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### See your EOP Advisor for:

- Adding or dropping classes
- Time Management ideas
- Mid-term evaluations
- Graduation Plans
- Internship Ideas
- Study Abroad Plans
- Advanced Registration Workshops



## Summer 2010!

Hello EOP Students,  
Alumni, and Supporters-

On behalf of the EOP  
staff I wish you all are hav-  
ing a fun and restful sum-  
mer!

Our program has had an-  
other productive and excit-  
ing semester this spring!  
In this issue we will high-  
light many examples of  
our student's leadership  
and accomplishments. We  
will also provide some  
news and highlights from  
the department programs  
and events.

We cannot ignore the cur-  
rent issues of the economy

and the state budget as it  
affects us all. Our student  
funding and even the fu-  
ture of the Educational  
Opportunity Program is in  
constant threat. Please  
contact your legislators  
and let them know how  
EOP has helped you and  
that you support it and  
want it to continue to pro-  
vide an opportunity to at-  
tend college for young  
people who could not oth-  
erwise qualify or afford to  
attend. You may also con-  
tribute to our student's  
success individually  
through our EOP Fund.  
Information about how to



*Antonio Bonilla, Director*

donate is on our website  
and in this newsletter.

Thank you-

Antonio Bonilla

Director,

EOP SUNY New Paltz

### *SUMMER 2010: What will you be doing?*

**There is always something  
exciting happening at SUNY New  
Paltz, even in the summer!**

#### **EOP First Year Summer Orientation:**

Session I: 6/28-7/1

Session II: 7/5- 7/8

Session III: 7/12- 7/15

Session IV: 7/19- 7/22

WELCOME to all our New  
EOP Family Members!!

#### **Don't forget these dates:**

Thursday 8/19: New Entrant  
check-in

Friday 8/20: Freshman Convo-  
cation

Saturday 8/21: Residence Halls  
Open

Monday 8/23: First Day of  
Classes!

#### **IMPORTANT!!**

Make sure you have processed  
your bills with Student accounts  
and that all you Financial Aid is  
set for the year!

The time to add or drop classes  
without any fee or record on  
your transcript is :

8/23- 8/29

See your advisor ASAP if you  
think you need to change  
classes!



*EOP Advisor Clare Kelly-Barra is our liaison to the Study Abroad office*

## *Study Abroad - Clare Kelly Barra*

**"A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."**

**– Lao Tzu**

Last Fall, Winter and this Spring semester 12 EOP students studied abroad to France, Egypt, Ireland, Japan, Jamaica, Argentina, Scotland and England, and many of them received scholarships which helped fund their study abroad programs. The scholarship recipients are:

### **Fall 2009**

Ahmed Elsayed, Cairo, Egypt who received an \$8,000 Gillman Scholarship

Courtney Cavanaugh, Limerick, Ireland and Elizabeth Chen, the \$750 International Education Travel Grant.

### **Spring 2010**

Brittana Mallol, London Mid-

dlesex, England the \$750 International Education Travel Grant Jennifer Chen, Japan and Ling Zhao, Japan, who were the only SUNY New Paltz students to receive the \$5,000 Gillman Award!

Congratulations to all these students...to find out more about study abroad scholarships...check out these websites and also please feel free to contact the Study Abroad Liaison Clare Kelly-Barra if you have any questions.

**Gillman Scholarship** [http://www.iie.org//Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman\\_Awards/Home8/Home.html](http://www.iie.org//Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman_Awards/Home8/Home.html)

**SUNY New Paltz Study Abroad Website**  
<http://www.newpaltz.edu/eop/studyabroad.html>

[studyabroad.html](http://www.newpaltz.edu/eop/studyabroad.html)

### **International Education Travel Grant**

<http://www.newpaltz.edu/eop/studyabroad/travelgrant.pdf>

JASSO – Scholarships for studying in Japan

[http://www.jasso.go.jp/study/scholarships\\_e.html](http://www.jasso.go.jp/study/scholarships_e.html)

**Levin Institute Chinese Government Scholarships for SUNY students to study in China**

<http://www.levininstitute.org/chinascholarships.cfm>

**Boren Scholarship**

<http://www.borenawards.org/>

**"Travel! Go out and see what the world has to offer!"**

**-Clare Kelly Barra**

## *Student Abroad Spring 2010 ... Britania Mallol*



Britania Mallol was in the United Kingdom this Spring 2010 semester and will be sharing some of her insights and experiences with us for the Fall 2010

**Newsletter!**

## *EOP Student athletes score BIG*

### **Maliqua Fisher**

By Coach James Seward

It is no easy feat to describe Maliqua Fisher with words, no matter how many you use. Probably the best way to attempt to do so is to simply say, Maliqua is a special, special person. I first began to realize this the second time I saw her play basketball. By this time, I already knew she was a tremendous athlete, and she had a ton of upside and potential as a basketball player. Furthermore, her high school coach had sung her praises, telling me she was a much better person than she was a player, and believe me, that was saying something considering that she was a three year starter on one of the best teams in all of New York. However, what I saw that day in a gym in the Bronx gave me the first glimpse into just what kind of person Maliqua is.

First off, you could tell she was the leader of her team, a team that had multiple scholarship players including two of the very best players in all of America. She was so vocal out on the court, and you could tell it wasn't white noise to her teammates. When Maliqua spoke, her teammates listened. Then, what topped it all off and made me feel like we absolutely had to have her in our program was when Maliqua, all 5'6" of her, moved her much

taller teammate out of the low spot on an opponent's FT attempt so that she could match-up and box out the other team's 6'5" Division I post player. Not only did Maliqua take on that challenge, but she boxed her out and competed for that rebound like she was the one who was 6'5", certainly not like someone who was giving up nearly a foot to her opponent.

Fast-forward a few months to August, and something else happened to demonstrate just what kind of person we were getting. Every summer, a couple weeks before school begins, I send out a letter to the prospective team. It outlines some of our goals and what we expect in the coming months. I ask that each player write a response and bring it to me when they get on campus. To say that I was impressed with Maliqua's letter would be a vast understatement. She handed me eight hand-written pages, front and back! Moreover, it was not some long-winded, repetitive, cliché filled letter. Rather it was as heart-felt as anything I have ever read. It talked about her team being a family, and it was written from the perspective of a leader, a true leader. Did I mention that this kid was an incoming freshman??? After reading this letter, I knew, whole-heartedly that Maliqua Fisher was something special, and over the next several months, her actions only enhanced that belief.

On the court, Maliqua is a competitor in every sense of the word. True competitors do not pick and choose when they really go all out and when they just go through the motions. True competitors compete for everything, all the time. As a competitor, Maliqua has no off switch. She competes for every loose ball, every rebound, and she does it on every play. When my mother's best friend came to watch us play at Brockport, she was quite impressed with Maliqua's play, and she was shocked when I told her she was only a freshman. Not so much because of how well she played, but because of the composure she displayed, and because of how much her senior teammates obviously trusted her on the court.

All in all, I am quite certain that anyone who knows Maliqua Fisher will have similar stories to tell about her. She is one of the best athletes in all of Division III basketball, and she is on her way to becoming one of the best players as well. Nevertheless, no matter how good of an athlete or player Maliqua is or ends up being, no matter how many awards and/or championships she wins, it will always pale in comparison to Maliqua Fisher the leader, Maliqua Fisher the person. As I previously stated, she is a special, special person.



*Ismairy Munoz, Jessica Purcell, Maliqua Fisher, and Sasha Santiago*

**"As a competitor, Maliqua has no off switch. She competes for every loose ball, every rebound, and she does it on every play."**

**-Coach Seward**

## **Our EOP SUNYAC Champion: Yuka Suzuka**

We are also very proud of EOP student Yuka Suzuka. As a member of the New Paltz swimming team she had many improvements and accomplishments this season. At SUNYAC's, the women's team finished third place and Yuka earned first selection all-conference.

"*Yuka Suzuka* was a SUNYAC Champion in the 100 Back (58.79) and 200 Back (2:07.92) and also finished second in the 100 Fly at the championships. In addition, she was a member of the 200 Medley Relay, 400 Medley Relay, and 200 Free Relay. Suzuka qualified for the NCAA B-Cut in the 100 Back and 200 Back at the championships. She also set a school record (59.84) in the 100 Fly at that competition."

**Suzuka won the 100 Yard Backstroke and had a second place finish in the 200 Yard IM. In addition, she was a part of the relay team that won the 200 Yard Medley Relay.**

To see a video of her backstroke swim visit: <http://gohawks.newpaltz.edu/tag/yuka-suzuka>



*Yuka Suzuka*



## *Chi Alpha Epsilon: Spring 2010 Induction*



*XAE Spring 2010 Inductees*

This year our induction Keynote speaker was Dr. Laurel M. Garrick Duhaney. Dr. Duhaney is Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School at SUNY New Paltz. She is also a tenured professor of Special Education in the Department of Educational Studies. She holds a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of the West Indies-Mona, Kingston, Jamaica, and the M.S.Ed. and PhD, both in special education, from South-



*XAE Spring 2010 Inductees*



*XAE E-Board (left-right): Marissa Ward, Dominique Marshall, Shana Brown, Sarah Lucas, Tanaisha Semidey, Felipe Bonilla, Nekaiya Trotman*

ern Illinois University, where she was an Agency for International Development fellow.

Our Executive Board this year organized a number of fun activities including a Roller Skating party, Food Drive to benefit a local charity, Christmas Gift-Wrapping fundraiser, Valentine CandyGram fund-raiser, and was integral in supporting the EOP Conference.

## 2010 Inductees

### Beta Omicron Chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon

#### National Honor Society

|                           |                   |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Michael Barootjian        | Maria Jayne       | Alexandra Ramirez |
| Charisma Bennett          | Ke Jiang          | Jenesse Ramos     |
| Soleil Bent               | Dana Koresh       | Cassandra Roberts |
| Diana Bonilla             | Chelsea Ladue     | Shahara Roberts   |
| Peter Boutros             | Fiona Lee         | Francis Rodriguez |
| Jinbiao Chen              | Nefthaly Leon     | Gilbert Rosa      |
| Sarah Chen                | Daries Lindsay    | Rosemary Salcedo  |
| Jeffrey Cifuentes         | Jinnele Manohar   | Jarnely Serrano   |
| Caitlyn D'Apice           | Teresa Medrano    | Toni-Ann Stevens  |
| Alexander Depinto         | Diana Nudelman    | Talita Thomaz     |
| Laurel M. Garrick Duhaney | Joseph Nussbaum   | Jankaira Vargas   |
| Damion Herring            | Stephanie Peralta | Charisma Wright   |
| Wenqi Hou                 | Lindsay Perez     | Dennis Yu         |
|                           | Kimberly Quiñones |                   |

## 2009 Honorable Upgrades

|                                   |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Chantel Bland – Emerald (S 09)    | Bexis Matos – Diamond (S 09)       |
| Courtney Cavanaugh – Ruby (S 09)  | Jillian Mele – Emerald (F 09)      |
| Joannie Delacruz – Ruby (F 09)    | Brittney Melvin – Ruby (S 09)      |
| Rosanna Delarosa – Ruby (S 09)    | Johana Mendoza – Ruby (F 09)       |
| Stephanie Delgado – Ruby (F 09)   | Thomas Perez – Emerald (F 09)      |
| Tsering Dolma – Ruby (S 09)       | Victoria Rhodes – Ruby (F 09)      |
| Dominika Dudek – Emerald (S 09)   | Mary Rich – Emerald (F 09)         |
| Terri Ellis – Ruby (S 09)         | Ericka Rodriguez – Ruby (F 09)     |
| Fredrick Fernandez – Ruby (F 09)  | Vanessa Rodriguez – Diamond (S 09) |
| Cristina Garcia – Ruby (F 09)     | Anais Rojas – Ruby (S 09)          |
| Stephanie Hernandez – Ruby (F 09) | Tanaisha Semidey – Emerald (S 09)  |
| Linda Lee – Ruby (S 09)           | Stephanie Sierra – Emerald (F 09)  |
| Yuriy Leshchuk – Ruby (F 09)      | Treashon Stanley – Diamond (S 09)  |
| Britania Mallol – Emerald (S 09)  | Gikelly Tejada – Ruby (F 09)       |
| Dominique Marshall – Ruby (F 09)  | Marissa Ward – Diamond (S 09)      |
| Giselle Martinez – Emerald (S 09) | Ling Zhao – Emerald (S 09)         |

*Undergraduate selection criteria:  
Achievement of a 3.0 cumulative  
GPA for greater for 2 consecutive  
semesters of full-time course work.*

#### Pin Upgrade Criteria

Ruby: 3.5-3.74    Emerald: 3.75-3.99    Diamond: 4.00



## *Alumni — Student Connections*



*EOP Advisor Robert Hancock*

Dear EOP Students,

I am excited to inform you about an amazing opportunity for a select few students to be mentored by one of EOP's very successful Alums, who works in the Music Management and Production industry. Roberto Noriega was a guest speaker for one of the workshops at the first EOP Conference on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2010. Roberto

Noriega is the CEO of **Media Center Entertainment Group** and has produced platinum albums with the late Michael Jackson and Julio Iglesias among other accolades. Since Roberto lives and works in L.A. the majority of the communication would be through LinkedIn email and when possible Skype. However Roberto is going to be in NYC in September and an in person meet-

ing will be scheduled during his time in New York. Roberto is a busy professional who is willing to take time out of his schedule to offer valuable career advice and personal development tips. Students who attended the EOP Conference on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 will be the first considered for this opportunity.

## *EOP FaceBook Fan Page added to our many ways to show "Once EOP, Always EOP"!*

**Alumni Weekend 2010: Mark your calendars!**

**EOP will be hosting an Alumni event on Saturday October 16th. Check the EOP and Alumni websites for further details and registration information as we get closer to the Fall.**

In addition to the EOP Web Page and the Alumni and Alumni/Student Network groups on LinkedIn, there is now an EOP Fan Page on facebook. The EOP Fan Page has been established to inform current students, Alums, friends of the program, and potential incoming students about events that EOP

sponsors. It is also a great place to view pictures of these events and EOPers in action. Recently uploaded are pictures from graduation and the Chi Alpha Epsilon Induction Ceremony. You can access the link to the EOP Fan Page off of the EOP Web Page.



*EOP Alums Left to Right: Emmanuel Alvarez, Richard Liranzo, Antonio Bonilla, Adayenni Adekanbi, Adam Alberto Castillo*



*EOP Alums Sylvia Venancio, Angelina Ventura, Anilsa Nunez*



*EOP Alums at the reception Left to Right: Heidi Vallejo-Gonzalez, Richard Liranzo, Jeimy Perez-Garcia*

## *Fall 2010 Student Initiative Program*

EOP Students are offered the Student Initiative Program as a way to learn new information, provide opportunity for personal growth, and have fun with other EOP students and staff.

The Fall Semester will offer eleven initiatives for the students to choose from.



*EOP Students and Advisors playing Volleyball at Tony's Tournament*



*EOP students and Advisors getting Ice Cream*

- Tony's Tournament** Student teams will play volleyball against each other for fun, prizes, and bragging rights!
- Huguenot Tour** Enjoy the fall weather and get to know your new "hometown"!
- Plagiarism** What is Plagiarism? How can I use sources without stealing them?
- Health & Sexuality** Students will be able to ask questions anonymously, a week prior to event, and questions will be answered at this session.
- HESC** Representatives from HESC and financial aid will be on hand to discuss your \$\$\$ and how to make sure you are getting the most aid available to you.
- Shawangunk Rail Trail** Autumn Leaves are turning! Join us for a hike!
- Study Abroad** **See the world!** Adventure! Get College credits while you travel!
- The Pact Documentary** A documentary on the three Newark, NJ doctors will be shown.
- What is Diversity?** Presenter will discuss many issues regarding race and what role you play in diversity.
- EOP Alumni Career Panel** EOP alums from various years and careers, will discuss their paths from childhood to present. See how the struggle pays off.
- Nutrition & Wellness:** Health and nutrition! Get ready for Thanksgiving and finals by relieving some stress and learning how to take care of your body during stressful times.



*EOP Students and Advisors learning about historical Huguenot Street*



## *First SUNY New Paltz EOP Conference May 1, 2010*



*President Poskanzer and keynote  
Speaker Jubilee Mosley '03*

anne Van Cooten '07, and Cynthia Graham '02. The topics presented were "Getting Where you Want to Go", "Networking", and "Community Organizing".

There was also a panel discussion with students, staff, and alumni addressing the issues EOP faces currently and how EOP at SUNY New Paltz can work to build a stronger campus community.

The whole event was wrapped up by an outdoor BBQ with all the conference speakers and attendees.



*Left to Right: Ray Ronsome, Jubilee Mosley, Dr. L. David Rooney, and President Steven Poskanzer*

**THE** first EOP Student-Alumni conference was held May 1, 2010 and we had the honor of both President Steven Poskanzer and Vice President L. David Rooney in attendance. Program Director Antonio Bonilla presented a token of appreciation for L. David Rooney's continued support of EOP in the form of a plaque, and heartfelt words of thanks.

Keynote Speaker Jubilee Mosley was touching and articulate in her acknowledgment of what EOP has given her and how current EOP alums and Students can help strengthen the program for generations to come.

Workshops were presented to the students by Alumni: Roberto Noriega '84, Chey-



We have already begun plans for the May 2012 Conference, so watch for news as the year progresses!

*SUNY New Paltz  
President Steven  
Poskanzer delivered  
the welcome address*

**"I am the person I am  
today thanks to EOP  
here at SUNY New  
Paltz"**  
**-Jubilee Mosley**



*Conference attendees enjoying  
the BBQ*



## ...EOP Conference !



*EOP Director Antonio Bonilla presents Dr. L. Davis Rooney a plaque honoring his support of our program..*



*Attendees at Roberto Noriega's workshop*



*Cheyenne VanCooten '07 Presents a workshop on Networking*



*Cynthia Graham '02 Presents a workshop on Community Building*



*XAE E-board members and Clare Kelly-Barra at the check-in desk*



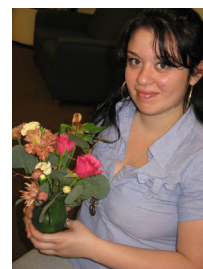
*Roberto Noriega '84 presents a workshop on achieving goals via Skype from his LA studio*

**Students of EOP at  
SUNY New Paltz are at  
the forefront of  
achievement and  
leadership on campus**

## *EOP Achievement Awards*

Each year, EOP students who have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better are recognized by the office of Opportunity Programs for their scholastic excellence and extraordinary dedication to self-improvement. These students are presented with the SUNY Office of Opportunity Programs' Certificate of Academic Achievement.

|                     |      |                        |      |                            |      |                     |      |
|---------------------|------|------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| Abreu, Robert       | 3.25 | Dolma, Tsering         | 3.24 | Mallol, Britania           | 3.60 | Semidey, Tanaisha   | 3.63 |
| Acevedo, Jeremy     | 3.33 | Duval, Enrique         | 3.00 | Manohar, Jinnele           | 3.41 | Serrano, Jarnely    | 3.09 |
| Adorno, Diones      | 3.14 | Elsayed, Ahmed         | 3.28 | Marshall, Dominique        | 3.21 | Severino, Jessica   | 3.01 |
| Ali, Mili           | 3.55 | Espinal, Ingrid        | 3.11 | Martinez, Giselle          | 3.19 | Sierra, Stephanie   | 3.52 |
| Awadallah, Attiya   | 3.47 | Estrella, Idelci       | 3.31 | Martinez, Jasmine          | 3.00 | Smith, Chantel      | 3.09 |
| Awadallah, Faisal   | 3.01 | Feliciano, Keishla     | 3.20 | Matos, Ann Marie           | 3.26 | Smyth, Zachary      | 3.19 |
| Baez, Sterling      | 3.01 | Fernandez, Fredrick    | 3.59 | Medrano, Teresa            | 3.12 | Solomon, Lana       | 3.76 |
| Baker, Deanna       | 3.02 | Fernandez, Geomari     | 3.60 | Melvin, Brittney           | 3.47 | Soto, Bianca        | 3.00 |
| Bamburu, Nicholas   | 3.00 | Ferreira, Jazmely      | 3.12 | Mendoza, Johana            | 3.21 | Soto, Millicent     | 3.00 |
| Barootjian, Michael | 3.68 | Garcia, Cristina       | 3.60 | Mercado, Kevin             | 3.07 | Stevens, Toni-Ann   | 3.14 |
| Barrera, Stephanie  | 3.34 | Garcia, Edgar          | 3.48 | Montaque, Lascelle         | 3.67 | Sthillaire, Quincy  | 3.67 |
| Barrie, Amadu       | 3.20 | Gude, Cherice          | 3.29 | Moustafa, Farris           | 3.17 | Tang, Yu Nan        | 3.33 |
| Barrie, Umaru       | 3.69 | Halverson, Erik        | 3.15 | Munoz, Ismairy             | 3.62 | Tavarez, Indira     | 3.75 |
| Baulkman, Jaleesa   | 3.07 | Han, Jin Sun           | 3.53 | Natel, Lucas               | 3.13 | Taveras, Katherine  | 3.06 |
| Bell, Shaquana      | 3.27 | Harris, Jeannette      | 3.08 | Nudelman, Diana            | 3.14 | Tejada, Crysbel     | 3.38 |
| Bennett, Charisma   | 3.25 | Hazel, Olivia          | 3.58 | Nussbaum, Joseph           | 3.72 | Tejada, Gikelly     | 3.03 |
| Bent, Soleil        | 3.07 | Healy, Meghan          | 3.27 | Olivo, Felipe              | 3.09 | Tejada, Vanessa     | 3.27 |
| Bernabel, Salvador  | 3.73 | Hernandez, Jeremy      | 3.11 | Pan, Kenny                 | 3.43 | Thomaz, Talita      | 3.70 |
| Bonfiglio, Danielle | 3.26 | Hernandez, Stephanie   | 3.39 | Parker, Shanice            | 3.00 | Thompson, Drewnesha | 3.47 |
| Bonilla, Felipe     | 3.50 | Herring, Damion        | 3.31 | Pascual, Karina            | 3.29 | Thompson, Rupert    | 3.00 |
| Bose, Shata         | 3.15 | Ho, Elsa               | 3.23 | Pena, Erica                | 3.00 | Tirado, Nelson      | 3.51 |
| Boutros, Peter      | 3.21 | Hodge, Lisbeth         | 3.23 | Peralta, Stephanie         | 3.15 | Tolbert, Parish     | 3.27 |
| Brown, Shana        | 3.29 | Hoffman, Maxine        | 3.06 | Perez, Carolyn             | 3.11 | Trotman, Nekaiya    | 3.19 |
| Burnet, Julian      | 3.11 | Hou, Wenqi             | 3.31 | Perez, Lindsay             | 3.23 | Vargas, Jankaira    | 3.41 |
| Campbell, Kendra    | 3.33 | Howe, Jacqueline       | 3.31 | Perez, Thomas              | 3.44 | Vega, Petra         | 3.60 |
| Castillo, Sheira    | 3.25 | Hughes-Rivera, Di-Anna | 3.33 | Pincay, Cindy              | 3.10 | Vera, Alba          | 3.19 |
| Cavanaugh, Courtney | 3.64 | Hurry, Mikaal          | 3.08 | Porter, Natasha            | 3.65 | Vidal, Katherine    | 3.08 |
| Cavanna, Kevin      | 3.25 | Jackson, Kondwani      | 3.12 | Quinones, Kimberly         | 3.44 | Ward, Marissa       | 3.83 |
| Cedano, Cristal     | 3.08 | James, Kyesha          | 3.07 | Rahman, Farshid            | 3.32 | Washington, Craig   | 3.33 |
| Centeno, Brittney   | 3.06 | Jayne, Maria           | 3.43 | Ramirez, Alexandra         | 3.25 | Washington, Joshua  | 3.42 |
| Cespedes, Natalie   | 3.23 | Jiang, Amy Yan Ling    | 3.07 | Ramirez, Yesenia           | 3.04 | Wilson, Dashawn     | 3.23 |
| Chan, Wendy         | 3.36 | Jiang, Ke              | 3.60 | Ramos, Jenesse             | 3.14 | Woodworth, Sara     | 3.19 |
| Chavarria, Michelle | 3.27 | Koresh, Dana           | 3.21 | Restituyo, Edwin           | 3.03 | Wright, Charisma    | 3.07 |
| Chen, Jennifer      | 3.24 | Kouyo, Youssouf        | 3.33 | Reyes Vanderhorst, Arienny | 3.06 | Young, Jada         | 3.15 |
| Chen, Jinbiao       | 3.17 | Kuang, Miaoqun         | 3.23 | Reyes, Genesis             | 3.33 | Yu, Dennis          | 3.45 |
| Chen, Sarah         | 3.19 | Kuffour, Solomon       | 3.33 | Rhodes, Victoria           | 3.48 | Zhang, Jinru        | 3.49 |
| Chen, Zhicheng      | 3.31 | Labaze, Gophi          | 3.10 | Rich, Mary                 | 3.61 | Zhao, Ling          | 3.48 |
| Cifuentes, Jeffrey  | 3.28 | Ladue, Chelsea         | 3.18 | Rivera, Vanessa            | 3.54 |                     |      |
| Contreras, Felix    | 3.10 | Lagow, Joslyn          | 3.91 | Roberts, Cassondra         | 3.10 |                     |      |
| Cooper, Inieka      | 3.13 | Lee, Fiona             | 3.28 | Roberts, Shahara           | 3.36 |                     |      |
| Cruz, Alexander     | 3.17 | Lee, Linda             | 3.45 | Rodolis, Maria             | 3.72 |                     |      |
| D'Apice, Caitlyn    | 3.83 | Leon, Nefthaly         | 3.21 | Rodriguez, Daniela         | 3.32 |                     |      |
| De Aza, Dahieline   | 3.07 | Li, Xiongwei           | 3.64 | Rodriguez, Francis         | 3.52 |                     |      |
| De Jesus, Hope      | 3.10 | Lindsay, Daries        | 3.00 | Rodriguez, Joshua          | 3.17 |                     |      |
| De Leon, Veracruz   | 3.75 | Liu, Shuping           | 3.92 | Rojas, Anais               | 3.67 |                     |      |
| Dejesus, Candice    | 3.00 | Lucas, Sarah           | 3.24 | Rosa, Gilbert              | 3.03 |                     |      |
| Delacruz, Joannie   | 3.25 | Lugo, Johnny           | 3.03 | Salcedo, Rosemary          | 3.13 |                     |      |
| Delgado, Stephanie  | 3.04 | Lynch, Emma            | 3.33 | Santiago, Sasha            | 3.01 |                     |      |
| Depinto, Alexander  | 3.32 | Mack, Vanessa          | 3.10 | Santiomagro, Angela        | 3.71 |                     |      |
| Diack, Mamadou      | 3.32 | Maitre, Ginette        | 3.04 | Schiehsl, Jacqueline       | 3.20 |                     |      |



Le Fevere Hall RA  
Giselle Martinez



## *Study Abroad Experience: Courtney Cavanaugh*

### **My Time in the Land of Clover**

By: Courtney Cavanaugh

When I started looking for colleges four years ago, a study abroad program in Ireland was something I looked for in a school. A few years later and after much saving, I was boarding

an Aer Lingus flight to Shannon, Ireland. Home for the next three months would soon be Limerick, Ireland.

I went alone so the first

week was hard. I did not know anyone and I was afraid I made a horrid mistake. I was the only American in my house of eight. There were two Irish girls, two French girls and three Irish boys. Mel and Kate, the Irish girls, took me under their wings and, over the course of my stay, became two very, very good friends. At orientation I also met two American girls who became my closest friends, Katherine and Kaitlin.

Katherine, Kaitlin and I did everything together. We all lived in different houses but you would never guess! We had meals together, studied together, watched TV together and did lots of traveling and went on adventures together. We joined a club called the OPC [outdoor pursuits club]. In this club we got to travel all over Ireland and climb hills and mountains. It was amazing! Ireland is without a doubt one of the most beautiful places on earth. I climbed the third highest and highest mountain in the Emerald Isle.

We also climbed the highest

mountain in Wales and England when we visited my friend Tom in Wales for a long weekend. We spent the weekend exploring Mumbles and Swansea and played on the beach! We also climbed Mount Snowdon. The weather was gorgeous all weekend until we got to the mountain. Then it was cold and rainy. But I pushed through and made it to 1,085 meters to the top! I was so proud of myself. The girls did not make it to the top with me but the effort was there and we challenged ourselves and had a great time.

Flights from country to



country are very cheap, especially with Ryan Air, so we were able to travel a lot on weekends. We went to England in November. It was my second time to London and it gets better each time. I saw my best friend Jon who lives in London. We visited some museums, did a walking tour of the city, saw the major sites [like Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, the Globe Theater]. And of course just hung out with

my friend. We went around the time of Thanksgiving so one night Jon's mother made us a Thanksgiving dinner since we were missing it at home. It was so special, especially because she did it for us (they don't celebrate Thanksgiving). England was wonderful.

Right before England, the girls and I went to Paris for a few days. I guess my expectations were too high for France because I left excited to go back to Ireland. I did not find the city to be anything like I had imagined and the people were not very friendly, and I speak French decently! When the Eiffel Tower glitters however, it can take your breath

away. And the Palace of Versailles is the most extravagant and mind blowing place in the world. We wandered the city for several days. We saw the Mona Lisa and climbed the Arc de Triumph. French baguettes and le pain au chocolat [chocolate croissants] were our favorite French foods! YUMMY! France was alright.

Of all the trips we took, Scotland was probably my favorite. We were there for about a week. We visited Glasgow and Edinburgh. I really enjoyed both places. They were so different from each other. Edinburgh is very gothic looking. The architecture is intricate and beautiful. Downtown Glasgow reminded me a lot of Greenwich Village in NYC; tons of neat little shops and coffee houses. We visited one of the many Lochs [lakes] too! We didn't get a chance to get to Loch Ness but Nessie souvenirs were never in short supply.

**"When the Eiffel Tower glitters however, it can take your breath away."**

**-Courtney Cavanaugh**

## Educational Opportunity Program

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Robert Hancock



So we spent many a day in a different country but I also traveled everywhere in Ireland. I went to Galway twice. County Galway is what one would think of when they think Ireland. A waterfront city with winding cobble streets. Venders with carts selling breads or flowers are everywhere. Pubs are located on every street corner. Galway is probably my favorite Irish city.

I also saw the Burren. The Burren is simply untouched, rocky land for as far as the eye can see. It is gorgeous. America is so industrialized that there are very few areas, especially where I live, where you can stand and look in all directions and see nothing but earth. It was ravishing. I also got to visit the Cliffs of Moher, which, in my opinion, is one of the world wonders. They are mammoth, ragged cliffs that jet out into the Atlantic Ocean.

My mother came to visit half way through the trip. I took her into

the city center of Limerick but we also did a weekend trip to Dublin. We ate at Irish restaurants and pubs. We listened to a lot of traditional Irish music. We shopped at Temple Bar, which is a very touristy place. I checked out Trinity College and the famous Cathedrals. And we could not go to Dublin without visiting the Guinness Museum and distillery.

While in Ireland, I visited Cork, Kerry, Galway, Shannon, Dublin, Limerick, Waterford, Kilkenny, and Killarney. I saw shades of green that cannot be found in any other country. I tried new foods and beverages that cannot be found in America. I studied Irish and European history from a point of view very different than Americas. I experi-

enced the big differences between the student lives of an Irish student opposed to an American student. The Irish system was so different than it is at SUNY New Paltz! I got a sense of how American's are viewed overseas and what a large role we play in the lives of people on the other side of the world.

I am without a doubt **INCREDIBLY** blessed to have experienced all that I did while living and learning abroad. I went to Ireland thinking I knew myself but boy, was I blind! I learned so much about myself. I learned that we should definitely live each day like it is our last. And that the world is ours to explore and WE **SHOULD** explore. I gained a newfound independence and confidence. I realized that it took a lot to move to a different country on my own. I learned that distance does make the heart grow fonder.