

Feedback Letter: Waste Not Want Not Internship

Monica Thom Spring, Summer, Fall, 2020

Dear Kero, Alanna, and Ribal,

Putting together this feedback document has not been an easy task. I wanted to be able to provide something constructive and supportive of future improvement, but I have little else than praise to share! So, here we go. I have absolutely loved working with Waste Not Want Not this year!

My one *major disappointment* is this: due to COVID19, I got to meet with you all inperson only once. The D3 vibe was awesome, and going out for lunch & beer as a team on that first day was so much fun. I wish I could have spent more in-person time with the team. That day at D3 was so wonderful and I truly enjoyed the meeting format and how it facilitated cohesive teamwork and collective productivity. Of course, this was hardly something you had any control over changing once the lockdown went into effect.

Speaking of format changes, I am extremely grateful for the flexibility extended to me in modifying the team meeting schedule to allow me to participate remotely and from a different timezone! Especially early on, this modification really made me feel like a valued part of the team.

I know many students whose summer internships were canceled due to COVID19, and I deeply appreciate the whole team's swift acclimation to remote working and effort to avoid negative impacts to the student internship program. I am also impressed with how many tasks remain(ed) active, i.e., the Map the System competition, Market Research, the registration of *enuf* services!

Speaking of *enuf*, it has been such an interesting and informative process to see the transition from WNWN to *enuf*. Little did I know that a compost internship would teach me so much about business creation! Also, in light of COVID19 and the economic challenges that the pandemic conditions have stimulated, I am impressed with your conviction to make the business happen anyway and with such a positive attitude. You make business registration seem easy! Your passion for *enuf* shines brightly. Well done.



My favorite part of the internship was working on the **Map the System project.** This project was full of teamwork, a diverse array of tasks to engage with, rewarding experiences (i.e., getting through the levels) and the presence of something really exciting to work towards.

Another thing that you do as a team is make a beautiful Google Drive. I know you already know this but I don't believe there is any harm in saying it again; it is impressively organized and easy to navigate, which makes a new comer like me so happy!

Next up, team meetings. Though they started out long in March when we started using Zoom (2+ hours), they balanced out, became much more efficient, and have become what I think is the perfect length (30-60 minutes). Also, while I know it didn't always work out, I really appreciated the team fun nights and effort to make space for team bonding time!

The one thing that took away from my overall experience has been the extended time period over which the internship has taken place. Originally, I was prepared to be engaged with the internship over the summer and would have completed my hours before the beginning of the fall semester. As the internship has stretched into this current semester, I have felt over laden with the extra work that I did not factor into my plan for this year. Perhaps this is just me being my worst critic, but I believe I haven't been able to contribute as fully as I would like due to my current work load.

Despite that being said, I have thoroughly enjoyed my internship with Waste Not, Want Not/enuf Services. It has been an absolute joy to be able to work on projects that completely align with my values. enufs vision of the future is my vision of the future, and I am thrilled to have been a part of bringing that vision to life!

My deepest thanks!

With respect,
Monica