

Editor: Donna Fisher

University of Cincinnati
College of Business



Special Interest Articles:

- *“When I entered the program, June of 2006 seemed to be decades away; now, looking back, it feels like September of 2001 was just yesterday....”*

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From The Director

Hi Everyone,

I look forward to this weekend all year: graduation. Today was our senior luncheon on board BB Riverboats. All of this year’s graduates attended, and most were accompanied by their parents, family and other loved ones. We ask each graduate to recount their favorite memory in the program, and not surprisingly, the stories are hilarious. They also remind me how close the classes become over the 5 years at UC, and I hope that each class stays in touch with each other after graduation, and that they stay in touch with us!

This year’s seniors garnered many honors and awards, and you will see them listed later in the newsletter in their entirety. From a programmatic standpoint, I’m proud that our graduates captured the fourth consecutive Mr. Bearcat Award (Jay Hummel, 2003; Kyle Neumann, 2004; Justin Shafer, 2005; Matt Mezinskis, 2006), and it was the fourth year in a row that we have had winners of the

Presidential Leadership Medal of Excellence (Jay Hummel, 2003; Rob Reinerman, 2004; Justin Shafer, 2005; Jessica Kinnemeyer and Ben Hines, 2006).

I’ve said it before, but for having 25 or 30 Lindner Honors-PLUS graduates out of the 4,000 total graduating seniors university-wide, I think it speaks volumes about the caliber of students in our program. I am so proud of each and every graduate, and I could point out something extraordinary about each one – not just these – and it is my privilege to have gotten to know them. By the way, this celebration was funded by the Lindner Honors-PLUS parent fund, and I want to give a special thank you to all of the parents who make these events and other opportunities possible.

Speaking of the parent’s fund, it also helped fund some activities that were part of our international trip this year. The trip (pre-juniors) actually wound up today in Amsterdam. I can’t wait to see pictures! Many of the students are staying to travel for another 2 weeks, and I’m

sure they will have great stories when they return.

Next month brings orientation and the Coldstream party for incoming freshmen. Our sophomores and juniors will be back on campus this summer, and pre-juniors will try to focus on their co-op jobs after returning from Europe. It’s shaping up to be a great summer, and I hope it will be wonderful for all of you too!

Jeri Ricketts

Graduating Class of 2006

by: Donna Fisher



Lindner Honors-PLUS Graduating Class of 2006

Adhruca Apana – graduated *Cum Laude*; Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Jessica Bauer – Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Christy Benken – Outstanding COB PRISM student of the year and Honors Scholar

Brent Cengia – *Summa Cum Laude* and Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Philip DiCiero – Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Ashley (Dugan) McFarland – Honors-Scholar

Shene' Edwards – Lower Division Honors Scholar

Adam Eling – *Cum Laude*; Leadership Certificate; Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Natalie Eshman – Honors Scholar

Brock Fortman – *Cum Laude*; Honors Scholar

Sandra Galvin – *Cum Laude*; Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Anna Godby – *Summa Cum Laude*; Outstanding Marketing Student; Outstanding Marketing Co-Op Student; Delta Sigma Pi Leadership Key; C-Ring Award Finalist/PLME Nominee; Outstanding CoB Student of the Year; Leadership Certificate; Honors Scholar

Adam Hildebrand – *Summa Cum Laude*; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Benjamin Hines – *Cum Laude*; Presidential Leadership Medal of Excellence; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Jessica Kinnemeyer – *Summa Cum Laude*; Presidential Leadership Medal of Excellence; CoB Spirit of Community Award; Outstanding OM Student; C-Ring Finalist; Delta Sigma Pi Scholarship Key; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Charles Kishman – *Summa Cum Laude*; Lower –Division Honors Scholar

Matthew Lashway – Honors Scholar

Andrew Laskey – *Magna Cum Laude*; Honors Scholar

Matthew Mezynskis – *Magna Cum Laude*; Distinguished Honors Scholar; UC's Mr. Bearcat Award

Grant Miller – *Magna Cum Laude*; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Ryann Noble – Honors Scholar

Joshua Rowley – *Cum Laude*; Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Sebastian Schultz – Honors Scholar

Jessica Sharts – *Cum Laude*; Honors Scholar

Brent Sterling – Honors Scholar

Christina Wagner – *Summa Cum Laude*; Outstanding Student in International Business; Finalist for Outstanding CoB Student; Lower-Division Honors Scholar

Matthew Zavodsky – *Magna Cum Laude*; Honors Scholar

Graduating Class of 2006, cont

by: Donna Fisher

I asked our graduates if they had any parting words to share in the newsletter:

"My college experience has been the best time of my life so far and I think it can only get better from here. I have to contribute most; if not all, of that to Lindner Honors-PLUS. I love all of you and I am so thankful that I was able to be part of this program and that all of you have been a part of my life."

Ryann Noble

"When I look back over the past 5 years, I can't believe how incredibly lucky I have been. Because of this program, I have had the opportunity to travel abroad and study with some of the brightest upcoming minds in business. Most of all, I am grateful for the opportunity that I have had to really discover my true self in terms of beliefs, career goals, but more importantly how very necessary it is to be not only satisfied with your profession but with your life as well. We have the ability to do great things, the only limitation we have is ourselves. Thank you to the program and my classmates for an amazing 5 years." **Jessica Sharts**

"Lindner Honors-PLUS and the support each person in the college has given to me allowed me to travel to Europe, Mexico and Canada while in college. It is an amazing program and looking back, it's neat to see everything that I've done and learned through this program" **Ashley (Dugan) McFarland**

"When I entered the program, June of 2006 seemed to be decades away; now, looking back, it feels like September of 2001 was just yesterday. Time flies when you are having fun, right? I will always be grateful to Lindner Honors-PLUS for providing me with the tools and support to take advantage of opportunities and adventures that have come my way the past five years. I wish the best to students in our other classes

and know that they have some great experiences ahead. Congratulations Class of 2006!!" **Christy Benken**

"Being a part of the Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS program has enriched my college experience more than I could have ever imagined. I feel very blessed and fortunate for the opportunities I have had over the past five years. I was able to co-op with one of the most respected companies in Cincinnati, American Financial Group, and will continue there after graduation. I have been immersed in different cultures through studying abroad twice, and visited over fifteen European countries. Through my involvement on campus, I met so many people who challenged me and helped me learn more about myself. When I think back to freshman year, I am amazed at how much I have grown as an individual. I definitely owe credit to Lindner Honors-PLUS for contributing to my accomplishments by helping me develop my strengths and character." **Christina Wagner**

"As I look back over the past 5 years, I have to say that deciding to attend college at UC and with Lindner Honors-PLUS was the best decision I have made thus far. My college experience has been more than I could have expected – highlights include: our Europe trip, some of the amazing business leaders we have had the opportunity to interact with, co-op and my classmates. I believe that the most unique trait of Lindner Honors-PLUS is the connections we make with each other in our class and other classes. I have gained so much from older classes and hopefully my class has passed along the same to younger students. I will greatly miss the support from all my classmates but hope that as we each go our separate ways, we continue to stay in contact. I'm looking forward to the future but know that my experiences at

UC have prepared me for those successes." **Anna Godby**

"I am deeply grateful for the opportunities Lindner Honors-PLUS has afforded me. My education was enhanced by the challenging coursework, international study abroad experience, and being able to learn from fellow Lindner Honors-PLUS classmates. Words can not fully express the gratitude I have for obtaining such a remarkable education, life-long friendships, and priceless memories." **Jessica Kinnemeyer**

"I think we've all truly realized that Lindner Honors-PLUS is more than just an incredible collegiate program for students, staff, employers, and the community....we're seeing life-changing impact that is spreading like a wildfire....and you know why? It's the people. Vision of leadership, steadfastness of program staff, ambition of students, and dedication of faculty....everyone involved is striving for excellence....and I'm not being sarcastic when I say we're all changing the world." **Ben Hines**

"The Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS program is the single reason that I attended UC; the incredible experiences that the program created for me are the countless reasons that I will continue to be involved and give back to the University for the rest of my life." **Grant Miller**

"Lindner Honors-PLUS provides students with a program that is unparalleled by most undergraduate programs. The unique combination of experienced faculty, world class cooperative education, and international experience sets this program apart. I do not feel I could have received a better education." **Andrew Laskey**

Graduating Class of 2006, cont.

By: Donna Fisher

“The Lindner Honors-PLUS program not only gave me the chance to learn about business from various college courses, but being able to meet and talk with leaders of companies around the world has been tremendous. Going to Europe was definitely one of the highlights of the program. And all the seminars that challenge us to think about the difficult situations we will face in the business world have great effects. I feel so much more prepared going to work in the ever-growing global community.” **Matthew Lashway**

“Lindner Honors-PLUS has been one of the best experiences of my life. I am looking forward to entering the business world but the future graduates should enjoy their time at UC while it lasts.”

Matt Zavodsky

“Lindner Honors-PLUS has been a great opportunity for me to grow as a person and as a student. I am very grateful for the opportunities that have been awarded to me through the program. This program gave me my first trip on an airplane, through our trip to Europe and it is one of my favorite memories of college. Thanks, to all of the Lindner Honors-PLUS Directors, Administrators, and Supporters. I'll leave with one of my favorite quotes: ‘If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain.’ Maya Angelou.

Shene' Edwards

“We all know that having a lot to do can be frustrating so just remember that worrying is like a rocking chair; it gives you something to do but it doesn't get you anywhere.” **Brent Sterling**

“Don't let others influence your actions. Do what you WANT to do,

not what you THINK you should do.”
The Great Philosopher, **Josh Rowley**

“I started the Lindner Honors-PLUS program a follower, self-conscious, and without strong people skills; I leave the program an articulate extrovert, having led numerous campus organizations, and confident in my abilities to excel and take risks in order to succeed. When I left high school I wasn't sure how many people I would stay in touch with; Lindner Honors- PLUS gave me the closest friends that I have and ones I will keep forever (BFFs). I feel proud and privileged to have been taught and mentored by such elite faculty and staff. **Adam Hildebrand**

“Failure is an opportunity to begin again more intelligently – Henry Ford.”

Phil DiCiero

“The Lindner Honors-PLUS program has been a special part of my college life. I can not put a dollar amount on the opportunities and benefits offered to my classmates and myself. The program challenged me to grow, and I have met some of my closest friends in life through Lindner Honors-PLUS. Thank you to the faculty, staff, and my parents for your support; hopefully I can give back to the program in the future as much as it has given me.”

Matt Mezinskis

“Transferring into the Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS program after my first year of university was my greatest accomplishment while at UC. The level of care and involvement that the Honors-PLUS faculty and staff show their students is simply unparalleled. For this reason, I am better equipped to face future challenges in my life...whether they are business related or otherwise. The success of this program lies in its holistic approach

of teaching and fostering development. Honors-PLUS does not just address the issue of intellect, but rather, how to make us better people through providing us with life-changing experiences. As a result of the Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS program, I am a better person today.” **Sebastien Schultz**

“My experience with Lindner Honors-PLUS has surpassed all of my expectations. It was the only reason why I applied to UC, and I was really reticent to stay in Cincinnati, but through Honors-PLUS and UC I've been able to travel throughout Europe and South America, work for a major global company in Chicago, and interact with some of the most talented and successful people I could ever hope to meet. I might have been able to experience a couple of these things at another college, but I really believe that only through Lindner Honors-PLUS could I have been afforded all of these opportunities. It has been a phenomenal experience that I will never forget.” **Adam Eling**

“I would not be where I am today without the help of Lindner Honors-PLUS. I had trouble at first understanding how a group of exceptional leaders and brilliant students could get along so well, but my experiences over the five years on four continents, working three major firms, have made me proud to graduate with our class... I have professional relationships and personal friendships that promise to stay with me for the rest of my life, and I will be forever thankful to have found this gem in UC.” **Brock Fortman**

“I came to college hoping to get a quality education, now five years later I am graduating and its time to evaluate whether I received that quality education that I came to UC searching for. It is fair to say that the (cont)

Graduating Class of 2006, cont

by: Donna Fisher

expectations I had back when I started college of a "quality education" were fairly inconsistent with the college experience I have experienced with the Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS program. This is because my college experience has redefined my definition of "quality". I graduate from the Lindner Honors-PLUS program with a family of peers and advisors who have seen me through five years of growth by achievements and failures; I graduate with five years of experiences full of adventure, laughter, late nights, and stories that are precious documented solely in my memory and the memories of the 25 individuals that experienced them with me; finally I graduate with a degree in marketing and a focus in international studies. This degree, however, is by no means a representation of my education. That's because the Lindner Honors-PLUS program has given me far more than an education in my chosen major, the program has given me an education that can best be summed up as an education in life. Congrats to the Class of 2006! You will all be with me always!" **Adhruca Apana**

"The Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS program has provided me with countless opportunities that I would not otherwise have had. The trip to Europe, seminars, and co-op programs have all given me knowledge that will allow me to achieve my long-term career goals." **Charlie Kishman**

"As I think back on the past 5 years, I realize how truly blessed I am to have been a part of the Lindner Honors-PLUS Program. The support that I have received from my professors, advisors, and classmates has helped me a lot. I have many amazing memories from our Europe trip and the days of

living on the 4th floor of Daniels Hall. I am proud to have been a part of such a wonderful program." **Natalie Eshman**

"My experience here at the University of Cincinnati has been more than I ever expected. Right from the beginning, Lindner Honors-PLUS established a foundation of strong academics, value for service and leadership, and especially a core network of students, faculty and mentors. Much of my college success has been a product of this solid foundation and led to opportunities that I never would have imagined. I leave here with great friends, incredible memories and most importantly, the confidence that I will be successful in any endeavor – Thank you to everyone for making these years so wonderful!" **Sandy Galvin**



(l to r front row: Anna Godby, Jessica Kinnemeyer, Christina Wagner, Philip DiCiero

l to r back row: Adam Hildebrand, Matt Mezinskis, Matt Zavodsky)

International Trip, Spring 2006, cont from May

by: Jennifer Schuster

Hi Everyone! (5/18/06)

Yesterday we had a class about the Euro. It's a really interesting topic, but adjusting to the style of teaching is taking a bit longer than we thought. It tends to be very dry and the professor lectures the entire time, whereas back at UC we interact and have discussions. After lunch the US Consul, American Presence Post, from Rennes came to speak with our group. Her background was so interesting being that she was in the Peace Corps and has traveled all over the world. She spoke on the relations between France and the U.S. and how her office works to help develop those relationships. We spent a lot of time asking questions and learning more about such an interesting topic.

Last night was the Championship game for soccer between Barcelona and Arsenal and it was crazy! The game was played in Paris and since we're only 2 hours away all the bars and cafes were so crowded. Raj and Susan we're going to an Irish Pub so everyone could meet and watch together, but it was so crowded people either couldn't get in or you just had to leave. Carly and I didn't make it down to join them because we went over to Chris and Tyler's host family's house to enjoy another dinner. It's so nice to not be rushed and just enjoy talking and learning from one another. Since dinner went so late we just stayed at their house to watch the end of the game. It was 1-0 Arsenal with about 15 minutes to go and Barcelona managed to score 2 goals within 5 minutes of each other. I can only imagine how loud the bars got. Although, we didn't get to go into town we had such a great time having another great dinner!

After class tomorrow a group of us (I think 6) is taking a train to Bordeaux for the weekend. We're staying in a little

hotel in the center of the city and will be going on a 5 hour wine tour. Most of the wines I've had with dinner have been from that region so I'm excited to go.

Apparently, there are a few chateaus in the area as well so we're hoping to see those too. It should be a really fun and relaxing weekend so I'll be sure to tell you all about it when I get back

I'm off to explore Nantes and do a little shopping before going to a company visit this evening. Hope all is well back in the states!! Have a great weekend!!

5/24/06

Bonjour one last time from France!

Our time in Nantes is coming to an end as we leave for Geneva tomorrow morning. We had a farewell dinner at 'Le Carnivore' in downtown Nantes last night, which included great food and wine. Before we leave we have one more company visit this afternoon to the Cointreau Museum, which we're all looking forward to. Everyone at Audencia and Nantes have been so welcoming and truly made our time here a wonderful experience.

Many of us are planning our trips for our free weekend in Switzerland. Since it's a European holiday we get a longer weekend, so there are groups traveling to Interlaken for some extreme sports and then some taking a train to the highest peak in the Alps, the Matterhorn. Raj and his love and enthusiasm for trains has persuaded some of us to join him on the trip to the Matterhorn. It should be a very scenic trip and I can only imagine the view from the top. The only problem is the temperature...obviously since we'll be so high up it's going to be COLD and most of us have packed sandals and short sleeve shirts, so I'll let you know how that goes. This will be my last

email for awhile since I'll have to find internet cafes to have access to my email, but I'm going to try to send an update from each city. I hope all is well with you and I appreciate all the updates from back home. Au revoir!

5/28/06

Well, I've been in Switzerland since Thursday and I'm loving it. France was nice, but Geneva is absolutely beautiful! When we arrived we quickly dropped our luggage at the hotel and walked towards the lake...the view is amazing and it's so clean. We were free from about 5:00pm Thursday until Monday at 8:15am so many of us took off for weekend adventures.

As I mentioned in my last email, I joined the group going to the Matterhorn. We left Friday morning on a 4 hour train ride to Zermatt, the town at the bottom of the mountain. Raj had talked all about the train ride, but it was even better than I imagined. We followed the lake for the first 2 hours before heading up into the mountains, seeing green trees and waterfalls one minute and then snow covered mountains the next. I kept thinking how lucky I am to be experiencing this!

When we arrived in Zermatt Carly and I joined Scott and Raj on the train ride up the mountain to a little over 10,000 feet. Words can't even describe the view...to be standing in snow looking at the peak of the Matterhorn was unbelievable. Oh and I'm sure you're wondering about the cold...it surprisingly wasn't that bad, we just had light jackets on and were fine. When we got back to town we met up with Tony, Jamie, Krista, and Abby and enjoyed an Italian dinner at Grampys...great food, but there was soooooo much of it! We were all fairly tired after dinner so we went back to our hostel and watched soccer before going to bed. (cont.)

International Trip, Spring 2006, cont

by: Jennifer Schuster

The next morning the whole group took cable cars up to a different peak in the mountains. Now for those of you who don't know I have a slight fear of heights. Put me on a roller coaster and I'm fine, but dangling in the air over mountains from a cable car is quite another story. I was honestly scared at first, but then I was so overwhelmed with the view that I didn't even realize we were half way up the mountain. I'm so glad I went on the cable cars because it gave an entirely different view of the Alps. Where we were dropped off was also an area to ski so we watched all the skiers fly down the mountain and some beginners scream down the mountain before falling. I can't wait to show you all the pictures of what I saw, but I hope you're all able to see for yourself sometime because pictures don't do it justice.

Before catching our train back we did a little shopping in Zermatt and just enjoyed the charming little town. When we got back to the station by our hotel we ran into some of the others who had gone to Interlaken to go white water rafting, they had a great time as well and we enjoyed listening to each others stories.

The weather has been perfect here (nothing like the cold and rain we had in France) so this morning after breakfast we walked towards the lake. There's so much activity there on a Sunday because most stores are closed. We walked for quite some time before finding a nice place along the lake to sit in the sun and read. Some of the guys even jumped into the lake for a quick swim, and it was certainly quick because the water was so cold (you could hear them scream as they hit the water). It's so nice to just enjoy the day and relax by the water and soak up the sun.

Tomorrow we'll be going to P&G and

the WTO, which should be two great company visits. I'm looking forward to them and Nestle on Tuesday. Then it's off to Munich. I'll try to send an update from Germany as well.

6/3/06

Guten tag! That's one of about 10 words I know in German. We arrived in Munich Tuesday around 9:30pm after an 8 hour bus ride...our class was already close before the trip, but put us on a bus for 8 hours and we became even closer. Let me just tell you one of the many amusing stories from that long ride...imagine Brian Meyers, who is roughly 6'6", needing to use the bathroom so badly that he squeezed himself into the one on the bus, which probably wasn't even 5'6" in height. Needless to say we all watched and laughed as he climbed in and shut the door (don't worry we have pictures!).

(The company trip information we'll save for the July newsletter.)

Now, I'm here in Munich getting ready to celebrate our last night in the city by going to the Hofbrauhaus! It has been so cold (40s and 50s) and rainy everyday except today. I'm starting to think our group brings the cold and rain with us. Finally, today it warmed up a little and the sun has been out. We had a 3 hour tour of the city this morning and then were free to explore so Carly and I walked around the city and looked in a few stores. Soon we'll change and head over to the Hofbrauhaus for dinner and some entertainment (there's been a rumor that Scott and Raj will be getting up on the stage to dance).

We've been so busy since we arrived with at least 2 company visits each day...BMW, Munich Re-Insurance, Seimens, E&Y, and many others have all been great as we continue to see first hand the similarities & differences between European businesses and ours

back home. As I said before it's easy to take for granted the opportunities this trip offers, like having lunch with the mayor of Munich and the US Counsel General at city hall. Both men were so giving of their time and talked openly about the city and answered any questions we had. Our time in Munich has been enjoyable and we're all excited about going to Amsterdam, but it's hard to believe our program will end in less than a week!

Before I go I'll leave you with a few things I've learned while in Munich...

1. **Don't assume anything is free.** We went into a restaurant wanting to eat some typical German pretzels and try the beers so we sat down and our waiter brought out a basket of pretzels without us even asking. After we finished the first basket he brought another and continued doing so. We felt bad so we decided we should order food (or at least dessert) too. So time comes to pay the bill and we can't figure out why we're off by so much. Come to realize that in fact the pretzels are NOT free and they charge .85 euro for each one...no wonder he kept bringing us more!!!

2. **Beer = Water to the Germans.** Everyone drinks beer as if to stay hydrated. It's so common that in the BMW plant where workers are using heavy machinery they have beer in the vending machines...I'm thinking that's a huge liability, but apparently not to the Germans.

3. **Doing your laundry could quite easily win on America's Funniest Home Videos...**I really needed to wash some of my clothes and the lady at our hotel said a laundry mat was just 10 minutes down the street. Brian and I walked in and it became obvious that this was going to be more difficult than we thought...the owner is this sweet old

International Trip, Spring 2006, cont

by: Jennifer Schuster

woman who clearly only speaks German. I'm not all that familiar with using a laundry mat back in the states so just imagine the confusion. We walked in and basically she said we had to wait about 20 minutes so we sat down, no big deal. Well 5 people later we're still sitting and all their laundry is in machines so we try to ask her again. In the meantime, I watch these other people put in their loads and I'm not exaggerating when I say they poured in 1/2 a bottle of detergent for 1 small load. Finally, we were able to use a machine, which took me about 10 minutes to understand and I was amazed that it took 45 minutes for one cycle...not to mention you set the machine by the degree of the water temperature AND the machine stops 5 times and just sits until more water rushes in and the machine begins to shake violently. Then it gets even better when Brian takes out his clothes and because their water is so warm and he put all his clothes in one load his whites came out the same cream color as the dryer. I couldn't stop laughing and I'm sure the woman thought I was crazy. In the end, even though we couldn't speak the language the woman was very nice and even let us use her iron for our clothes and we realized that as long as we could both smile and laugh at ourselves and the situation we would get along just fine.

I have many more funny moments that I'll share when I get back, but those are just a few to give you a good laugh. I hope everyone is doing well and things are fine back in Cincy. I'll be sure to send an update from Amsterdam and then I'm off to Italy and Barcelona for two weeks!!!

6/7/06

I've been in Amsterdam since Sunday and it has been non-stop since. It's the last week of the trip and they're definitely keeping us busy, but we're learning so much. We just finished

having dinner and now a group of us is finally able to sit down and check our email. We checked into our hotel around 8:30pm Sunday and many of us were eager to explore the city, but by the time we got settled it was late and we were getting tired so I just went out with 3 of the girls. Sarah, Carly, Krista, and I went to the Hard Rock Cafe by our hotel for drinks and appetizers and had such a great time just sitting and talking. Our waiter was really nice and kept sitting down with us and telling us all the places we "had to go to".

Monday morning we met and had events planned for most of the day to learn about the Jewish culture and tradition in the Netherlands. We had two guides who were so friendly and offered great knowledge on the history of the Jews and the role of the Jewish religion in the city. It was fascinating to be in the synagogues and other historical sights. After our tour we were supposed to take a boat tour on the canals to the Anne Frank house. There was a slight complication when the woman didn't tell us which boat to board so we basically missed our tour and had the option to wait an hour for the next one and miss the Anne Frank house or skip the boat and try to make it across the city to the house. Now, you have to understand that Raj has us walking everywhere and even he was convinced we needed to take the tram in order to make it on time. Well we all decided we could make it if we just walked really really fast so we took off, speeding through traffic, dodging bikes, cars, and trams and managed to get there in record time...only 20-25 minutes, which impressed Raj! Walking through the house was so interesting, especially since many of us had read the book and could recognize most of the rooms. It's such an important aspect in history and we got to walk through and see it.

Tomorrow we have 3 more visits and

Friday we have 2 before the trip is officially over...I can't believe it's over already!!! We start tomorrow with a trip to the flower auction, which means we leave our hotel at 6:00am (meaning I'll be getting up in about 6 hours). Even though it's early I know I'm really excited to visit as are many of the others. We visit an office supply company in the afternoon and then to Raj's liking we're taking a 100 year old train (we think he may be exaggerating) to the Dutch Railway where the CEO is hosting a dinner...again the generosity of all the companies is overwhelming. Friday we end our program with the Dutch National Bank and Heineken, which should both be great visits that we're all looking forward to.

(There was a long paragraph on the Wyler Dinner, but since I have other students writing about each leg of the trip, I don't want to steal their thunder, so I'll save that for the next newsletter.)

I know this has been long, but it's my only chance to write while I'm here and I don't know how often I'll write while in Italy and Spain, but I hope you're all enjoying the updates and getting a better idea of what a great experience this program has been. I'm taking lots of pictures and will have many stories when I get back. Hope all is well back home and everyone is enjoying the summer.

6/14/06

The end of our H+ trip in Amsterdam was crazy and extremely tiring, but I've been in Italy since June 9th and I **LOVE** it!!! We arrived in Venice first...well actually we flew into Verona which we thought was only 20 minutes away, but it was really 120km or 2 hours (imagine us carrying our luggage from the airport to a bus to a train then to a taxi before arriving at our hotel). At our hostel we met some business students from the University of Dayton so we had fun hanging out with

International Trip, cont.

them. Venice was gorgeous even though it's like walking in a maze... every other turn there's a canal. We did take a gondola ride, which was so relaxing and gave a great inside look at the old city with so much history. After 2 short days we went to Florence, which is even more grounded in its history, but another beautiful city. The buildings are so old, but have so much character. Right now I'm in Cinque Terre and I honestly think I could stay here forever!! It's the most gorgeous city you'll ever see. There are five towns connected by a walking trail, trains, or boats and you'll never see such a view as you do here. Today we walked from our town of Riomaggiore to the second and third towns then we took the train to the last town and laid at the beach for most of the afternoon. Afterwards we went back to get cleaned up and then went to the fourth town of Vernazza for dinner. Right now I'm heading back to our town to sit at a little restaurant set in the hillside to enjoy the view and drinks.

Tomorrow we're leaving for Rome and then I'll be in Barcelona. I can't believe it's only 1 week until I'll be home. This has been one of the most memorable experiences of my life, but I am anxious

to see everyone. Sorry this is so short, but I have to catch the train back.

Jen Schuster

A big thank you to Jen Schuster for her updates along their International journey. It was fun hearing the daily adventures they were facing each day without having to wait until they all got back from the trip to share with us all the exciting aspects of the trip

Watch the next issue of the newsletter for an "official" report on the different legs of the journey from 5 different students. You'll hear about their company trips, and other interesting facts.

Donna Fisher

Items of Interest

Don Hunter, Class of 2008, proposed to Erica in the light of the full moon under the Rialto bridge in Venice, on the last leg of his international trip to Europe. He'll have some extra memories of this international experience!

Jessica Young, Class of 2007, was busy on her co-op job in Paris (you'll read more about this in a future edition), but was thrilled to take time out to meet with three of the Lindner Honors-PLUS pre-jr students who were on their International Trip, and wanted to meet with Jessica to find out more about her co-op job first hand.

Matt Mezinskis, Class of 2006, will be volunteering at the Latvian Occupation Museum in Riga, Latvia this summer after graduation. It will mostly entail fundraising duties for a new wing for a special museum for Latvians and those affected by communist rule after WWII. Latvia is Matt's dad's native land and he has family there, so he is excited to be there this summer to spend time with family and to enjoy this cultural/heritage experience.

July Birthdays

Stephen Repella	July 1
Patrick Fluegeman	July 3
Jeri Ricketts	July 4
Greg McElfresh	July 9
Brian Rapien	July 10
Tori Sunderman	July 10
Zach Franke	July 10
Kathryn Johnston	July 11
Dan Holthaus	July 14
Donna Fisher	July 17
Neil Black	July 18
Nicole Meyer	July 18
Jessica Young	July 25
Alex Hotte	July 27
Carly Weiler	July 30

