



Alumni Spotlight: Zack Himmel '22

1. *When were you a member of LLC and what positions did you hold?*

I was an Associate in Industrials, Lead of Industrials, and the Director of PAG.

2. *How did LLC help prepare you for your career?*

I'd say the main way that LLC has been fundamental to my success so far has been teaching me to be comfortable being uncomfortable. Whether as an associate, lead, or director, being surrounded by people of similar drive who are oftentimes more knowledgeable than myself has allowed me to reframe my mindset from intimidation, to curiosity, to confidence in my ability to pick up knowledge quickly.

3. *What advice would you give to the new members of LLC?*

Approach everyday with an open mindset, show up on time, and be willing to learn. While planning out the next few years, landing internships, and networking are all important, don't forget to learn in the present. On paper, the recruitment process can seem very intimidating, but when you break the process down, make a plan, and make micro goals that are not as long-minded and simple as, "get an offer", the whole thing becomes significantly more manageable. For example, instead of making it your goal to network with 100 people by the end of sophomore summer, make it your goal to speak to five people one week, and based on your capacity, trajectory, and overall understanding of concepts, adjust your weekly goals accordingly. The great thing about learning to set short term goals, is that as you create more and more of them, there's an element of variability and optionality that isn't as manageable when sticking to one, rigid, long-term goal.

4. *What advice would you give to current LLC members for their internships this summer?*

Aside from working hard and having a great attitude, genuinely try to develop an understanding of the product or industry you are covering and evaluate how you see yourself fitting into the role long-term. There is absolutely no shame in trying something out and realizing there is a better fit - I'm someone who did that and leveraged my connections within BNP Paribas to continue within the bank but switch to a group that better matched my personal interests. Additionally, while you should aspire to produce your highest quality work possible, don't overthink things. You should take your mistakes as learning opportunities. The reality is that there are probably going to be tasks that you aren't 100% sure how to complete, or times where you just make an error. Just as you did as an associate or lead in LLC, take the mistakes in stride, and use them as an opportunity to increase your understanding of the concept. While managers will be evaluating the quality of work put forward by Summer Analysts, they'll also be looking for coachability, and ability to accept constructive criticism. Also, have fun!