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Lindner Honors-PLUS Newsletter

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*University of Cincinnati
College of Business*

Individual Highlights:

Chile	2
Chile, cont.	3
Items of Interest	4
Items of Int. cont	5
Alumni Corner	5
Birthdays	5

Greetings From The Director

Hi Everyone –

The halls seem empty around here! All of our students are working full-time this summer, with the exception of the pre-juniors. They are here in classes preparing for their International Trip to Europe, so even they will be gone come August. This year's trip will visit Paris, Finland, Amsterdam and Geneva, and I know the students are very excited and in for a marvelous time. Raj Mehta and Norm Baker will be accompanying the students, with Susan Sadlier and I also joining them for parts of the trip. I am always overwhelmed by the amount of effort that goes into planning these trips (Thanks Raj and Susan!), but they are truly life-changing experiences for many of the students. This year's class will leave the beginning of August and return the beginning of September, although I think many of the students are staying an extra week or so and traveling on their own before returning home. It should be fun!

We're also heavily into preparations for welcoming our new freshman class! They will be here at UC for a reception and orientation July 9 -11, and we also have a lunch/football game planned for September, right before school starts, for the students and their parents. This year's entering class is outstanding academically, with the highest average SAT score ever, and is also strong in terms of extra-curricular involvement. Every year I think we've recruited the best class ever, until I look at the tremendous accomplishments of our current classes and graduates. Then I realize that they are all phenomenal, and feel a new appreciation and respect for our students and all they are doing. From my perspective, it looks like our future is in good hands!

The Community Press newspapers (you know, the neighborhood papers tailored to different parts of town) are running an

article on Lindner Honors-PLUS in their August 8th edition (last we heard). You'll have to be sure to take a look at it. They've customized the article to spotlight students from the different areas of town that their papers serve. I personally can't wait to see the finished product.

Graduation was a great celebration, yet bittersweet too. Congratulations to all of our June graduates! We wish you the very best, and hope that you'll keep in touch. Have a great summer!

Jeri Ricketts

News From Chile

by: Julie Gast



"I would definitely encourage other students to have an experience like this."

The University of Cincinnati promotes a broad spectrum of global programs for their students. One of the most intensive and long-term is the International Co-op Program (ICP) with the Global Studies Office. Students enrolled in this program must complete many requirements before they travel abroad, including four classes and seven weeks of intensive study. Although this can be a very rigorous schedule in addition to regular coursework, it does a very good job of preparing for the work experience. The ICP office finds jobs for the students for six-month co-ops.

I went through this process and am currently a business student living and working in Santiago, Chile, along with three UC engineering students. I have been here for three months now, and it is consistently interesting. Santiago, the capital of Chile, has a population of 5 million people, two-thirds of the country's total population; it has been the lone city in South America for foreign investors. That is not because of its location, which is not ideal because of the Andes mountains on one side and the ocean on the other, but because in recent years Chile has had the only stable economy in South America. On June 6, 2003, the United States and Chile signed a free trade agreement allowing for easier goods trade and reciprocal investment possibilities for the two countries. South America has never been thought of as a huge international player and has been ignored in the past for more promising prospects in Europe and Asia. This free trade agreement signals the beginning of a new era for South America. Companies are moving here to set up operations and establish their presence and with future plans to spread across South America when the economic climate improves.



Julie, riverside in Vina

This free trade agreement just demonstrates how the global market is constantly expanding and changing. Generations to come will truly be multi-national, which in turn places more emphasis on the need to have a multi-national educational experience. Classrooms across the U.S. are attempting to incorporate global learning through the use of distance learning mechanisms, such as satellite discussions between students of different countries. I feel the best way for a student to truly understand this changing nature of business is to be immersed in another culture.

Chile's present pension system was established in the 1980's. It has now been in effect for about 15 years, so there is no guarantee that it works; people involved in the system have not yet begun to retire. But the system is theoretically supposed to be good; in fact other South American countries as well as Russia are adopting similar systems. The company I work for here is directly involved with this system.

I am employed by AFP Cuprum, a privatized retirement fund investment firm. An IRA in the U.S. is the closest comparison in our system. Every Chilean has one and it is the only retirement plan they have. They have a mandatory 10% deducted from their paychecks before taxes are taken out. This 10% goes to be invested by the AFP of their choice (there are about six of them) and remains invested until the age of retirement, 64 for men and 60 for women. This fund builds throughout their working careers, with the goal of maintaining their standard of living throughout

retirement. There are five different funds in which they can choose to invest, each one with a different level of risk. Younger people typically invest more money in the riskier funds and as they get older, they move it to the less risky funds.

I had originally thought that the hours of work in Chile were shorter than in the U.S. Was I wrong! The typical workday consists of ten hours of work with only 45 minutes for lunch. I was talking with one of my co-workers about this and he said, jokingly, that in Chile they have to work more hours because they talk too much during the day! Everybody takes lunch at the same time, 1:45, which is very late for me and took some getting used to.

My job is located downtown and I commute using the Metro every day. Santiago does not have an extensive subway system but they are proud of what they have and it is very clean and efficient. They are currently working on expanding its area of coverage. The other main form of public transportation is a system of buses, called micros. Basically anybody who owns a bus can have a route. The bus system is entirely made up of independent workers. These buses crowd the streets of Santiago and are a major part of the smog problem. Santiago is located in a sort of depression in the ground with mountains all around which trap the smog. It is somewhat similar to Mexico City, although not as bad. There are rotating restrictions in place each day on cars that do not have catalytic converters.

I live with a host family in an area of town called Las Condes. Here the smog is not

Chile, cont.



“On the weekends, the other UC students and I make good use of our time traveling.....”

as bad as in other parts of town, but there are still days when you are unable to see the mountains that surround the city. This is a middle-class to upper-class area and, compared to the rest of Santiago, probably the most similar to the U.S. There are three malls with many stores, fast-food restaurants, and multi-screen theatres. The late-night scene here is interesting as well. The hours of going out are a lot different than in Cincinnati. In Cincinnati you usually go to the bars at 10 or 11 and when they close at 2, you go home. Well, in Chile, you usually go out at 12 or 1 and the bars close at 5 (and then reopen at 6). I get very tired because I am not used to this late schedule!

My host family consists of Macarena, my host-mom, and her son. There is also a live-in employee. Macarena's son is over 30 years old and still lives at home. Although this may seem odd to a lot of North Americans, it is the norm in Chile. They find it strange that I live so far away from my parents when I am in school and the two questions I always get are, 'Don't you miss your parents?' and, 'Isn't it expensive?' I have my own room here and all of my meals are prepared for me. It has been a long time since I have had such a steady stream of balanced meals!

Chile, probably because it is a very religious country, does not have any divorce laws. However, there are many, many people who live separately from each other. If someone wants to marry someone else, they can't. So they just live together. I think I have met more adults who are separated than still living with their legal spouses.

On the weekends, the other UC students and I make good use of our time traveling everywhere we can. It can be hard and frustrating sometimes to try to go everywhere we want to because we only have the two days of the weekend. However, when there is a Chilean holiday, which gives us a three-day weekend, we take advantage and try to go as far away as we can. Chile has a large ecotourism industry, but most of their attractions are outside the city. And although the cities have some old structures, many have been lost in earthquakes. But Chile's natural habitat is gorgeous! In one day you can travel from the ocean into the midst of the Andes Mountains. We have been to the beach, climbed an active, snow-covered volcano, gone backpacking, enjoyed thermal pools, and seen several other cities. The ski season is starting up this month so we are getting ready to hit the slopes on the weekends. It is extremely odd to us to spend July and August, summer months in the U.S., skiing in the winter in South America!

I've also found that certain sensory experiences play tricks with my mind – not too long ago I was scuffling through dry leaves, breathing crisp, cool air and I felt as though Halloween should be coming soon!

September, when we finish our jobs, will bring springtime. We will have a week available before we must return to Cincinnati for fall quarter, and have made plans to travel to Peru and hike to see Machu Picchu, a 15th century Incan retreat high in the Peruvian Andes. To get there we will hike for four days along the Inca trail, one that the Incas used many years ago. It is

supposed to be an amazing place so I am really excited to get the chance to see that before I head home.

Before I came to Chile, I had some reservations about the length of time for the co-op; six months is quite a long time for me to be away, but time has flown by. I have become so busy with my daily routine and weekend excursions that time just passes without my even noticing. Reading the newspapers here also has given me a much different perspective about the events in the world. In the U.S. nothing much is ever said about South America, but they are sure interested in us. Learning about political situations in bordering countries and what uprisings are happening where, is also something very interesting that we are learning about.

Going abroad has not only helped me to learn about another culture and the way of life here, but also has helped me to learn a lot about myself. Being displaced outside of my natural element has forced me to deal with a new set of experiences every day, and I am constantly challenged in many different ways. Although it can be hard sometimes living away from everything that is familiar as well as your friends and family, I would definitely encourage other students to have an experience like this. If you have the chance, don't turn it down! I have made a website where I am posting all my pictures from Chile. If you would like to check it out, it is at www.juliegast.net.



Julie and her co-workers in Chile.

Items of Interest

Lindner Honors-PLUS Welcomes Its Seventh Class!

Congratulations to the seventh freshman Lindner Honors-PLUS class entering Autumn 2003. As we start orientation sessions, we are excited to welcome:

Abigail Alford	Oldenburg Academy
Tyler Bertke	Troy High School
Allison Burns	Seton High School
Danielle Day	Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy
Kyle Dearduff	Archbishop McNicholas High School
Anthony DeBlasio	St. Xavier High School
Krista Detmer	Loveland High School
Tyler Drake	Marysville High School
Chris Frericks	St. Xavier High School
Sarah Harvey	Taylor High School
Donald Hunter, Jr.	Marysville High School
LaVandez Jones	Walnut Hills High School
Taylor Lawson	Oak Hills High School
Jamie Lindemann	Seton High School
Brian Macke	St. Xavier High School
Sarah Madrigal	Bluffton High School
Jaime Meyer	Seton High School
Brian Meyers	Elder High School
Aaron Schmidt	Westerville South High School
Jennifer Schuster	Colerain High School
Carly Weiler	Ashland High School
Kristin Welch	Seton High School
Stanley Wells, Jr.	Walnut Hills High School

Fall Quarter, Reminder

As of July 7th, you will be able to view your fall schedule on-line at www.onestop.com. You can also go into the system and register now for fall quarter if you did not do it during priority registration in the spring quarter.

Also, for those of you who did not register during priority, don't forget to take care of your parking needs while you register.

One other reminder, if you don't want health insurance, please remember to waive it when you register. Once it appears on your bill, you can not get out of paying for it whether you want it or not.

Scholarship Amount for '03-04 Classes Announced

The '03-'04 Lindner Honors-PLUS Scholarship amount has been adjusted to reflect the tuition and fee increases recently announced by the University of Cincinnati.

Prior to applying any adjustments per Lindner Honors-PLUS Scholarship and program guidelines, the quarterly scholarship will be \$2,587 for Ohio residents and \$8,568 for non-Ohio residents.

Please note, all freshmen scholars receive the sum of the Lindner Honors-PLUS scholarship and their respective CINCINNATUS scholarship. All non-freshmen scholars Honors-PLUS scholarship amount will supplement the CINCINNATUS up to the new H+ scholarship amount.

Scholarships will be processed no later than August 15, 2003. If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Scott Gregory (556-7037 or scott.Gregory@uc.edu)

Important Email Notice:

If you have not already done so, please get a Bearcat on-line email account *now*. You may do this by going to: email.uc.edu on the web. We need for every Lindner Honors-PLUS student to have a bearcat account. When you set this up, you can have it forwarded to any account that you wish. Once you have done this, please notify Donna Fisher at donna.fisher@uc.edu of your new address. We are having a terrible time getting through to hotmail accounts, and various others. ***This is a requirement that all students must follow through with.*** It is then your responsibility to go in and change the address you forward it to whenever you change email addresses. *Also, remember that you must notify us of the email address as we do not automatically get notified by the system that you have completed the bearcat on-line account.

Items of Interest, cont.

Ashley Cannon (Pre-Jr), was recently inducted into the "Golden Key International Honor Society". She was also inducted into "Beta Gamma Sigma", the Business Honorary Fraternity, and received recognition for having the highest GPA in her incoming class.

Zach Osborne - I have a personal retraction from the last newsletter. I reported that Zach had won *the "UC Just Community Award"*, and this was incorrect. (I think it is the ONLY award he didn't receive!)

Make sure to take the time to let me know what is going on of interest in your life!

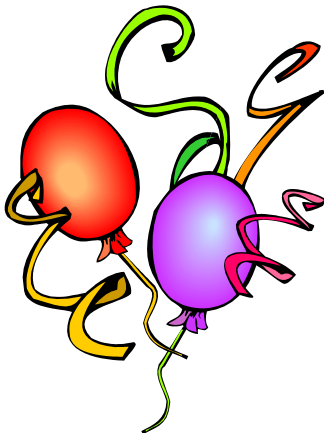
Fall Quarter Registration Opens July 7 - Online registration for Fall Quarter begins July 7th and runs through September 30th.

Alumni Corner

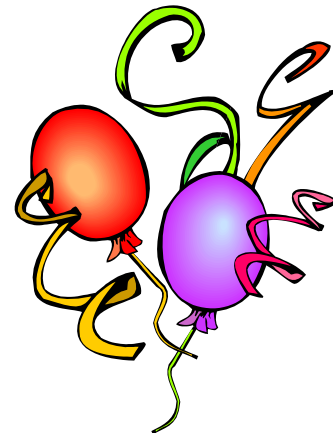
I received an update from **Tim Schatz**, a 2001 Lindner Honors-PLUS graduate. He has been working for Federated Department Stores in their corporate headquarters in Cincinnati for almost 2 years. For the last six months, he has been working as a Financial Analyst in their Financial Planning Department, where his responsibilities included working with their Department Store divisions to set Seasonal and Annual Sales and Expense targets. Also, he has done a lot of work analyzing the profitability and sales trends of each of their Families of Business (Women's Sportswear, Fine Jewelry, Housewares, etc.) Prior to that he worked in their Capital Planning Department where he estimated the return on investment for proposed new stores, remodels and expansions.

Even though he has enjoyed his experiences at Federated, he has decided to return to business school at the University of Michigan. He and his wife, Sarah, will be moving to Ann Arbor in August. He will definitely miss his friends and family in Cincinnati, not to mention UC hoops games, but is looking forward to new challenges and experiences.

July Birthdays



Jeri Ricketts	July 4
Greg McElfresh	July 9
Emily Piening	July 13
Donna Fisher	July 17
Nicole Meyer	July 18
Shenè Edwards	July 18
Charles Kishman	July 22
Jessica Young	July 25



Congratulations!