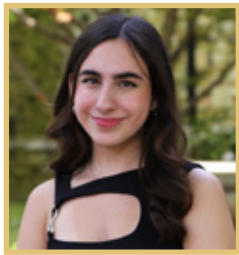


**MORELLE LEGG INTERNATIONAL INTERN**



**Juliette Astorga '27**

**Hometown:** Madrid, Spain  
**Major:** Economics and Business  
**City/Country:** Florence, Italy  
**Employer:** Noow Media

This summer, I had the opportunity to intern at Noow Media in Florence, Italy. The company is divided into three business

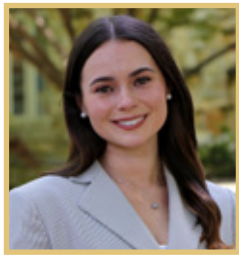
branches, and I was involved in a wide range of projects. I supported grant applications by identifying businesses and events, drafting outreach emails, and completing regional forms. I also helped develop a business proposal outlining revenue-sharing and partnership structures, and contributed to launching a new travel agency branch – participating in service planning, branding, and naming efforts.

Throughout the internship, I gained hands-on experience in business development and learned new skills every day. I'm especially grateful to my boss, who not only guided me patiently through work tasks but also helped me navigate life in Italy – offering advice, sharing local insights, and even letting me know when I was being overcharged by a taxi.

Beyond the workplace, living in Italy was unforgettable. I met incredible people who became lifelong friends, and we explored places like Cinque Terre, Venice, Bologna, and Lucca. I immersed myself in Italian culture – its breathtaking art, historic cathedrals, and of course, the food: pasta, pizza, and endless pistachio desserts.

I'm truly thankful to Rhodes College for this opportunity to grow personally and professionally in such a vibrant and enriching environment.

**WASFY ISKANDER INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP**



**Caroline Johnson '26**

**Hometown:** Nashville, TN  
**Major:** Economics  
**City/Country:** Barcelona, Spain  
**Employer:** Peace Dividend Initiative

I spent my summer interning in Barcelona at Peace Dividend Initiative (PDI), a Swiss NGO whose mission is to turn peace into a

tangible, shared economic benefit for people living in conflict-affected regions. I worked closely with the incubation team, and by the midpoint of my internship, they trusted me to build out my own project. I chose to focus on the Central African Republic, drawn to the untapped potential in the production of shea nut butter. I felt this was a promising opportunity to combine both economic development and peacebuilding.

Over the following weeks, I developed a detailed budget, outlined a peacebuilding business model, and prepared concept notes to present before donors. I also conducted research on market entry strategies for shea butter in Europe and assessed alignment with funders like Cartier Philanthropy. Additionally, I drafted several funding proposals for grants, which have become significantly more competitive in the wake of cuts to USAID.

Outside the office, I found myself learning just as much. Barcelona revealed itself pieceby piece. Locals taught me to cook the Catalan way – simmered, not rushed. Weekends stretched outward. Sometimes I traveled with new friends, sometimes alone. I went to Tarragona and stumbled upon a street festival where a brass band adopted me for the evening and invited me to a fireworks show on the beach.

One weekend I made a deliberate trip to Madrid. I wanted to stand in front of Guernica. I had seen photos, studied the brushwork from afar, but nothing prepared me for the scale of it – or the silence it commanded.

This wasn't some résumé-polishing summer abroad. It was long hours, rewrites, humid bus commutes, and moments of real, earned clarity. It was a summer of learning what it means to try something hard, in a place that stirs your imagination. Thanks to Rhodes, I got to experience the ineffable magic that floats through the summer air in Barcelona.

**Theodore William Eckels International Business Internship:**

These internships are awarded annually to outstanding sophomore or junior students with a 3.2+ GPA (overall and major) and a declared major in either the Department of Business or Economics. This award allows students to work abroad for eight weeks during the summer. The internship will cover the cost of airfare and accommodations while living abroad. This is a merit-based scholarship named in honor of business leader Theodore William Eckels to advance the Rhodes Vision to graduate students with a passion for lifelong learning, compassion for others, and the ability to translate academic study and personal concern into effective leadership and action in their communities around the world.

**Morelle Legg International Internship for Women:**

The Morelle Legg International Internship is awarded to an outstanding student in either the Department of Economics or Business to allow them to obtain work experience in a foreign country during the summer following their junior year. A 3.2+ GPA (overall and in the major) is required. The scholarship covers the cost of an eight week internship including costs related to travel to and from the host country, housing, meals, and incidentals. This is a merit-based scholarship funded by an anonymous donor.

**Wasfy Iskander International Internship:**

This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding sophomore or junior with a major in the Department of Economics. A 3.2+ GPA (overall and in the major) is required. The purpose of the Wasfy Iskander International Internship is to allow the recipient to obtain work experience in a foreign country for six to eight weeks during the summer. The scholarship pertains to costs associated with commuting to and from the host country, housing, meals, and incidentals. This is a merit-based scholarship named in honor of Economics Professor Wasfy Iskander who taught at Rhodes College from 1969-2002.

The program is coordinated by the chairs of the Departments of Business and Economics, the Center for Career and Professional Development, and the Business and Economics faculty. Please contact these departments with questions about the program or application materials.



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THEODORE ECKELS

INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP

MORELLE LEGG

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WASFY ISKANDER

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SPONSORED BY THE RHODES COLLEGE DEPARTMENTS OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS  
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SUMMER 2025



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THEODORE ECKELS INTERNATIONAL INTERNS



Astrid Balink '26

**Hometown:** Memphis, TN  
**Major:** Mathematics and Economics  
**Internship:** Cape Town, South Africa  
**Employer:** Edufundi

I spent the summer in Cape Town, South Africa, interning with Edufundi, an NGO that mentors primary school teachers and school leadership teams to improve

learning environments across four provinces. My role focused on fundraising—researching funders and reviewing proposals—as well as editing budgets, which deepened my understanding of nonprofit finance. As a Mathematics-Economics major, this hands-on experience was invaluable in connecting theory to real-world impact. A highlight was visiting a local primary school, where I saw the Edufundi program in action. It offered a powerful contrast to primary education in the U.S. and shifted my perspective.

Through Connect-123, the program that organized my internship, I engaged in Cape Town’s vibrant culture—cooking traditional South African dishes (including ostrich!), wine tasting, going on safari, and visiting Boulders Beach to see the penguins. My coworkers shared favorite local spots and even cooked for me during my final week. I loved immersing myself in the city’s culture and community. Locals insisted I return in the summertime—a sentiment I now share.

I’m incredibly grateful to Rhodes for this opportunity, which helped me grow personally and professionally while gaining a broader global outlook.



Alexandra Barood '27

**Hometown:** Dallas, TX  
**Major:** Business and Chinese  
**City/Country:** Tainan, Taiwan  
**Employer:** Acusense Biomedical

This summer, I had the privilege of spending about two months in Tainan, Taiwan, interning at a company called Acusense Biomedical. They specialize in

medical devices that use AI technology, IoT, and system integration to help bridge the gap between provider and patient.

My job title was Business Development and Marketing Research Assistant. This job mostly consisted of conducting market research to develop pitch decks that highlighted our technology driven healthcare solutions to support fundraising and business development efforts. I also assisted with LinkedIn strategy and content to grow followers and increase visibility with potential partners and investors, as well as conducted daily outreach to healthcare and AI venture capitalists and related companies to pursue funding and key partnerships.

As a participant of Rhodes’s first ever Taiwan Maymester in the summer of 2024 which took place in Taipei, Taiwan, interning in Tainan, Taiwan gave me the opportunity to experience Taiwanese culture from two very different angles which I will be forever grateful for. While inTainan, I got to experience my first earthquake and typhoon while also riding my first local train. The south of Taiwan is also famous for its fruit so my breakfast before work always consisted of some slices of mango. After I graduate from Rhodes, I hope to travel between Taiwan and the U.S. focusing on international transactional law, and this experience has brought me one step closer to that goal so I am very grateful to Rhodes College for helping to bring that dream closer to reality.



Ben Eagleton '26

**Hometown:** Baton Rouge, LA,  
**Major:** Economics and Mathematics  
**City/Country:** Sydney, Australia  
**Employer:** newDemocracy Foundation

This summer, I interned in Sydney, Australia with the newDemocracy Foundation, a political research and development organization that promotes

democratic alternatives to elections, such as citizens’ assemblies and community juries around the world. I worked as a research associate, writing a research note on how sortition and the selection-based committee mechanism can solve complex issues like the unaffordability challenges of Social Security. I learned the intricacies of a modern-style democratic process aimed to take democracy beyond elections. This internship opened my eyes to the applications of my background in economics to the political incentives received by modern electoral systems and the ways to alter them for more advantageous outcomes.

This experience in Sydney, and Australia, in general, opened my eyes to a new culture and lifestyle that I could not experience otherwise. I had the pleasure of exploring beautiful beaches, vast rainforests, the Australian outback, and many other natural wonders that cannot be seen domestically. I had the chance to explore museums, see a show in the Sydney Opera House, and attend an Australian Football match amongst many other fantastic experiences.

I am so thankful to Rhodes, the Eckels family, Connect-123, and The newDemocracy Foundation for this amazing opportunity and I will forever be grateful for this amazing time!



Lucy Fornetti '26

**Hometown:** Grand Rapids, MI  
**Major:** Mathematics and Economics  
**City/Country:** Dublin, Ireland  
**Employer:** Carraighill Capital, Ltd

This summer, I interned at Carraighill Capital, Ltd., a financial analytics company in Dublin which operates as an SEC Advisor for investing in the European

banking sector and select countries in South America. Their client base was made up of individual investors, hedge funds, and investment firms.

As a Macroeconomic Research Intern, I gained hands-on experience with large volumes of data by working on the Matrix: Portugal. Utilizing coding skills in LaTeX, JSON and Excel, I moved the server from Excel into Carraighill’s API using JSON and LaTeX for cross-platform translation to be more accessible to the firm in the future. During my work, I utilized their bottom-up approach of analyzing stock drivers by distilling data into 8-10 key markers and using those to track market trends. I also assisted in the publication process of reports to clients, giving me insight into the key factors analysts use in the real world to advise investment. My time at the company has been invaluable to me as someone interested in the financial sector while studying Mathematics and Economics, and I’m incredibly grateful to Rhodes for allowing me the opportunity to enrich my education with hands-on experience with real-world markets.

Living in Dublin has given me the opportunity to make many lifelong friends and to travel! I visited six countries, including Norway, Spain, and Scotland. Some of my favorite highlights were climbing Trolltunga in the Norwegian fjords, visiting the Museo del Prado in Madrid, and hiking twenty miles in Killarney National Park



Melate Kebede '26

**Hometown:** Memphis, TN  
**Major:** Business  
**City/Country:**Vienna, Austria  
**Company:** AMADEUS Festival/AMADEUS International School

This summer, I interned in Vienna, Austria, supporting marketing initiatives for both the AMADEUS Festival Vienna and

AMADEUS International School. For the festival, I created promotional content, assisted with press outreach, and helped coordinate digital marketing campaigns across social media. At the school, I helped strengthen the AMADEUS brand image by developing digital content, writing published PR articles highlighting school achievements, and designing marketing materials for print and online use.

Balancing projects across both teams taught me how to manage multiple responsibilities in a fast-paced, multicultural environment. The experience gave me valuable insight into event promotion and institutional branding while enhancing my creative thinking skills. The mentorship I received from my supervisors was invaluable, and I’m grateful to have worked alongside such a dedicated, kind team.

Outside of work, I immersed myself in Vienna’s rich arts culture, exploring museums, historic architecture, and the vibrant city life! I also took the opportunity to discover new places throughout Europe and Africa as well. This experience broadened my cultural understanding and gave me more clarity in what I want to pursue for my career. I am deeply thankful to Rhodes College, the Eckles family and IES Abroad for making this unforgettable opportunity possible!



Cass Ramberg '26

**Hometown:** Minneapolis, MN  
**Major:** Business  
**City/Country:** Madrid, Spain  
**Employer:** 48 Artstudio

This summer I had the opportunity to complete an internship in Madrid, Spain. I worked as a business development intern for 48 Artstudio, a local, family-run

business that opened in 2021. My primary role during my time was to create a business plan for the company to apply for loan funding. I spent time researching, observing, and talking to coworkers to learn all about how the studio operates, and then used that knowledge to complete the final draft. Throughout the process, I learned not only about the business itself, but also about the entrepreneurial and bureaucratic landscape in Spain and how it differs from the United States. I was also trusted to explore new business opportunities and give recommendations on what could help the company grow.

Outside of work, I enjoyed exploring what Spain had to offer. I got to know Madrid and its surrounding area well and experienced the diverse geography of the country. I met people from all over the world and was exposed to their cultures and experiences, too. Overall, I’m grateful I was able to have this experience and appreciate everyone who helped make it happen!



Peyton Randolph '26

**Hometown:** San Antonio, TX  
**Major:** Economics and History  
**City/Country:** Dublin, Ireland  
**Employer:** Damien Tansey Solicitors

This summer, I had the incredible opportunity to work for a law firm in Dublin, Ireland, named Damien Tansey Solicitors. This firm specializes in medical negligence

and personal injury; however, they also handle a myriad of other types of cases.

At the beginning of my internship, I spent time learning the ropes of the firm and becoming comfortable with their highly systematic approach to law, which involved filing and sorting what felt like an endless stream of medical records. About halfway through the internship, I began meeting clients, sitting in on meetings, going to court with the partners, writing letters to various recipients regarding firm business, and summarizing crucial medical reports written by specialists in their fields.

I learned so much during my time in Dublin, both formally and informally. However, I believe the most valuable lesson I took away was one that was instilled in me through countless conversations with my superiors in the office: the importance of completing every task, regardless of its perceived significance, with utmost diligence and determination.

Our firm provided legal representation to individuals who had been mistreated or potentially abused by the medical system, and it was our duty to ensure that justice was pursued. Working in a firm that truly placed the client above anything or anyone else was an experience I will never forget and one that will certainly forever shape my professional career.



Hope Wehrli '26

**Hometown:** Naperville, IL  
**Major:** Business  
**City/Country:** Paris, France  
**Employer:** Paris Living

My real estate internship in Paris, France, has given me experience in the field, learning both sides of buying and selling in Île-de-France. I am working for Malindi

Pender, an agent featured on International House Hunters, at her agency, Paris Living. The agency specializes in assisting Anglophone clients through every step of the real estate process. I’ve had the opportunity to work directly with Malindi on apartment searches, transactions, and developing social media content.

Outside of work, I have explored beyond Paris, traveling up to Normandy to visit the beautiful coastal towns of Deauville and Étretat. There is so much to do in Paris, from picnics on the Seine across from the Eiffel Tower to day trips to Versailles. I spend much of my time in my favorite neighborhoods, Montmartre, and the Marais. Additionally, my work in real estate has allowed me to discover so many hidden gems within the city and has made me appreciate the stunning Haussmann architecture.

I am grateful for this opportunity and excited to apply the knowledge and skills I have gained from Malindi and her team to further my future career in real estate and marketing.

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