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### **Summer Internship Programme 2018**

Dear Beth Onslow,

When applying to firms, I seek out those who mirror my own love of learning, excel in employee development and have a dual focus on international and domestic sectors. In this application, I will demonstrate to you the reasons I believe I will succeed in Byrne Wallace. A comprehensive and real understanding of the world and the work companies are carrying out is now essential in this evolving economic climate. For this reason, I undertook a postgraduate degree in Development Practice with the intention of broadening my understanding of the emerging issues facing top firms in Ireland. I hope to utilise my knowledge of economics and policy work in tandem with my law degree if I am fortunate enough to gain an internship and work within the International and EU Trade Team.

My desire to understand the complex challenges facing an ever more interconnected global economy has been demonstrated time and time again through my undertaking a postgraduate course in Trinity and language qualifications in German. I combined my language qualifications and interest in the European Union and its development when I was awarded a scholarship to study Politics and History at Berlin's Humboldt University for a Summer. I was greatly motivated to apply for Byrne Wallace's internship upon seeing their expansive list of practice areas and how these differing areas work together to manage each client's business needs and challenges.

Recently, I worked with HE Clissmann, my family's firm who specialise in software development, IT support and pharmaceutical distribution. I was employed to help manage software created by HE Clissmann to help members of the pharmaceutical community comply with the Falsified Medicines Directive 2011/62/EU and design the webpage. The software (see [ezfmd.com](http://ezfmd.com)) is for manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, hospitals etc. to ensure traceability and authenticity of medicines right up to the delivering of the drug to the patient. My time in HE Clissmann taught me invaluable technology skills and the many benefits of working as part of a team in the office, bouncing ideas off colleagues and creating new ideas. While the job responsibilities may not directly correlate with the day to day operation of a corporate law firm such as Byrne Wallace, I believe it demonstrates my passion for improving my knowledge on a vast array of topics and willingness to learn new skills.

Last summer I secured and undertook a research position with a Colombian INGO Gaia Amazonas in conjunction with my postgraduate degree in Trinity. This experience working for Gaia Amazonas has developed my problem-solving skills and self-reliance. Each week brought new challenges both in the capital in Bogota and in the Amazon region of the country and allowed me the opportunity to better my strategic thinking and anticipate and plan for potential problems. Trustworthiness and attention to personal connections are two values which are essential when interacting with indigenous peoples and gaining their consent to participate in research and are values which I believe a company such as Byrne Wallace appreciates in potential employees, having won the Chambers Europe Ireland Client Service Award 2017. I applied to present my research at an International Development Summit and was successful in my application and on the day. Navigating the Colombian landscape was difficult at times and presented itself with security and feasibility issues. However, it ultimately demonstrated my resilience and eagerness to engage with challenging experiences in a working environment, skills I would bring to Byrne Wallace.

During my final year of law in NUI Galway, I applied for entry to the clinical placement module. I was selected by KOD Lyons to intern in their offices and had the opportunity to learn about the requirements of working in a

solicitors practice in Dublin. I shadowed many of the solicitors in court and was responsible for researching cases, filing and assisted with preparation for trial. Although I enjoyed my time in KOD Lyons and obtained a high mark in their evaluations, I ultimately decided I would prefer to work in a larger, corporate law environment.

In conclusion, I believe my strong academic and work experience background uniquely qualify me for an internship in Byrne Wallace. Corporate law firms grow, strengthen and protect their client's business needs and in my opinion, that requires employees who have more than a singularly legal background. My diverse interests and skills would be an asset to a firm hoping to expand its business in the coming years. Should I be successful in obtaining an internship with Byrne Wallace, I would continue my studies for the FE1 qualifications.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,  
Orla Clissmann