



CENTER STAFF

Terri Barreiro
Director

Kelli Gradin
Coordinator

Jenn Tong
Student Administrative
Assistant

Paul Marsnik
Academic Director & Assoc.
Professor, Management

E-SCHOLAR'S PROGRAM REPORT 2008-09

ENTREPRENEURSHIP STUDIES PROGRAM COMPLETES 5TH YEAR

Every fall a new group of 12-15 selected students begins the E-Scholars program. They have the opportunity to learn and practice entrepreneurship over two years. They complete a three-course sequence in entrepreneurship studies and develop a detailed venture plan. They also travel to entrepreneurial hot spots. And they get hands-on experience by starting or leading a student run venture or being an apprentice of entrepreneur alum. Students have over a dozen volunteer mentors as well as staff members who provide individualized coaching and expert advice.

Since beginning 2004, the E-Scholars program has engaged a total of 72 students from both the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University. Another 12 students will begin fall, 2009. During the past five years, students started nine ventures and over 45 students experienced intensive apprenticeships with entrepreneurs in business and nonprofit ventures. E-Scholars have traveled to Hong Kong, Southern China, Silicon Valley and San Francisco, Kansas City, Phoenix, Seattle and, of course, the St. Cloud and Twin Cities areas to visit businesses demonstrating entrepreneurship.

E-Scholar sponsors make it happen. There is a student fee, currently \$3,500, to participate in the E-Scholars program. The remaining costs of the program are covered by generous E-Scholar program sponsors.

Thank you to E-Scholar program sponsors for their important support. This year's sponsors are:

- Margaret H. and James E. Kelley Foundation
- West Central Steel and Fabricating (Delbert Allinder)
- El-Jay Plumbing (Andy Fritz)
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- Minnesota Mutual Foundation
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- Derek Tamm
- Jeffrey Manderfeld

Terence McTigue
Mark Heurung
Scott Wolf

13 E-SCHOLARS COMPLETE THE PROGRAM SPRING 2009

This spring 13 E-Scholars completed the program. This diverse group has 7 members who were born outside the USA. This diversity deepened the experience as multi-cultural viewpoints were always present. This group loved to travel. During the last year at least one of them was studying in: France, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Morocco, India, Venezuela, Chile, and Argentina.

- Bibi Abdalla
- Magdalena Adamczyk
- Andrea Carrow
- Maura Cavanaugh
- Marta Gago
- Brittany Lovelette Coleman
- Brooke Miller
- Michael Casper
- Felipe Concha-Berger
- Barry Griffin
- Mitchell Hallan
- Ang Li
- Silu Ma

12 NEW E-SCHOLARS BEGIN FALL 2009 AND FORM THE 6TH COHORT

This spring 12 sophomores were selected in a very competitive process to become E-Scholars starting fall 2009. They bring with them the most diverse group of majors and the most businesses already started and include a magician, a musician, a jewelry maker, and a photographer.

- Keenan Brugh, economics
- Anne Carney, communications
- Ben Crist, music
- David Foster, management
- Kira Garrett, English
- Aaron Haadonson, management
- Sarah Hupperts, management
- Hao Lei, physics
- Jingkun Li, accounting
- Ben McDermott, art
- Jarod Sherlock, individualized
- Grady Sloan, management & accounting





E-SCHOLAR ANDREA CARROW STARTS DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION VENTURE

[Extending the LINK] was conceived in 2007 by three students on a service learning project in Guatemala. One of them was Andrea Carrow, an E-Scholar. The students saw firsthand the social and economic importance of fair trade coffee as they volunteered with a fair-trade cooperative named Kuchaba'l. The students realized that not only had they become advocates of the fair-trade concept but they needed to teach others about its significance.

As soon as they returned to campus Andrea used her E-Scholar course training to lead the planning. The group committed to help others understand the issue and change behaviors to support fair trade economies. A short six weeks later they returned to Guatemala and completed hours of video footage, dozens of local interviews, and endless hours of research. A 22-minute documentary, "Somos de Café," was produced, shown to other students and embraced by the CSB/SJU community.

In the summer of 2008, Andrea and her team formed [Extending the LINK], a more permanent student effort to investigate more under-told issues around the globe. Its mission is to create documentaries and other tools that build CSB/SJU community awareness on global matters not well understood. Andrea raised funds, recruited new team members and led the team. The 2008-09 project, "Del Micro Al Cambio," produced in Chile, focuses on the importance of micro loans to women entrepreneurs in South America. The students completed research on micro lending, traveled to Chile, conducted interviews, edited the footage and premiered the new documentary at CSB/SJU in the spring of 2009.

These projects, organized and completed by students, include videography, music, translations, editing and event management. A new team takes over [Extending the LINK] this summer and includes a new E-Scholar.

E-SCHOLARS COHORT 5 HAVE NEW VENTURES UNDERWAY

- **Schoolhouse Scoop:** Josh Weinzetel opened a new ice cream shop in Hastings in June 2008 after planning it during his E-Scholars classes. It features locally made ice cream with fun flavors like: tortoise and the fair, heavenly raspberry road, and pistachio!
- **Brush and Floss:** Megan Kack and Lindsay Hansen are starting a social venture that creates dental care kits for young children and offers training to young ones at child care centers, food shelves and other locations where children living in poverty may gather. They received a grant from the Saint Ben's Student Philanthropy Fund to begin fall of 2009.
- **PawPrintz Company:** Tom Henderson built upon the idea of E-Scholar Professor Paul Marsnik to create a Web based venture that commissions paintings of pets by Chinese artists using photographs from customers. A test painting is getting rave reviews.
- **The Beehive:** Hibes Galeano and Libby McMurray dream of a CSB/SJU online resource for selling or trading items, promoting events, and more. This spring an honors Computer Science student joined the team and is creating the needed technology tools over the summer.
- **Collegiate Financial Awareness:** Matt Mulligan is leading this effort to combat the lack of personal financial awareness among college students. 76 percent of college students reported in a national study that they wished they were more prepared for their financial futures. Using alumni/ae volunteers Matt intends to start an extracurricular course this fall.



DONORS MAKE IT ALL POSSIBLE

Below is the list of donors who support the operations of the center and the E-Scholars program. Their support makes it all possible. The sponsors of the luncheon series are listed in the article about that program. Thank you to each and every donor.

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For more information about the E-Scholars program contact Terri Barreiro, 320-363-2373
 e-mail: tbarreiro@csbsju.edu
 www.csbsju.edu/cfe/students