

Top Stories — 2009

Diversity and Inclusion: A Gateway to Leadership intern shares her learning experience at Dreyfus

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Dreyfus is participating in the [Gateway to Leadership](#) program by sponsoring an intern this summer. The program is a partnership between NAACP, the United States' oldest civil rights organization, and the Money Management Institute, which represents top firms on Wall Street.

Gateway to Leadership focuses exclusively on the financial services industry, providing internships and career opportunities for students from historically black colleges and universities while introducing a new generation of diverse talent to America's leading finance and investment management organizations.

Intern Roxane Evans shared the following account of her experience with the program:

During the fall semester of my junior year at Clark Atlanta University, I attended an informational session for the MMI/NAACP Gateway to Leadership Program. The representative explained the goals, objectives and benefits for those selected to participate in the program, and my interest only grew as previous interns shared their experiences. Since I hope to work in the financial services industry and wanted to gain meaningful work experience before graduation, I decided to apply. After a rigorous application process, I was selected to participate in the program and was placed at The Bank of New York Mellon's Dreyfus office in New York City.

When I arrived, I was pleased to learn that my schedule would include a rotation through various departments at Dreyfus, visits to the company's other locations in the New York City area and a wide variety of meetings, activities and projects. My personalized schedule allows for individual attention from various executives and employees who consistently make a significant effort to provide me with the best internship experience possible. Thanks to the support and mentoring I've received from such exceptional individuals, I've made a fairly smooth transition to life as a New Yorker.

My internship started with the opportunity to participate in an [internship orientation session with CEO Bob Kelly](#), where I had the chance to pose a question to him directly. Since then, I have worked with Separate Accounts Trading, Cash Investment Strategy, Compliance and Depository Receipts. I've attended a variety of meetings, including the Dreyfus Diversity Council monthly meeting, and engaged in activities with the company's Global Internship Program. I've also learned a lot from the staffs of The Boston Company Asset Management, Dreyfus Client Services, Legal and Marketing.

Thanks to Gateway to Leadership, its sponsors and partners and Dreyfus, my internship has presented me with a great variety of opportunities that other college interns may not have the chance to experience. I am learning so much and gaining meaningful work experience in my field of interest. I intend to remain focused, work hard, network and continue to learn, so that I can add value to this company while making the most of my experience.



Intern Roxane Evans.

[View a group photo of Gateway to Leadership participants.](#)