

Landing a Competitive Internship in Washington, D.C.

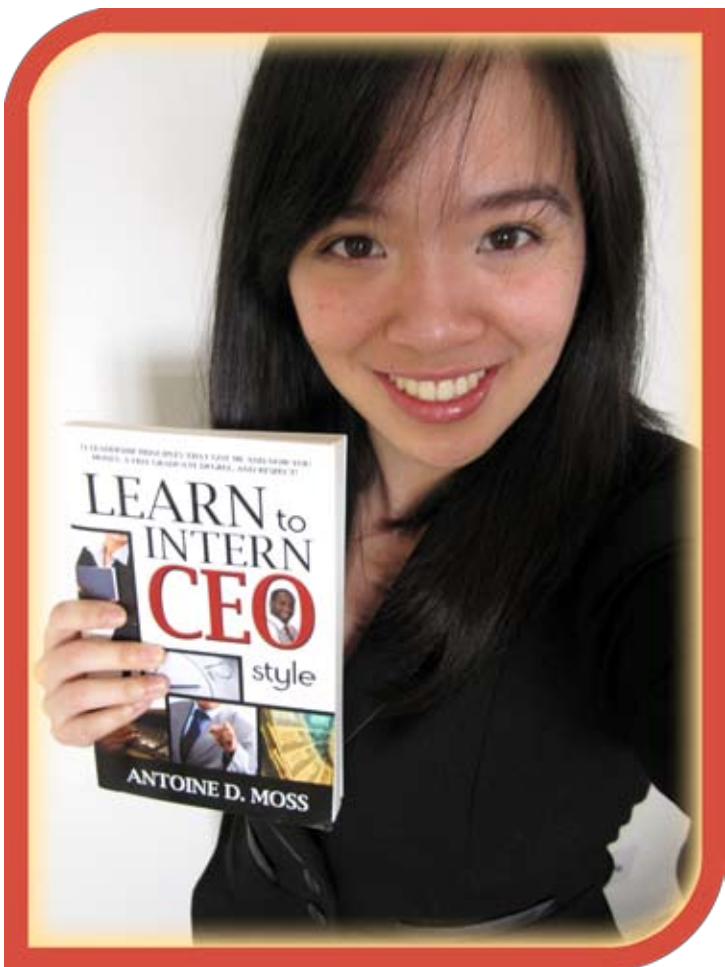
Who's *Interning* Like A **CEO**?

SUBMIT YOUR INTERESTING INTERNSHIP STORIES TO ANTOINE

My name is **Rebecca Tran** and I am a third year **student** majoring in Political Science from the **University for California, Irvine**. I would like to **express sincere my gratitude** for all the sound advice that you offered in your book, *Learn How to Intern CEO Style*. Reading your story and tips on finding an internship had really helped me land an **internship** with the Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA) in Washington D.C.

Your story had really inspired me to **become more proactive and ambitious with my internship search**, so I thought I would share my story with you. I was browsing **YouTube** one day that I had come across a user comment that had mentioned **your book** and said that it had **everything a student would need to know about searching for internships**. So I took a chance and I bought your book from Amazon and started to use it to aid my **search for an internship in Washington D.C.**

Since my school operates on the quarter system instead of the semester system, I had a difficult time searching for a spring internship that would accommodate my schedule. Consequently, I **felt as if I had a lot of things riding against me, especially given the fact that I was applying so late**. Last week, I decided to send out my last wave of applications at 1am on Monday...



...(so that I know the internship coordinator would see my application first thing in the morning) to certain internship sites that students from my school had gone to in the past.

When I awakened Monday morning at 9am, I had checked my inbox and found that 3 organizations had emailed me to schedule an interview. COHA specifically asked if I could give them a call that Monday before 2pm EST. Since I live on the west coast, 2pm EST time translates into 11am PST, **so I had less than 2 hours to prepare for a phone interview.**

I had called the director of COHA, and he had requested that I research the organization a bit more before making another call to speak with him again. After that phone call, I did exactly everything that he had instructed me to do. I had **worked hard to research this internship organization** to better prepare me for my next talk with the director.

Two days later I call the director of COHA again for **another phone interview.** And again, he gave the same speech about researching the organization a bit more and after he was done, I told him that all the research that I had done since I had last spoken with him. **Using advice from your book, I listed a few reasons why I believed that this internship was the right match for me and how I would be suited to work towards the organization's goals.** After I finished my pitch, **he was so impressed** with my efforts and my presentation skills **that he decided to bypass the second evaluation stage and he offered me the position right on the spot.** So within 48 hours after sending out my application, **I had landed one of my top choice internships.**

And get this, they accept 24 interns in their program and **they only had one spot left open --- and I got it!**

COHA is an extremely competitive Washington D.C. based internship. I had read somewhere that for every one spot there are 10 vying applications for it, but since I was proactive, **thanks to Learn to Intern CEO Style,** I applied to COHA and took advantage of the chance to showcase myself to them in the best possible way.

I do believe that all your **advice on searching for an internship had really helped me land a competitive internship** in such a short period of time (**it's so surreal...**I still can't completely believe that it happened the way it did). Certainly I had the background and the skill base ready, but **your book had really helped me present myself in such a way that appealed to a potential employer.** I've learned that **there's certainly a craft behind securing an internship,** so for that I would like to extend my gratitude.

I am looking forward to my internship with COHA this March, but before anything I feel that it was important show my gratitude to the things that helped me secure it. Again, **I would like to say thank you for all the advice that you offered in your book** and I hope that you had enjoyed hearing my story. I wish you the best of luck on your speaking tour **and I hope you'll be able to inspire more students, just as you had done with me.**

Sincerely,

Rebecca Tran