

SUCCESS STORY



www.bioalberta.com



FluidBiomed

<https://fluidbiomed.com>



Himasha Rao

Fluid Biomed is the first medical technology company in the world to develop a hybrid metal-polymer stent to treat brain aneurysms. At Fluid Biomed, students have been an important part of that development and performed technical work critical to Fluid's manufacturing process. Students have also successfully completed short-term individual projects aimed at improving Fluid Biomed's technical processes and business operations.

Himasha Rao, a fourth-year Biological Sciences student at the University of Calgary, was tasked with receiving material and products from different manufacturing steps, managing inventory and creating a Bill of Material that helped the company track inventory value. Originally applying to Fluid Biomed because she found the scope of work unique and interesting, Himasha experienced a wide variety of real-world job tasks while working with an expert team: "I got to experience many

aspects of the company through the operations department. I got to work on different manufacturing and processing steps like inspection, sterilization and receiving. I had the opportunity to work on dealing with nonconformities and other quality focused tasks like creating a requirement traceability matrix. I wrote technical reports for new material and equipment qualifications. I was also tasked with doing a market competitor analysis."

WIL funding helped Fluid Biomed recruit, fund and retain student talent. It also gave Himasha an opportunity to work at a successful start-up company in the medical technology space in Alberta. Himasha's biggest takeaway from her experience at Fluid Biomed is "understanding that as a student, value received from an internship is dependent on my eagerness to be observant and willingness to fill the gaps. This mindset allowed me to learn more outside of my assigned projects and gave me the opportunity to work with many different people who have varying fields of expertise."

Himasha leaves us with some final thoughts: "I think it is inspiring to know that you are valued, and your work is impactful in helping the team reach their goals. The most exciting part of working at Fluid Biomed was the team dynamic and flexibility in the work scope. Working never felt tedious because of the breadth of learning opportunities in different company departments." We can't wait to see what's next for Himasha and for Fluid Biomed!

