

Heather Craig graduated from Wesleyan University in 2005. A native of Anchorage, Alaska, Heather, together with her sister Hanna, invented an ice-rescue robot which won second place in the Siemens Westinghouse Science and Technology Competition in 2001. She loves traveling and spending time with her sisters and devotes much of her energy to making photographs.

Timothy Frost returned to Thailand in the summer of 2006 to continue research on Thailand's Royal Development Projects. He graduated with high honors from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) with a B.S. in Computer Science and International Studies in October 2006.

Lauren Gray graduated with High Distinction from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in May 2006 with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, a concentration in Materials Science and Engineering, and a minor in Management. She currently works for Pratt & Whitney as a Materials/Structural Engineer, and will begin a Master of Engineering in Materials Science and Metallurgy at the University of Connecticut in January 2007.

Paul Houlihan was appointed President of The School for Field Studies (SFS) in 2001. As President, he has sought to strengthen and expand SFS's academic and research programs, recruit in-country professionals to fill center director and faculty roles at its five centers, and deepen and extend the cooperative relationships between SFS and the communities in which SFS centers are located. He has led the creation and implementation of the SFS five-year research program model, the two-country program models, and most recently the public health and environment program initiative in Kenya for graduate and undergraduate students. Paul has also served on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts where he taught courses on social and economic policy, and was instrumental in initiating the University of Massachusetts Gerontology Institute.

Emily Kanstroom graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Brown University with a B.A. in International Relations and French Civilization in 2005. She spent the next year teaching primary school English and interning at the Fédération Internationale des Droits de l'Homme (International Federation on Human Rights). She plans to begin law school in the US in 2007 and continue to work in international humanitarian law and human rights.

Contributors

John Lake received his B.S. in Manufacturing Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 2006. He is currently working for BURLE Electro Optics, Inc in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, with plans to continue his education in the near future.

Megan McNaught is currently finishing her final year at the University of California, Los Angeles and will be graduating with a B.S. in Biology. For post-grad plans, she is investigating a variety of programs in East Africa that focus on a range of issues such as wildlife conservation, HIV/AIDS, and refugee relief.

Lindsey Moore graduated from Trinity College in 2006. After graduation she was sponsored by United Students for Fair Trade to research Fair Trade coffee, and traveled to the coffee fields in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Lindsey now continues her commitment to Fair Trade by working for the only 100% Fair Trade tea company in the US, based in New York City.

Jessica Roy graduated with high honors from Worcester Polytechnic Institute with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, a concentration in Aerospace, and a minor in Writing and Rhetoric. She is currently working at jet engine manufacturer Pratt and Whitney as an aerothermal engineer and is pursuing a Masters in Business Administration part-time at the University of Connecticut.

Colin Smith graduated from Brigham Young University and joined Teach for America. He plans to return to graduate school to fulfill his vision of starting a school in the area of South Africa where he studied as an undergraduate.

This, our second in a series of Special Issues highlighting undergraduate research abroad, continues a fruitful collaboration between *Frontiers* and the Forum on Education Abroad. Our purpose is to publish what we believe are some of the very best examples of study abroad learning. Our shared hope is that students, faculty, and education abroad professionals will find inspiration in these pages and consider ways that they might incorporate research into study abroad programming.

The selection of the papers for this volume began with the Forum's Undergraduate Research Award. The two winners of the award were Emily Kanstrom and Colin Smith, and they were invited to submit their papers to *Frontiers* for consideration. An additional 12 students who were ranked highly by the selection committee were also asked to submit their papers to *Frontiers*. The *Frontiers* editorial board recommended those included in this volume for publication.

This volume includes impressive articles that reflect the variety of learning experiences in which our students abroad are engaged. The research paradigm is a powerful one for engaging students actively in a host culture and society. The students represented in this volume utilized a wide range of interpersonal, intercultural and analytical skills to carry out their research, and in the process it is clear that they learned a tremendous amount about their topics, the host nationals with whom they lived, and about themselves. What comes through in reading these papers is the way in which study abroad can be a process of maturation during which students discover confidence in themselves as learners.

Readers will recall that in our first Special Issue we asked on-campus faculty advisors to write about the importance of the students' research within the context of the home campus curriculum and the students' academic major. For this volume we wanted to take a different approach and ask on-site directors and faculty familiar with the students' work to write about the research from their perspective. These reflections appear after each student article, and together they help us to understand the framework for each student's research.

We are committed to tracing the outcomes of these students' learning by asking previous student authors to provide updates about their lives and how their experience abroad continues to impact them. As we might have predicted, these students have continued to engage the world in very interesting and valuable ways. We hope that you enjoy these updates and the ones that will appear in future volumes.

Special thanks to Lee Miller of Sam Houston State University who coordinated the Undergraduate Research Awards and the mentoring of the students who presented at the 2005 Forum conference. Lee worked with the selection