

**Experiential Learning Fellowships for Undergraduates
in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Progress Reports 2006-07**

Undergraduates from Case Western Reserve University's College of Arts and Sciences will span the globe to undertake special research projects in their majors and minors. Their travels are made possible through Arts and Sciences' Experiential Learning Fellowships, which encourage student research projects in the humanities, arts, and social sciences. Each semester the college offers several awards that average approximately \$5,000 each.

**PROGRESS REPORT:
President's Initiative Funds for Case Experiential Learning Fellows
October 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006**

Puiyee Cheung and Danielle Gartner

Applying Global Concepts of Environmental Consciousness to our Campus Community

To learn more about current trends in global corporate movements toward sustainability, Cheung and Gartner will attend "Globe 2006", a conference held in Vancouver, Canada that will address topics ranging from corporate sustainability, energy and environment, industrial waste management, recycling and solid waste management. They plan to extend their focus on how other countries are responding to issues such as solid waste management. Material from this conference will be used to reflect where America's businesses fit into the global context of environmental sustainability and how communities could be effective agents of sustainability.

Jacqueline Greene

A Comparative Study of Reproductive Health Education and Provision for Poor Urban Women in South Africa and Zimbabwe

Greene will study at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, through a program offered by interstudy. Greene will apply her previous participation in organizations relating to reproductive rights locally and globally to conduct a comparative study of poor urban women in both South Africa and Zimbabwe by gathering information from NGOs, governmental agencies and reports, medical practitioners and through in-depth interviews of women in each country. This research and the contacts made through this research will contribute to the completion of her senior project next school year.

Rachel Pope

International Women's Health

Pope will travel to Amsterdam and take the course "International Women's Health Issues: Focus on the Netherlands" that takes an in-depth look at women's health in both the United States and in Amsterdam. Pope hopes to work in Women's Health through medicine or midwifery, and this course will allow her to study how the Netherlands' implementation of midwifery for childbirth differs from that in the United States. Upon her return, Rachel will present her findings and final paper from the course to the council or to the Case community in order to increase awareness and education about women's health issues.

Trevor Scheetz

A Modern Investigation of Status Consumption

The purpose of Scheetz's study is to investigate the existence of status consumption in modern consumer behavior. Status consumption is generally defined to be the consumption of goods or services with the goal

of showing off wealth or stature in society, rather than the simple consumption of goods and services for their respective utilitarian values. He will test hypotheses from an earlier study of status consumption done by Chao and Schor (1998) using three types of data consisting of product price and quality, the national consumer share of products by brand and a measurement of consumer opinion regarding the status of each product or brand being examined. His findings will be used to publish an academic research article in a major Economics journal.

Ryan Starks

Emerging India: Economic Growth in the Worlds' Largest Democracy

Starks will travel to the state of Gujarat in India to assess the development of the Indian economy, and how it compares to that of the Shanghai Province and greater mainland China. He will interview local contacts, probe academic and business journals, and visit local businesses and government institutions in order to gain a stronger understanding of the economic, political, legal, and culture forces that are shaping the region. Starks plans to keep a journal of his discussions, readings and experiences in India and then ultimately complete a paper and multimedia presentation to present the complexities of economic reform and identify areas for improvement.

Matthew Wholey

Questioning National Identity in Post-2001 Argentina

Wholey plans to investigate how the national identity of the Republic of Argentina changed as a reaction to the economic, political, and social crisis with the revocation of the *Ley de convertibilidad* in 2001 that set the value of the *peso* at that of the dollar. He will conduct interviews with political figures to determine the platforms they used to win election after the crisis and also analyze texts and film that cover topics related to the crises. His project will serve as the foundation for his Senior Honors Thesis in the Modern Languages Department and then as his Senior Capstone Experience for his SAGES requirements.

PROGRESS REPORT:

President's Initiative Funds for Case Experiential Learning Fellows

April 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006

Josh Angelini and Ilir Kalemi

Making Italian Dialects Accessible to Students

Angelini and Kalemi plan to create a set of concrete examples of the linguistic diversity of the Italian language by studying the different dialects in Italy. These dialects are rarely heard by students of the Italian language who only learn the "standard" Italian. Using video and audio recording, they will collect data from numerous sources, resulting in a collection of examples of dialectical peculiarities combined with commentary. Further work with linguistic experts here and in Italy will provide information of interest to students of the Italian language. Their creation of a video record of their experience will be an invaluable resource for subsequent Italian classes at Case.

Kate Bobak and Maya Brown

Improving the Assessment of Mental Health Needs in Children from Low Income Families in Northeastern Ohio

Impulsivity, aggression, rule-breaking and substance use are associated with mental health issues in children and adolescents. Bobak and Brown's research goal is to learn which psychological scale, the Child Behavioral Checklist (CBCL) or the Antisocial Process Screening Device (APSD), is a more accurate predictor of a child's defiant, oppositional and disruptive behaviors. The main part of their project will consist of interviewing clients, administering questionnaires, and holding consensus meetings with a predoctoral psychology intern and one of the psychologists overseeing the project. The second part of the project will comprise of data analysis to see how APSD and CBCL scores relate to the diagnosis reached in the consensus meetings. Bobak and Brown plan to present their research at the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Conference.

Joan Chase

What Lessons Can be Learned from the Dutch?

To identify the elements of Dutch social housing that could be used to improve low income housing in Cleveland, Chase will spend five months in the Netherlands as a student at the University of Amsterdam studying city planning. She will work closely with several of the faculty to develop a better understanding of the underlying principles of Dutch housing. The basis of her research will be several site visits to housing developments throughout the country involving both photo documentation and interviews with key stakeholders. Chase will organize the elements of Dutch housing applicable to Cleveland and present her findings to the Case community, interested students and faculty from other institutions, and to any other interested organization or group within the city.

Tejasvi Pasupneti

Perspectives of Rural Ghanaian Women Regarding Malaria

Pasupneti will study the attitudes of a rural Ghanaian community regarding malaria, a disease deemed as one of the world's most major health concerns of recent times. Pasupneti will investigate how villagers in Ghana understand malaria and the various treatments available for it, targeting women in particular, since they are most at risk. Surveys will be conducted to assess 25 selected women's experiences, education and family background followed by call backs to ten women for interviews based on their varying perspectives and knowledge in how they feel about the disease and its treatment. Pasupneti will present the results of her study at Research ShowCase and the SOURCE Symposium.

Sandhya Ravichandran

Projects Abroad Medical Anthropology in Cochabamba, Bolivia

Ravichandran hopes to gain further insight and understanding of the dynamics of medicine and healthcare practiced outside the U.S. by studying both the traditional and modern medical practices of this South American country. Ravichandran will study the Shamans of Bolivia who use indigenous medicinal plants for medical purposes, as well as work in a small public health clinic taking part in door-to-door vaccination programs and women's health campaigns. These activities will allow her to understand how medical initiatives can promote better health among those living in Bolivia and how medicine influences the culture of the people who live there. Since Bolivia's healthcare system is rapidly developing, Ravichandran expects to discover how doctor's there feel about the changes in healthcare taking place in their country as well as learn from the locals their views on healthcare and what form of medicine they primarily turn to when ill. Ravichandran will present her study to other students, faculty and staff at the College Scholars

Senior Project Colloquium in May of her senior year and at the Spring 2007 SOURCE Research Symposium.

Trevor Scheetz

Modern Gender Role Stereotypes

Scheetz's research project will expand on the studies done by Rosenkrantz, et al. (1968) and Nesbitt & Penn (2000) in the field of gender-role stereotypes. The Rosenkrantz study used college classes to create a list of gender-role stereotypes and discovered that a number of those stereotypes were fairly prevalent, and in more specific analyses, that some traits were preferred over others. Nesbitt & Penn followed up on the work by using the same list of stereotypes, but examined those stereotypes over a much more diverse sample, and also ran some additional analyses. Scheetz believes that it would be beneficial to create a new list and evaluate that list in a modern setting. Steps to achieve this have already been taken, and Scheetz's list has been narrowed down to only the most prevalent stereotypes from the sample of Case Western Reserve University students. The next step will be to present a revised measure to a national sample of survey participants, and attempt to determine the prevalence of the beliefs stated in his initial survey. spring 2007

PROGRESS REPORT:

**President's Initiative Funds for Case Experiential Learning Fellows
October 1, 2006 through March 31, 2007**

Mark Augustine

Architecture and National Monuments in Cameroon

Augustine's project will compare and contrast the architecture and national monuments constructed during various periods of history and colonization in Cameroon, as well as during the years since gained independence. Augustine's sponsor, Dr. Gilbert Doho, will accompany him to Cameroon where he will be in direct contact with professors at the University of Buea. Augustine will conduct interviews with community leaders in various villages concerning the buildings and monuments in their jurisdiction. He will do much field research; visiting and pictorially documenting Cameroon's many architectural wonders. He will spend the majority of his time in the city of Buea, but also plans on visiting Yaoundé, Cameroon's capital, and Douala, Cameroon's largest city and primary seaport, along with the more rural Grassland regions and the kingdoms of Du'nda, Foumban, and Badjoun. The itinerary also includes a service learning component, where Augustine will have numerous opportunities to teach English in both classroom and informal occasions. During the 2007 Fall semester, Augustine plans on presenting his research to the University community during the Ethnic Studies/French and Francophone Studies week. He would also like to create a website to showcase the pictures, interviews, and analysis resulting from his research, creating a much needed resource concerning this topic.

Brady Boccucci and Lauren Miller

Grand Proposal for an Acoustic and Articulatory Analysis of Childhood Apraxia of Speech

Apraxia is a neurological disorder that affects speech programming and causes problems with the implementation of volitional movements. Apraxia encompasses a wide variety of symptoms, and is therefore hard to diagnose. Its etiology, diagnosis, and treatment are highly debated. Brady and Miller's project focuses on the analysis of Childhood Apraxia, one of the least known speech disorders. This project

will be an extension of the study by Dr. Bonaventura in which they will record and test speech samples produced by Italian children with Childhood Apraxia, and integrate the information with already existing information on English speaking children with Childhood Apraxia. Boccucci and Miller plan to prepare adequate phonetic testing tools for assessing the accuracy of speech production in Italian speaking children with Childhood Apraxia compatible with the previous English study. Their first task consists of transcribing existing English speech samples, and acoustic analysis of vocalic and consonantal segments that demonstrate disruptions typical of Childhood Apraxia. Next they will collaborate with Italian speech pathologists in Rome, Italy and help collect audio and video samples of Italian children in therapy for Childhood Apraxia. They will send their collected data to the server of the Case Speech Production Lab and will provide phonetic transcriptions of the Italian and English samples as well as a comparison of the two studies. After their return they will provide a presentation to the university through the Research ShowCase program. They will explain the process by which they collected samples of children with Childhood Apraxia, and explain the similarities and differences of how speech-language pathology is practiced in Italy.

Stephen Brandstetter and Brian Jones

A Comprehensive Study on the Socio-Cultural Relevance of Roman Aqueducts Then and Now

In 312 B.C. the Romans undertook a large scale project to construct far-reaching aqueducts for water transport that have been estimated to have supplied a per capita rate of up to 600 liters per day. Brandstetter and Jones plan to study the socio-political relevance of the intricate aqueduct systems in ancient Rome as well as analyzing the utility of the aqueducts in modern Italy. Using the aqueducts as an example, they plan to undertake a study into the modern republic of Italy's use of Roman ruins (as well as their still functional monuments). Although some aqueducts and other products of ancient Rome are still in use today, their historical significance makes them inestimably more valuable as attractions than as a means of providing water. Their research in Italy will consist of visiting areas of interest, showcasing the main construction elements of aqueducts. They will interview experts at both the tourism sites and within regional universities who can provide academic perspectives. They will gather opinions, both academic and public concerning the benefits and drawbacks of the tourism industry's prevalence in Italian culture today. Upon the completion of their study, Brandstetter and Jones plan to create a documentary-format film presentation of the gathered interviews and research.

Christine Chambers

Issues of HIV/AIDS in the U.S. and the Netherlands

Chambers plans to do a comparative analysis of HIV/AIDS policies and practices in Cleveland (January 2007) and in the Netherlands (March 2007). She hopes to find aspects of Dutch prevention, educational, public health, and treatment programs that can be applied to the U.S. to increase awareness and decrease the spread of HIV. Chambers has a basic knowledge of Dutch social policy from an undergraduate survey course (SASS 350) that she took through the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and would like to build upon that knowledge and study issues specific to HIV/AIDS. After meeting with two MSASS professors, an MSASS graduate student doing similar research, a former policy advisor to the Dutch government, and after doing extensive internet research, she has compiled a list of various organizations that she intends to visit in the Netherlands and the U.S. to conduct interviews with administrators. She will also try to meet with journalists writing about HIV/AIDS issues and with researchers/faculty at the University of Amsterdam or the Vrije University. Upon returning from Holland, Chambers will write a senior project/SAGES capstone paper that is required for her political science major which describes her

findings. She will present the paper to political science faculty, at the Research ShowCase, and at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

Nkolika Erokwu
Politics and the Media

Erokwu intends to investigate how the media covers politics & politicians, including the members of Congress. She will evaluate the role of the media in politics and determine if the role they play is appropriate. She will attend two sessions sponsored by The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars to gain a foundation for her project. The book *Out of Order*, by Thomas E. Patterson (The Bradlee Professor of Government and the Press at Harvard University) will be her main resource for her project. In addition to referencing *Out of Order*, she would like to interview Tom Beres, Senior Political Correspondent of WKYC channel 3 here in Cleveland, Ohio and Case journalism professor, Theodore Gup, to give her project an interesting dimension and insight. Next semester, she will take Professor Alexander Lamis' Politics and the Media course to further her research on this topic. She will then give a presentation in his class that will address what she has learned about how the media covers politics and how the media has gained such an instrumental role in American politics. She will also give a presentation to the political science department during the spring of her senior year (Spring 2008).

T.J. Gainley, Andrew Fixell, and Tim Koch
Group Training in Long-Form Improvisation: The Cutting Edge in Theater

Gainley, Fixell, and Koch believe that long form improvisation has the potential to be a major force, if not the defining force, in the future of American Theater and has the potential to reach out to modern audiences in a way that conventional theater often fails to do. Short form improvisation is the style most popular today; long form, is much less well known. It demands a great deal more than the simple wittiness which characterizes short form, and in turn it is also much more rewarding. They will apply to attend the Improv Olympic training center's Summer Intensive Workshop in Chicago. The workshop itself is 24 hours a week of training for four weeks, culminating in a performance at the Improv Olympic's main venue. All three will be in the workshop together and will thus strive to develop an ensemble within the intensive training. They will also attend improv shows throughout the city. When they return to school in the fall of 2007, having trained, practiced and developed their skills as improvisers, they will spend the semester practicing with a larger ensemble. By the end of the semester, they will be ready to present their art to the Case and Cleveland community in a performance. Ultimately, they hope this troupe will form into a strong, skilled, and committed group of artists who can present these shows on a regular basis. Thus, they hope to show their fellow students the power that theater has.

Rachel Kroner
Speech Deficits in Individuals with Prader-Willi Syndrome

Kroner's study will examine speech deficits in individuals with Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS). PWS is a multisystem genetic disorder with many characteristic deficits and abnormalities. These include mental retardation, hypotonia, hypogonadism, and hyperphagia. Behavioral issues such as self injurious, ritualistic, and tantrum behaviors are also common. Individuals with PWS have been found to have articulation deficits with phonemes that are the most motorically complex. Specifically, the study will replicate past findings and identify trends in misarticulation which may subsequently create more effective speech therapy interventions. Such interventions would increase the individuals' intelligibility and increase their quality of

verbal communication and consequently, quality of life. Ten individuals with PWS under the age of 30 will be recruited for participation. Each participant will undergo testing using a standardized articulation assessment test, the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation, second edition (GFTA-2) and the speech samples will be recorded on a laptop computer. The speech samples will later be phonetically transcribed from the recorded samples using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), and results of the test will be calculated. Portions of the speech samples will also be analyzed spectrographically on the laptop in Praat. Spectrograms are a visual representation of the frequency of a sound over time. There are identified spectrographic properties of particular categories of phonemes, or speech sounds. The manner in which the individual is articulating the sounds, therefore, becomes somewhat visible in spectrograms. This may lend insight into what individuals may be doing or attempting to do, even if these processes are not completely audible. Upon completion of the proposed study, Kroner will present the findings in poster format at the Research ShowCase. Additionally, Kroner plans to submit her results for publication due to a lack of abundance in empirical research on speech deficits in PWS.

Ebony Merritt

Crossing Borders, Building Bridges

Currently there is not a specific course in the Ethnic Studies department that is linked to traveling abroad for students who are possibly focusing on Latino studies. Merritt's goal is to foster new relationships in the Cleveland area as well as the Dominican Republic in order to come up with new ideas and projects for a possible new Ethnic studies course. She plans to conduct an ethnographic field study here and in the Dominican Republic that will include interviews with healthcare professionals as well as residents to survey their healthcare wants and needs while learning how they perceive health care in their society. In the Dominican Republic she will also work with other students in planning a community health fair which will address HIV/AIDS, maternal/child/female health issues, basic nutrition, and sanitation, ultimately raising awareness about certain health issues. Upon her return, she plans to share her increased knowledge and experiences with the Case community through a final paper and a PowerPoint presentation. She will also present her findings and work to organizations and departments on the campus that she feels would benefit, including the Center for Women and the Ethnic Studies Department. Merritt hopes that her presentation will allow those who may never have the opportunity to travel to the Dominican Republic learn from her experience. At the same time she hopes that her presentation will show the need and benefits of a new Ethnic Studies course.

Aaron Shaffer

Website Usability and Affect Analysis

Web design is very technical while its reception is very cognitive. Only by interconnecting the research and teaching resources from both fields can usability be understood. Shaffer's goal is four-fold. First, he wants to build an experiential base for understanding how people respond physiologically to design and, when appropriate, to apply specific principles of cognitive science to interpret the results. Second, he wants to offer up data that highlights the strengths and weaknesses of each site. Third, he wants to experience first-hand collecting, coding, and analyzing complex data. Fourth, he wants to build awareness of usability analysis at Case.

Website usability can be analyzed by measuring affective responses that provide information about the level of physiological arousal and parasympathetic functioning of the participant. Facial expressions can also be filmed and affects coded based on the International Affective Picture System (IAPS). KSL and CAS administration will be asked for the top ten functions of their website. Thirty people will be observed

completing these functions: ten undergraduate students, ten faculty members, and ten staff members. Five familiar and five unfamiliar with each site will be sought. Correlations of the data to specific form, layout, and usability functions will be sought out to identify areas of satisfaction and frustration. Results will be presented to KSL & CAS in a written report and in poster form at Research ShowCase. Shaffer's hope is that this exploratory research will spur interest in usability and interface analysis, a technological/cognitive interaction that is special to human beings. In addition, he hopes this research can be used to improve the usability of the KSL and CAS websites.

Jordan White

Emerging Realities of Transnational Sexual Violence; Sexual Violence in Kenya and the U.S.

In an effort to explore his interests in the power dynamics of gender, class, and sexuality in a transnational context White hopes to take part in the spring break immersion experience in Kenya, sponsored by the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and the International Partners In Mission. While abroad, he will have the opportunity to interact with Kenyan women as they reflect on their experiences and on the state of women's issues in Kenya. From excursions such as visiting the Bride Rescue Project (BRS), a program in Nairobi that rescues girls from forced marriage and keeps them in school, he will be able to glean ways in which education and international policies could improve the lives of local women and girls. Furthermore, he is interested in finding the answers to questions concerning the role of sexual violence and masculinity so that he can concretize the historical and social context around sexual violence in the U.S and Kenya. Jordan plans on journaling his observations and if possible recording some interviews or discussions with Kenyan citizens. Upon returning he will begin work on poster and collaborative departmental seminar with members of the history department who have been abroad and would like to share their findings on the state of women, sexual violence, and children.

PROGRESS REPORT

Presidential Initiative Funds for CWRU Experiential Learning Fellows

April 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007

Timothy Beutler

Healing Temples and Doctors in Ancient Greece

Tim was accepted into the American School of Classical Studies at Athens Summer Session, a six week program designed for graduate, high school and college teachers, and advanced undergraduate students who have clear evidence of interest in the Classical world. The program is an intensive introduction to Greece from antiquity to modern times. While in Greece, Tim will make visits to the temples and sanctuaries to learn more about the role of doctors and healing temples in ancient times, where oracles conversed with the gods and men prayed for healing. His objectives include learning about the rituals used in healing temples to evoke the power of the gods, the role of a doctor in Ancient Athens, and the possible choices individuals had between doctors and healing temples. In particular, Tim plans to visit Epidauros, the site of the famed temple of Asklepius (the god of medicine) and one of the largest healing centers in Ancient Greece. He will also visit Delphi, home to the renowned oracle of Apollo—another god associated with healing—famous for its prophecies. Upon return from his trip, Tim will report on his completed project via a departmental seminar. He hopes this project will be the start to his final project for his Classics senior seminar course.

Hannah Cha

Regional Implications on U.S. Foreign Policy

Hannah plans to travel to various U.S. embassies around the world to understand the regional differences among American embassies and how the cultures and lifestyles of each country impact the American foreign policy methods. She plans to travel to Beirut, Lebanon; Karaganda, Kazakhstan; Prague, Czech Republic; Accra, Ghana; Thessaloniki, Greece; and Paris, France over the course of a month. With the world containing what is considered to be 193 independent countries with at least one US embassy in a vast majority of them, Hannah sees a need for more to recognize the work of the people that are behind the scenes serving the U.S. abroad. Hannah will visit and interview members of the various U.S. Embassies, consulates, and other diplomatic missions to discuss regional differences and to compare the differing perspectives and focuses of each country, studying how the priorities of regions vary according to provincial objectives and their relative importance to the United States. After returning from her travels, Hannah will make one trip to Washington, D.C., to discuss foreign policy with officials in America. She hopes the information she has gathered will be useful for her upcoming capstone research experience in her major, Political Science.

Lauren Groesbeck

Buddhist Grottoes of the Wei and Tang Dynasties

Lauren is studying the impact of Buddhism on material culture from the Wei and Tang dynasties, especially as it relates to grottoes in China. She will research how the historic Silk Route greatly influenced the world of art and culture of Buddhism as it spread from India into China through religious travelers as well as merchants that clung to the mountains for protection and shelters, making their grottoes a most prevalent area for religious artwork. The absorption of culture into art can be seen in the different grotto depictions of Buddhist figures, specifically in the changing portrayal of the clothing and faces. She will study the earliest grottoes in Datong and in Dunhuang, the commencement of the Silk Route where only 492 of thousands of grottoes remain today, and visit Chongqing to view over 50,000 statues of Buddha, completed in the late Tang dynasty. She will travel to Luoyang to see a treasure trove of ancient Buddhist cave art whose sculptural style, clothing design, and facial expressions represent the pinnacle of development of Chinese-style grotto art. She will also travel to Hangzhou, where the Fei Lai Fang caves shelter 330 figures dating from the late Tang dynasty. Resembling a holy mountain in India, it is deemed the most important stone carving in southern China. The final stop for Lauren will be Guilin, at Fubo Hill, to see the Thousand-Buddha Cave, where over 200 Buddha statues of the Tang dynasty were carved out of stone. Lauren plans to present the collected research at SOURCE or an undergraduate Art History symposium.

Mieon Han

Shinto: Japan in Language

Mieon's objective in traveling to Japan is to immerse herself in language and culture that will inspire and enable her to compose a book of sensory poetry in the Japanese language that responds to nature and her observations of the Japanese Shinto religion. Mieon will photograph her travels and use the photographs in connection to her poetic works. After completing her book, she will translate it to Japanese. Mieon will attend and observe Japanese *onsens*, or outside baths that are surrounded by beautifully cultivated foliage, and Japanese Shinto and Buddhist shrines and temples. She plans to present her finished work during her senior year as a book to be available to the Case community, and she aspires to having this book accepted by a private publishing company before the end of her senior year. In addition, Mieon hopes to open a forum to the Case community on the opportunities the Experiential Learning Fellowship can provide and the work that goes into a specific creative project. She intends to show through her work how Case is a

multi-faceted community with thriving and budding liberal arts-minded people and thus encourage others to undertake their own creative works.

Joshua Hollabaugh and Zachary Kunkel

Changing Perspectives

The issues that surround the small nation of Israel and the occupied Palestinian Territories continue to fuel international controversy and debate nearly sixty years after the establishment of the State of Israel. Josh and Zack will travel to Israel and Palestine to video-document their journey, recording the personal perspectives people in Israel, Palestine, and the Palestinian diaspora in Jordan. People from a myriad of backgrounds will be interviewed to help shed light on the human side of the area and its issues. A crucial part of this project will be Josh and Zach's participation in The Israeli Committee Against House Demolition, (ICAHD) Summer Rebuilding Experience. The two week program is designed and led by Nobel Peace Prize Nominee Jeff Halper to foster learning, discussion, and friendship between Palestinians, Israelis, and internationals. Josh and Zack will be working with 23 other youth alongside Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild the home of a Palestinian family whose house has been demolished by the Israeli authorities. In addition to the house building, the program provides alternative tours of Israel and the Palestinian Territories along with meetings and presentations with groups working for peace in Palestine and Israel. Upon their return to the university, Josh and Zack will edit their video footage from their trip into an informative video and possibly full length documentary on the personal perspectives of those living in the area. They intend to use their work to inform members of the university community and the general public about the human side of this conflict.

Jane Kaminski

State Department Internship Abroad

Jane, who will use experiential learning funds to support her upcoming internship at an embassy in Spain with the United States Department of State, intends to study American foreign policy in Spain and the European Union. In particular, she is interested in studying the amount of influence the United States government has in foreign administrations and the European Union, and she aims to understand the effect the U.S. has on foreign legislation and policies developed by supranational organizations. Besides her internship duties, Jane will interview top officials at the embassy where she is located and observe the general inner workings of the embassy. Jane states that working for the United States in a foreign country will expose her to opinions and political views that she could never see in Cleveland. Such first-hand experience will be an asset to the Case community and hopefully motivate other students to do something that suits their passions, too. Upon her return, she will present her senior project and capstone paper as well as her paper to the political science faculty and at the Research ShowCase.

Michael Molinaro

Animated Speech Therapy for Preschoolers

Michael's experiential learning fellowship will provide him the opportunity to investigate the use of fantasy and animation technology for preschool children with suspected speech and language impairments. Michael notes that the lives of many preschool children are filled with colorful animations and fantasy elements, but these qualities are non-existent in the therapy of many speech and languages pathologists (SLPs). Because the Department of Education stated in the 24th Annual Report to Congress that 55% of

preschoolers deal with specific language impairments and thus are at risk for poor academic and social success; because many times the challenge to combat these language disorders rests on the shoulders of parents and school-based speech language pathologists; and because research has shown that early-intervention therapy is the key to these children's futures, Michael believes that preschoolers with suspected speech and language impairments will benefit from cutting edge fantasy and animation technology research. Under the guidance of Dr. Stacy Williams (Communications Sciences) and the assistance of the Cleveland Heights/University Heights School District, Michael will conduct an independent research study on the effectiveness of a new early intervention program called Real-Time Animated Puppetry (RAP). This type of intervention allows a SLP to control the voice and actions of an animated character through specialized voice morphing software and a tablet PC. Results of this study will be shared through a detailed poster presentation at the University Research Showcase. Additionally, Michael hopes to attend the 2008 American Speech, Language and Hearing Association convention to present these research findings to current professionals in the field.

Jeremy Ondo

Exploration of Romanesque Ecclesiastic Architecture along the Chemin de Saint-Jacques

Jeremy plans to study history by retracing actual steps taken hundreds of years ago by pilgrims. Traveling to France and Spain, he will travel in the spirit of a pilgrimage to sites of extraordinary cultural and architectural significance in Medieval Christendom: Jerusalem, Rome, and Santiago de Compostela. Extant medieval architecture lining the four widely traveled pilgrimage routes during the Middle Ages, known as the "Chemin de St-Jacques," will comprise Jeremy's research focus. These four routes in France that led to the celebrated Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain—this cathedral is the supposed resting place of St James' remains—are of particular importance for art historians because it is along these roads that Romanesque began to develop within ecclesiastical institutions as a distinct, almost formulaic style. Certain architectural elements such as sculpture can be seen to have developed in one region and then later spread to others along these routes. Jeremy plans to give an open talk to the University community that includes viewing of images of the architecture. He will also submit a paper on his findings to the annual Case Undergraduate Art History Symposium.

Nancy Pratt

Volunteer for Human Rights Organization, Al-Haq, West Bank, Palestinian Occupied Territory

Nancy will travel to the West Bank of the Occupied Palestinian Territory to volunteer as intern for Al-Haq, an independent Palestinian NGO human rights organization. Al-Haq's involvement in Palestinian Human Rights dates back to its establishment in 1979. Al-Haq seeks to protect and promote human rights and the rule of law in the OPT and has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Al-Haq documents violations irrespective of the identity of the perpetrator and advocates through national and international mechanisms and by holding violators accountable. Nancy will assist in documenting violations of the individual and collective rights of Palestinians in the OPT. Additional duties may consist of research; preparing reports, studies and interventions on breaches of international human rights and humanitarian law in the OPT. Working for Al-Haq will help her understand the challenges faced and what it takes to advocate for Human Rights within Islamic law while allowing her to support grassroots efforts toward alternative, peaceful non-governmental conflict resolution. After graduating and going on to law school, Nancy wants to return to work full-time for human rights in the Middle-East.

Anita Sadhu

Brazilian Capoeira: Explorations in Alternative Aggression

Arising from her new interest in the nature of human violence and of healthy forms of aggression, Anita will travel to Brazil to study its native martial art, Capoeira, which originated in the traditions of African slaves in Brazil. The practice, uniquely fluid and dynamic, encompasses aggression: not the domineering, cancerous violence of one human onto another but rather a healthy dialectic between two people. Anita's interest in Capoeira in Brazil is two-fold: First, Capoeira's vital nature as a physically aggressive practice and a symbol of liberation has been degraded over the years because it has quickly ascended to the status as an international phenomenon, frequently without deference to its spiritual and musical components. Second, the potentially beneficial effects of Capoeira in Brazil have yet to be realized. Perverse violence in Brazil is still a huge social dilemma that hasn't been "resolved" by the practice of Capoeira. Anita will seek to find out how Capoeira can be returned to its essential nature as a Brazilian martial art and how that can help a culture use the practice of healthy violence to ameliorate the social malignancy of crime. She will conduct a series of audio- and video-documented interviews in the city of San Salvador—a metropolitan area that is both Capoeira-rich and ridden with violent crime. These interviews will encompass not only the students and professors who study Capoeira, but also specialists in the philosophy and social science departments of Salvador's famous Universidade Federal de Bahia.

Natasha Schimmoeller

From Curriculum to Community Advocacy: A Multi-Institutional Comparison of HIV/AIDS Education Models in Cape Town, South Africa

Natasha plans to help do her part locally in HIV/AIDS education by spending time in Cape Town, South Africa, working directly with HIV/AIDS education programs in a place where they are a priority and are becoming the norm. Out of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in South Africa, where nearly one in eight people is HIV positive has arisen a widespread prioritization of HIV/AIDS education as an attempt at slowing transmission rates. Due to the severity of the epidemic in Cape Town, HIV/AIDS education has become a high priority across all levels—from local government to citizen advocacy groups. Natasha will work while in Cape Town with the HIV/AIDS education programs created by four organizations: HIV/AIDS Co-Ordination at the University of Cape Town; Treatment Action Campaign (TAC); Western Cape Education Department HIV/AIDS Life Skills Program; and Yabonga. As an HIV Test Counselor at the Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland and a community-conscious Public Health major, Natasha has witnessed the propagation of dangerous myths among high-risk Clevelanders regarding HIV/AIDS due to lack of proper education on HIV/AIDS. This chronic disparity in basic HIV education has become a great concern to her, and her work in Cape Town can help her create real solutions to the problem here at home. Upon her return to Case, she will present her findings at Research ShowCase and the SOURCE Symposium, to her contacts at the Cleveland AIDS Taskforce and Free Clinic, and to her fellow students.

Michael Suglio

A Documentary Film Project

Michael plans to film, edit, and promote a documentary on The Creation Museum, which opened in Cincinnati, Ohio on May 28th, 2007, and is the country's first museum created around creationist theory. Using interviews, analysis, and narrative, Michael will compare and contrast evolution and creationisms as well as the ways different institutions approach the theories in their presentations and teachings. Michael will interview regional teachers and professors at high schools and universities; curators of the Creation Museum and the Cleveland Natural History Museum; and Biology or Evolutionary Studies professors at

Case Western Reserve University and John Carroll University. He intends to present a viewing of the completed project at a Case political science departmental seminar, and, in order to reach a larger CWRU audience, at Research ShowCase or a public viewing in Strosacker Auditorium.

Philip Niles, Krishna Surapeneni, and Jeffrey Zabinski
HIV/AIDS Testing in Rural Kenya

Working with Volunteer Kenya, several interested sources, and a team of students, Krishna, Jeff, and Philip will dedicate their experiential learning experience addressing the pandemic issue of HIV/AIDS by focusing on the village and rural area of Bungoma, in Bungoma District, Kenya—a village in western Kenya where approximately 35% of the local population is estimated to be infected. The three intend to aid in the development and establishment of a sustainable program for HIV/AIDS skills-based prevention combined with HIV screening; collaboratively implement a social marketing campaign to reduce the transmission of HIV in Bungoma, Kenya; conduct formative research in identifying populations at risk for and afflicted with HIV within the community; examine the modes of transmission within these groups, as well as potential interventions and detriments implementation; and work to implement culturally sensitive skills and education-based training to address identified modes of transmission within a targeted population group. By establishing and running this program in rural Kenya, Krishna, Jeff, and Philip will gain experience working with people, networking, seeking out resources, grant writing, and satisfying a significant need in the global community. They hope to share their experiences and know-how from the project through the Research ShowCase, student organizations, the HIV/AIDS testing centers of greater Cleveland, the Mandel School of Applied Social Science, and The Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland.

Andrew Willson
Royal Academy of Dramatic Art Summer School

Andrew was accepted into the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) Summer School program and will use his fellowship funds to study Shakespearean acting in great depth. Although his Shakespeare acting class at CWRU provided him with a basic introduction to the technique and art of Shakespearean acting, RADA classes are intensive: held five days a week from 10am to 6pm with teachers who are trained professionals and veterans of the London stage. The classes in Shakespearean scene work at RADA are additionally supplemented by classes in Voice, Movement, Speech, Sonnets, Period Dance, and Stage Combat, all essential tools in the acting of Shakespeare. This immersion into Shakespeare for actors will provide him with what CWRU and other acting teachers firmly believe: that acting Shakespeare requires control over the whole body and voice. In order to share the results of his research with the campus community, Andrew will run a Shakespearean acting workshop for any interested students through Players Theatre Group, the university's student-run theatre organization, where he will teach his fellow students some of the techniques and exercises he learned at RADA. In addition, Andrew hopes his in-depth training at RADA will gain him a role in one of the upcoming CWRU Eldred Theater productions, specifically in a classical play or style piece with elevated language.