

Issues Around Student Placements –



Student's View Point

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Scope

- About me
- Application process
- Before I started
- My placement
- Assessment and debrief
- Returning to university
- Summary



About Me

- Final year student at Leeds University reading Pharmacology.
- DMPK – GlaxoSmithKline.
- Why did I do a placement?
 - Money
 - Experience
 - Didn't know what I wanted to do



Application Process

- No university procedure, used initiative
- Followed specific company procedures for Pfizer, AZ, GSK.
- Sent CV to smaller companies.
- Attended interviews at AZ and GSK.
- Accepting placements – university differences.



Expectations & Worries

- Didn't know what to expect!
- Worries:
 - What would they expect of me?
 - Would I know enough?
 - Would I be able to do the work?
 - What if I don't get on with my boss?
 - Accommodation/housemates
 - What if I break something expensive!?



Beginning My Placement

- Boredom – couldn't touch anything until I had done the right training courses
- Awkward – felt like I should be doing something
- Only one other student to compare with
- Eventually settled into work
- Steep learning curve



Contact From University

- Minimal.
- Tutor visit after ~ 3 months.
- E-mails to me and my supervisor regularly to check up.
- Mainly us contacting them to ask about reports, choosing 3rd year modules etc.
- Had plenty of people we could contact if there were any problems.



Assessment & Debrief

- 6000 word report
- Work placement file
- Short presentation

- Debrief from university careers centre



Returning to University



Returning to University

Money



Returning to University

- Money

Friends



Returning to University

- Money
- Friends

Motivation



Returning to University

- Money
- Friends
- Motivation

Changes



Returning to University

- Money
- Friends
- Motivation
- Changes



Summary

- Good points:
 - \$\$\$
 - Life experience
 - Career knowledge
 - Friends
 - Contacts
 - Fun!



Summary

- Bad points:
 - Tax!
 - Boredom
 - Transition to student life



Would I Recommend It?

Definitely!!



Any Questions?