

## **Sneha Mathew, 50 South Capital Advisors**

This summer 50 south Capital allowed me to work on a plethora of projects. My two main projects consisted of creating presentations on how to increase diversity and inclusion in fund diligence and buyout co-investment case studies. I was also able to work on pre-diligence decks, investment memos, and statistical valuation pages. The most exciting of all my projects was to work on a live venture capital co-investment memo.

The most interesting day of the summer was the firm visit at William Blair. The William Blair visit was most intriguing because it was the most interactive of all the firm visits. It was exciting to hear from the head of the investment banking department, a managing director, vice presidents, and an analyst. It was great to hear the different perspectives and see what all the roles entailed. Also, the team was incredibly friendly and willing to connect beyond the IVCA network.

The thing that surprised me the most about the summer was my fascination for private equity. Private equity has always been of interest to me, but I figured I would go down the venture capital path one day. However, after this summer I have come to realize that I enjoy the private equity space more. I have come to appreciate the technical aspect of diligence that investing roles require. Additionally, I value that private equity roles can become rather client-facing in nature after attaining a certain rank if that is your desired path.

The best advice for a 2020 IVCA scholar is to leverage the network. The IVCA Scholar Program gives one the opportunity to meet various individuals who have different professional backgrounds whether it is consulting, banking, or general finance. However, all the individuals have earned prominent positions in either private equity or venture capital. I urge all scholars to take advantage and network with all the people they meet this upcoming summer.