

# Scholarships for International Study Newsletter

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Office of Scholarships for International Study

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International Studies  
Building

## Results Are In!

We congratulate the following University of Illinois applicants who advanced in last year's competitions for prestigious international scholarships.

### Luce Scholar Award

Ryan Dick: *China (Architecture)*

### Fulbright Scholarship Award

Kimberly Davis: *Mexico (Piano)*

Angela Glaros: *Greece (Anthropology)*

Jennifer Halvorson: *Denmark (Glass)*

Elana Jakel: *Ukraine (History)*

Jessica Kamm: alternate *Germany (History)*

David Kikuchi: *Peru (Ecology)*

Rebecca Nickerson: declined *Japan (History)*

Nicole Pivato: *Spain (Teaching English)*

Alexis Whittington: *Germany (Teaching English)*

### Churchill Scholarship Finalist

Ben Kaduk: *Theoretical Chemistry*

### Gates Cambridge Scholarship Finalists

Valerie Brandt: *Human Nutrition*

Ben Kaduk: *Theoretical Chemistry*

Kevin Vaishnav: *Chemical Engineering*

### National Security Education Program Boren Undergraduate Scholarship

Richard Boettcher: *China (Nuclear Engineering)*

Christina Carney: *Brazil (Women's Studies)*

Stuart Karaffa: *China (International Studies and Political Science)*

Grace Lee: *Japan (International Studies and Political Science)*

Alisa Modica: *Korea (Political Science)*

Anne Shivers: *Egypt (History)*

Sarah Taitano: *Russia (International Studies)*

## Who wins a Fulbright?

The Fulbright is open to almost anyone (1,328 grants awarded last year), doing almost anything (all majors eligible), almost anywhere (opportunities in 140 different countries).

With so many options, the most daunting part can be deciding where to go and what to do. Anyone without a Ph.D. is eligible to apply for the student program – this includes graduating seniors (who apply the summer before their senior year), current Master's and Ph.D. students, and alumni.

Contrary to popular belief, over 50% of all Fulbrights go to graduating seniors or recent Bachelor's recipients, while Master's and Doctoral students split the remaining awards.

At Illinois, we had a record eight Fulbright recipients this past year, including three graduating seniors, a recent alumnus, three Ph.D. students and a Master's candidate. Illinois recipients' projects included pursuing a piano performance Master's degree in

Mexico, investigating habitat destruction and conservation of birds in Peru, teaching English in Spain and Germany, working as a studio assistant to a glass artist in Denmark, performing archival research in Ukraine, using ethnographic techniques to investigate women's musical performances in Greece, and conducting interviews and archival research in Japan. And this is only the Illinois sample of projects from among the 20% of applicants nationally who received awards last year.

**Gates, Marshall, Mitchell, and Rhodes scholarship applications are due August 30, 2007  
Fulbright Applications are due September 5, 2007.**

## On the Luce in Shanghai

After six years of positively impacting the University of Illinois and Champaign Urbana communities as a student and volunteer, Ryan Dick is taking his talents to China for a year as a Luce Scholar. It had been ten years since an Illinois nominated student received this prestigious award.

The Luce Scholars Program annually provides full stipends and internships for 18 young professionals nationwide to live and work in Asia for a year. Dating from 1974, the program's purpose is to increase awareness of Asia among future leaders in American society who have yet to significantly experience Asia. Students, such as Ryan, and recent alumni may be nominated from a select group of 67 colleges and universities, including the University of Illinois. Ryan was nominated based on his record of high achievement, outstanding leadership ability, clearly defined career interest, and evidence of potential for professional accomplishment.

Ryan completed both his undergraduate and Master's degrees

from the U of I's School of Architecture. In addition to working as a research assistant, teaching assistant, and student organization leader, he garnered internships working with a building consultant, an engineering and research organization, and an architectural firm during his summers as a student.

As an architect, Ryan plans to focus on sustainability. He believes his Illinois studies in structural engineering as well as architectural design will make him better able to design sustainable architecture. According to Ryan, "My time in Asia will help me develop and perfect my ability to understand and respond to the social, environmental, and economic constructs that pressure the built environment."

After consulting with Ryan, the Luce Foundation has placed him at Tongji University in Shanghai. He will spend the year working with the university's College of Architecture and Urban Planning, the largest architectural teaching program in China. Ryan will co-teach classes for freshmen and

sophomores and will assist the Foreign Affairs Office. He also hopes to gain some exposure on the World Expo 2010 project, which showcases sustainable architecture and planning.

Currently, Ryan is receiving intensive language training in Mandarin. In addition to the language training, the Luce Scholars program is providing all travel expenses, a stipend of \$22,000, and a cost of living and housing allowance for his time in Shanghai.

While at Illinois, Ryan spent considerable time volunteering with children, including establishing a program to expand the number of tutors at Urbana Middle School and assisting at a crisis nursery center. He also runs marathons, and is already looking forward to entering some races in China.

After completing the Luce Scholars Program, Ryan plans to join a multidisciplinary firm where he believes projects are of a scale that can influence change within the built environment.

## Reflections and Advice from Illinois Scholarship Alumni

We asked various Illinois prestigious international scholarship alumni to muse a bit on their experiences. Here are some illustrative quotes:

### **How was the experience of being a scholarship winner different than you thought it might be?**

*My Fulbright experience surpassed all of my expectations. The independent nature of the program, although at first a little alienating, facilitated the most fruitful creative period of my career.*

*I have made several connections with other scholarship recipients and even met a couple NSEP alums who are currently working in Senegal. It is always interesting to hear what they are doing or how they plan to fulfill their service requirement. I didn't realize how many connections the NSEP would give me even while I am in my host country. They give me a lot of ideas for what I want to do in the future.*

### **What tips do you have for those awarded a scholarship?**

*Now you've finally arrived. Go over your strategic framework one more time. Spell out who you need to consult and how much time each stage of your research process should take. Target the parties you need to talk to and consult with them before you even arrive. Remember flexibility is going to be key to your project. You are going to discover things as you begin researching that you never thought of before. You will also find kinks that you think you can't work around. Every project hits a wall at one point. You should outline a process to get around it. The sooner you act the better. Some people are extremely pressed for time throughout their projects, but if you have the time, enjoy your surroundings. You'll be in a foreign country and culture. Make sure you take the time to soak in that experience. It's a once in a lifetime experience.*

*Pack lightly. Trust me, you won't need everything you want to bring.*

## Committee Members make it Happen

Illinois students are fortunate that exceptional faculty and staff devote time to the scholarships process. Committee members spend numerous hours reviewing applications, engaging with candidates in interviews, and providing insightful feedback on materials. We greatly appreciate the work of those who served on prestigious international scholarship committees in the last six months.

### 2007 National Security Education Program Campus Review Committee

Sonia Carringer	Associate Director of the Campus Honors Program
Barbara Hancin-Bhatt	Assistant Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Veronica Kann	Assistant Director of La Casa Cultural Latina
Lucy Rich	Assistant Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Matt Rosenstein	Associate Director of ACDIS
Penny Soskin	Assistant Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

### 2007 Gates Mock Interview Committee

Marilyn Booth	Associate Professor of Comparative and World Literature
Monica Fountain	Assistant Director of Development, University High School
Jon Higdon	Professor of Chemical Engineering
Paul Vaaler	Associate Professor of International Business

### 2007 Luce Mock Interviewers

Nancy Abelmann	Professor of Anthropology
Brian Ruppert	Associate Professor of Religious Studies

## Scholarships Administered

**Fulbright** (*deadline: September 5, 2007*)  
One year of study or research in any country where there is a Fulbright Commission. Some English teaching programs available. U.S. citizen seniors, graduate/professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply.

**Gates Cambridge** (*deadline: August 30, 2007*)  
One to four years of study leading to a degree at Cambridge University, England. Seniors, graduate/professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply. U.S. and non-U.S. citizens under the age of 30 are eligible.

**George Mitchell** (*deadline: August 30, 2007*)  
One year of study in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland. Seniors, graduate/professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply. Must be under the age of 30 and a U.S. citizen.

**Marshall** (*deadline: August 30, 2007*)  
Two to three years of study leading to a degree at any British university. U.S. citizen seniors, graduate/professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply.

**Rhodes** (*deadline: August 30, 2007*)  
One to three years of study leading to a degree at Oxford University, England. Seniors, graduate/professional students, and alumni are

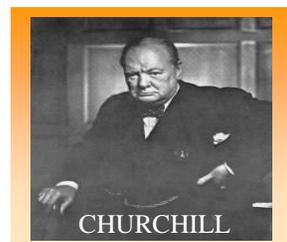
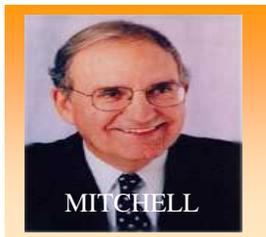
eligible to apply. Must be under the age of 24 and a U.S. citizen. Some non-U.S. citizens are eligible to apply from their home countries on the basis of degrees from U.S. universities.

**Churchill** (*deadline: October 17, 2007*)  
One year of study leading to a degree in engineering, mathematics, and/or the sciences at Cambridge University, England. Seniors and graduate students are eligible to apply. Must be under the age of 26 and a U.S. citizen.

**Luce** (*deadline: October 29, 2007*)  
One year internship in East or Southeast Asia. Asian studies majors/minors or those who have been to Asia for more than 4 weeks are not eligible. Seniors, graduate/professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply. Must be under the age of 30 and a U.S. citizen.

**NSEP Undergrad** (*deadline: January 17, 2008*)  
Open to U.S. citizen freshmen through seniors for summer, semester, or year long study in a non-western country.

**NSEP Grad** (*deadline: January 30, 2008*)  
U.S. citizens enrolled in or applying to a graduate program. Funding for 1 to 6 academic semesters of overseas study in a non-western country.



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## About Our Office

We assist you through the prestigious international fellowship application process in your quest for greater knowledge, personal growth, and professional development.

\*As an additional benefit, you just might win a scholarship.

Although many nationally or internationally competitive scholarships and fellowships are available for graduate and undergraduate study and/or research around the world, competition is steep. The Office of Scholarships for International Study administers several prestigious international scholarships and offers counseling on many others for University of Illinois students and alumni, including the Churchill, Fulbright, Gates

Cambridge, George Mitchell, Luce, Marshall, National Security Education Program, and Rhodes. Throughout the application process, we provide advice and feedback for applicants.

Despite the highly competitive nature of these programs, University of Illinois applicants have competed successfully over the years.

We can help you unlock your potential, learn about yourself, and become more competitive for international scholarships. Interested persons -- from freshmen, to Ph.D. candidates, to recent alum -- are encouraged to make an appointment to discuss these opportunities.

For information about scholarships for study outside the U.S., contact David Schug, Program Director

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**We're on the Web!**  
See us at:  
[www.ips.uiuc.edu/scholarship](http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/scholarship)

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