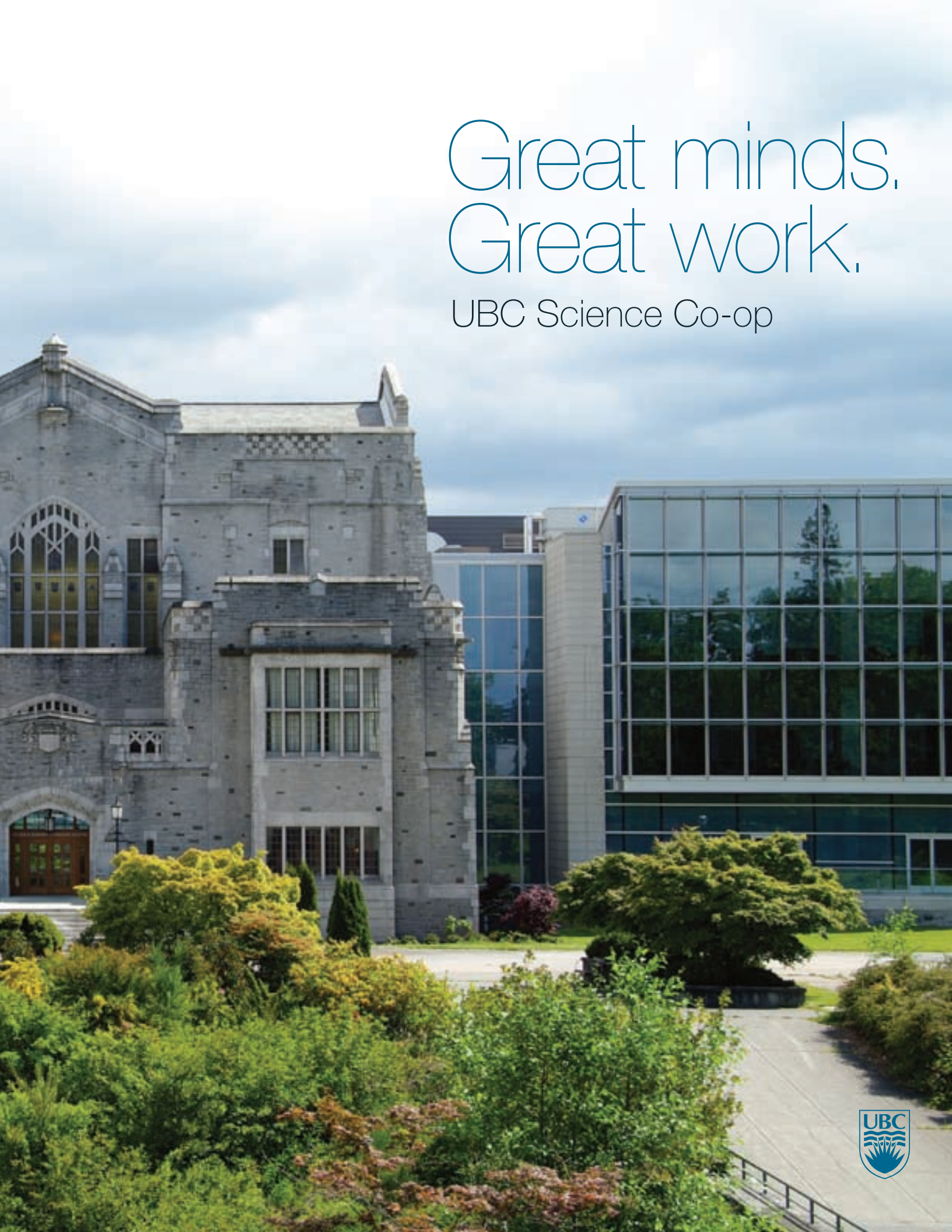
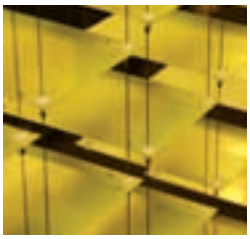

Great minds.
Great work.
UBC Science Co-op

Contents

Great minds. Great work.

The UBC Science Co-op competitive advantage



You need scientific, engineering or high-tech talent. We have the bright young minds to meet your needs. At the University of British Columbia's Science Co-op Program, our top priority is connecting our talented students with employers across Canada and around the world. The intelligence and ambition of our students, coupled with the skill of our coordinators, have helped build one of Canada's most reliable sources of exceptional students.

1 Research matters. UBC is a top-tier research university. Our students explore the latest ideas and technologies with some of the world's most brilliant minds. UBC Science Co-op is the only program to offer students in unique disciplines such as engineering physics and integrated sciences.

2 Quality over quantity. Employers consistently use the word "quality" to describe our students, not only because of their academic excellence but also because of their positive attitude. Our students are motivated—they choose to join the program—and are pre-screened based on their interest and motivation.

3 Coordinators in the know. Science co-op coordinators communicate directly with students and employers, and specialize by industry and discipline. This structure ensures coordinators match the most suitable student with the most suitable employer.

4 Diversity and flexibility. We have students from over 20 disciplines that are available for four, eight, 12 or 16 months (depending on the program). This system works well with any short-term or long-term projects.

5 A mind to the future. Co-op isn't just a cost-effective way to recruit short-term help—it's also a great way to screen potential full-time employees and to invest in your company's talent pool.

Left: Courtney Kohnen, Land & Food Systems co-op, testing finished products for conformity with product specifications at Happy Planet.

Right: Edward Liao, Engineering Physics co-op, assisted in the development of General Electric's communication system.

The basics

At UBC Science Co-op, we strive to ensure that both employers and students get the most of their co-op experience, which starts by clearly outlining responsibilities

Your role

As an employer, your responsibilities are the same as they would be for any contract employee. A co-op placement is often students' first exposure to a real-world work environment, which means that they do require an appropriate level of mentoring, no matter how qualified they are. At the end of the co-op term, employers complete an evaluation form that details the student's performance. Your feedback is crucial to ensuring that students take away more than a paycheque from their work placement.

Student's role

Co-op students have responsibilities that they are obliged to uphold. These responsibilities range from being punctual and respecting their employers to giving their best effort on all assigned tasks and projects. UBC Science Co-op employers consistently praise the professionalism, passion and enthusiasm that our students bring to the workplace.

Coordinator's role

Think of our co-op coordinators as a personalized human resources department. Before you even receive a job application, coordinators are hard at work preparing students for the workplace. Pre-employment training workshops cover job search basics and work ethics. Coordinators work very closely with each student and get to know their skills and aspirations—a working relationship that enables us to find the most suitable candidate for your job opening. Once a student is placed, your coordinator will work with you to monitor their progress through ongoing technical and professional support. A site visit during the work term also helps ensure that both students and employers are meeting their responsibilities. And as always, our coordinators are just a call away.

Salary

On average, co-op wages offer savings over regular, entry-level wages. While it is up to the discretion of employers to determine an appropriate salary, the most current statistics are available on our website for your reference.

Wage subsidies

A lack of adequate financial resources for co-op placements should never deter potential employers. For information on how your organization may be eligible for assistance, contact the Science Co-op office.

Far left: Computer Science & Physics major student, Alicja Kielbik, working on optical & electrical devices at UBC Structured Surface Physics Laboratory.

Left: Biology co-op student, Ryan Saranchuk & Mathematics co-op student, Min-Chee Lo, working at Science World.

Right: Christoph Schaub, Physics co-op student, working as the Accelerator Physics Lab assistant at TRIUMF, Canada's National Laboratory for Particle and Nuclear Physics.

Program overview

UBC Science Co-op features students in over 20 diverse disciplines for four-, eight-, 12- or 16-month work terms starting in January, May or September. Our students are skilled in fundamental laboratory techniques, various programming languages, data collection and analysis, technical report writing and the list goes on. Contact one of our co-op coordinators for a more comprehensive overview of the technical skills our students have to offer.

The schedule below outlines our students' availability (in months):

Program	Winter (Jan – Apr)	Summer (May – Aug)	Fall (Sep – Dec)
Atmospheric Science	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Biochemistry	4 or 8	4, 8, 12 or 16	4, 8 or 12
Biology	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Biophysics	4 or 8	4, 8, 12 or 16	4, 8 or 12
Biopsychology	4 or 8	4, 8, 12 or 16	4, 8 or 12
Biotechnology (UBC/BCIT Joint Co-op Program)	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Chemistry	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Cognitive Systems	4 or 8	4 or 8	4 or 8
Computer Science	4 or 8	4 or 8	4 or 8
Earth & Ocean Sciences	n/a	4 or 8	4
Engineering Physics (Computer, Electrical, Mechanical & Mechatronics)	4	4 or 8	4
Environmental Sciences	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
General Sciences	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Integrated Sciences	4 or 8	4, 8, 12 or 16	4, 8 or 12
Land & Food Systems	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Mathematics	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Microbiology & Immunology	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Pharmacology	4 or 8	4, 8, 12 or 16	4, 8 or 12
Physics & Astronomy	4 or 8	4 or 8	4
Physiology	4 or 8	4, 8, 12 or 16	4, 8 or 12
Statistics	4 or 8	4 or 8	4, 8 or 12
Graduate Co-op Program Atmospheric Sciences, Statistics	n/a	4 or 8	4

Top left: Computer Science student, Felicity Herst, enjoying her third consecutive work term at Electronic Arts (Canada) Inc.

Bottom left: SAP employs General Science student, Duncan Bays, as project coordinator and Computer Science co-op student, Saamon Shooshtarian as software developer.

Right: Hilda Au, Biochemistry co-op student, working in a research lab on campus.

Our four-step hiring process

1 Post a job

To begin the hiring process, send us your job description via email or fax, or complete our Online Job Posting Form on our website.

Work term	Postings begin
Winter (Jan–Apr)	First week of September
Summer (May–Aug)	First week of January
Fall (Sept–Dec)	First week of May

2 Set up interviews

Approximately one week after receiving your job posting, we will email you resumes of interested co-op students. Once you have reviewed the candidates, provide–via phone or email–a list of students you wish to interview and your availability for interviews. We'll make the necessary arrangements and send you an interview confirmation schedule.

3 Make a job offer

After the interview process, rank only the students you are prepared to hire in order of preference and send us these details either by phone or email. Your co-op coordinator will then extend an offer to your chosen student who can either accept or reject it.

4 Prepare an offer letter

To make the placement official, your final step is to prepare an offer letter and send it to us via mail, email or fax.

Our global footprint

UBC Science Co-op around the world

International co-op placements give our students the added value of gaining valuable work experience and are often a first step towards global citizenship. You can find our students participating in development and applications research at Laser Zentrum Hannover in Germany and fabricating and characterizing novel electromagnetic meta-materials at Singapore Synchrotron Light Source. While international placements can require more logistical support than local placements, our co-op coordinators are well-equipped to work closely with international employers to cover all aspects of the hiring process, including visa applications and relocation assistance.

A sample of our employers

- Agriculture and Agri-food Canada
- Amgen British Columbia Inc.
- Apple Inc.
- Ballard Power Systems
- BC Cancer Research Centre
- BC Hydro
- Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Canadian Space Agency
- Electronic Arts (Canada) Inc.
- Environment Canada
- General Electric
- Google, Inc.
- HSBC Bank Canada
- IBM Canada Ltd.
- Inimex Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- Kelsan Technologies Corp.
- Kodak Graphic Communications Canada Company
- MDA Corporation
- Merck Frosst Canada Ltd.
- Microsoft Corporation
- Nokia
- Redback Networks Inc, an Ericsson Company
- Research in Motion (RIM)
- Robert Bosch GmBh
- Roche Bioscience
- SAP
- St. Paul's Hospital
- Tekmira Pharmaceuticals Corporation
- TELUS Corporation
- TRIUMF

Hiring a UBC Science Co-op student is a win-win proposition. Employers gain access to highly motivated, exceptionally bright scientific talent and to co-op coordinators committed to ensuring placements run smoothly. Our students benefit from developing real-world skills in a professional environment that values their contributions.

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