

CARLA M. VALE
515 S. Aiken Ave. Apt. 114
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
631-790-7179
cvale@tepper.cmu.edu

Pittsburgh, Dec. 14, 2011

Sarah C. Roberts
Bain & Company, Inc.
131 Dartmouth Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Dear Ms. Roberts,

I am currently a 1st year student in the MBA program at the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University. I recently had the opportunity to speak with Chris Bell and Stephanie White from the Boston office about their experiences working at Bain. These interactions clearly differentiated Bain from my perceptions of other strategy consulting firms, leading me to believe that Bain's emphasis on results, impact, and people would be an excellent fit with my personal career goals and interests. I am now writing to request the opportunity to interview for the Summer Associate position.

Before attending Tepper, I worked as a physicist at Brookhaven National Laboratory, a federal laboratory funded by the U.S. Dept. of Energy. In that role, I was part of a team of approximately 500 scientists from 70 institutions, located in 13 countries, working on experiments that aim to understand the behavior of matter in the early universe. Both during my PhD at MIT, and continuing on at Brookhaven, the scientific work I performed was intrinsically team based, allowing me to develop strong communication skills and the ability to lead teams of very diverse and highly skilled people towards a common goal. I was twice charged with leading the internal review process for proposed publications, which involved collecting feedback from the entire team, and working with the primary authors to incorporate it in the manuscript. In both cases, the drafts were submitted to prime scientific journals within the expected time window, and accepted for publication following the journals' review process.

Returning to school to pursue an MBA was a challenging decision, driven by a thirst to achieve a direct and more immediate impact in "real world" situations, which I was missing in my previous career. Working at Bain would give me the opportunity to influence a wide range of strategic decisions made by businesses across many industries, and quickly see the results of my team's work. Here at Tepper, the core classes have provided me with an integrated view of business across functional areas, as well as practical analytical tools that I look forward to using this summer. Through successful participation in case competitions I have applied my analytical, team work and presentation skills to concrete business problems, developing a sense for how strategic issues are analyzed and how to derive insights and conclusions from incomplete information in ambiguous situations.

The experiences and skills I developed through my work in research and at Tepper would allow me to make immediate contributions to my team at Bain during the summer. The company's culture inspires my drive to work there. I look forward to the opportunity to interview for the internship position.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Carla M. Vale', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carla M. Vale