Four Curtin University students have won internships with Disney International Programs. The flagship Australia New Zealand Cultural Exchange Program is a five month internship commencing at Disney World Resorts in Orlando, Florida, January 2016.

Internship winner, Jessica Tobin, Bachelor Arts, Photography and Illustration Design is excited about living autonomously for five months. She explains, “Learning how to balance rent, groceries, work and study is going to be a great lesson in self-management.” The Disney internship also offers seminars to enhance your learning in the workplace. I intend to pick up a class called Exploring Marketing at the Walt Disney World Resort and hope to apply this knowledge to my career.

Jade Tallowin, who also won a coveted internship, is completing a Bachelor Commerce, Marketing and Advertising. She views the internship as a once in a lifetime opportunity to enhance her knowledge of marketing and learn from recognised world leaders in customer service. The internship offers a paid experiential-learning opportunity that features hands-on training combined with immersive skill-building programs, including seminar courses providing insights into business operations, culture and marketing of the Disney brand.

Jade and Jessica were offered internships after a competitive selection processes and competed against students from other universities within Perth and across Australia and New Zealand. Jade explains, “I applied for the Exchange Program last year and was not successful. This year I took extra care putting together my application and preparing for an interview. Disney looks for students who “fit” their expectations and understand the value of great customer service and I wanted to demonstrate that I was a good fit for the 2016 program.”

Channel 9 interviewed Jessica and Jade on campus about their expectations for the program. See the Disney website for information on the August 2016 Cultural Exchange and Internship.

Congratulations Jessica and Jade and we look forward to hearing all about your experiences in 2016!
ACEN: WIL Research Symposium

Join the Australian Collaborative Education Network (ACEN) and explore the role of WIL in enhancing the student experience, developing employability and building industry partnerships.

Working in groups we aim to develop research questions and outcomes that will form a basis for a set of research proposals. The focus of the proposals will be:

- Develop an evaluation framework outlining quality assurance standards for high quality WIL.
- Determine models of non-placement WIL and identify how these models contribute to/ support the development of employability skills.
- Identify ways to increase the participation of Small and Medium Enterprises in placement WIL and improve the quality of the WIL experience for students placed in smaller organisations.
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of ALL stakeholders in partnerships between universities and industry that benefit and optimize the WIL experience and outcomes for Universities, Industry and Students.

The symposium intends to engage researchers in groups with the aim of developing full research proposals and exploring funding options for their given topic.

**Date:** Thursday 5 November  
**Time:** 9:30am – 1:30pm  
**Venue:** Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI)  
**Address:** 180 Hay Street, east Perth.  
**Facilitators:** Associate Professor J. Connaughton, Dr D Jackson and Ms S Ferns.

Register for the ACEN Symposium here.

Subiaco Oval Redevelopment Project

Students were tasked with exploring new approaches to housing and place making for residents of North Subiaco, where a significant change in development direction is needed when the Subiaco Oval moves to Burswood in 2018. City of Subiaco Director of Planning Services, Ms Kathy Bonus, addressed students, explaining the role of the architect in relation to the broader Subiaco community and within a multi-disciplinary design team. She also assisted students during master planning exercises and provided feedback to students during the design development process.

In the studio students worked in teams of five in a collaborative practice learning environment. The collaborative learning model was employed following the successful implementation of this model by Khoa Do in a second year design studio in semester one of this year. This model features a mix of industry practising professionals acting as senior practitioners with a variety of design expertise, liaising with students, and simulating the environment of a large architectural practice.

Dr Bay, and colleagues, were particularly concerned with ensuring the WIL experience optimised student learning and skill development. Having consulted with Sonia Ferns, Academic Lead, Work Integrated Learning, five main elements of WIL featured in the collaborative learning environment. These were:

- Exposure to a real project with partners
- Exposure to a practicing planner
- Simulation of a collaborative practice learning environment
- Reflective practice for students
- The opportunity for student to present to industry and peers.

Students’ final design proposals and reflective publications will be on display on 12 November from 10:00am, in building 201, level 3. The Mayor of Subiaco, City planners, Curtin staff and students will be on hand to discuss projects.

If you would like advice on embedding WIL in curriculum please contact Ms Sonia Ferns directly.