Martindale Student Associates Program

2014

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Martindale Student Associates Program provides an opportunity for a select group of Lehigh University students to explore global business, economic, and public policy issues outside the scope of classroom study. The Martindale Center takes each year’s class of students on a 10- to 12-day research trip for in-depth study and fact gathering. Most recently, they have visited Panama, New Zealand, Turkey, Iceland, Greece, Colombia and Slovenia.

During the following academic year, students complete their research, work one-on-one with a faculty mentor, and write up their findings in the form of professional-quality journal articles. These articles are published annually in the Martindale Center’s undergraduate research journal, Perspectives on Business and Economics. In addition to their research activities, Martindale Student Associates are full members of the Martindale Society, taking part in conferences and meeting and exchanging ideas with leaders from government, business, finance, and academia who come to the Center as visiting scholars.

APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAM

A highly competitive selection process begins in January of each year, when students from Lehigh’s three undergraduate colleges—with a grade point average of 3.4 or higher—receive notification of their eligibility. The final selection is made by a faculty panel and based on academic record, a written application, and an interview. Martindale Student Associates pay no fees for participation in the program.

www.lehigh.edu/martindale

The Martindale Society

Martindale Student Associates are remarkably loyal to the Center. In 1995, the Center established the Martindale Society composed of former Student Associates, friends, and interested Lehigh alumni who contribute time, money, and expertise to the Center. Having celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2010, the Martindale Center’s impact on the lives of over 300 individuals continues to be unique and indelible as evidenced by the strength of the Martindale Society.

Perspectives on Business and Economics

COLOMBIA: FROM CRISIS TO RENEWAL

Volume 3: 2013

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BRANDYN BOK is pursuing a dual degree in mechanical engineering and economics with a minor in aerospace engineering. He is a Dean’s List student and an academic tutor for mechanics and mathematics. Outside of academics, Brandyn works as a mentor fellow for the TRAC (technology, research, and communication) peer writing tutor program, and serves as an active member of Lehigh’s undergraduate Student Senate. During his time at Lehigh, he worked abroad as an engineering intern for DeSimone Consulting Engineers in Abu Dhabi. After graduating from Lehigh, Brandyn plans to attend graduate school to study systems engineering and ultimately to pursue a career in the aerospace industry.

ERIN LINDSEY BURTON is a bioengineering major with a minor in business. In addition to being a Dean’s List student, she is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. At Lehigh, Erin Lindsey is a peer mentor for the Office of Academic Support Services, an orientation leader for the freshmen Outdoor Adventure Program, and a member of Lehigh’s club lacrosse and field hockey teams. During the summer of 2013, she served as an intern for a medical device company and gained experience in the mechanical engineering department and the marketing sector of the company. Upon graduation Erin Lindsey plans to pursue a career in the medical device industry.

WHITNEY CHALLENGER is an accounting major and a psychology minor. As a Dean’s List student, she has been inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honor society, and Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting honor society. She is an active member of Phi Sigma Pi, a national honor fraternity for which she has served on the executive board for two years, and is a member of Lehigh’s Philharmonic Orchestra. Whitney spent the summer of 2013 studying in Ireland and assisting with economic research on the performance of local governments, and will be interning at PwC in Boston in the summer of 2014. After graduation, she is planning to continue at Lehigh for a fifth year to earn a Master’s degree in accounting and information analysis before pursuing a career in auditing.

MICHAEL GALLUCCI is pursuing a degree in chemical engineering with a minor in the Japanese language. He is a Dean’s List student and a Hess Foundation Award recipient. He has worked as a reliability engineer for Air Products, and will return in the summer as a member of the research and development department. He is currently researching reaction catalysis on activated carbon sheets, and hopes to earn his doctorate degree in chemical engineering. A 2nd degree black belt, Michael often trains in his free time, and also enjoys archery, guitar, and chess.

SHAAN GURNANI is a finance and accounting double major. Before coming to Lehigh, he worked at Updata Partners, a technology-focused growth equity firm, and at Freestream Aircraft, a business jet broker. In the summer of 2013, he interned at Gracie Asset Management, Moelis & Company’s credit hedge fund in New York City. At Lehigh, Shaan is a Dean’s List student and a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He serves as president of the Investment Management Group, a $100,000 equity portfolio, and is a Portfolio Manager of the Thompson International Portfolio, a $40,000 foreign ETF portfolio. Shaan is a graduate of Lehigh Silicon Valley2014, an immersive program in entrepreneurship and venture capital, and currently serves as assistant treasurer of Lehigh’s Student Senate.

KATHRYN KUNDROD is pursuing a degree in bioengineering with a minor in health, medicine, and society. A Dean’s List student, she plans to apply her bioengineering background to the field of public health. She works in the Lab of Micro- and Nanotechnology for Diagnostics and Biology at Lehigh where the goal is to create a novel HIV diagnostic device for global public health. She is a member of the Rossin Junior Fellows, the mentor group for first-year and prospective engineering students, a mentor for CHOICES, a program for young girls interested in engineering, and a peer tutor in mechanics and physics. After studying literature in Argentina for a semester, she plans to continue studying the humanities after graduation to complement her background in engineering.

HALEY ROBINSON is pursuing a double major in psychology and music with a concentration in theory and composition. She is a Dean’s List student and a peer mentor for the Office of Academic Support. Haley is also a member of Psi Chi (the international honor society in psychology), the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and the National Society of Leadership and Success. Haley is an oboist in the LU Wind Ensemble and the Lehigh Philharmonic Orchestra, for which she serves as internal vice president. She also serves as a psychology lab research assistant. For the latter half of summer 2014, she has accepted an internship at the University of Wisconsin at Madison to perform clinical psychology research. After graduating, Haley plans to pursue a graduate degree in clinical psychology to further enhance her psychology research and practical experience.

TYLER SLOAN is pursuing separate degrees in finance and chemical engineering within the Integrated Business and Engineering (IBE) honors program. A Dean’s List student, Tyler serves as treasurer of Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and participates in the student-run Thompson International Portfolio.

He is captain of Lehigh’s club squash team and is active in his fraternity,
Delta Upsilon, for which he serves as vice president of finance. He spent the summer of 2013 in Ireland researching the financial stability of local government authorities. Upon graduation, he plans to pursue a career in the financial services industry.

JAVON TAI is an accounting major and political science minor. He is a Dean’s List student, an orientation leader, and serves as president of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) chapter at Lehigh. Over the past several years, Javon has served as a summer intern within the financial services and accounting industries, and has spent time studying in Shanghai, China. He is passionate about business and social impact, and aspires to be a healthcare management consultant.

Outside of his academic work, Javon enjoys giving back to the community. He has attended a number of service trips while at Lehigh, and keenly pursues the many opportunities offered by the Community Service Office.

JADE VAN STREEPEN is pursuing a degree in environmental engineering with a minor in psychology. She is a Dean’s List student and the treasurer of Lehigh’s chapter of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (AAEES). Jade is a Student Athlete Mentor (SAM), and a member of the Lehigh Athletics Leadership Academy. Captain of the varsity volleyball team, Jade was named to the Second Team All-Patriot League, and Academic All-Patriot League teams following her season as a junior. She has served as a student-athlete ambassador with the Lehigh University volleyball team in Beijing, Nanjing, and Shanghai, China. Jade plans to attend graduate school at Lehigh to complete an MBA with a concentration in either civil or manufacturing systems engineering. Upon completion of her graduate degree, she plans to pursue a career as a chief sustainability officer.

CATHY WITHERS is completing a dual degree in earth and environmental science and economics and will be pursuing a Master’s degree in economics in 2015. While at Lehigh, she has served as a committee chair of the Student Senate, volunteered as a tutor for peers and inmates at a local prison, and spent a semester studying in New Zealand. Cathy is currently in the process of submitting a senior honors thesis investigating how climate-change-induced increases in rainfall will contribute to increases in local flooding, and has been inducted into Sigma Xi – The Scientific Research Society – for her work. In her free time she is an active member of a gym, and enjoys cooking and outdoor pursuits. After graduation, she aspires to work in the field of environmental economics.
I owe a great deal of my personal and professional success to my participation in the Martindale program. As a student, I was exposed to new ideas and concepts that extended beyond the normal academic curriculum and broadened my thinking. In the process, I also developed deeper relationships with my professors, other students, and alumni that have continued to flourish to this day. Looking back, my involvement as a Student Associate was the highlight of my Lehigh experience.

Sarat Sethi ’92, CFA
Student Associate, Czechoslovakia Trip
President, The Martindale Society
Vice Chairman, CBE Board of Advisors
Harvard University Business School, MBA, ’97
Principal, Portfolio Manager/Equity Analyst,
Douglas C. Lane & Associates

From its inception, the Martindale Center has engaged students, faculty, and alumni in global economic issues. In pursuing this mission, it has become a model for the experience-based learning that is a hallmark of a Lehigh education. We are proud to say that our university “blends the theoretical with the practical” to provide our students with “an integrated learning experience.” To see these words put into action on a daily basis, you need look no further than the Martindale Center and its Student Associates Program.

Dr. Alice P. Gast
President, Lehigh University

The Martindale Student Associates Program, one of Lehigh’s premiere undergraduate research programs, is a superb recruiting tool for attracting an increasingly talented group of students. My only regret is that Lehigh didn’t have this program when I was a student.

James R. Tanenbaum ’70, ’71 BF
Lehigh University Board of Trustees