



About Rachel

Rachel is currently in her third year at Trinity College Dublin studying Business Studies and Spanish. She served as an analyst in the Trinity Student Management Fund as part of the consumer discretionary sector during her Junior and Senior Freshman years. In addition to her role in the SMF, Rachel has been a representative for the Trinity Entrepreneurial Society as a member of the Start-Up and Internship's Fair Committee. She has also worked on a number of projects in conjunction with the Irish Student Consultancy Group, placing second in KPMG's Case Study Competition in 2019. In her spare time, Rachel sails as part of the Dublin University Sailing Club and enjoys competing in the North West Offshore Racing Association series in the J24 class during the summer months.

SETANTA
Asset Management



TRINITY SMF
STUDENT MANAGED FUND

Setanta Asset Management Limited Summer Internship Programme 2020

In partnership with the Trinity Student Managed Fund

We caught up with Rachel...

Why did you decide to apply to Setanta for an internship? *I was initially made aware of the internship position through Trinity's Student Management Fund. Upon further research into Setanta and their ethos I found that their key investment principles which outline their long-term approach to value investing were closely aligned with my own. I decided that this opportunity would be an invaluable asset in deepening my understanding of the valuation processes and portfolio construction techniques employed by the firm with the aim of increasing my exposure to the industry.*

The application process was intense, what was the most difficult part of the process? *I found the preparation of the sample case study to be the most challenging component of the application process. I was asked to prepare a document outlining some of the key elements of a company under headings such as revenue, competitive advantage, and principal risk factors. The task, while difficult, offered me an excellent perspective of what was to be expected from the role and was referred to extensively throughout the interview itself.*

After seeing the schedule for the next four weeks, what are you most looking forward too? *I am delighted that Setanta has been able to adapt the program to accommodate me in a digital capacity this summer given the nature of current challenges. I'm excited to, not only deepen my understanding of the fundamentals underlying stock valuations but also to apply these skills to a live case. I'm also looking forward to getting to know everyone on the team and learn about what steps on their career journey have lead them to a career in asset management.*

What made you want to pursue a career in Asset Management? Has your degree thus far influenced your career goals? *I have had a keen interest in the Business world from a young age so studying Business at third level was a no brainer and a decision I'm delighted I made. My interest in finance stemmed both from my university coursework along with my involvement in Trinity's Student Management which offered me some of my first insights into what a role in the industry would look like. I was attracted by the Asset Management industry in particular due to the long-term nature of both holdings and client relationships which fosters a more holistic, integrated approach to the investment process. The research element of the role along with the degree of individual autonomy awarded to portfolio managers in executing investment decisions also appeal to me.*

As you know, there is an ever present gender imbalance in the world of Finance, and in particular in Asset Management, what would you say to young women looking to pursue a career in the industry but maybe put off by this imbalance? *In recent years, the financial industry as a whole has begun to actively make representation a priority through the implementation of an abundance of diversity programs and initiatives. Females looking to forge their career paths in finance would do well to take advantage of the multitude of insight days, internships, and mentorship programs aimed specifically at increasing female involvement in the industry. Finding a female mentor, either well-established in her field or someone just starting out a few years ahead of you in college, can be instrumental in building your confidence and helping you to navigate your career path. Having said that, gender should not play a deciding role in whether young women decide to pursue a career in the world of Finance. Akin to any other industry, those with a skill set well suited to the role and who are willing to work hard are likely to be rewarded.*