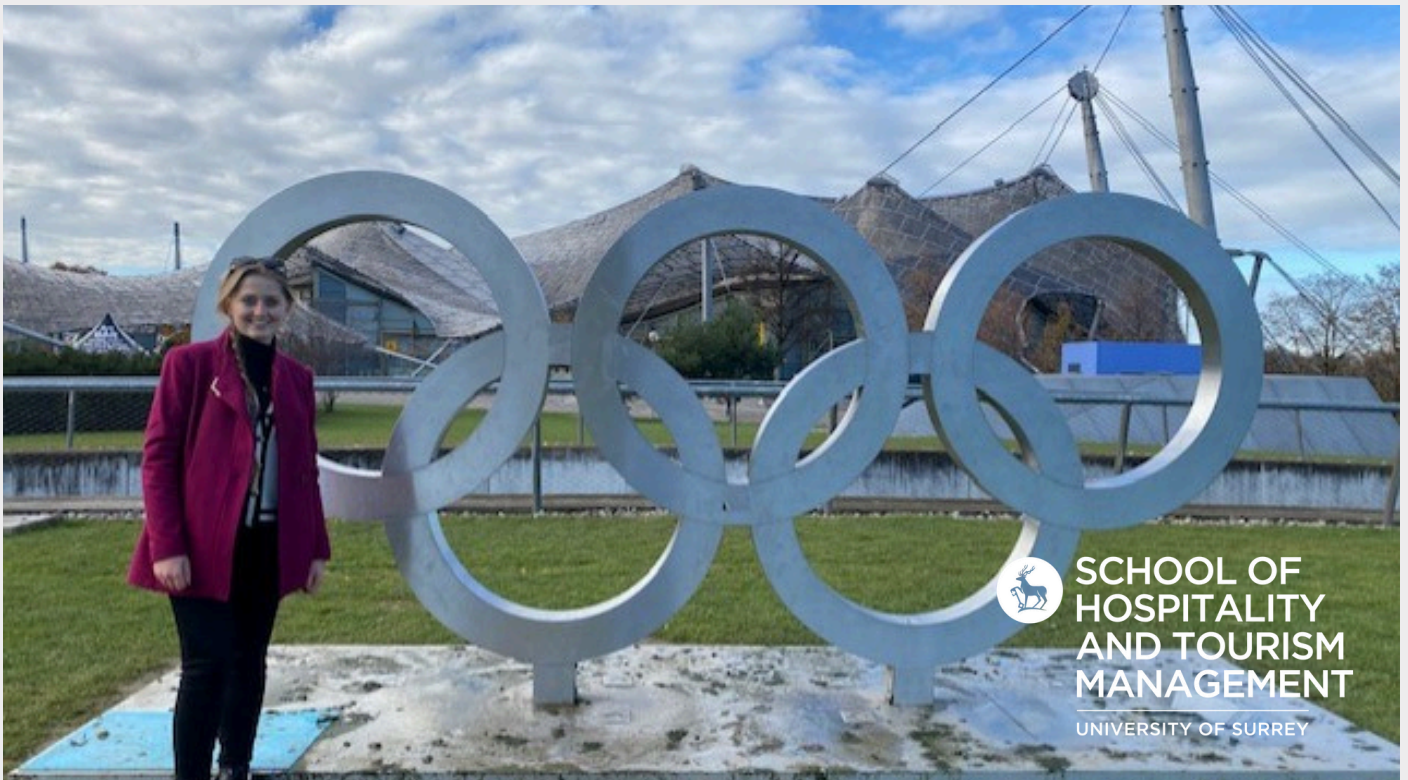


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INDUSTRY WEEKLY DIGEST

YOUR WEEKLY DIGEST OF CONTEMPORARY INDUSTRY TRENDS



HEAD START

to success

Finding your place outside of university is a challenge that many students face when graduating. The Professional Training Year (PTY) offered by the University of Surrey is a twelve month opportunity to gain first hand practical insights into an industry environment and give your career a head start.

In this digest, [Annika Victoria Zahn](#) expands on her PTY experiences and the many skills she developed. More recently Annika won the Faculty (FASS) Professional Training Award, which she explains, recognised her contributions to the industry and her own personal development.

Have a great weekend!



HOW YOUR PLACEMENT CAN PAVE THE PATH TO PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC TRIUMPH

Annika Victoria Zahn

I decided to split my PTY in two and moved to Munich, Germany, to start a six-month internship at the Olympic Parc Munich as an Event Assistant in their "50 Years Team", specifically in charge of the 50th anniversary celebrations of the 1972 Olympic Games. Through my work as a project manager on a Legends Football Match which attracted 25,000 spectators into the Olympic Stadium and raised £43,000 for a local charity I established a connection with the German Football Club FC Bayern Munich, who later offered me my second placement. There, I was part of Team Legends, which organizes all activities of former football players still representing the club. These included merchandise shootings, partner meetings, press conferences and interviews as well as their own football matches against other Legend Teams.

During my time at both companies, I worked at various event formats including concerts, networking events, smaller sporting events such as cycling or golf competitions, press conferences, merchandise shootings, partner meetings and football matches. Although the companies have contrasting working structures and I had two very different working teams, both working environments allowed me to improve my practical event

planning skills whilst experiencing immense personal development including increased confidence, resilience, adaptability, networking skills and time management.

My placement has not only confirmed my strong passion for the industry and prepared me for my final year at University, but also amplified my excitement to kick-start my career after graduation without any worries or regrets!

Being awarded the Faculty (FASS) Professional Training Award as a recognition for my outstanding contributions to both my working environments as well as my own personal development truly was the cherry on top! I am thankful for every opportunity I was given and am thrilled to have received this prestigious award honouring my achievements throughout the past years. I now feel more than ready to complete my degree on a high and delve into the real world to find my way in the events industry!

More about the Professional Training Year Program can be found [here](#)

More about the various PTY Awards can be found [here](#)

The press release about the Legends Football Match mentioned above can be found [here](#)