

I would like to be considered as a participant in the 2009/10 Year-in-Industry Program of the School of Chemistry.

Name: (in full) _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Mobile Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Degree for which enrolled:

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/2009

Please Note: All Correspondence will be sent via Email. Please write clearly.

Overseas students please note: Overseas students are not eligible to apply for participation in the Year in Industry Program as the Department of Immigration will not extend student visas for this purpose.

***Information Session Thursday 4 June 2009.
Chemistry Lecture Theatre 2
1.00-2.00pm***



The University of Sydney

SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY

YEAR IN INDUSTRY PROGRAM 2009/10

Calling all 2nd Year Students

***Information Session, Thursday 4 June 2009
Chemistry Lecture Theatre 2
1.00-2.00pm***

The School of Chemistry offers an elective program to Second Year students in which they have the opportunity to spend their third year of training in full-time employment in the chemical industry or a government scientific laboratory. Over the years, feedback from students who have taken part in the program has indicated that this "year in industry" has added much to their confidence, as well as their finances, and is perceived as a definite advantage by potential employers. The new skills acquired both work-related and interpersonal, that can only be learnt "on-the-job", all add to improved employability in future years.

At the end of the year, participating students return to the University to complete their studies for their Science Degree. In many cases, they then proceed to their Honours Degree in Chemistry.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE PROGRAM

Students electing this alternative program must have the character and self-reliance to be able to work effectively in an industrial setting, which will be quite different from the academic framework of lectures, laboratory assignments and examinations. In the selection of students, some weight is given to academic performance during the first and second years, with particular emphasis on good work in the practical courses. However, ***academic performance is not the only criterion for selection*** and personal interviews will be conducted by a small committee of staff members to advise students on their suitability for the program.

The committee shortlists students for interview by a particular employer but the actual selection of a student is made by the employer concerned after personal interview. Usually, a number of students are sent to each job interview, so that the placement procedures extend over several weeks during the September/October period.

TYPE OF WORK IN INDUSTRY

The jobs offered are regular jobs and not a special training program or assignment designed especially for students. Therefore, the range of work required is varied. The work ranges from analysis of industrial chemicals to testing of new pharmaceutical products and use of a wide range of instrumentation and techniques. Some jobs are in research laboratories and others in production and quality control. The jobs are for approximately twelve months, commencing in December, January or February, depending on the employer.

The number of positions varies from year to year. Thus it should be realised that not all students who apply can be accommodated in the program. The salaries offered vary considerably, being determined by a variety of industrial awards.

MOTIVATION FOR THE PROGRAM

The School of Chemistry has instigated this program for a number of reasons. Firstly, an increasing proportion of career opportunities in chemistry are in the industrial sector (here we include CSIRO and similar laboratories.) Secondly, the academic curriculum is designed to teach fundamentals of chemistry but we believe that students should also learn something of the complex interplay of human, technical and financial factors that determine the stage and progress of the national chemical economy. This kind of learning can best be done in a job and not from books or lectures. Lastly, students who have participated in the program have a distinct advantage with regard to job opportunities.

HOW IT WILL AFFECT YOU AS A STUDENT

The University will grant suspension of enrolment to students for the industrial year. This means that you will not be an enrolled student and will not be eligible for travel concessions, University scholarship payments, nor any Commonwealth Government student payments. However, the School will organize for your Library access privileges and your University email account to remain open.

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Employers participating in the scheme in 2009 (with one to three placements) are: National Industrial Notification and Assessment Schemes (NICAS), Caltex Australia, National Measurement Institute (NMI), ANSTO and Food Science Australia.

STATEMENT FROM ONE OF OUR PARTICIPANTS YEAR IN INDUSTRY 2008

I've been working in the Australian Sports Drug testing laboratories at NMI, with a very welcoming team of scientists including two honours students, a PhD student and an old USYD student who is now employed at NMI. The environment here is very encouraging, with a lot of passionate young and senior chemists who are always willing to teach me new things, but also listen to my ideas and input. Most of these students have also completed the year in industry program and they have given me a lot of direction with my studies and possibly my career in Science. The people here are all very enthusiastic about their work and have a very positive attitude towards the work of others as well. Throughout the past five months I've been given the opportunity to be involved with the routine analysis of samples from competitors in a wide range of sports. I have also been completing a major project on a population study which entails collating data from many experiments and interpreting them. On top of that I have also assisted other scientists in the laboratory with their own projects. I am learning a lot of new chemistry and pharmacology, particularly in the area of steroids and really enjoy the independence here at NMI. It is a great opportunity to be able to put into practice some of the theory that I have learnt at University I am getting a ridiculous amount of hands on experience with many complex instruments and overall I am loving the program thus far.

The year in industry program is a very worthwhile experience and the knowledge and friends I have gained so far, have heavily enhanced my enthusiasm about Science.

(Mr Ronald Huynh – 3rd Year Chemistry student 2009)

APPLICATION FOR THE PROGRAM

Students who would like to participate in the program should complete the attached form and return it to the Front Office, **no later than Friday 28 August 2009**. *No obligation is incurred by submission of the form.*

The program is for students who intend to take a Science (or combined) degree in chemistry. Only students enrolled in both semesters will be eligible. The School will write to the Faculty of Science requesting that students participating in the program have their studies suspended for the year.

FORMAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility of students for Austudy will be re-instated when they return to full university enrolment.

Students are advised to monitor Government policies in this area. **Overseas students please note: Overseas students are not eligible to apply for participation in the Year in Industry Program as the Department of Immigration will not extend student visas for this purpose.**

ANY QUESTIONS? There will be an information session (led by staff and former Year-in-Industry students) on **Thursday 4 June 2009, 1.00pm Lecture Theatre 2**