

# GREAT MINDS DON'T ALWAYS THINK ALIKE



## Innovation Internships

### The top 5 most important skills in the workplace<sup>1</sup>

1. Analytical thinking.
2. Creative thinking.
3. Resilience, flexibility and agility.
4. Motivation and self-awareness.
5. Curiosity and lifelong learning.

The Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation (BCII) is a world-first transdisciplinary combined degree. Radical in its ambition, BCII combines students from 25 disciplines with a future-oriented, industry-engaged approach to learning. UTS has developed a curriculum that champions critical and creative thinking – preparing students for the jobs of the future.

**Reimagining traditional education means reimagining traditional internships.**

“Our BCII students bring both deep disciplinary knowledge and their ability to work across disciplines to their internships. Because of this unique combination, they are able to deliver creative and innovative solutions and perform in highly collaborative and complex settings. The innovation internship allows our students to put their transdisciplinary skills into practice through working with our partners.”

**Professor Martin Tomitsch,**  
Head of Transdisciplinary School

### So, why an innovation internship?

**The workplace is changing at an unprecedented rate, traditional ways of working are becoming obsolete... so why wouldn't you try something different?**

Internships can be more than shadowing, coffee orders, and admin. Innovation internships create value, and allow students to showcase their broad skill sets, and contribute fresh insights to your organisation.

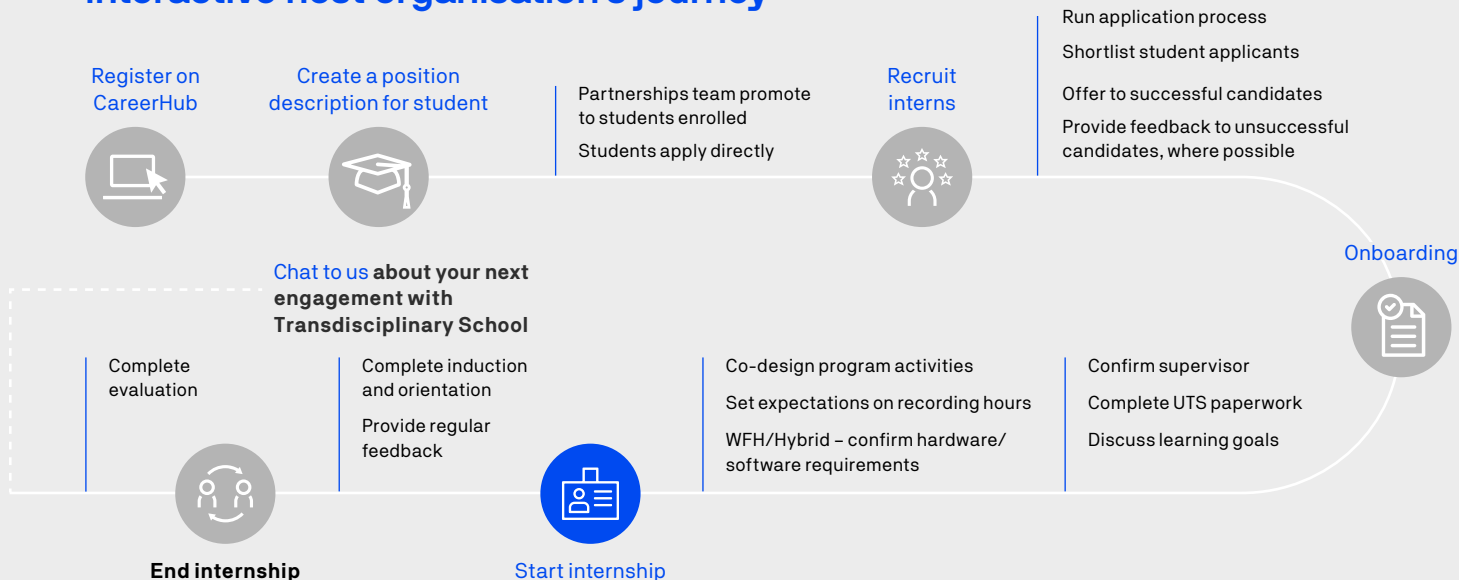
Thanks to their transdisciplinary education, BCII innovation interns are:\*

- Agile.
- Comfortable with complexity.
- Critical thinkers.
- Curious.
- Problem solvers.
- Valuable contributors.

"The BCII Internship program connected Guide Dogs NSW/ACT with a team of highly creative and adaptable interns. Their diverse skill sets enhanced our own approach to problem-solving, generating serious momentum on projects and making a difference in the lives of people who are blind or have low vision. Our experience has been testament to the value of innovation skills to any discipline or industry."

**Taliah Duggan-Harper**  
Access and Technology Advisor, Guide Dogs  
NSW/ACT

# Interactive host organisation's journey



## Great internships don't always look alike

Internships are a great opportunity for organisations to tap into UTS's brightest talent.

### How to be different:

- Host multiple BCII interns, allow them to collaborate with each other, and your employees.
- Try hosting an intern from a different discipline than your usual talent pipeline to uncover the possibilities of a different skill set. The top skills in the workforce are transferrable.
- Set your interns a challenge, allow them to apply their problem-solving and critical thinking skills to a complex challenge your organisation is facing. Be inspired by what they create.
- Co-create the experience with your BCII intern. Open your organisation to fresh capabilities.

[See an example of how to host multiple BCII students for an innovation internship.](#)

## Innovation Internships

Innovation internships require students to complete a minimum of 105 hours in a workplace with a dedicated supervisor.

**Summer intake:** 4 Nov 2024 – 7 Feb 2025  
(blackout period between 2 – 13 Dec 2024 due to an intensive subject)

**Winter intake:** 10 June 2025 – 25 July 2025

Internships can be face-to-face, remote or hybrid.

## Paid vs unpaid internships

Payment is not mandatory for internships taken for course credit, however, we encourage that where possible organisations offer paid placements, as this allows the opportunity to be accessible to the widest pool of students. It also;

- Offers both students and employers more flexibility in duration.
- Attracts greater student interest and higher calibre of candidates.
- Creates an environment where students feel valued in the workplace.

**Paid internships** are considered employment and so any workplace agreement, insurance, remuneration and responsibilities are to be negotiated with the student directly.

If **unpaid**, UTS will provide an electronic Student Vocational Placement Agreement. This agreement needs to be completed before the internship starts for UTS insurance to be in place (personal accident and public liability insurance up to the value of \$5 million).

For more information on the legalities of unpaid internships, visit the [Fair Work website](#).

## Ready to host interns?

Email: [TDSchoolPartnerships@uts.edu.au](mailto:TDSchoolPartnerships@uts.edu.au)

## Transdisciplinary School (TD School)

A central, pan-university School bringing transdisciplinarity to UTS teaching/learning, research and industry engagement.