He also acknowledged the recent award winners to show how the company really appreciate the hard work put in by all employees. This meeting was a great experience as it really shows how important even the small tasks being completed on a daily bases can have a huge impact within the company.

The floor walk was also a great experience as it allowed members of our department walk around to each team with the CIO and see all the different projects they are working on and to see demonstrations of all the different technology being used within the department.