JPMorgan Chase Intern Experience

July 31, 2015

Introduction

As I approach and wrap up the end of my 10-week summer internship experience at JPMorgan Chase (JPMC), I would like to shed some light of my experience.

Overall, I had a meaningful summer intern experience at JPMorgan Chase. I'm glad to have had this opportunity. It's hard to imagine any company that could have provided me with a better experience.

My perspective on company

It isn't a surprise that JPMC is known for its networking and mobility opportunities because of its global presence and culture by nature. However, it's not very publically recognized that JPMC is a technology company. My friends outside the company describe JPMC as a large corporation with layers of management and slow processes – which is true to some extent. What they fail to realize is that JPMC is actively pursuing to transition towards agile and Silicon Valley styled high performance workspaces. As a large corporation, this transition is not easy, but I can definitely see progress within my 10-week experience.

One thing I love about JPMC is that everybody I worked with was super helpful. It really shows a lot about the work culture when full-time employees take time off their own commitments to help an intern.

Key Takeaways

What made my summer experience valuable were some of the things I learned. Here are some examples:

1. **Agile software development life cycle.** It's one thing to learn the principles and methods of agile at school, but practicing the experience in an agile environment gives you a more realistic understanding of the agile process. Project-wise, I participated in a simulated an agile team project, playing the roles of Business System Analyst (BSA), Application Developer, and Quality Assurance (QA). Although it was stressful at times to play so many roles, I improved myself as "T-shaped" agile team member.
2. **Focus on "what" instead of "how" when communicating with product owners.** I learned that product owners care more about the end result of the product, less about how the product is implemented.
3. **Non-coding related tasks of the software life cycle are equally important as coding tasks.** Earlier in the summer in my BSA, Application Developer, and QA roles, I tended to place higher priority in the coding task of the Application Developer role. I

learned that to ensure a high quality software, communicating with product owner, creating functional requirements, and testing are just as important as coding.

4. **Ask questions – always.** Ask questions for clarification. Ask questions for more details. Ask questions for further information on a certain topic. I learned that no matter what role you play, asking questions is a huge aspect in being successful.

Conclusion

I would recommend interning at JPMorgan Chase. Of course I can only speak of my experience and not those of other interns, but I had a meaningful and valuable experience. I want to believe JPMorgan as a whole provided me with that experience, but having a good manager also had a huge impact in my great experience. I will definitely look back to this memorable experience as I graduate from school and move towards the industry life.