**Student:** Rosemary Coogan
University of Sussex

**Placement:** Senseye

**Role:** Data Scientist

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**What is the subject of your PhD?**
Astronomy – galaxy evolution in different environments.

**Describe a typical day on placement**
At the beginning of each week the data science team would have a short meeting to discuss what we had achieved the previous week, and to outline a few sub-tasks that we planned to do over the next few days. A typical day involved programming and research into useful data science techniques to implement in Senseye's software. We would have additional group meetings to gather feedback and discuss ideas on specific topics and the other members of the team were always available to help.

**What skills and knowledge have you gained during the placement?**
In terms of technical skills, I learnt a lot about machine learning and statistical techniques that I haven't had the opportunity to use during my PhD. It also gave me a better understanding of both the day-to-day work schedule and longer-term outlook of software development companies like Senseye.

**How do you think doing a placement has benefited you for the future?**
It's definitely been a really worthwhile experience – I've gained new skills and met some great people so I really enjoyed my placement. I think knowing more about what's out there will help me understand the kind of career I want after my PhD, as well as making me a stronger candidate for similar positions.

**What advice would you give to a PGR student who might be interested in seeking a placement?**
I would definitely encourage anybody to take a placement - whether they're looking for a job outside of academia or are interested in learning something new through contributing to another industry.

Employer Perspective:
Rose made a big impact during her placement, with good ideas, an excellent work ethic and a personality that lightened the office.

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