



Andrew Garten and his Trustee mentor and employer, Hugh Zimmer.

Trustee investment yields global return

Trustees' Scholar alumnus Andrew Garten spent his years at UMKC interning at Zimmer Companies. After graduation, he began his career at Zimmer and is now working in Brazil as Senior Research Manager. In his current position, Andrew oversees the research services department with the corporate services division. He recently shared his thoughts on the impact of being a Trustees' Scholar. "I don't think you can truly understand and appreciate the value of the scholarship until well after graduation. For me, the Trustee Scholarship offered a progressive and unmatched educational opportunity that would be hard matched by any other regional or national institute. The program provided an umbrella of assistance yet customized my education by pairing classroom activities with an internship program at Zimmer Companies."

Not only did the program provide him

with top-notch educational opportunities, but it led him to his current career. "To be able to continue my relationship with Zimmer following the internship, thus made for a smooth transition. To have someone like Mr. Zimmer invest his time, energy, and resources in my well-being has truly been invaluable. From discussing general career goals before enrolling in college to planning a new position within the company after graduation, Mr. Zimmer's guidance and continued support has encouraged me to excel academically, professionally, and personally. Even today with an international presence, through the Trustee's Scholar Program, the Zimmer Companies, and Mr. Zimmer himself, I am able to continue to directly impact the Kansas City area."

—Kathleen Brueggemann

Interning Scholar impacts local neighborhoods

This summer Josh Boehm, a junior urban planning and design student, was an intern for the Mid-America Regional Council’s Creating Sustainable Places initiative. MARC was the recipient of a \$4.25 million grant from the U.S. department of Housing and Urban Development to do planning and research to create six high-density, sustainable, transit-oriented corridors in the Kansas City metropolitan area.



The Green Impact Zone

Josh was assigned to work for the Green Impact Zone, which is a federally-funded, place-based policy initiative targeted at improving the economic conditions and the built environment from 39th Street to 51st Street and from Troost Avenue to Prospect Avenue. Josh’s work focused on addressing housing and community development. The Green Impact Zone has long suffered from a high rate of housing vacancy and a lack of investment. Economic and political forces in the region have caused this area to suffer more than others from blight and crumbling infrastructure. But it wasn’t very long ago that these neighborhoods were vibrant and active communities. Creating a housing plan for the Green Impact Zone will help make sure that the historic character of these neighborhoods is preserved, while at the same time encouraging economic vitality, social equity, and environmental sustainability for the current and next generation of residents of the Green Impact Zone.

—Josh Boehm

Enhancing Education Abroad

This semester, I studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina. At La Universidad de Belgrano, I took a plethora of Spanish classes, which not only substantially improved my Spanish but also helped me establish friendships with students from all over the world.

As a prospective high school Spanish teacher, I am confident that this experience will make me a better educator. While abroad, I was immersed in Hispanic culture. My eyes were opened to the challenges, customs, and pride that characterize Latin America. I would like to teach in the Kansas City area after graduating, and I am certain that studying abroad has prepared me to be more

culturally sensitive and thus connect with the diverse populations at home in our Kansas City schools.

My time in Argentina was invaluable to me individually, academically, and professionally. The UMKC Board of Trustees played an integral role in my success abroad. It is because of the Trustee’s Scholarship and the Trustees’ interest in my education at UMKC that I was able to travel abroad and attend various cultural events. I am wholeheartedly grateful that I was granted this opportunity to have a truly life-changing four months in Argentina.

—Kate Tankel

Scholar passes on musical education

This past summer Scholar Brandon Russell developed and ran a vocal studio program in his hometown of Springfield, Mo. Russell said, “I wanted to share the musical knowledge that I have received through the Conservatory with talented students in the Springfield area.” He collaborated with the local community theatre in order to have a room to give lessons in and a stage for a recital at the end of the summer.

The program consisted of 10 weeks of intensive one-hour voice lessons ultimately ending with a studio recital where each student performed two selections they had learned. Twelve students signed up for the program. Throughout the summer they grew immensely in their musical knowledge and ability. During the recital at the conclusion of the program, Russell was extremely proud



Scholar Brandon Russell with some of his students from the summer program.

of each and every one of the students he had trained. Russell said, “Without the comprehensive training at UMKC, I don’t think I would have been as successful in my teachings of these students.”

—Brandon Russell

UNIVERSIDAD DE BELGRANO



Scholar gains real world experience

Senior Trustee Scholar, Lauren Meyer, has had an invaluable experience working on a critical-care step down unit at St. Joseph Medical Center for almost two years. Meyer will graduate in May 2012 with a major in Nursing and minors in Spanish and Business. She believes that her experience working in the nursing field will help her be a more confident, qualified job applicant. Meyer explains that she has learned much from working in the hospital environment and interacting with experienced nurses. She especially enjoys her interaction with patients. Meyer said, "It is rewarding to help those who are suffering." She finds great satisfaction when patients say, "Thank you for your help today. I feel like a human again." Meyer is grateful for the opportunities she has to encourage others through the career she feels called to pursue. After graduation, Meyer would like to work in an Intensive Care Unit or at the KU Burn Center.

—Lauren Meyer



Lauren Meyer working at St. Joseph Medical Center.

Shout Out

Derecka Purnell, class of 2012, has been accepted into the Teach For America program as a 2012 Kansas City Corps Member. She will be teaching children attending school in a low income community and ensuring they receive an excellent education despite their circumstances.

Abby Sharp, Trustee Scholar class of 2012, has been accepted into the Physical Therapy Program at Rockhurst University. Sharp is one of only 44 students accepted into the program that comprises nine semesters of coursework over three academic years.

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Inspired
Innovative
Trustees' Scholars
Dedicated
Driven
Enthusiastic
Motivated
Influential
Committed
Tenacious

Preparing for the workforce

Scholar Mary Ciseti, a senior business major, holds an internship at Global Prairie, an integrated marketing communications firm.

During the summer, she worked with six other interns. Mary works with many of the company’s clients including the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and numerous bioscience and pharmaceutical companies. Throughout the internship, Mary performs research and applies marketing techniques to her projects, learning greatly from her hands-on experience. “My favorite part of the internship is being able to contribute to my projects directly from what I am learning in my classes at Bloch,” said Mary. “This speaks highly of the education students receive at UMKC, as well as the opportunities we are presented.”

Mary’s mentors, Mr. Hugh Zimmer and Mrs. Ellen Darling, gave her recommendations and wrote letters of reference for the position



Ciseti and her Global Prairie mentor, Marie Farrell. Photo by Asher Johnson

at Global Prairie. Mary feels both the internship at Global Prairie and the opportunity to be a Trustees’ Scholar has prepared her for her future career.

—Mary Ciseti

Scholar helps rebuild New Orleans

Last spring break, Scholar Fabian Gonzalez took a grueling 14 hour car trip with the UMKC Focus organization. The group traveled to New Orleans, a city still feeling the effects of a disastrous hurricane six years ago. Their main objective was to help an Organization called Operation Nehemiah to rebuild some of the suffering areas in the city. The group traveled the streets of New Orleans when not at work, giving whatever they could to the overwhelming homeless population on the New Orleans streets. Everyone grew with what they experienced, and to most it was life changing. Fabian said, “The experience made me realize the I want to help others grow and be the best people they could be because I saw what happens when



Gonzalez and other students working in New Orleans.

everything is lost. It made me realize my mission. This experience was unique and amazing.”

—Fabian Gonzalez

2011 Incoming Freshmen Scholars



Landon Berry

Landon is a secondary history major. He was valedictorian at Lee's Summit Community Christian High School. He was the Student Government and the National Honors Society President. He played varsity soccer basketball, serving as team captain in both sports his junior and senior year. He currently officiates soccer games for local high schools in the Kansas City Metro area and will referee college games next fall. He is extremely grateful to the Trustees for the opportunity to receive his education at UMKC. He truly believes that this program is premiere among scholarship programs because of the mentoring opportunities it provides to students.



Kathleen Brueggemann

Kathleen is a dual major in accounting and communications with an emphasis in journalism. She graduated as valedictorian from Sullivan High School and was also named to the Missouri Scholars 100, distinguishing her as one of the top 100 seniors in Missouri. In high school, she served as vice president of her class, executive board member of Student Council, President of FCA, and captain of the cross country team. She had internships both at a newspaper and a CPA firm. She is excited about the opportunities the Trustees' Scholars program offers and is looking to get involved with professionals in both the accounting and journalism fields.



Ivan Figureoa

Ivan is a biology major from Rogers, Ar. In high school, he was President of Health Occupations Students of America and led committees for the Hispanic Leadership Team. He was also involved in Student Senate, National Honor Society, and Arkansas Governors School. He received academic achievement awards, such as the AP Scholar with Distinction Award. This summer, Ivan was certified as a phlebotomy technician. The best experience he can obtain from the Trustees' Scholars Program is the opportunity to intern with a facility that conducts biological research or performs medical laboratory tests to help him gain further experience in his future field.



Kyle Gruber

Kyle Gruber is from Kansas City, Mo., and graduated from the Missouri Academy of Science, Mathematics and Computing with his Associate's Degree of Science and his high school diploma in the spring of 2011. He also recently studied abroad in the United Kingdom for a week and a half. He is majoring in Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance and plans on graduating in the spring of 2013. He is incredibly grateful for the Trustees' Scholarship and especially looks forward to any type of internship in the business or finance fields to help prepare him for his future career after graduation.



Alaina Shine

In high school, Alaina played both varsity basketball and volleyball. She was named to the All-Metro volleyball team her senior year. She also taught middle school students in a program called Teens' H.O.P.E. and helped mentor freshmen through Link Crew. She was her high school's valedictorian, a member of National Honor Society and in her school's orchestra. After college, she plans on pursuing a master's degree in Genetic Counseling. Through the Trustees' Scholars Program, Alaina hopes to have opportunities to shadow professionals in the genetic counseling field.

Bailee Slack

Bailee graduated from Camdenon High School as valedictorian. She was varsity letter winner on the softball team. She recently received an Outstanding Youth award. Bailee spent much of her senior year conducting her own research project. She advanced to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles. She is a Biology Pre-med major planning to become a medical missionary in Africa, and is looking forward to job shadowing opportunities with medical professionals through the Trustees' Schlars program.

Mia Sutton

Mia played volleyball in high school, serving as co-captain her senior year. She was strongly involved in community outreach programs such as Team Sweep and Enrichment of Youth. She was the recipient of the Dr. Martin Luther King Award for Academic Excellence. She was a member of the group A.V.I.D as well as an active member of College Bound which helps inner city children succeed in college. Graduating with high honors, she has received several accolades from her graduating high school Career Academy as well as St. Louis Public Schools.



Welcome!

Scholar conducts award-winning research

Freshman Scholar Bailee Slack recently conducted her own research project, “Forensic Entomology: Using Insects from the Genus *Sarcophaga* for Cost-Effective and Efficient Cadaver Detection”. Her project involved the *Sarcophaga* insect to detect cadavers. She conducted her research at the University of Tennessee Forensic Anthropology Center. The flesh flies were more effective at locating cadavers than dogs, meaning that the flies could be used to cover more ground so more areas could be searched faster.

Bailee won her category and took third place overall in the state Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, and then advanced to the National fair where she competed as a poster presenter in San Diego. She also competed in the regional science fair and won first place overall, which allowed her to travel to Los Angeles to compete in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. From the regional fair she advanced to the Missouri Academy of Science where she took first place in poster and oral



Bailee with her mentor at one of the science fairs.

competitions and won the most original research award. Bailee said, “I fell in love with research, and hope to continue it throughout my life.”

—Bailee Slack



Scholars recently attended Crescendo, the prestigious fundraiser for the Conservatory of Music and Dance.



Some of the Scholars pictured on an outing to tour the newly opened Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.

Prestigious law fellow

This summer, Scholar Derecka Purnell was selected to attend the University of California-Berkeley’s Junior Summer Institute as a Public Policy and International Affairs (PPIA) Law Fellow. The Junior Summer Institute is an intense summer program that prepares students for graduate and law programs in public policy, international affairs, and in careers as policy professionals, leaders, and administrators. Her curriculum included economics, statistics, domestic and international policy issues, and law courses taught by the nation’s top policy researchers and law faculty. As a fellow, she received full tuition, stipend, university housing and meal plan, books, scholarships of at least \$5,000 to top graduate and law schools, LSAT and GRE preparation materials. Although Junior Summer Institutes were held at the University of Michigan, the University of Maryland, Carnegie Mellon, and Princeton University, Purnell was privileged to be a part of the 30th cohort at UC-Berkeley with 29 change agents from across the United States.

—Derecka Purnell