

Written reflection on IVCA experience

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Going into this summer's internship at OCA Ventures, I felt nervous and excited. I wondered whether if the reality would align with my presumptions. Will I get along with the other interns at the company? Will I enjoy the work, and find it meaningful? Or will I leave feeling regretful, and feel the same way as some of my friends who felt frustrated by the little work they've given to accomplish at their previous internships. Those were only some of the thoughts I had, as I was in the elevator going up to the office, on my first day.

Thankfully, my experience at OCA Ventures and of the IVCA program, surprisingly and delightfully, reconciled with my high expectations. I was liberally granted the luxury of autonomy and trust, from both the associates who looked after me, and the GPs. In merely two weeks, I was put on deals and given companies to diligence. I was extremely grateful, but knew that a steep learning curve was ahead. However, I wasn't deterred and in fact felt more driven to learn and improve.

Throughout my time at OCA Ventures, I had worked primarily on the Healthcare team with my colleague Douglas Munsey and, partner of the firm, Bob Saunders. I had simply loved spending my time learning about Healthcare, and seeing companies disrupt the healthcare market that is overripe for change. Diligence-ing some companies made me aware of how demand is changing- from a fee-for-service volume based care, to a consumer-focused value based care scheme. Other companies enlightened me to the notion of precision medicine as a powerful modality for future diagnosis. The amount of companies trying to better the system was unbelievable. Some were trying to increase efficiency of delivery- on a data transaction level- and others strived to improve care delivery with the help of technology. My personal favorite is a company where the founders are working to revolutionize ophthalmology diagnoses with AI that improves the sensitivity and specificity of retinal disease detection. As I am in the middle of writing this written reflection, I am also working on writing a deal summary for this company.

Although I don't have a 'favourite day' per se, I truly enjoyed each Thursday when we visited the different firms my IVCA scholar peers were interning at. Each firm were radically different in philosophy, strategy, and culture. The visits were truly meaningful, as I gained a deeper appreciation and awareness of the importance of 'fit' and alignment of 'cultural values' between the individual and the firm. I've also come to realize, after spending time at my own firm, that the growth and success of a firm, is unlocked and unstoppable when emotional happiness of everyone is maximized. I learned that motivation will ignite itself when you work with a good team.

Although 10 weeks seems like a long time ago, time really flew by. Thus, I would urge the 2020 IVCA scholars to make the most out of every day on the program, and to forge meaningful

relationships with the people at their firm, and the people that they've met through this program. This program not only gifts scholars a rare insight into the private equity and venture capital industry, but also a broader network of professionals which they can connect with in the future when they've thinking of starting a career in PE/VC. Lastly, the only thing left is to embrace this program with an open mind and a good attitude!