Case Study: Alumni

Katharine, MSci Chemistry
Graduation Year: 2007

Job Title: Fixed Income Analyst
Employer: Morgan Stanley
Department: Fixed Income Division

What has been your career path up until now?
I joined Morgan Stanley on the Graduate Programme in 2007 in the Institutional Equity Division. Following a 9-month rotation across the Equities Division, I joined the Pan-European Generalist Sales team as an Equity salesperson. In 2009, I had the opportunity to join our e-Commerce team within Fixed Income, working on our proprietary platform, for which I am now focused on Sales, Marketing and Content Management.

Did you choose your course with this particular occupation in mind?
I didn't have a particular occupation in mind when choosing my degree course – rather I chose a subject that I had very much enjoyed at school and that I was sure would develop a number of transferable skills for the future.

What part of your course did you particularly enjoy?
I particularly enjoyed the practical lab work undertaken in my 4th year – it gave me the freedom to explore my own ideas and work on something entirely new and previously undefined.

What skills did you develop within your degree that you find useful in your present role?
Analytical skills I developed during my time at Imperial have certainly proved useful during my career so far.

Did you gain work experience or an internship whilst at ICL?
I took part in a 2-day insight day at UBS during my 2nd year and applied and got a place on the Summer Analyst Programme at Morgan Stanley in the summer of my 3rd year. This led to my full-time job offer.

Could you give us one or more career tips for Imperial graduates?
Make sure you attend the Careers Fairs – they are the best opportunities for you to meet with the top...
employers in a situation where they available to answer any questions you might have. Take the time to speak to recent graduates as well – they will give you a realistic picture of what to expect working for their firm.