

Summer Open Lab

2021/22 Information

The Summer Open Lab (SOL) is a programme for students working on summer projects and internships with companies in Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty.

SOL has been developed by Priority One, the economic development organisation for the region, and is delivered in collaboration with local businesses, the University of Waikato and Callaghan Innovation, with three aims:

- **For Students:** to provide a great learning experience in the region, through professional and career development, and through building connections with peers from different host companies, disciplines, and universities;
- **For Businesses:** to help them to support, and provide professional development for students, especially during the busy summer months
- **For our Region:** to grow connectivity between encourage students and companies to do summer projects, and to celebrate and showcase these with the rest of the community in Tauranga and the Western Bay.

How SOL works

1. SOL comprises a series of weekly workshops that run over the summer (November through to February), in parallel with summer projects being completed by university students.
2. The workshop programme is focussed on the theme of leading and managing R&D related innovation. Each week covers one aspect of this and consists of a mix of industry speakers and interactive workshop components. The provisional programme for 2021/22 is listed below (see page 3).
3. SOL is open to any student doing a summer project or internship for a company located in Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty that is:
 - a. Funded by Callaghan Innovation R&D Experience Grants; and/or
 - b. A member of Priority One
4. There's no cash cost. All we ask is that businesses register their interest with Priority One (shane@priorityone.co.nz). Students attending do need permission from their host organisation.
5. The only 'payment' we require from participating companies is that they provide a speaker for one of our weekly sessions (this means we have an awesome line up of people for students to talk to!)
6. There are no credits or marks, so students have the freedom not to attend if they have other commitments (e.g. fieldwork, meetings, project deadlines).
 - a. We don't expect students to make every session. We know people can get busy, have fieldwork, might not always be able to create the time. We hope most students come to most

sessions, because they have a great time, and because this provides an easy way for companies to deliver a high standard of professional development for their students.

7. Participating companies are welcome to send other staff along to sessions as professional development.
8. SOL concludes with our Summer Innovation Celebration, which is fast becoming a highlight of the business events calendar. This event is open to the broader community and is an opportunity for Priority One to showcase the work done by students and companies in our region and acknowledge the importance of this.
 - a. **This year's event is 4PM, Wednesday 09 February 2022**

How SOL is resourced

1. SOL is delivered through collaboration by several parties, who come together to make this happen:
 - a. Priority One, who provide administration and coordination, project management, and programme design, and fund the refreshments provided.
 - b. The University of Waikato, who provide space for the sessions in their Tauranga Campus free of charge
 - c. Callaghan Innovation, who fund R&D experience grants, communicate the initiative to their clients and allow participation of experience grant recipients
 - d. The participating companies, who allow the students to be part of this and provide guest speakers.
2. The programme of workshops has been designed by Priority One in consultation with industry. It delivers an introduction to some the key skills and capabilities required to lead and manage R&D related innovation in organisations.
3. SOL's programme has been developed over several years, with 2021/22 being the fifth iteration. We are confident that it delivers on our three goals of great student experience, supporting companies and celebrating innovation. However, we remain committed to being able to change quickly to take advantage of specific opportunities or different priorities. So, expect the programme to evolve over time.

Contact Information

For more information about SOL please contact Shane Stuart (shane@priorityone.co.nz).

Provisional Programme 2021/22

Most sessions are 3PM to 5PM on Wednesdays, at the University of Waikato, Durham St Tauranga.

Except

- **Session One, which will be at 4PM at Priority One.**
- **Session Ten, which will be at 4PM (venue to be confirmed).**

For all sessions, we provide snacks on arrival and some food and refreshments e.g. pizza at 5PM.

Date	Topic
17 Nov	Session One: Welcome! Introduction to SOL, making the most of being an intern and a local students guide to making the most of summer in Tga.
24 Nov	Session Two: Creativity and understanding customers (workshop on Design Thinking)
01 Dec	Session Three: Innovation Strategy (workshop on Ten Types of Innovation)
08 Dec	Session Four: Managing Innovation Projects (workshop on project management)
15 Dec	Session Five: Disruption, uncertainty and complexity (workshop on systems thinking)
Break	
12 Jan	Session Six: Presentations and pitches (workshop on presentation skills)
19 Jan	Session Seven: Project catch ups (open session, content to be defined by participants)
26 Jan	Session Eight: Teams and Culture (workshop on personality types and culture)
02 Feb	Session Nine: Entrepreneurship and Commercialisation (workshop on the Lean Canvas)
09 Feb	Session Ten: Summer Innovation Celebration (location to be confirmed)