

# Moldovan Student Sponsorship Newsletter

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## STUDENTS' INTERNSHIPS

by Angela Arhip

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As many of our program students begin their internship in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, we decided to dedicate this newsletter to students' internship in Moldova and reflect our youth's ideas, thoughts, and emotions about this experience.

In Moldova, the internship is a mandatory part of the educational process and is done to deepen the theoretical knowledge acquired by students during the years of studies. Internship takes place in companies, organizations, businesses and educational institutions, identified by the university within the social partnership and the international and bilateral agreements and projects. The internships focus on:

- a) general knowledge about the activity of the work unit in which the student is assigned;
- b) observation and analysis activities, under the supervision of coordinators;
- c) collecting information to develop the graduation thesis;
- d) developing a set of default documents and a report on internship.

The type of internship and its period of time depends on the school, degree, etc.

The internship is the best way for students to gain the work experience necessary to find a job after graduation. However, internship has always been considered or perceived differently by our students.

**Margareta Pascal** – is a student at the Technological College. She had an internship at one of the biggest factories in Moldova –“IONEL”, which produces clothing for men and women and works in partnership with several foreign countries. The first week was very hard for Margareta, but she managed to perform the tasks. She didn't really like this internship, because she was paid little and was given only one kind of operation, but Margareta wanted to practice in a larger area to be able to develop more professionally.

**Valentina Racitscaia** – is a student at Technical University of Moldova. She had her internship at Moldtelecom – a national telecommunications operator in Moldova. Valentina was disappointed, too – the reason being almost the same – she was allowed to do little work, but wanted to experience much more and understand the work much better.

**Olga Rusnac** is a student at dentistry and hopes to become a professional dentist. Olga was very lucky to have her internship at a private clinic. In fact the owners of this clinic have known Olga since she was little. They met her in the orphanage where Olga was placed and liked her from the first moment they saw her. This family took Olga into their family during the school holidays. (In Moldova children in orphanages go either to their relatives or some other people to spend their school holidays, but there are children who stay always in orphanages, because nobody wants to take them). It was they who inspired Olga with this love of medicine. So, when Olga decided to study and obtain a degree in dentistry, they were very happy and promised Olga to offer her a job. Now Olga works part time as a nurse in their clinic and also has her internships there. Olga is a very ambitious student, determined to make a considerable progress in her life. She also plays basketball on the university team which is very successful.

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More students shared their internship experiences with us and all of them concluded that the involvement of students in the practical application of theoretical knowledge gained during the school year is an essential component. The fundamental objective of this activity is the acquisition by students of practical skills through direct involvement together with the specialists in the area specific to their degrees. The main role of internships lies in creating favorable conditions of integrating the future graduates in the world of work, nevertheless Moldova needs to make some reforms in his field, so that internship always meet our students' needs and requirements.



## NEWS OF OUR STUDENTS

**Cristina Morari** is a 4<sup>th</sup> year student at the Agricultural-industrial College “Gheorghe Raducan”. She is a very smart and successful student, nevertheless she is always modest, a little bit shy, and would never talk about her realizations, if she were not asked.

This year all 4th year students in her college had to develop a business plan and Cristina chose to work on: “Planting lavender”. She worked very hard on it and sometimes it was difficult, but she didn’t give up. She searched lots of sources and asked for help her teacher and finally she managed to do it. Her business plan was the best in her college and she was selected to present it at a higher level where which each college will have a representative. She hopes to impress again the committee and the participants. At the meeting, we asked Cristina if she has any future plans connected to this business plan and she said she hopes she could revisit it in a few years, after she manages to work and save some money for it. However, her program mates advised her to be more optimistic, self-assured and to think more seriously about it, because lavender seems to be a very profitable business in Moldova. Moreover, Moldova has lots of cooperation programs with Europe where people, especially the youth and women, are offered support to start and develop their own business. She was advised to apply to such a program and do her best to develop her idea and apply her theoretical business plan into practice. We do hope that Cristina will take advantage of her competencies and knowledge, be more ambitious and will become a very successful business lady.

**Pavel Gutu** –At the moment, Pavel is taking classes for his masters degree and he has recently found a job. He had more interviews with many companies. He has been hired with a company: *Logistics and International Cargo Forwarder* in which he was given a testing period and if he passes it successfully, he will remain there to work and have an increase in salary. Pavel likes what he does; he still needs help with many things, but his colleagues are very friendly and willing to assist and teach him when is necessary. Pavel has big hopes.

**Mhai Galbura** - seems to have a brilliant career way in front of him. He has tours after tours in Europe and seems to enjoy deeply what he does. Right now he is on a 3 month tour in Great Britain and has 6 concerts per week in many cities of Great Britain.

**Victor Organ** -still works at his film. Unfortunately, he has some delays with it, but everything seems to be under control. His actors are students from his academy and theater actors. Victor works hard to have the best results.