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**Food Service Intern**  
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I am currently a senior from the University of California, Davis, majoring in Managerial Economics with a minor in Communication. I was born and raised in the Philippines and moved to California after graduating from high school.

Last June 2007, I worked as a Food Service Management intern in the campus services division at the University of California, Davis. After gaining experience in the hotel industry over the previous summer, I decided to explore other aspects of hospitality, such as food service, to discover which area of the business I would want to pursue in the future. With its reputation as the leading food and facilities management services company in North America, not to mention its strong commitment to diversity, I was convinced that an internship with Sodexo would provide me with excellent training and prepare me prior to entering a master's degree program in hospitality management.

My most memorable experience from my internship was visiting a local dairy farm in Sacramento along with some of the Sodexo managers at UC Davis. As the company heavily advocates sustainability in student dining, we went to the small family farm in an effort to learn more about one of our local vendors.

I believe that internships are important as they prepare students for success in the real world. Students gain exposure to a particular industry and learn whether or not they are suited for it. Not only do internships allow students to expand their network of contacts, they also develop the interns' existing skills and interests, as well as encourage them to discover new ones that will undoubtedly benefit them in whichever career path they decide to take.