To Move the World

The Fourth Annual Report of the Davis United World College Scholars Program

2007
2007 Annual Report

Private Philanthropy Supporting International Understanding through Education
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To Move the World

This program is about the huge potential of private philanthropy to promote international understanding in dynamic, expanding ways through the education of exceptional young people.

The Davis United World College Scholars have come this year from 126 nations, and those who graduate in the Class of 2007 — our fourth graduating class — are leaving behind far-reaching legacies for their schools and their fellow students.

Philip O. Geier, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Davis UWC Scholars Program

Building International Understanding through Education

The Davis United World College Scholars Program

by Philip O. Geier, Ph.D.
Executive Director

The Davis United World College Scholars Program is a major philanthropic force in promoting international understanding. At present, the program provides scholarship support for 1,100 current Davis UWC Scholars, from around the U.S. and the world, at a growing number of American colleges and universities. The program and these scholars are committed to building cross-cultural understanding across their campuses and around the globe in the 21st century. The stability of our world, and ensuring America’s place in it, demands no less than initiatives as large in scale, innovative in design, and powerful in impact as this.

Pilot programs began in 2001 at Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Middlebury College, Princeton University, and Wellesley College. In this academic year, the greatly expanded program now includes 76 U.S. colleges and universities — including, among many others, Harvard, Williams and Duke in the East, Earlham, Carleton, Grinnell and Macalester colleges in the Midwest, and Lewis & Clark, Whitman and Claremont McKenna in the West.

This program is about the huge potential of private philanthropy to promote international understanding in dynamic, expanding ways through the education of exceptional young people. Among our leading objectives is to see a much greater commitment by the private philanthropic sector to this very worthy purpose in the future.

Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars are, indeed, outstanding students and remarkable young people. They have come this year from 126 nations, and those who graduate from the original five schools in the Class of 2007 — our fourth graduating class — are leaving behind far-reaching impacts on their schools and their fellow students.

All the Davis UWC Scholars, at all the participating schools, are the heart and soul of this initiative. In these pages, we invite you to become acquainted with the Davis UWC Scholars Program, and with its individual scholars — especially the XX members of the graduating class of 2007.
Seven years ago, Colby, College of the Atlantic, The program provides scholarship to students, from Middlebury, Princeton, and Wellesley were selected by scholarships to attend the United World College schools. The program expanded to include the additional 71 American colleges and universities. In support of these schools meeting the financial needs of their students, Davis philanthropy contributes up to $10,000 of need-based aid for each scholar, every year. One of these additional schools is also awarded a $5,000 grant each year in support of their admission outreach. The goals of this Davis philanthropy continue to be to:

- **Provide scholarship support** for exemplary and promising students from all cultures, who have each absorbed the passion of their UWC school community for building international understanding in the 21st century.
- **Build clusters** of these globally aware and committed students within the undergraduate populations of selected American schools.
- **Seek to transform** the American undergraduate experience through this international diversity and cultural interchange—as much for the large majority of American on campus as for international students.
- Invite participating colleges and universities to **leverage** the value of this initiative to the long-term benefit of their students and faculties, their strategic planning, and their role in contributing proactively to the well-being of our volatile, highly interdependent world.
- **Create a very diverse group of Davis United World College Scholars who will**, during their educational experiences and throughout their lives, contribute significantly to shaping a better world.

The Davis UnitedWorld College Scholars Program is different, intentionally so, from other fine efforts to internationalize the undergraduate experience. While preceding initiatives have focused more on research, faculty development, changes in curricula, uses of technology, and study abroad, this program creates a much greater diversity of students on campus. And by supporting scholars from many countries, who are reengaged by the UWC mission of building understanding in active, personal ways, the Davis United World College Scholars Program exemplifies how diversity can contribute to a much richer education, and to a more globally engaged undergraduate experience for everyone on campus.

Outcome studies of the earlier initiatives found “low levels of international competency, a decline in the number of international student requirements, few students studying foreign languages as a percentage of total enrollments, and less funding from federal and state sources.” (The Ford Foundation, “Preliminary Status Report 2000. Internationalization of U.S. Higher Education.”) These findings encouraged the Davis philanthropy to model a fresh synthesis of approaches — some new; some well-proven — to internationalizing the American undergraduate experience. As modeled by the Davis United World College Scholars Program, these approaches include:

- **Private philanthropy** as an innovative force. We hope this effort will inspire others in the philanthropic sector to invest in international education as well.
- **Experiential learning** as the essential tool for fostering international understanding.
- Diversifying the undergraduate population and campus experience through sponsorship of internationally oriented scholars.
- Recognizing that coherent initiatives and significant clusters of scholars can make greater impact.
- Encouraging an overarching purpose while leaving each college or university to build on its own particular strengths.

In sum, the Davis United World College Scholars Program has great aspirations. Though our program is still in its early stages, we envision a growing commitment to international understanding through education in the 21st century. In time, Davis UWC Scholars will take their place beside the alumni of such esteemed scholarship programs as Fulbright and Rhodes. We embrace fully to goal of the late Senator J. William Fulbright for the public-sector scholarship program that bears his name: to “bring a little more knowledge, a little more reason, and a little more compassion into world affairs, and thereby to increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship.”

The great potential of the Davis United World College Scholars Program is not simply to build and perpetuate an outstanding scholarship program. It is to motivate others, especially in the private sector, to strengthen international understanding through their personal philanthropy, and to foster a deep commitment to international diversity and programming on American campuses. Our future depends on a world of talented individuals from diverse cultures who join in commitment to international understanding.

Davis United World College Scholars will, we believe, contribute to the realization of this important goal. We hope you will, too.
An Expanded Program

The Davis United World College Program has greatly expanded beyond its original pilot colleges and universities and now includes the following 76 institutions:

1. Agnes Scott College**
   Decatur, GA
2. Alfred University
   Alfred, NY
3. Amherst College
   Amherst, MA
4. Barnard College
   New York, NY
5. Bates College
   Lewiston, ME
6. Boston College
   Boston, MA
7. Brown University
   Providence, RI
8. Bryn Mawr College
   Bryn Mawr, PA
9. Bucknell University
   Lewisburg, PA
10. Bowdoin College
    Brunswick, ME
11. Colby College
    Waterville, ME
12. Colgate University
    Hamilton, NY
13. College of the Holy Cross
    Worcester, MA
14. College of the Holy Cross
    Bethlehem, CT
15. Colorado College
    Colorado Springs, CO
16. Colorado College
    Claremont, CA
17. Colorado State University
    Fort Collins, CO
18. Cornell University
    Ithaca, NY
19. Dartmouth College
    Hanover, NH
20. Dickinson College
    Carlisle, PA
21. Duke University
    Durham, NC
22. Earlham College
    Richmond, IN
23. Emory & Henry College
    Henry, VA
24. Ephrata College
    Ephrata, PA
25. Florida State University
    Tallahassee, FL
26. Fordham University
    New York, NY
27. Framingham State University
    Framingham, MA
28. Franklin & Marshall College
    Lancaster, PA
29. George Mason University
    Fairfax, VA
30. George Washington University
    Washington, DC
31. Gettysburg College
    Gettysburg, PA
32. Gettysburg College
    Gettysburg, PA
33. Georgetown University
    Washington, DC
34. Gettysburg College
    Gettysburg, PA
35. Gettysburg College
    Gettysburg, PA
36. Gonzaga University
    Spokane, WA
37. Group School District
    Houston, TX
38. Haverford College
    Haverford, PA
39. Hofstra University
    Hempstead, NY
40. Howard University
    Washington, DC
41. Indiana University
    Bloomington, IN
42. Indiana University
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In 2000, the Davis United World College Scholars Program began providing scholarship grants to a pilot group of American colleges and universities to support United World College graduates who matriculated at these schools. This year these pilot schools — Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Middlebury College, Princeton University, and Wellesley College — are graduating their third class of Davis United World College Scholars. Based on the success of building clusters of globally minded scholars at these pilot schools over four years, Davis philanthropy chose to greatly expand both the number of campuses and scholars in the program.

Since 2004 an additional 71 American colleges and universities have been invited to join the Davis United World College Scholars Program. To these schools, the program contributes $10,000 each year for each matriculated UWC graduate, for up to four years per student. Each school also receives a $5,000 grant for admissions outreach. The total number of Davis UWC Scholars at all participating colleges and universities has now reached 821, from 126 countries. The 2007 graduating class includes 84 exceptional students from 46 nations.

With their education made possible through their own merits and the help of the Davis United World College Scholars Program, thousands of future graduates of these institutions will go on to play important, meaningful, often leadership roles in their communities, in their home countries, and in the world.

How This Works

Building World Understanding and Educating New Leaders
An Open-ended Philanthropic Commitment

Provided by Shelby M.C. Davis, financial support for the Davis United World College Scholars Program is an open-ended commitment involving tens of millions of dollars per year. All graduates of UWC schools who gain admission on their own merits to selected U.S. colleges or universities qualify for need-based scholarship support through the program.

126 Home Countries
of Current Davis UWC Scholars

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Greenland, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Latvia, Lebanon, Lessotho, Lithuania, Macedonia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Panama, Republic of Singapore, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia-Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tibet, Timor Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

A World of Learners

Twelve UWC schools:

Lester B. Pearson UWC of the Pacific (Canada)  UWC-Costa Rica
Li Po Chun UWC (Hong Kong)  UWC in Mostar (Bosnia-Herzegovina)
Mahindra UWC of India  UWC of South East Asia (Singapore)
Red Cross Nordic UWC (Norway)  UWC of the Adriatic (Italy)
Simón Bolívar UWC of Agriculture (Venezuela)  UWC of the Atlantic (Wales)
Waterford Kamhlaba UWC of Southern Africa (Swaziland)  UWC-USA (Montezuma, NM, USA)
Building a World Culture on a College Campus

Earlham Wins Wide Acclaim for Globalizing Its Community

A 2007 Davis UWC Scholar at Earlham College, in Richmond, Indiana, says that Earlham is in the midst of what President Doug Bennett calls “a full-court press on internationalization.” It won national acclaim for that last year, when the college received one of the 2006 Senator Paul Simon Awards from NAFSA, the Association of International Educators, for internationalizing its campus.

For Schools with Clusters of Scholars, Per-Student Grant Will Double in ’08

On a growing number of U.S. college campuses, significant clusters of Davis UWC Scholars are playing notable roles in internationalizing the sense of community. To encourage more schools to build such clusters, program founder Shelby M.C. Davis has announced that — starting with the first-year classes in 2008 — the annual per-student grant will double for those colleges enrolling five or more first-year Davis UWC Scholars.

Beginning with the entering Class of 2012 in autumn ‘08, any participating college or university that matriculates five or more first-year Davis UWC Scholars will qualify for a grant of up to $20,000 per Scholar. This compares to the current grants of up to $10,000 per Scholar.

“Through this increased funding, we are underlining the significance of those American colleges and universities which are committed to achieving the full potential of the Davis UWC Scholars Program,” notes Philip O. Geier, the program’s executive director. “We fully expect those schools to be the most innovative and creative in transforming their campuses into truly global experiences here in America.

“We will be looking for these schools to build on their clusters of Davis UWC Scholars to develop ‘best practices’ in all aspects of academic, residential, and social life,” Dr. Geier adds. “Our intention is to see new discoveries on these ‘cluster campuses’ inform and guide future internationalization on many more American campuses.”

The larger grants will be awarded for each class year that includes five or more Scholars. For example, if a school maintains five or more Davis UWC Scholars in the Class of 2012, it will receive grants of up to $20,000 for each — but if the entering Class of 2013 includes less than five Davis UWC Scholars, the grants will be $10,000 for the Scholars in that class.

“Davis philanthropy believes in the power of setting an example and using leverage to achieve the greatest possible results,” Dr. Geier concludes. “By increasing the funding to those schools that are building clusters of Scholars, we believe we will also be elevating the program’s potential, and prompting colleges to find new and better ways of leveraging the power of international diversity.”

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We have a number of lectures, festivals, and performances where students are not only sharing and teaching about their cultures, but are learning to work collaboratively — or as our intention is to see new discoveries on these ‘cluster campuses’ inform and guide future internationalization on many more American campuses.”

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“To Do Some Good in the World”

Shelby Davis Reflects on the Davis UWC Scholars’ “Ticket to Life”

Together with his wife, Gale, Shelby M.C. Davis is the originator and funder of the Davis United World College Scholars Program. Recently, he sat down for a conversation about the program’s development, impacts, and future with Mike Schoenfeld, a close friend of the program who is Middlebury College’s vice president for college advancement. Here’s what they said:

Mike Schoenfeld: The Davis UWC scholarship program is now entering its seventh year, with 201 graduates and 1,100 current Davis UWC Scholars at 76 schools. What are your thoughts about the program today?
Shelby Davis: I’ve had the same enjoyment of seeing the scholarship program grow as I did building our company — but what has really excited me is that the students have made me look good. So, when they thank me, I turn it around and say, “I have to thank you because you are proving every day the worth of my investment.”

Has the program met your expectations?
It has more than met my expectations. I get rave reviews about the program, and now enough data is in to show that these students carry their weight academically and then some. They also more than carry their weight, by mixing in and helping the American students on their campuses learn more about the world.

What has surprised you along the way?
The surprise has been the growth of the program. With 300 or 400 students entering the program each year, it’s going to probably grow to 1,500 students or so in college at any one time. I imagine that will be the peak, and it will hopefully stay at that level. The numbers ultimately will depend on the quality of the students that are being recruited by the schools, and how much they want to come to America to get the education that’s provided in this country.

What do you think has been the program’s single biggest impact?
Well, there are a lot of programs that try to educate bright people from all walks of life or all countries — but what we’re trying to do, by building clusters of students in places like Middlebury and other campuses, is encourage Americans to learn about the world from these international students. If you get enough UWC students on a campus, they become an important part of the fabric of the community. I get letters from the students saying that they have made great American friends and they learn so much about America, while the Americans have learned so much about the world from them. I think that’s important.

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What are your hopes for the students as they graduate and go out into the world?
So many of them want to go to graduate school. It can be a struggle for them to get funding for that, so a good number end up going right to work in this country for a year to further develop their skills. I think 70-80 percent of them will end up in their own countries eventually. Most of them want to go back to their countries with the tools to become leaders — and that, I think, will make a difference.

You have often been quoted as saying that you are investing in leaders. That’s why I’ve focused on these students, because I feel their influence will be much greater than their numbers in the times ahead. Once in a while I think back to my days at college. The people we studied were the leaders.
of their times — the political, economic, social, cultural, and religious leaders who made a difference. I guess I am focused on working with today’s talent pool, and hoping it will grow and influence a lot of other people.

What is the future of the Davis UWC Scholarship program over the next 10 years?
The United World Colleges are the feeders to this program, and if new UWC campuses keep getting built, maybe the program can keep growing. There are certainly a lot more bright students in the world than we’re finding right now. I just know that if I do this for the rest of my life, I will have probably helped to educate 40,000 or 50,000 students and spent over a billion dollars doing it. It’s staggering to imagine, and yet in some ways, it’s a drop in the bucket in a world with 6 billion people. But you have to start somewhere.

Who is Shelby Davis?
[He laughs] I put on my pants on like every other person. I am a very average individual. I was in the right place at the right time in my career, and I had the right upbringing to give me the discipline and drive to want to succeed. That’s partially why I like these kids. They may have come from Ghana, Albania, or any number of other countries, and yet they somehow rose through the ranks and found their way to a United World College and then to a fine college or university in the U.S. I don’t think you need superior intelligence; really, you just need drive, ambition, and desire to do some good in the world. That’s what I’ve tried to do.

As you look at the world, what issues concern you the most?
I like what my mother has been saying to me. She says, “Everybody is saying what a terrible world we’re turning over to our children and our grandchildren,” and she’s lived 100 years and seen a lot of terrible worlds — but in essence, she says you can wake up on the dark side everyday or the bright side. She’s an optimistic heart and I think I am, too. The world is not perfect and there will always be troubles.

The Class of 2007
This section provides brief profiles and photos of all 84 members of the Davis United World College Scholars Program’s graduating Class of 2007.

During the preparation of this yearbook, each senior scholar responded to several questions from the Davis UWC Scholars Program. They wrote about the impact of their college experience on their lives, learning, and goals. Many also briefly described their plans and hopes for the future. The profiles that follow quote from their responses.
I especially enjoyed the opportunity to become the editor of the newspaper for the students and faculty of Pearson UWC, Canada. My experience at Pearson UWC, Canada, gave me the opportunity to explore different options and practice my writing skills. I attended Pearson UWC, Canada, for two years helping other international students. I also have experienced various campus clubs, which were rewarding experiences.

I was introduced to the world outside my country for the first time. I learned to be open-minded. My experience at Pearson UWC, Canada, gave me the opportunity to explore different options and practice my writing skills. I attended Pearson UWC, Canada, for two years helping other international students. I also had the opportunity to participate in various campus clubs, which were rewarding experiences.

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COA and the excellent faculty here have given me an opportunity to analyze the paradigm that has brought us to the edge of the proverbial cliff we find ourselves facing. Many of our attempts at averting the disasters that are overpopulation, lack of fresh water, climate change, pollution, deforestation, and soil erosion are doomed to fail. They are doomed for the same reason Western medicine will never heal many of the diseases we face today. Both are concerned with the suppression of symptoms as opposed to the identification of root causes. To survive as a society we need a paradigm shift. We need to understand our lifestyle of stewardship and not just paying a couple of dollars to an NGO or voting Democrat.

One of the challenges I have faced in my university education is learning to organize social change and awareness events and even a dramatic play. One of the most special things I did was spend a semester in Guadalajara, Mexico, where I gained an intimate experience of yet another culture. Mexico was a wonderful cultural engagement, where, at an NGO I helped women gain economic and emotional independence.

One of the challenges I have faced is that of engaging in leadership. Throughout my time here, my most rewarding educational experience has been working with people on the ground in indigenous communities in Guatemala, Mexico, and Honduras. Working with people on the ground has given me the opportunity to analyze the motivations that have shaped my interest in medicine. I also must acknowledge the role of elderly individuals in decisions. Without the help of friends, my wish to become a doctor would have never gained a realistic dimension.

My greatest inspiration in Hong Kong was Chrys Hill, my art mentor, who was a great source of encouragement and support. She pushed me to explore the arts. I have taken courses in art, theater, and religion. I’ve spent a countless amount of time away from my true home—Serbia. Things have changed in Serbia, and sometimes I feel as if I haven’t been an essential part of the change. However, despite my occasional nostalgia, the opportunity offered to me as a UWC scholar has been both the sacrifice and made me more unified in mind and spirit.

I hope to continue to reach out and be receptive, and return the blessings given to me.

Mauro Carballo
Uruguay
Pearson UWC, Canada
College of the Atlantic

Coming to College of the Atlantic has been one of my most fertile and real-life experiences. COA allowed me to make the world my classroom. I have studied and worked in several cross-cultural settings, combining my education at COA with real-world experience.

I have focused my studies in mass media and human rights, taking graphic design, video production and community radio) in indigenous communities in Guatemala, Mexico, and Honduras. Working with people on the ground has been my most rewarding educational experience.

My plans for the future are not yet firm, but it is nice to know that countless doors are open to me, thanks to the effort of the last few years. As a UWC scholar, I feel that my world has expanded immensely. It is great to look back at the Venezuelan kid that I was and see where I find myself now. My plan for the future is not yet firm, but it is nice to know that countless doors are open to me, thanks to the effort of the last few years.

At Middlebury I studied political science and Russian. My experience abroad in Moscow had a big impact on my career because I was continuing my UWC mission of achieving a broad international understanding. The actory that I enjoyed the most was forming a guitar trio with my fellow UWC mates Simran and Marco Antonio Casas.

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Four years at Wellesley College: Some great adventures. Sophomore year, I remember being потсd up and down in a mini-van with five teammates, on our way to a rural village in Honduras to learn more about appropriate technologies. We brought along with us projects, some equipment to test water contamination, and a whole lot of enthusiasm. The experience taught me that there is much that can be done in the developing world, and that external help can indeed benefit certain communities.

However, good communication was one of the most important lessons I took away from this trip. We weren’t there just to bring fromΔshes technology and expertise. We had to let the locals tell us what mattered most to their community and proceed from there. Sometime in the future I hope to play a role in bringing services to these communities.

In addition to the lovely campus and experiences, I’m also grateful for the friendships I’ve been blessed with. My American roommate, a best friend in college, helped me deconstruct a lot of the stereotypes I had about the United States. I will miss this place and its people.

“The Lewis & Clark College has long celebrated its international programs and global ties. The presence of the Davis United World College Scholars on our campus adds to our international depth and emphasis. Lewis & Clark greatly appreciates the contributions of the Shelby Davis family in bringing these bright, talented, and accomplished students to our campus. They enlighten the discussions in our programs and global ties. The presence of the Davis family makes me confident to face any upcoming difficulties.

“Prof. Geenen’s respectfulness suggested a fitting tacit consent. Such impacts are being felt more and more readily throughout the campus,” Geenen observes. But, he adds, the “inevitable challenges” of such a changing student population have led to some tensions. Those prompted a standing-room turnout of students, faculty, and staff at a recent “Philosopher’s Corner” panel discussion on international and U.S. student relations.

“...enough to impress even an old cynic like me,” Geenen quotes Prof. Dave Collins, one of the panelists, as saying afterward. Many at the forum supported expanding “Take a Friend Home,” a unique travel-abroad program that Westminster piloted last summer. Eight Westminster students – four from the U.S. and four international Davis UWC Scholars – were paired up: each pair spent the summer in the international student’s home country, mostly with his or her family. The college hopes to send up to 10 pairs of students on similar experiences this summer.

Along with the impacts that its globalization is having on individual students, and on the campus as a whole, the college is also seeing a strong, positive effect on its recruitment of American students.

“Because we’re emphasizing the global community piece, and we’re making that very clear and explicit in our marketing, we’re getting more and more students who say, ‘I’m coming because of that,’” says Dr. George Forsythe, senior vice president and academic dean.
my most important activities were planning a women’s retreat my freshman year, leading a year-long discussion group about women’s issues, my leadership role in the Christian community, and my participation in professor-led discussions on international affairs and politics, overseen the organization of Model United Nations Conferences, and participated in teaching a student-designed curriculum on international affairs to high school students in Trenton’s inner-city.

I’m pursuing a certificate in Latin America studies and was able to travel to Brazil for a month the summer for an Urban Studies program. I am committed to pursuing work in the field of development and equality in Latin America, where I plan to work in the government or NGO sectors.

Gilberto Cuadra
Nicaragua
UWC-USA
College of the Atlantic

When I first met Lucy Bell Sellers at the theater workshop class, I still had in my mind the desire to become a scientist. I saw acting as a rather lazy way to earn a living. It followed that I discovered a part of myself that shocked and appalled me: I love acting. Does that make me lazy? I decided not. In fact, I have never worked so hard in my life. I immersed myself completely for this professor; whose enthusiasm and optimism drove me to the limits of sanity. Yet, on the night of the performance, there was no person happier in the universe than I.

I learned that magic Lucy Bell is so happy and positive. The realization of not freezing in front of the hurdle, the relief at conversing them that it wasn’t me who said those horrible things. The shock of actually learning about myself, together with the challenges and pitfalls of this art forced me to redefine my life and change. For good, I can only hope.

Horacio Diaz Addia
Uruguay
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Colby College

The passion I have developed for economics during the last four years has shaped my life. So, I would like to thank Professor Reid for that 9 a.m. class on my first Wednesday at Colby. For some reason, I did not quit math. But also, I would like to thank all the other professors in the Economics Department for keeping life interesting – most of the time. Cincinnati has also taken a lot of my time. I would like to acknowledge the help and advice I have received during the many weekends in the White Mountains and two spring breaks in Las Vegas.

With my friend, Yoons and other UWC graduates, as well as hospitable Cambodians, we founded the Cambodian UWC National Community, during our extended sojourn in Cambodia while on a Freeman grant.

Bac Cuong
Bulgaria/Vietnam
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Colby College

The Davis UWC scholarship gave me the opportunity to attend one of the premier liberal arts colleges in the United States and opened a door of possibilities for my future. I took classes ranging from game theory to improvisational acting. I found a passion in using analytical reasoning and insights from social sciences to explain the world around us. Studying at Colby College can be characterized as a self-finding journey from the UWC bubble. Here I realized how important education and experience are if one hopes to make a significant contribution to society rather than to achieve only self-satisfaction. Therefore, I am committed to continuing my learning process to put myself in a position to influence positive change.

I plan to work for a consulting company for a few years and then earn a doctorate in business administration. My ambition is to become an expert in managerial economics. In the long term, I hope that my knowledge will help for the development of functional market economy in Bulgaria and Vietnam.

Laura Beth (Wallace) Derksen
USA
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Carleton College

The most important thing I’ve gained as a Davis UWC Scholar is a deeper knowledge of people. My time at UWC allowed me to see the commonalities we share — hopes, fears, and dreams for the future. At Carleton, I put that knowledge to work, reaching out to people from different backgrounds and trying to find understanding in our differences.

My most important activities were planning a women’s retreat my freshman year, leading a year-long discussion group about women’s issues, my leadership role in the Christian community, and my internship as a domestic violence victim advocate this past summer. These projects have increased my understanding of and love for people.

Next year my husband and I plan to go to the east coast, where he can study theology and I can gain some work experience in my field.

As a psychology major, I want eventually to get my master’s degree in counseling psychology and become a therapist, reaching out to people who are hurting and trying to bring peace to their pain.
Sustainability of the spirit of the future. Through these, I will be able to immensely contribute to the solutions to global problems. The experiences of growing up in Swaziland have turned me into a global citizen who understands global issues and is motivated to give back to the community in some sense of the enormous but necessary responsibility ‘to speak, to act, to be’ that privilege demands.

My friends and teachers have listened patiently to my rants, celebrated some sense of the enormous but necessary responsibility ‘to speak, to act, to be’ that privilege demands.

The educational experience and exposure to diverse ideas and people at Pearson College have influenced me in all of my goals and pursuits. The people I met and the stories they shared taught me that we are truly interconnected and that we are united in our dependence on environmental services. My appreciation of the outdoors evolved into a sense of responsibility to protect our natural systems. While participating in the Third-World Options program in Costa Rica and Ecuador, I learned of the college’s unique program in human ecology, and the opportunity to attend as a Davis Scholar I didn’t hesitate. I have taken classes in eco-lit, environmental law and policy, ecology and documentary video and participated in the Yucatan program and the Tobago integrated courses.

As COA, education can extend well beyond the classroom. I have been involved in school governance, a member of StudentUX, and I attended the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Biosafety Protocol negotiations in Curitiba, Brazil. Currently, I am taking a program in climate change and am accredited to attend the U.N. climate talks in Copenhagen.

The most important skills I gained from my UWC experience was the ability to interact and communicate better with people. In such a diverse setting one learns to think more deeply about what others are saying and to try to understand their perspectives. I believe that having an open-minded approach to communication has served me very well during my years at Colby and that it has been not only to my benefit but also to that of my classmates.

Colby can pride itself on having a great faculty, one of the things that I have missed the most during the past four years and contribute to the development of this field in my home country, which needs such specialists.

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100 Ways to Make a Difference

Kathryn Davies Creates “Projects for Peace” Initiative

The mark her 100th birthday, in a year when she also received the Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service, Kathryn Davies decided to do more.

Mrs. Davies, whose son, Shelby M.C. Davies, is the founder of the Davis UWC Scholars Program, created and funded 100 Projects for Peace — an invitation to all undergraduates, at all 76 colleges and universities participating in the Davis Program, to design and propose grassroots projects they can implement during summer 2007. The 100 “most promising and doable” proposals are each receiving $10,000 in funding, drawn from Mrs. Davies’s gift of $1 million that created the 100 Projects program.

“I want to use my 100th birthday to help young people launch some immediate initiatives that will bring new thinking to the prospects of peace in the world,” Mrs. Davies says.

Close to 500 proposals have come in from campuses all over the nation. “This opportunity and the proposal development process have produced a wonderful, exciting buzz on campus and among our students,” says Amy Bough, director of institutional support at Trinity College in Connecticut.

Kathryn Davies’s own life has been much involved with both education and the building of world understanding. Holder of a B.A. from Wellesley College, an M.A. from Columbia, and a Ph.D. from the University of Geneva, she met her husband, Shelby Cullom Davies, on a train in Geneva; they were married years later when he served as U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland from 1969-75. Mrs. Davies was honored last September with the Wilson Award, from the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, for contributions she and the Davies family have made to global humanity.

“They have had a dramatic impact on higher education and public policy,” the Center said, “helping foster greater understanding of international affairs through institutions that proudly bear the Davis name, including the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University, the Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davies Institute for International Studies of the Heritage Foundation, and the Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University.”

“My 99 years have taught me,” Mrs. Davies said in her acceptance speech, “a few months before her 100th birthday, “that there will always be conflict. It’s part of human nature. But I’ll remind you that love, kindness, and support are also part of human nature. My challenge to you is to bring about a mindset of preparing for peace, instead of preparing for war.”

Naomi Haefner
Germany/Switzerland
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Middlebury College

My time at Middlebury as a Davis UWC Scholar has been truly exceptional. I’ve grown as a person in many ways, and it is all thanks to the wonderful experiences and the inspirational professors I’ve had.

I have had the opportunity to learn about the most diverse of subjects and, consequently, I have found things that I am passionate about. I got the chance to study clauses, not just at Middlebury but also in Greece, and I also discovered new activities that I enjoy. The theater department at Middlebury has been like a second home, because it is here that I got to explore my creative streak, working mostly in costume design.

I don’t think my Middlebury experience could have been any better. The people I have met here and the lessons I have learned will remain with me for the rest of my life and, for that, I am exceedingly grateful.

Adam Harling
USA
UWC of the Atlantic
Princeton University

My class at Princeton, the cornerstone of my Davis Scholar experience, helped me discover and shape my passions and interests.

I was a board member of the Princeton Junior Project, which fought for awareness of social justice ranging from campus workers’ rights to penal system reform in New Jersey. I also loved being an Outdoor Action leader/trainer, and I spent many a happy backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail teaching students how to lead successful freshman orientation trips.

In summer 2005, I spent six weeks in small mountain villages throughout southern Peru working with a local NGO installing wood burning stoves in the homes of some of the poorest residents. The experience showed me that grassroots programs can be successful in improving lives in developing countries and help protect the environment.

Next year I hope to work in Southeast Asia, or possibly sub-Saharan Africa, on projects of sustainable economic and environmental development. I hope to work toward the implementation of policies that promote environmental responsibility coupled with real economic progress in the developing world. I may eventually attend law school to study environmental or international law.

Yauheni Hladki
Belarus
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Colby College

Reflecting on my time at Red Cross Nordic, the thought that often comes to my mind is “Why me?” Why was I, a country boy from Belarus chosen to spend two amazing years among the most outgoing, intelligent, humorous, and socio-economically diverse group of people from around the world? Luck. This would be my answer.

I realize now that UWC taught the lessons to what would become a fine edifice of knowledge sheltering everything I believe and treasure in me. Four years at Colby also have added to this never-ending construction process. Throughout classes, discussions with peers and faculty, and working with the staff here at Colby, I have come to understand myself and the rapidly changing world around me better.

I’d like to express my utmost gratitude to Mary Beth Mills, who sponsored my internship in Cambodia, enabling me to see and feel more than I ever could have imagined. I owe my friends a lot, for they were the best part of my educational experience here at Colby.

David Hague
USA
UWC USA
Princeton University

I am a Davis Scholar who has studied English literature. And what could be more occupying, more rewarding, more liberating than this introduction to the lasting literary artifacts of the English language, to its novels, to its poets, and, in this fond encompasses, to the unspoken means by which to greet the literatures of other languages, other peoples? In addition to carrying with it this important preoccupation, college has been for me a time of self-evaluation: I had to gauge my capacities and measure my limits whereby it would be a lie to say that I have not been dismayed often and equally a lie to say that I have not just as often found encouragement.

As for what shape I want the rest of my life to take, I have only the sketchiest plan. My primary goal is to make a life of service to others and of devotion to those human ideals that are suggested by the heart, approved by the mind, and ratified by education.
Liisa Hummal
Estonia
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Princeton University

Since leaving UWC, I have changed more than I ever could have imagined, and studying at Princeton has certainly facilitated a great part of this metamorphosis. Both good and bad things have been happening in these years led me to a much deeper understanding of myself and the world.

Among these numerous transforming experiences was my visit to the Trenton maximum security prison as a part of an collaboration between the inmates – most convicted of murder and serving life sentences – and Princeton students. The aim of the project, initiated by the inmates, was to prevent youth at risk from ending up behind prison walls as a sociology major I have always been cautious about ignoring social circumstances when judging people’s actions. However, interacting with these men, who, in such hopeless conditions, spent their time and effort improving the world outside, made me understand more deeply how good people can do wrong things and how L as someone blessed with all these opportunities, have no excuse not to put all my efforts into making this world a better place.

Becar Kamile
Senegal
Pearson UWC, Canada
Middlebury College

Having spent the first 14 years of my life in Senegal, my perception of the world and its diverse cultures was somewhat limited. I read about other countries and watched the news, but that does not provide an accurate picture of the world. For instance, when I was in middle school, I found the news of a child missing from one of my favorite TV shows somewhat distressing. However, now, I understand the importance of understanding the culture and customs of other countries and the role education plays in this process.

I am grateful to have been a part of the Davis UWC Scholars Program since its inception. The program has provided me with opportunities to learn about different cultures and perspectives, and I am fortunate to have met many amazing people along the way. I am excited to see where this journey will take me in the future.

Olivia Kamarere
Uganda
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Princeton University

While the UWCs instill in one the dream to make a difference, the Davis Scholarship enables one to make that dream a reality. Princeton has been a journey of self-discovery, allowing me to plethora of paths to pursue, revealing those that I treasure most. From my study-abroad experience in South Africa, I not only found lessons to carry back to Uganda but also I found perfect accord in my two great loves – houses and service. I am truly grateful to have the opportunity to work at Habitat for Humanity SA. That experience was the inspirit for my senior thesis, which models an optimal solution for efficiently constructing and financing sustainable, low-income housing in Kampala, Uganda.

Carpe diem
Since leaving UWC I have changed. I am not the same person I was four years ago. I have been exposed to many new experiences and had the opportunity to learn and grow. I have discovered what I truly want out of life and how I want to use my education to make a positive impact on the world.

While the Davis Scholarship has changed my life, I believe that the impact will be greater in the lives of others. The Davis Scholarship has changed this one simple life, my dream is that, through me, it will change thousands.

Becar Kamile
Senegal
Pearson UWC, Canada
Middlebury College

To become of me. However, I know I have grown since moving to the States. I have learned to value the importance of hard work and dedication, and I have developed a strong work ethic.

I am grateful to have been a part of the Davis UWC Scholars Program since its inception. The program has provided me with opportunities to learn about different cultures and perspectives, and I am fortunate to have met many amazing people along the way. I am excited to see where this journey will take me in the future.

Julie Jung
Austria
Liis Chua UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College

Four years ago I stepped off the Greyhound bus at the Waterville bus station with little idea of what was ahead of me. No clue to what major to pick, let alone what path I would take professionally. Four years on, I still have no idea of what is to become of me.

Now, I know I have grown since moving to Maine. I was given the opportunity to explore my interests, find what suits me, and discard what doesn’t. As president of Colby’s International Club, last year I was largely involved in organizing the annual International Extravaganza, a whirwind of international performances, dance, and music. It was invaluable to see so many students take time off from their busy schedules to put together a great show. During the process, I lost quite a few years of my life, but the end result was a marvelous piece of collective endeavor. From Italy to Hong Kong, to Colby to the unknown, the cement of all maxims has held true for me: “Carpe diem.”

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UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
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Princeton has opened my eyes to the positive power of capital. Having hosted my understanding of the concept through independent work on the effects of the Asian financial crisis on the South Korean economy, I stand better placed to play my part in the potential positive influence of capital in emerging African economies. The Davis Scholarship has changed this one simple life. My dream is that, through me, it will change millions.

Michael K. Kigrop (Kip)
Kenya
Princeton UWC, Canada
Colby College

My experiences at Lester B. Pearson College and now Colby College have been truly life-changing. Growing up in Eldoret, Kenya, I didn’t imagine for a second that one day I would be dining with accomplished men and women like Shelby Davis and Queen Elizabeth.

I have had a chance to interact with kids from all over the world who are smart and interesting, and this has greatly enhanced my appreciation for the differences we have. I have participated in various clubs and organizations ranging from intra-mural soccer to student government. As the treasurer of the student government this year, I have managed a budget that could build and furnish 21 schools in Kenya. The trust that my fellow students at Colby have had in me has been truly touching.

I am forever Colby. I feel truly more than ever to embrace the world and the challenges that come with it. I hope to work in the finance field prior to going to business school. In the long run, I hope to go back home and contribute to the development of my country. Thank you, Shelby Davis.

Siama Joanna Ro
Kenya
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Colby College

Being a professional actor has always been my dream. Marlon Brando said, “An actor must interpret life, and in order to do so he must be willing to accept all experiences that life can offer.” This is why I decided to continue my education in Colby in order to expand my cultural exposure. In my junior spring semester, I was given the chance to study in Drama Centre London, a prestigious acting conservatory. It was a great experience, because I learned useful acting crafts.

At Colby, I have learned many other skills that an aspiring artist should possess; the courses I took were truly stimulating. The American culture and Gale provided me in Middlebury was priceless in helping me understand and appreciate the differences we have.

I am grateful to have been a part of the Davis UWC Scholars Program since its inception. The program has provided me with opportunities to learn about different cultures and perspectives, and I am fortunate to have met many amazing people along the way. I am excited to see where this journey will take me in the future.

Being a UWC graduate, I have always dreamt of making an impact in the world, either directly or indirectly through my actions. This opportunity that Shelby and Gale provided me in Middlebury was priceless in helping me realize my ideals in a constructive and functional way. I realized that using the world requires skills, not merely enthusiasm.

By engaging in insightful discussions with professors at Middlebury, I discovered perspectives on subjects that I have not encountered either in UWC, or back home. I learned that these experiences are vital in my aspirations to generate changes in my home country as well as my personal values.

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Cheryl Koh
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Mahindra UWC, India
Middlebury College

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Philip A. Götzbach, President
Skidmore College

“If we want our students to emerge as leaders and not just as observers, they must understand this world and their place in it. The entire world is their future. Our job is to bring the world to Skidmore and to immerse all of our students in it. The Davis UWC Scholars Program helps provide the resources to do just that.”

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we were able to engage directly in giving shape to our vision of the

By working in various cross-cultural settings, including Norway,

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When I look back at the past three-and-a-

What I learned from Middlebury is that everyone has strengths
and weaknesses. Some are better at studying and learning; some are
better at creativity; some are better at sports. I learned that it’s not
about being the best; it’s about being unique. There are many people
who tell me I should do this and that in the future, but I tell myself
that I want to create my own path. Don’t go with the crowd, and
know what you do.

I was extremely lucky to be the first student
from Montenegro to attend Waterford Kamhlaba UWC. Those two years spent
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fundamentals.
Before I entered college, I consider knowing the opportunities that I would encounter in the UWC environment. As a UWC scholar, I have had the opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds and cultures. This has helped me to understand the importance of finding common ground. I also believe that the UWC experience has taught me the importance of making decisions and improving my skills. My experiences as a consultant team member, a scientist, and a UWC scholar have taught me that we are stronger and can make a greater difference when we cooperate and work as a team. For the future, I hope to enter the computer industry, perhaps as a programmer, perhaps as a consultant, but certainly as a team member.

Looking back, I see my time in India and Vermont as one and the same. It was all the easier because of the women at Wellesley – past and present – who are ready to engage decisively in newfound interests. Learning about and teaching about----and taught me the confidence it takes to pursue my dreams. With that confidence, I hope to go out into the world, push my limits, and make a difference wherever I go.
My college years at Hood have gone by very fast. There is no better place I could have studied political science than at Hood, due to my professors, who made a huge impact on my life. I owe thanks to them, especially Dr. Heidi Zaki. My transition into the real world from the UWC to college has been a rollercoaster ride. After graduating from the UWC, I knew that I would have to do something worthwhile in the world. The only area that I have decided to devote my entire life to is the HIV/AIDS epidemic, specifically in Africa, where my destiny lies. This past summer, I set up a nonprofit organization in Botswana called Yeats. Such a young age, I have devoted my services among the youth and people of all ages. We intend to establish an AIDS orphanage center in the near future that provides AIDS orphans with the basic necessities of life, most importantly an education. We intend to establish an orphanage center in the near future that provides AIDS orphans with the basic necessities of life, most importantly an education. As I move on in life I hope to achieve my goals for the organization as well as my own business ventures that I intend to pursue.

Caroline Mei Shian Ong
Malaysia
Pearson UWC, Canada
Wellesley College

My most formative experience at Wellesley has been fieldwork research at Massachusetts General Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, where I studied power structures and the transfer of knowledge between patients and physicians. The visceral experience of observing, interviewing, and talking to cancer patients and oncologists has been both emotionally and intellectually challenging. However, this research has convinced me of two things — that healing, whether physical, social, or cultural, begins through interactions and that I am capable of great positive change through personal contact with others.

In the past summer, I conducted biomedical research on multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis in Russia and worked on public health preparedness policies against bioterrorism and highly infectious diseases in California. These experiences, together with my research in medical anthropology, have prepared me to effect social change at the primary level of clinical health care. I hope to attend medical school and focus on international medicine and infectious diseases in underserved and overlooked communities.

O. Reco Renteras
Guatemala
Pearson UWC, Canada
Colby College

Five years ago, I couldn’t have imagined writing a senior thesis on compassion, thinking about the moral implications of contemplative lifestyles, or writing short fiction in my spare time. But college has opened my horizons in unimaginable ways. My time at Colby has been one of intense academic exploration, introspection, and creative processes. I’ve been a feminist, an existentialist, a Christian, a Marxist, a cognitivist, and a Buddhist. I’ve climbed mountains, jumped into rivers, written long obituaries, filmed beauty, sat with death, and contemplated fire. I’ve been constantly evolving and growing into the person I am meant to be, making peace with change and difference along the way.

In the future, I would like to train as a philosophical psychoanalyst, helping others through the study of philosophical texts, while constantly working with ideas that are deeply rooted in my Colby career and I have no doubt that many will be lifelong. Attending a UWC also enabled me to appreciate difference in a way I had never experienced before and to find similarities in the most unlikely places. The friendships I have made have endured through my college career and I have no doubt that many will be lifelong.

They say the greatest journey is the journey onwards, that venturing out into the world gains the most meaningful road. As a Davis-UWC scholar, I have undertaken both journeys. I’ve majored in African Studies and have learned more about the world I come from. I also have worked with an HIV/AIDS center in Nairobi, studied at the University of Ghana, interned with a daily paper in Accra, Ghana, and, studied in Dakar, Senegal. I have developed a passion for cinema and other forms of media as a potential tool of social commentary, and I thank Professor Obeng for introducing me to African cinema.

I hope to work for a year or two then enter graduate school to study African literature, cinema, and media and, eventually, teach at a university in Nairobi. The greatest lesson I have learned as a Davis-UWC scholar is that the idea of seeing the world or making a difference can be confounding in that we are imposing on people a model of what we think their lives should be. In seeking to understand people, the first step is to listen. Here at Wellesley, I have learned to listen.
Kong meant a chance to live again. “I learned this while at Middlebury College.”

To which those in positions of making choices will return again and again, art forms, here’s what Tom Stoppard had to say: “The function of making films can trigger that transformation. It can prompt scholars to find new ways of seeing, and to find new ways of writing, one usually has to find new ways of thinking.” I have spoken with friends of mine who are out there, working with NGOs in places where need is dire, and they tirelessly answer at this conclusion: “Besides the organizational problems of astroun, there is a deeper level of which change must occur; there must be a transformation in thought.” I believe that making films can trigger that transformation.

And speaking of the long-term benefits of filmmaking and other art forms, here’s what Tom Stoppard had to say: “The function of art is to provide a culture’s moral spine, the pole of reference to which those in positions of making choices will return again and again.” I learned this while at Middlebury College.

I have never felt the need to justify myself for being a film major. I have just listed two reasons why.

Archana Prasad
IP in Pe Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College

If the UWC showed me what the ideal could look like, then Middlebury showed me what really looks like. The UWC armed me with dreams, Middlebury offered me a virgin land where I could start following those dreams. The UWC showed me responsibility as a global citizen; Middlebury challenged me to prove I am worthy of the responsibility and citizenship. The UWC handed me a lantern; Middlebury asked me to lead the way. And so I did.

Over the past four years, I committed myself to a variety of passions and tried my best to win the challenge. The UWC sparked a passion in me for sweatshop-related issues, so I researched the newly established sweatshops in my home country through United Students Against Sweatshops, and when I returned, I started the We Own the World student organization, with the help of a few committed fellow students and staff members.

Middlebury also sparked a passion for disability-related issues. I worked for two consecutive summers with the ADA office on campus, which proved to be one of the best learning experiences I had.

Adriana Quibaia
Jordan
UWC USA/Middlebury

The opportunity to study at Li Po Chun UWC of the Atlantic, Wales College of the Atlantic

The experience of designing my own curriculum at College of the Atlantic allowed me to pursue my initial academic and experiential passions and discover new ones. I was able to focus not on a particular field but to understand how different systems work interdependently to complete each other. I was able to challenge myself with science courses as well as engage in more familiar subjects such as history and education.

In collaboration with the COA community I raised funds for a Jewish-Arab summer camp and organized the annual Israel-Palestine Awareness Day, which was attended by an Israeli filmmaker. Most importantly, I was able to spend my junior year at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, in intensive Arabic language study, a truly transformative experience.

Recently, I have been examining various methodologies in popular education inspired by the Freinet tradition, which calls for action and reflection as a way of naming the world.

I now have a more complete understanding that knowledge is never ending, and that leaves me truly grateful to all my teachers.

Felipe Pruneda-Santos
Mexico
UWC South East Asia, Singapore
Middlebury College

My film and media culture advisor at Middlebury once told me: “Making films with new approaches to the medium can prompt scholars to find new ways of writing, and to find new ways of viewing, one usually has to find new ways of thinking.” I have spoken with friends of mine who are out there, working with NGOs in places where need is dire, and they tirelessly answer at this conclusion: “Besides the organizational problems of astroun, there is a deeper level at which change must occur; there must be a transformation in thought.” I believe that making films can trigger that transformation.

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Vasumathi Raman
India
Mahendra UWC of India
Wellwishes College

I am from Mumbai, India, and coming to Wellesley was my first time out of the country; I am very grateful to the Davies for making this possible. A computer science and mathematics major, I have been an active member of both the Wellesley Association for South Asian Culture and the Salar International Student Organization. I am also a drummer in Yenaleo, a campus folkloric group that performs traditional music and dance of Africa as it exists today in Haiti and Brazil.

I am completing training to be a certified teacher for G4E LEAP, an organization that provides self-defense and life-skills training for at-risk girls from the Boston area.

In the spring of 2006, I had the opportunity to study abroad at the University of Edinburgh and experience the rich culture and vibrancy of that city. After Wellesley, I hope to pursue a doctorate in computer science, eventually returning to India to enter academia there.

Elisheva Rubin
Israel
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales College of the Atlantic

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Fatou Sagnang
Senegal
UWC USA/Puerto Rico

My Davis UWC scholar experience has helped me grow intellectually and has brought me to see the world through a kaleidoscope of perspectives that I would not have had otherwise. I have learned to appreciate the impact that a single individual can make on his/her immediate environment. I have been able to choose academic paths to satisfy my curiosity but also to gather knowledge that will be useful in my future endeavors to make a difference in my environment.

An entrepreneurship class, where I was taught how to take initiative and turn academic knowledge into benefits for the rest of society, has been a great influence on me. It has convinced me to pursue my passion in engineering while getting involved in projects that can result in infrastructures and development for the greater public.

I am hoping to return to my country and offer not only my technical expertise but also my new vision of the world, which, hopefully, will help consolidate our integration in the global world.

“The Tufts University long has been regarded as an institution that places a premium on the importance of living in a global community. The mission of the Davis UWC Scholars Program dovetails perfectly with Tufts’ focus on international perspective and active citizenship. The unique cultural experiences that the Scholars bring to our campus are invaluable. We are grateful for the generosity that enables these excellent students to be a part of the Tufts community.”

Lawrence S. Bacow, President
Tufts University
My journey of persistent striving for international understanding started at UWC of the Atlantic and continued in the United States at Colby, where I am majoring in biology and French literature. My studies and experience at Colby have put me through tough but rewarding challenges. I have accomplished different tasks ranging from humanitarian actions to community service. Wanting to be a doctor, I got the chance to volunteer in areas that interest me. I mentored primary school children, bringing them moral as well as academic support. I also volunteered in a local hospital by providing assistance to patients in the post-surgery section.

My experiences at Colby have helped me understand that I could make unique contributions to my society. It is this feeling of being part of my community and helping it to evolve efficiently that gives me the willpower and eagerness to walk forward and get involved as a leader in my society and to lend a helping hand to my fellow man whenever I get the opportunity to do so.

It is here at Wellesley where I have made some of the most intelligent and ambitious young women who will undoubtedly make a difference in the world. The friendships I have made here will last a lifetime.

Wellesley College has shaped me into the person I am today. Looking back at all my past experiences, I know that it is here, at Wellesley College, where I belong.

Vani Sathisan
Singapore
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Middlebury College

My horizons weren’t just stretched by a UWC education, they were exploded. Sleeping overnight in a train station in Florence with week-old friends, celebrating Christmas in Vienna, attending a conference in Geneva, waking up on a Saturday morning and spontaneously deciding to take a train to Venice, backpacking across Western Europe, camping overnight (and illegally!) at an old Italian castle by the Adriatic coast – I was living many wild dreams, yet I was so humbled by the people I met.

Weekly community services in a Slovene refugee camp, leading the debate group, and taking part in schools plays sparked my interest to use my leadership skills and enthusiasm to effect change in issues that mattered to me.

At Middlebury, I was inspired to establish Dialogues for Peace, an organization creating awareness about global conflicts. I traveled to Bosnia, Serbia, and Croatia during my junior year abroad to study post-conflict development in the Balkans.

The future will not merely merge us for talking (a lot!), theatre, dance, politics, law, and social activism to connect with people across the globe.

Kenza Sayegh
Morocco
UWC of the Atlantic, Taliesin
Colby College

I highly respect Mr. Davis for making such big contributions to the lives of so many students. I am sure they will make the most of the opportunities so generously presented to them.

My Wellesley College experience has been nothing less than great. The two years spent playing for the tennis team proved to be among the most challenging and rewarding experiences I have had in college. Not only did I learn advanced tennis skills and strategies but also I learned about time management, camaraderie, and responsibility.

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I am applying to graduate schools and, hopefully, I will stay in Davis UWC Scholars Class of 2007 been pleased to welcome Scholars to our campus — and, community, particularly educating people about the importance of life will take, but I hope that it will involve giving back to the positive step toward reducing our carbon intensity. and Caicos Islands studying marine parks management. I am also work toward a certificate in environmental studies, which has led class opened my eyes to the wealth of knowledge that I could mine and I got to read, think, and write about that issue. highlights of my experience. My seminar was on global warming, student leaders. They have simply enriched Union and its “There has been much talk in higher education circles about the need to globalize and internationalize American campuses. The Davis United World College Scholars Program gives reality to the rhetoric. Union has been pleased to welcome Scholars to our campus — and, in addition to bringing talented students with a global perspective to the College, the Scholars have emerged as student leaders. They have simply enriched Union and its campus life beyond words.” — Stephen C. Anley, President Union College

Having attended a place like UWC, Adriatic, one usually has high expectations as far as social and academic life is concerned. Two years spent in a place where everything seemed to fit so perfectly can bring about a disappointment once you leave. However, my social and academic life at Middlebury College has made me grow up and mature more than any other time. The most memorable events have been playing guitar in a flamenco guitar trio in a number of concerts around campus and publishing my first scientific paper in a physics journal. I have always tried to keep a balance between my social and my academic life, and I think I did well. I am applying to graduate schools and, hopefully, I will stay in the United States for another five years. If not, I would have to join the army in Greece. I am not worried because, with everything I have learned these last six years at UWC and Middlebury College, I know I can accomplish anything I want.

Nikitas Stamatiopoulos
Greece
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Middlebury College

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Pranay Sonalkar
India
Mohawk UWC, India
Colby College

I had the opportunity to spend my junior year at Dartmouth as part of the dual-degree engineering program between Colby and Dartmouth. The engineering classes taught me new ways to approach and solve problems and think like an entrepreneur. Coming to Colby as a Davis UWC scholar helped me better understand my identity and how it affects my view of the world. Colby has opened a number of opportunities and possibilities, and it is up to me to make the most of these opportunities. The activity that has had the most influence on me has been StartingBloc, an organization that uses business as a tool to effect social change. My participation as a fellow in their workshops in winter 2006 reminded me that it takes a conscious effort to promote the UWC ideals and make a difference. I hope to pursue a career in business and use business as a tool to effect social change.

At the UWC, I was exposed to all the different cultural context in the world, I was full of ideals and ready to contribute to a good cause, but, at the same time, I found myself overwhelmed and confused. I felt I did not possess the means to live up to the UWC obligation. At Middlebury, I developed my passion for the study of economics. Professors pushed me beyond my limits and carefully nurtured the idea that I could become a competent economist. I was fortunate to meet many accomplished individuals who inspired me and gave me a refreshing new stimulus to my own work. The effort to organize a conference on Afghanistan at Middlebury and the internship at the Valcre Econ Library, in the Czech Republic, were the highlights in this regard. After a brief interlude in the field, I will return to graduate school in order to be better prepared for a career in governmental and international institutions.

Shirla Ngan Wan Sum
Hong Kong
Pearson UWC, Canada
Wellesley College

At Pearson College, I developed a keen interest in other people's stories. After graduation, I found myself surrounded by students with strong ambitions and goals. At Wellesley College, I became fascinated with what these women stood for, listened to their accounts, and discovered that I did not know myself or what I believed in. Wellesley inspired me to embark on a journey of self-discovery. The extraordinary liberal arts education it provides has helped me significantly in the process. I took challenging classes in which I was exposed to numerous economic, political, and philosophical concepts. I learned to accept the vastness of the world, and the importance of remaining a fluid self to absorb myriad ideas. Gradually, I became comfortable with who I am, and what I have become so far Wellesley has taught me that I am the only one who can define success for myself. My plan is to return to Hong Kong to pursue a career in government. I aspire to meet my roots, gain an understanding of my people and, ultimately, contribute to them.

“...”

Shirla Ngan Wan Sum
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Pearson UWC, Canada
Wellesley College

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Pavel Svatun
Czech Republic
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Middlebury College

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Natalie K. Tarallo
USA
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Hamilton College

When I left the UWC I was uncertain I would find another community that would challenge me as my 300-strong UWC family had. As my time at Hamilton College comes to a close, I happily admit I was mistaken. My coursework, professors, and classmates in the Africana Studies Department challenged me to think critically about my values, assumptions, and beliefs everyday. Being part of a small department has afforded me many opportunities — from summer research to a class on Caribbean carnivals with just one other student. I deeply value all I have learned from my professors and classmates. I continue to learn from others outside the classroom.

I have learned to be much more open to ideas and opinions that are, at different times, interesting, enjoyable and fulfilling. The courses that I took in public economics and politics greatly influenced my decision to work in the public sector someday.

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Jamyang Tashi
Bhutan
Pearson UWC, Canada
Colby College

My year abroad in the UK was very enjoyable and fulfilling. The courses that I took in public economics and politics greatly influenced my decision to work in the public sector someday. The Davis UWC Scholars program has allowed me the luxury of receiving a quality education and meeting some remarkable individuals who have truly enriched my life.

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Middlebury College

At the UWC, I was exposed to all the different cultural context in the world, my beliefs were questioned, and, above all, I was assigned some responsibility for what took place in the remotest parts of the world. I was full of ideals and ready to contribute to a good cause, but, at the same time, I found myself overwhelmed and confused. I felt I did not possess the means to live up to the UWC obligation. At Middlebury, I developed my passion for the study of economics. Professors pushed me beyond my limits and carefully nurtured the idea that I could become a competent economist. I was fortunate to meet many accomplished individuals who inspired me and gave me a refreshing new stimulus to my own work. The effort to organize a conference on Afghanistan at Middlebury and the internship at the Valcre Econ Library, in the Czech Republic, were the highlights in this regard. After a brief interlude in the field, I will return to graduate school in order to be better prepared for a career in governmental and international institutions.
As I dream of a career in human rights advocacy, I must confess to thinking that I can make a useful contribution to the cause of peace and our comfortable lives. A Colby education has seduced me into human rights organization fighting domestic violence and trafficking. the shining light of my closest friends. love of my parents, the intellectual example of Colby professors, and inspiring experience. My path is illuminated by the unquestioning tower of academia in the United States has been an unsettling and Economic Consulting. ‘I hope you enjoy the show. of this life could be rehearsed, improved, and then performed. The has become a way of life, and Colby the stage where the first acts the people I studied with in Chile and Russia. Through them, Colby gave me freedom, and then I took it. And I brought it over to the people I worked with in the Philippines, to the people I studied with in Chile and Russia.

Rather than being just another point in my biography, the UWC has become a way of life, and Colby the stage where the first acts of this life could be rehearsed, improved, and then performed. The coming play is called ‘Learning to Solve Problems,’ or ‘The Way of Economic Consulting.’ I hope you enjoy the show.

Jayadev Vadakkanmarvettill
India
Mahindra UWC, India
College of the Atlantic

A Burmese madman once prophesied that I would travel far in life. Truly, the journey from the controlled chaos of India through the famine-torn years at UWC to the ivory tower of academia in the United States has been an unsettling and inspiring experience. My path is illuminated by the unquestioning love of my parents, the intellectual example of Colby professors, and the shining light of my closest friends.

This path has taken me to places like Thailand, where I taught in a Burmese refugee camp, and Cambodia, where I worked with a human rights organization fighting domestic violence and trafficking. The burning idealism of UWC continues to drive me into terrain rendered resistible by corrupt governments, self-serving ideologies, and our comfortable lives. A Colby education has induced me into thinking that I can make a useful contribution to the cause of peace and equity around the world.

As I dream of a career in human rights advocacy, I must confess to an abiding faith in the goodness of mankind.
Shamshur Virk  
Canada  
Punjab UWC, Canada  
College of the Atlantic

At no other time in my life have I been so acutely aware of the power of established discourse. These years have been an exploration through, around, behind, and beyond this discourse. It has been a time of language learning. The idioms of sound, image, and gesture have complicated and enriched my understanding of language. New ways of seeing, hearing, and acting have formed an ecology of language on which I can draw for comprehension and expression. Ultimately, I have gained great respect for and equal suspicion of those who are given voice in our society. My exploration has never been a solitary one, and I thank those quiet concerns, each lamenting their lack of power. I hope to refine my ability to hear whispers and tell of what I hear.

My exploration has never been a solitary one, and I thank those quiet concerns, each lamenting their lack of power. I hope to refine my ability to hear whispers and tell of what I hear. The ethical challenges of interpersonal relationships have been at the core of my learning. The future will be an attempt to do justice to relationships formed with increasing sincerity and compassion.

Tatiana Virviöesca Mendoza  
Colombia  
Li Pu-Chu, UWC, Hong Kong  
Middlebury College

One of the highlights of being a UWC scholar has been the opportunity to develop my academic interests even at an early age, and animate a sense of curiosity. During my sophomore year at Middlebury, I had the opportunity to design my major by combining international studies, anthropology, and dance through the independent scholar program. I studied in Paris, where I conducted research for my senior thesis and final dance performance. These projects are the palpable culmination of my academic interests since they are investigations of Colombian migration to France and how dance can reflect this phenomenon. This experience has sharpened my interest in foreign issues and has led me to see that countries can communicate. Ultimately, I hope to return to Colombia and apply the skills I have acquired to improve the political and economic situation through the field of art. Art is linked to political ideologies and has enormous potential to contribute to international understanding.

Jian Wang  
China  
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway  
College of the Atlantic

UWC not only taught me how to speak, think, and understand but also how to be more confident with my goals and passion in life. COA was like a second UWC, I studied human ecology and its role in solving social problems, creating communities, and building good relationships. Studying for a semester at Washington University in St. Louis further enriched my exploration in international business. In summer 2008, I worked in Cleveland as a marketing assistant at a performing arts NGO, Dancing Wheel (which promotes integrated dance for both stand-up and sit-down dancers). That professional experience helped me understand more about the needs of other disabled people.

My dream is to improve life for those who must fight hard to be treated like any other non-disabled citizen. I want to be an international disability activist to help increase the awareness and understanding about many of the topics that I was so passionate about in UWC. The economic development class inspired me the most. It showed me the power of designing, effective public policies when third-world countries try to translate growth into development. The professor of this class, Ann Velenchik, is also my advisor, and she gave me the most important guidance throughout my college life.

Vincent Yu  
Hong Kong  
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy  
College of the Atlantic

My UWC experience prepared me and influenced whom I became. At Princeton, I have majored in operational research and financial engineering. Like many former Davis UWC Scholars, we are passionate global citizens who strive to impact tomorrow. I hope to promote harmonious relationships among people of all nations. That confidence was just the first step in my plan to be a physician specializing in infectious diseases.

At Wellesley, I learned to take responsibility for my plan. I have taken on demanding research projects and leadership roles in a sexual health education, resident assistant, and student health advisor. In the future, I would like to alleviate the disparities in access to health care and as a socially responsible physician.
I am planning to attend graduate school after Wellesley. The college gave me consistent support. I have completed research, had an internship in New York, and traveled around the organization's boards, assisted professors in math and economics on international systems of governance. During my time in the United States, I served on several student honor's degree in economics. I am an economics and math double major and am pursuing an international relations at Princeton University.

I was born and raised in Hangzhou, China. Wellesley College
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
China
Chenying Zhang

Coming out of the United World College of the Atlantic and being a Davis UWC Scholar at Wellesley College, I have always tried to make differences in my community. At Wellesley, I have been actively involved in a number of student organizations, such as the Chinese Students’ Association, Pre-Business Association, and Investment Society. Participating in these student organizations allowed me to initiate and to lead a number of campus events, through which I was able to contribute to the college community as well as to get to know the people around me better. During the summer of 2005, I taught English, as a volunteer, in high schools in one of the poorest cities in rural China. I feel I have really made a difference in the local community, and have helped the students and the people in rural China.

I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Davis, from the depth of my heart, for granting me this wonderful opportunity and privilege to have such an experience.

Wellesley College
Princeton University

Life is not measured in the number of breaths you take. Life lies in the breadth and depth of experiences that possess the power to take your breath away. UWC and Colby have given me rich, precious experiences, and they have given me a keen desire to play my part in bringing this joy and knowledge to the lives of others. The privilege of a liberal arts education has enabled me to develop and grow in ways beyond the sphere of mere academics. Taking full advantage of a liberal arts education, I pursued a double major in economics and mathematics while pursuing in music. My passion for singing and performing led me to Vienna and Prague in the spring of 2005, as part of the Colby Choral trip. The experience of singing at St. Stephen’s Cathedral was magical and breathtaking, an experience I will hold close to my heart always.

After Colby, I studied in the financial industry and eventually return to China, where I believe I can be the most useful.

During my time in the United States, I served on several student organizations’ boards, attended professors in math and economics research, had an internship in New York, and traveled around the country a little bit. I met great professors and friends here in Wellesley who gave me constant support. I am planning to attend graduate school after Wellesley.

I came to Princeton University after my army service in Israel. I had made a quick decision moving from one very intense environment to yet another. I thought at first that I would study physics, but, within less than a year, I realized it was history that made me excited. So I switched – first to European intellectual history and, recently, to Near Eastern history. During my years in Princeton, I learned Arabic (with a summer in Middlebury College’s Summer Language School), and recently I have been trying to master the Judeo-Arabic of the Cairo Geniza for my thesis on Jewish family relations in the Islamic Middle Ages. I spent my junior year in Oxford at Christ Church and had the privilege of experiencing a completely different style of teaching and learning. I plan to continue with my studies in graduate school, either in history or in Near Eastern studies focusing on the Medieval Middle East.

I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Davis, from the depth of my heart, for granting me this wonderful opportunity and privilege to have such an experience.
The Undergraduates

Class of 2008

Nadine Abdallah
Lebanon
UWC-USA
Earlham College

Sanjeeva Abeyasekera
Sri Lanka
Li Po Chun UWC
College of the Atlantic

Avvo Aboagye
Ghana
UWC of the Atlantic
Southammore College

Avvo Addo
Ghana
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Princeton University

Tatiana Aguayo
Colombia
UWC of the Atlantic
College of the Atlantic

Tamim Akiki
Lebanon
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Hamiton College

Huseyn Akturk
Turkey
Waterford UWC Southern Africa
Colby College

Saad Al Shonnar
Palestine
UWC USA
Princeton University

Zain Omar Ali
Ghana
UWC USA
Carleton College

Nima Alidoust
Iran
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Middlebury College

Margret Allam
Sudan
UWC of the Atlantic
Wesminster College

Anton Altermont
Estonia
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Middelbury College

Felix Kwabena Amankoma-Diawoo
Ghana
UWC-USA
Carleton College

Nuzhan Anamov
Kazakhstan
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Methodist University

Shauna Aminath
Maldives
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Wesminster College

Dechan Angmo
India
Mahendra UWC of India
College of the Atlantic

Alessandra Aponte
Honduras
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Harvard College

Dafna Ashkenazi
Israel
UWC-Waises
Wedley College

Ali Aslah
Maldives
Mahendra UWC of India
Wesminster College

Kina Ayob
Malaysia
UWC USA
Princeton University

Anga’aefon Bain-vete
Australia
UWC-USA
San Francisco Art Institute

Monica Balan
Romania
UWC of the Adriatic
Middelbury College

Karolis Balcinas
Lithuania
UWC of the Atlantic
Harvard College

Ajt Balkaawade
India
Mahendra UWC of India
Westminster College

Angela Barrett
USA
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Colby College

Hamad Bar-Zakay
Israel
Li Po Chun UWC
Princeton University

Almaa Bektassov
Kazakhstan
Mahendra UWC of India
Wesminster College

Ishna Berry
India
UWC of South East Asia
Princeton University

Basudha Bhattarak
Nepal
Waterford UWC Southern Africa
Hood College

Aubrey Bodden
USA
UWC-USA
Cornell University

Kristine Boosm
Guatemala
UWC USA
Harvard College

Nienke Boer
South Africa
Waterford UWC Southern Africa
Princeton University

Makvach Bol
Kunya
Li Po Chun UWC
Earlham College

Melvin Brown
Jamaica
UWC of the Atlantic
Wesminster College

"At St. Lawrence University, our UWC Davis Scholars exhibit leadership skills and a generosity of spirit that remind us of the importance of celebrating our different social and cultural histories and recognizing the values we share as fellow human beings. Their unique experiences and perspectives show us the hopedful possibilities that emerge when people work across differences to better the world. The dedication, wisdom, and curiosity of these talented young students are an inspiration to us all."

Daniel F. Sullivan, President
St. Lawrence University

The following pages list the undergraduate Davis United World College Scholars — the members of the Classes of 2008, 2009, and 2010. The scholars are listed alphabetically by class. Each scholar’s name is followed by his or her home country (or countries), UWC school, and present college or university.

2007 Davis United World College Scholars

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From Silence to Science

When Chikoti Mbinge’s father died in Kitwe, Zambia, she and her younger brother were told he’d been a victim of witchcraft. When her mother took sick, Chikoti, then 17, cared for her as her condition worsened. Her mother never admitted what was wrong, and the family could afford neither testing nor treatment — but, by then, Chikoti knew this was AIDS.

“After her death, her sister went very harsh on us,” Chikoti says. “They felt we had brought shame. I decided, ‘If this is what you think about me, let me change that, and do things for myself.’”

She won a Zambian national scholarship to UWC of the Adriatic. “That became a place where I started to grow, to be open.” At first, she told her new friends that her parents had died in a car crash. Then, on the first anniversary of her mother’s passing, “I gathered the closest of my friends, sat down with them, and told them exactly how my mother had died.”

It was a breakthrough. As a biological chemistry major who graduates this spring from Wellesley College, Chikoti has become a promising young researcher in the quest for an AIDS vaccine.

She worked as an intern at the Partners AIDS Research Center in Charlestown, Mass., where her research, the basis for her senior thesis, focused on how key protein receptors are recognizing the virus, says her advisor, Jean Glasscock, Professor of Biological Sciences.

Her work “positively can contribute to the search for a vaccine,” says her advisor, Joan Glasscock, Professor of Biological Sciences.

Mary Allen: “She really has pushed the boundaries.”

Now, She Takes Aim at the Virus

Chikoti was named one of Glamour magazine’s 2007 Davis United World College Scholars.
relationships that over the years will expand international
"The Davis United World College Scholars Program makes
Scholars are excellent students, and they bring a variety
of experiences and perspectives into our classrooms
leaders 'who will be distinguished both in their
and residence halls. They are building personal
Catharine Bond Hill, President

Vassar College

Shira Kaplan
Israel
UWC of the Adriatic
Harvard College

Manjola Karama
Albania
UWC of the Atlantic
Lake Forest College

Aneth Kasebele
Tanzania
UWC-USA
Wesleyan University

Ashlesha Khadse
India
Mahindra UWC of India
College of the Atlantic

Ahmad Khairi
Jordan
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Harvard College

Ahmad Moustafa Khalil
Egypt
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
University of Richmond

Joanne Kwan
Hong Kong
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Cornell University

Siu Yu Kwan
Republic of Singapore
UWC of South East Asia
Cornell University

Lok Man Lam
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC
Middlebury College

Pranat Laosapaporn
Thailand
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Macalester College

Yu Ying Lau
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC
Middlebury College

Nhung LE
Vietnam
UWC of the Atlantic
Hampden-Sydney College

Kieran Ledwidge
Australia
UWC-USA
Princeton University

Yeotso Shamo
Botswana
UWC-USA
Wellesley College

Jireh Li
China
Li Po Chun UWC
Princeton University

Haydee Linde
Jamaica
Mohammed UWC of India
Williams College

Colene Lizzio
India
UWC-USA
Princeton University

Priyanka Mahadevia
Canada
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Middlebury College

Victor Llanquez-Zonta
Bolivia
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Macalester College

Joshua Losehre
USA
UWC of the Atlantic
Princeton University

James Lolo
Sudan
UWC of the Atlantic
Williams College

James Jolojo Lombe Simon
Sudan
UWC of the Atlantic
Macalester College

Jimmy Longun
Sudan
UWC of South East Asia
Macalester College

Chau Lu
China
UWC-USA
Princeton University

Thembumoni Lukhele
Swaziland
UWC of the Atlantic
Colorado College

Paninya Masrareang
Thailand
Prasan UWC of the Pacific
Smith College

Nicholas Macfarlane
Canada
UWC-USA
Carleton College

Nhanhla Maduna
South Africa
UWC of the Atlantic
Earlham College

Tiri Maha
China
UWC of the Atlantic
Middlebury College

Priyanka Mahadevia
Canada
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Wellesley College

Shui Kee Mak
China
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Cornell University

Thabo Malakane
Lesotho
Mohammed UWC of India
Princeton University

Karlo Mantle
Botswana
Prasan UWC of the Pacific
Earlham College

Kennedy Maving
Sudan
UWC of the Adriatic
Macalester College

Kenneth Martin
USA
UWC of the Atlantic
Earlham College

Alicia Rose Martinez
USA
UWC of the Atlantic
Colorado College

Paninya Masrareang
Thailand
Prasan UWC of the Pacific
Smith College

Noshani Matabone
Botswana
Li Po Chun UWC
Carleton College

Anamalai Murug
South Africa
UWC of South Africa
Earlham College

Martin McIntyre
USA
UWC of the Atlantic
St. Lawrence University

Mariah Murugesan
Canada
Mohammed UWC of India
Wellesley College

Daphne Morrison
Canada
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Middlebury College

Jessica Movles
USA
UWC-USA
Macalester College

Ivan Muckhaya Muchimbi
Zambia
Waterford UWC of Southern Africa
St. Lawrence University

John Mumo
Kenya
UWC-USA
Colby College

Narita Mutsuki
Japan
UWC-USA
Macalester College

Khalilu Muhammad
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Wellesley College

Adelina Mustapha
Kosovo
UWC of the Adriatic
Princeton University

Abidin Muzammil
Zambia
UWC-USA
Colby College

Russel Naidu
South Africa
UWC of South Africa
Middlebury College

Brett Mitchell
Canada
Li Po Chun UWC
Princeton University

Shirin Nour
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Lafayette College

Rajesh Nair
India
UWC-USA
Fisk College

Zainab Nashef
Saudi Arabia
UWC of the Adriatic
Middlebury College

Katharine Bond Hill, President
Vassar College

The Undergraduates

2007 Davis United World College Scholars

Page 54
U.S. Colleges Distribution by Class Year

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The Undergraduates

- 2007 Davis United World College Scholars
- 2007 Davis United World College Scholars

56 | 57
The Undergraduates

The Undergraduates

2007 Davis United World College Scholars

58

59

“Some of the most educationally meaningful interactions that students have happen in their everyday exchanges with one another: in the residence hall, in the lab, or in between classes. It is in these informal contacts, in subtle ways, that the knowledge of others is transferred. The greater the variety of students we welcome to Amherst, the greater the inventory of knowledge and culture there is to share. An institution that strives to serve the world must be a part of the world. The Davis United World College Scholars Program is helping to make the world more a part of us.”

Anthony W. Marx
Amherst
"I am very impressed with the contributions that UWC students make to the educational and residential life of Carleton College. The more we interact with Davis United World College Scholars, the more we understand that we have a lot to learn from UWC. As Carleton reviews its international and cross-cultural studies programs, we will be studying the ways UWC works with students to develop skills in conflict resolution and intercultural communication."  
Robert A. Oden, Jr., President  
Carleton College
feel that, as a result of the Westminster experience, both "We have a saying here at Westminster that 'Our College the domestic and the international students who attend significance, and service in an international context that about the international community, we live it. I strongly experiences. At Westminster College, we don't just talk providing our students with real world and global up to those words with our steadfast commitment to offering students with real world and global experiences. At Westminster College, we don't just talk about the international community, we live it. I strongly feel that, as a result of the Westminster experience, both the domestic and the international students who attend our college will be well prepared to live lives of success, significance, and service in an international context that will contribute to world peace and prosperity."
An Afghan Scholar Aims to Repay What He Has Received

From Horror to Hope — with Hard Work

In 2000, the young man shook off his depression to resume his schooling. From Horror to Hope — with Hard Work

In time, Qiam hopes to go home, to work for Afghanistan’s future. “It was kind of a fairy tale. Nobody thought I could get it,” he says. “But he did. That led to two years at Li Po Chun UWC in Hong Kong — “We had people from 75 countries there! It was the best experience of my life” — and then to Colby, where he’s majoring in political science and international relations.

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“Educational opportunities such as the ones offered through the Davis United World College Scholars Program do more for the promotion of peace and tolerance than politicians and diplomats can possibly accomplish in the same amount of time. Our community is enriched and enlivened by the presence of our international students from the UWC.”

Stephen D. Schutt, President
Lakeside College
When Home Is a Camp

A Sahrawi Scholar Recalls a Country She’s Never Seen

S enia Bachir-abderahman (Western Sahara, Red Cross Nordic UWC, Mt. Holyoke) ‘10 grew up in a tent. Her family’s tent is in a giant refugee camp, home to 150,000 people, in a remote desert region of Algeria. Her family has existed there since the 1970s, when the Sahrawi people of Western Sahara began fleeing their country during a war with Morocco that would last until 1991.

Senia was born in the camp, where 80 percent of the residents are women and children. About one in four children there is chronically malnourished. Working very hard at school in Algeria, Senia learned to speak English, Spanish, French, and Arabic, along with her native Hassanya. Three years ago, she was 15 when a delegation from the Norwegian UWC Selection Committee entered the tent where she lived with her mother, stepfather, and five brothers. They were offering good students the chance to apply for a UWC scholarship. It would be the first such opportunity for a Sahrawi.

“I thought, ‘I don’t think I’ll get in, but at least I’ll have tried,’” Senia recalls. She did try. She won the scholarship. During her two years at UWC, each summer she returned to teach English to other refugee women at the camp. Now at Mt. Holyoke College, she hopes herself explaining to someone where her country is in the world.

“Now of course I’ve heard of Western Sahara,” she says. “No one knows that the camp I come from is the biggest refugee camp in the world.”

How has she changed since that day when the Norwegians came to her tent?

“I’m more concerned,” she muses, “about the cause of Western Sahara and my people. I never realized how much conflict is forgotten and unknown. Now, I understand more what it means to struggle. To me, then, my life in the camp didn’t seem so strange.”

Sahra and my people. I never realized how much conflict is forgotten. When I came to her tent? She remembers the day a delegation of Norwegians came to Senia’s tent and asked her where her country was in the world. Senia answered that it was in the Sahara Desert. “To me, then, my life in the camp didn’t seem so strange,” she says. Now, I understand what it means to struggle.

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“We are proud to be the headquarters and home campus for the UWC Scholars Program, a visionary and transformative initiative for undergraduate education. By bringing together intelligent and intellectually hungry students from around the world, the program enriches the educational experiences of thousands of students at 76 campuses, challenging them to engage, confront, and understand difference. What better way to prepare the next generation of global leaders, ready to confront the great challenges of the 21st century.”

Ronald D. Liebowitz, President

Middlebury College
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Making Change, Person to Person
Colby Team Connects with a Crowd of Learners in India

When over two dozen students from Colby College, including three Davis UWC Scholars, traveled to a school named for Mahatma Gandhi in northeastern India to teach about 250 young people music, dance, poetry, English, and current world issues, the results were — in the Colby students’ own words — “incredible … amazing … intense … having an impact capable of lasting in our absence.”

This story began when Colby music professor Steven Nuss saw a PBS special about the Gandhi Ashram, which provides free schooling to low-income children in the Darjeeling district of West Bengal State. All students at the school participate in an orchestra whose quality, reputation and renown, inspired the PBS special.

Nuss contacted the Gandhi Ashram, and worked with fellow professor Arindra Roy and Indian student Ratul Bhattacharyya to organize the trip. Last January, the two professors and 27 Colby students flew east to spend three weeks teaching third through eleventh graders.

“Our mission was to provide the kids with an environment where they could freely express themselves through sports, music, crafts, and several other activities,” reported Daniel Gomaz (Colombia, Mahindra UWC, Colby ’10), who taught percussion, guitar, and Latin dancing. “I formed some very strong bonds with the students there.”

“Music was a focus of many interactions. “We had a rocking jam and poetry. “I hope to go back early next year.” The third Scholar on the trip was Samreen Anwar (India, Mahindra UWC, Colby ’10). Music was a focus of many interactions. “We had a rocking jam and poetry. “I hope to go back early next year.” The third Scholar on the trip was Samreen Anwar (India, Mahindra UWC, Colby ’10).
A Commitment to the Most Vulnerable Kids

Julia Neubauer Co-Creates a Visionary Charity

There are 18 million street children in India. There are six young women from six different nations on the board of the Ashraya Initiative for Children, a non-profit that three of them started after working with kids at Mahindra UWC in India.

“At some point you’re going to realize that it’s worth giving somebody else a chance, because you got one,” observes Davis UWC Scholar Julia Neubauer (Austria, Mahindra UWC, Princeton ’07). Julia co-founded the initiative (in Hindi, ashraya means “hope,” “trust,” “shelter” and “protection”) with fellow Mahindra grads Elizabeth Sholtys, an American now at Emory University, and Kamini Mojarra of England and India, who now studies at the London School of Economics.

At Mahindra, the three resolved to come back to India to work again with kids. They’d moved on to college when, in April ’04, Liz Sholtys emailed the others and asked, Why not now? “We both said, ‘We’re in,’” Julia recalls.

In June ’05 they christened the new organization, which now rents an apartment in Pune that is the full-time home to nine children and two live-in caregivers. The program also runs an outreach effort that provides for the education, medical, and other needs of 20 more kids.

Each of the original board members — now joined by Jasleen Anand of Canada, Asami Matsumoto of Japan, and Amber Wang of the U.S. — commits to spending time working in Pune with the children. They have weekly phone conferences, and each is raising funds in her home country and community.

“We really want to assure donors that we consider these kids as our kids — and we take responsibility for them,” Julia says.

Julia will spend part of this summer working for the Princeton University Investment Company, where she has been interning, then will spend time in Pune before returning to the Princeton job.

“Whatever you’re doing to do the right thing,” says Andrew Golden, president of the investment firm. Julia won the university’s 2006 International Service Award for her work with Ashraya and her three fellow volunteers.

“We all see this as a lifetime project,” she sums up.
Graduates in Action

Sebastien Douville
Biodiesel Entrepreneur

The world’s energy needs may soon be met in part with fuels made from plant oils, and Sebastien Douville (Canada, UWC of the Atlantic, Princeton ’06) is working hard to help make that happen.

Last summer, together with Princeton classmate Nate Lowery of Seattle, Sebastien founded Axios Energy LLC, a startup that aims to contribute to the development of cost-effective biodiesel. Biodiesel is a fuel that’s made from mixing a fatty plant oil, such as soybean or canola oil, with alcohol, and can be used in diesel engines with no modifications. As mechanical and aerospace engineering majors at Princeton, Sebastien and Nate invented an exceptionally efficient way to mix those components; they developed a business plan that won Princeton’s 2006 Business Plan Competition.

At their commencement last May, the two accepted two more honors: the Calvin Dodg MacCraken ’40 Senior Thesis/Project award from the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the Donald Janssen Dike award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research from the mechanical and aerospace engineering department.

After traveling to Ethiopia during the summer, to spend some time working on an irrigation project through Engineers Without Borders, Sebastien rejoined Nate to grow Axios from their office in Jersey City, N.J. For the near term, the partners have set their sights on offering consulting services within the fast-emerging biodiesel industry. They are also working to help meet the industry’s most pressing issue: providing genuinely sustainable and affordable raw materials for producers of the fuel.

Kido” Kidolezi
Opening Opportunity

The journey that took Yohanne “Kido” Kidolezi (Tanzania, Red Cross Nordic UWC, Middlebury ’05) from a small town in central Tanzania to Norway and Vermont now has him in Boston, working as an economic analyst in the consulting industry. But not long ago, he went back home — and that made yet another difference in his life.

For his Middlebury senior thesis on child labor in his home nation, Kido got a grant from the college to return to Tanzania in summer ’04. He spent two and a half months interviewing child laborers.

“It was definitely an eye-opening experience!” he says. “I was lucky enough to go to UWC, and then really lucky to go to Middlebury as a Davis UWC Scholar. I really identified with those child laborers, because I knew there was a real chance I could have been there, doing what they’re doing.”

After graduation, Kido went to work in the Boston offices of the Analysis Group, Inc., which provides economic, financial, and business strategy consulting to law firms, corporations, and government agencies. As an economic analyst, Kido provides analysis of economic data and studies that can be key to legal proceedings, business strategy, or public policy.

“I like the academic rigor, the academic challenge that comes with this work,” he says. “I like the collaboration that’s involved in finding results from data.”

Looking ahead, Kido would like to earn an M.B.A., then bring that to a career in the non-profit sector. The difference he would like to make in the world goes back to the opportunities he had — and to those that so many child laborers do not.

“I’m passionate about children and education,” Kido says:
Elizabeta Gorgoska: Understanding Asthma

“After graduating from Coblly, I was a research assistant for Professor Jeffrey Fredberg at the Molecular and Integrative Physiological Sciences Program at the Harvard School of Public Health,” reports Elizabeta Gorgoska (Macedonia, Red Cross Nordic UWC, Coblly ’04). She hopes to graduate next in January from HSPH, with a master’s degree in health policy and management.

Elizabeta’s work with Prof. Fredberg focused on asthma. “Since there is little known about what causes asthma,” she explains, “we were investigating how much the mechanical properties of the airway’s smooth muscle cells contribute to inflammation and airway constriction during attacks.” Her work led to a paper that she co-presented at the 2005 meeting of the American Thoracic Society, in San Diego, with Seven an, an associate professor at Johns Hopkins University.

In Boston, Elizabeta is involved with the Ex-Yugoslavian mIT Society, and has been involved with a social group created “to better its efficiency and quality.”

Elizabeta hopes to pursue a career in health-care consulting — with her master’s degree and research experience, reports. “the Social Committee of the Harvard School of Design,” she adds. “Most street children have been through traumatic events. It takes tact to talk to them without unpacking a can of suppressed issues.”

Ghana is one of six nations — along with Ireland, the United Kingdom, Fiji, Jamaica, and Grenada — in which Nikhit planned to spend time doing that. His project has been to learn, then write stories, about the lives of the street kids he gets to know.

“I want fleshed-out stories that are readable and interesting.” Nikhit writes. “I would like to publish these stories on a web site or blog, so that people can share in my experience.

“Even with the language barriers, these street children have made a concerted effort to befriend a foreigner interested in their lives. And the best part is that none of them has ever asked me for money or any kind of payment. My curiosity about their lives was reciprocated by an abundant curiosity about my life in India.”

Nikhit has contended with immigration bureaucracies, made networks of friends in each new country, and gained, he says, “amazing insight into life in a different country.

“Through my stories, I want people to realize that these children live their lives in days measured by hopes and dreams, like all of us, and not simply by the atrocities they have faced.”

Nikhit D’sa: Stories from the World’s Street Kids

Traveling alone to countries far from home, seeking to enter the lives of some of the world’s estimated 150 million street children: This has been the year’s Watson Fellowship project for Nikhit D’sa (India, Mahindra UWC, College of the Atlantic ’06).

“Research with at risk youth is a precarious affair no matter where it is conducted,” Nikhit emailed recently from Ghana. “Most street children have been through traumatic events. It takes tact to talk to them without unpacking a can of suppressed issues.”

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Paulina Ponce de León Baridó’s Global Journey

Peru, Sri Lanka, the Dominican Republic, Mali, Madagascar, Switzerland, and Sweden. That’s not an everyday itinerary!

Yet those were the countries to which a 365-day journey, made possible by a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, took Paulina Ponce de León Baridó (Mexico, Pearson UWC, Wellesley ’05) last year. Now back in Massachusetts, she is a graduate student attending the Technology and Policy Program at MIT, with much help from a prestigious 2006 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholarship.

Of the Watson journey, Paulina recalls, “I was very willing to do it, but I was very scared.” The experience brought her, she says, to a better understanding of how appropriate energy technologies can help poor countries to develop — that was her project’s focus — and, unexpectedly, to a deeper understanding of herself.

“The Watson was a constructively uncomfortable experience,” she said in giving a talk at Wellesley last fall. “The world surprised me — its fragility, its richness, and goodness. In a way, the world gave itself to me.”

“Now that I’m back in school,” she adds, the experience “has helped me to be a much more balanced person. I value my friends and family, which of course I did before; but there is an extra something now in my relationships with people, both old and new, and with myself.”

Wellesley’s first winner of a Cook Scholarship, which funds up to six years of graduate study, Baridó is hoping to build her skills and knowledge at MIT for a career direction that took form during her Watson journey. She would like, she says, “to belong to the private sector and participate in the development of

At the SPARKS Academy, an early childhood development center that Davis UWC Scholars helped create in Kabul, Afghanistan, Davis UWC Scholar Samira Thomas (Canada, Pearson UWC, Brown ’10), at center in white, and her sister, Davis alumna Rishma Thomas (Canada, Atlantic College UWC, Princeton ’03), visit with a group of Afghan children from the Kuchi nomadic community. Rishma and older brother Karm (Canada, Pearson UWC, Princeton ’04) started the student service organization SPARKS in their home nation, then brought it to Princeton. The SPARKS Academy in Kabul opened its doors in November 2003. The academy recently moved into a larger facility, and can now serve over 200 students. Its first group of graduates have begun their studies at Afghan public schools — and evaluations show that they are top students in each school they attend. The school Director is now working with the Ministry of Education to promote strategies for bringing early childhood education to children across Afghanistan, with the SPARKS Academy serving as a model.

Stories from the World’s Street Kids

Nikhit’s stories are published in the book “At the Heart of the Street: Children on the Move: A Reflective Journey” by author Elizabeta Gorgoska. The book is available in hardcover and paperback editions.


The Power of Private Philanthropy

Private philanthropy can be transformative. Through the Davis United World College Scholars Program, talented individual students and outstanding educational institutions are being transformed by the philanthropic investments of Shelby and Gale Davis. Their long-term goal is to create greater international understanding among future generations of the world’s decision-makers, by bringing together a growing number of promising students from diverse cultures and supporting their undergraduate educations at selected American colleges and universities.

If you are inclined to invest your own philanthropy in a college or university of your choice, in the program shown here or in the United World Colleges, we encourage you to do so. Your investment can help change the world. For assistance, please contact:

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Applying to the Davis UWC Scholars Program

The Davis UWC Scholars Program annually reviews those institutions selected for participation in the program. It welcomes letters of request for consideration from the presidents of American colleges and universities explaining in some detail why their schools would be good candidates for the program.

Essential to any applicant school is its alignment with the program’s key goal of internationalizing the American undergraduate experience through building clusters of globally aware students, particularly graduates of the UWC schools worldwide. Letters may be submitted at any time during the academic year, but no later than May 31, so that decisions can be rendered each year in August.

The Davis UWC Scholars Program makes grants only to institutions and not directly to any individual student. Grants are in support of need-based scholarship awards to eligible graduates of the United World College schools worldwide who matriculate at the selected schools.

For assistance and/or to learn more, please contact:

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backgrounds, “the moment we meet, we just start a conversation,” notes Elias Gebrehiwot (Ethiopia, UWC Singapore, College of the Atlantic ’08), who attended both the development-project and global trade programs. “It was as if we were brothers and sisters.

“As a UWC student, you want to make the world a better place,” he reflects. “In the end, I think what this course has taught me is that the force of change and development has to come from the highest level. And anyone interested in change and improvement really has to understand the overarching issues.

“I wouldn’t claim to be an expert by any means,” Daniel adds. “But certainly, as much as you can do in three weeks, I think my time was well-used.”

PAGE 53 overs
Top Ten College Women of 2006. When she went up on stage at the New York City ceremony, having shared her story, women in the audience were in tears.

“Oh my God, I just didn’t expect this story would have such an impact,” Chikoti muses. “But I’m glad it did.” Her family now expresses admiration for how far she has gone. But Chikoti isn’t through.

“I see myself breaking barriers,” she reflects — “and giving people things they can hold onto in their lives.”

PAGE 65 overs
“If there is another Taliban regime, it will be too dangerous for someone with new ideas,” he says. “But if it’s more stable, I want to eventually live in Afghanistan. The international community gave a gift to the people of my country, through helping me.”

Qiam is already working to develop a program that would enable deserving Afghan teenagers to attend American prep schools.

“He’s working very, very hard,” observes Joe Feely, the Colby College architect.

Feely, his wife Caroline, and their family have served as a host family for Qiam. “The impact that he has made on our lives,” Joe Feely says, “is pretty profound.”

PAGE 74 overs
session this morning,” reported American student Suzanne Merkelson ’09, on a blog the Colby team kept from area Internet cafes. “The kids love Green Day — we tried not to take offense when they requested the song ‘American Idiot.’”

The project’s culminating performance featured the students’ work with their American instructors in harmony singing, salsa dancing, poetry reading, blues singing, and more.

“After UWC we tend to want to make global change — but often we forget that big changes come from smaller changes at a local level,” Daniel Gomez reflected afterward. “We might have not even created a change on the local community as a whole, but I dare to say that individuals were affected by us as much as they affected us.”

PAGE 78 overs (Sebastien)
“We’re trying to find innovative and forward-thinking solutions for our strategic partners,” Sebastien says.

The field, he adds, is exploding. “In 2003, there were about 12 million gallons of biodiesel produced in the US. In 2006, there were about 175 million gallons.”

As they build their team and their credentials and connections within the field, Sebastien and Nate hope to win backing and investment for the long-term projects they are developing.

“Our goal is to ensure that biodiesel has a truly green, sustainable, yet profitable future,” Sebastien says.

PAGE 78 overs (Kido)
“I would like every child to have the opportunity I have had. To me, education opens the possibility to do whatever you want. I’m saying, ‘Give kids a chance, and what they do with that is up to them.’

“I’m one of the few who really got that chance,” he adds. “When I went home, it hit me how lucky I was.”

PAGE 81 overs (Paulina)
public-private partnerships that can successfully address poverty and environmental problems.

“I’m still trying to figure out the details — but I really believe that the private sector has so much to offer, in terms of development and of balancing a lot of things that are not really balanced right now.”