

MERIT Internship (Domestic) Report

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Internship Overview

- Duration: January 30, 2023 - March 24, 2023 (54 days)
- Host Institution: Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS)
- Research Topic: Research on Investigation and Analysis Systems in the Financial Industry

Research Background

- I took on a long-term internship challenge at ISS, a proxy advisory firm.
- ISS is the world's leading company (61% market share) in the proxy advisory industry, and provided an environment where I could learn the highest level of business skills.
- Through this internship at ISS, I wanted to acquire skills such as information processing, logic, and social awareness (high-pressure environment).

Job Description

I was responsible for the following tasks at ISS:

- Task 1: Analysis of agenda items at Korean corporate shareholder meetings
- Task 2: Support to write reports advising for or against the agenda items

Specifically, I achieved the following results:

- Result 1: Collected information such as financial statements of Korean companies according to ISS guidelines.
- Result 2: Successfully handled a large volume of work within a high-pressure environment with no room for errors.
- Result 3: Understood financial and strategic planning, risk management, business operations, various industry trends and issues faced by companies.

Through these tasks, I was able to develop skills such as processing information quickly based on logic, and successfully completing work within a high-pressure environment.

I also learned about how information is collected and analyzed in the financial field, which is completely different from the research field of chemistry.

Furthermore, I gained an understanding of the challenges and trends in the business world.



(Left) Office lobby (right) Night view from the lobby

Impressions

This internship allowed me to step outside of the research field of chemistry and see a wider world. This experience was extremely valuable for me to acquire the methods of information collection and analysis in the financial industry, which will help me achieve my goal of becoming a manager who understands research in the future.

The work at ISS was conducted under high pressure. However, I was able to overcome it. To handle a large volume of work in a short period of time, it was necessary to have persistent mental strength and quick information processing skills based on logic. Through this experience, I was able to collect information with even higher accuracy and create more accurate results.

Furthermore, through the work at ISS, I was able to understand financial and strategic planning, risk management, business operations, and various industry trends and issues. By understanding the challenges and trends in the business world, I believe that I will have deeper insights when I manage a business in the future.

Overall, the long-term internship at ISS was a valuable experience that gave me confidence for the future. By stepping out of the world of chemistry and immersing myself in the financial industry, I was able to open up new perspectives and take an important step towards becoming a manager who understands research.

Acknowledgments

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mrs. Jieun Chang, who accepted me as an intern at ISS. I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Professor Fujita, Professor Shionoya, and everyone at the MERIT office who approved my participation in the internship.