

'77 Community Service Fund Supports Princeton Internships in Civic Service (PICS) Program

10 Students sponsored by '77 since 2004

Since 2004 ten Princeton undergraduates sponsored by the Class of 1977 have explored careers in public service and the non-profit sector as PICS interns. The PICS program places highly skilled and motivated undergraduates in a variety of national and international organizations.

The PICS program is a true community service project, benefiting many through the cooperative effort of diverse groups. '77's involvement includes identifying internship opportunities and mentoring and sponsoring interns. Donations to PICS are administered by the Class of 1969's Community Service Fund. The PICS program not only benefits the intern and the organization, but the broader national and international communities.

In the summer of 2004, **Sean McGowan '06** served as a '77 PICS intern with **Peruvian Eco-sustainable Research and Understanding (P.E.R.U.)** in Santa Rita Peru. Sean helped a small group of engineers design and construct a sanitary system for the local elementary school. Inspired by his work in Peru, Sean co-founded the Princeton chapter of Engineers without Borders. The chapter has continued to

work in Peru, conducting sustainable development projects in the summers of 2005 and 2006. The chapter plans to return in the summer of 2007.

"I have always had a gift in science. Working with P.E.R.U., I was finally

"While working on this project, I realized what I am destined to become." Sean McGowan '06

able to use my talents to noticeably improve the lives of many people.

Down the road, I know I would like to work in sustainable development. Thank you for the opportunity to follow my dreams and make the most of my time."



Sean McGowan '06 installing sanitary system in elementary school in Santa Rita Peru

In the summer of 2004 **Steven Andrews '05** served as an intern with the **International Rescue Committee** in Thailand. At the conclusion of his internship he wrote, "The opportunity that I had to assist in documentation, and to talk with so many staff members and refugees about the successes and shortcomings of IRC's work is something I will never forget."

In the summer of 2005 Class of 1977 funds supported four students. As an intern with **P.E.R.U.**, **Lara Desoto '06** put into practice theories learned in the classroom, gaining firsthand experience in ethnography and applied anthropology.

Chao Lu '08, a native of China, interned with Safe Kids China whose main goal is to reduce unintentional childhood injuries due to the simple lack of safety awareness.

Tess Cecil-Cockwell '08 describes her internship with the Quebec-Labrador Foundation on the St. Augustine River in Quebec as "a fantastic amalgam of different projects". Her experience was "more isolated, more adventurous, more challenging, and far more rewarding than I could have imagined."

Back at Old Nassau...

Cailey Hall '07 worked with *The Daily Princetonian* Class of 2001 Summer Journalism Program. Now an official University program known as the Princeton University Summer Journalism Program, it was founded by **Richard Just '01** and other members of *The Daily Princetonian* staff. **Richard** was himself a two time PICS intern. Princeton undergraduates Journalism Program in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006. Cailey praised the program for the opportunity to work independently, coordinating most aspects of her project. She valued the chance to work with the students and counselors and was inspired by the program's founders. Cailey credits these dedicated volunteers for providing what is often a life-changing experience for students. "I'm truly proud to have had the chance to get to know such dedicated Princeton alums."



Meet the Four 2006 '77 PICS Interns

Tracey Harrop '07 interned at **Mercer Street Friends** in Trenton where she wrote policy papers on New Jersey's Food Stamp program and increasing the tax threshold. Tracey could see the scope broaden from discussions with

I learned more about the state of New Jersey and the problems it faces this summer than I had my first three years at Princeton.

Tracey Harrop '07

her supervisor to dialogues with the wider community. Tracey presented her papers to an advocacy group in Mercer County dedicated to the two issues. The internship provided the opportunity to see change begin as an idea. Through the internship experience, Tracey gained an insight into the

political process and "the everyday grind of government and the nonprofit world."

Alexie Rothman '07 served as a program assistant with **The Teak Fellowship** in NYC teaching and preparing activities for middle school students. At the conclusion of her experience she wrote, "It was great and I recommend it to any student who is considering teaching for a few years or interested in the educational reform movement going on throughout the country. I felt very accomplished at the end of the summer and think that I grew as a person as well."

Courtney Brein '08 worked at Medical Health Research Associates in NYC with **Kathy Miller '77** and a team of

Princeton interns conducting a study on client support. Courtney and the other interns provided the manpower that enabled MHRA to carry out the long desired research.

Victoria Laws '08 worked at the **Watts Labor Community Action Center** in South Central LA. Said Victoria of the experience, "I appreciated the opportunity to explore the field of work in nonprofits. I am still not sure if it is something I will pursue in the future but I am grateful to know that it is one of the many ways in which I can explore my passion for social change. My experiences at WLCAC are irreplaceable and I am thankful that I was able to play a small role in such an impressive organization."

Coming Soon...

Info on the new interns!

'77 Community Service Fund Sponsors four PICS interns for summer of 2007

David Fort '10	Discovering Justice, Boston, MA	www.discoveringjustice.org
Rachel Steinberg '10	International Rescue Committee, Thailand	www.theirc.org
Nana-Ama Boakye '08	Lawyers for Children, NYC	www.lawyersforchildren.org
Emily Stehr '08	Universal Giving, San Francisco, CA	www.UniversalGiving.org