

The TribUni

From the Director

Dear Scholars,

Welcome to a new year in the University Scholars Program, the 10th year of the program's existence. It's hard to believe that the first class of undergraduates, graduate students, and professional school students matriculated ten years ago in 1999. At that time, there was nothing like the USP in existence at any other university in the world, no program that provided financial support combined with programmatic activities and a mission of promoting interdisciplinary approaches to knowledge for a community of undergraduates, graduate students, and professional school students alike. The USP was also Duke's first merit scholarship for undergraduates where high financial need was a primary criterion for selection, and which promised material and relational opportunities for intellectual exploration.

In the ten years since the program's inception, the University Scholars Program has seen 131 scholars graduate from Duke. These include 59 former undergraduate scholars, 24 former graduate student scholars, and 48 former professional school scholars. Among our undergraduate alumni, eighteen are now seeking doctoral degrees in fields varying from Economics, Political Science, Biology, Physics, History, and Neuroscience at institutions across the U.S. from the University of California at Berkeley, San Diego, Davis, and Cal Tech to MIT, UNC, Harvard and Yale. Several of those now working are planning to go on to graduate study in Comparative

Literature, Cultural Anthropology, and Environmental Studies. Five undergraduate alumni pursued Master's degrees in Music, Engineering Management, Public Health, Peace Studies and African Studies. Ten undergraduate alums went on to medical school or veterinary school at places like Harvard, Columbia, Baylor, UC-San Diego, and N.C. State. In just the past two years, four undergraduate alumni have started law school at the University of Washington, Columbia University, Cardozo School of Law, and Yale Law School. Others have entered the job force in New York City, San Francisco, Chicago, and Washington, D.C., Kansas City, Honolulu, Baltimore, and Durham. Despite the occasional bumps in the road, Uni undergraduate alumni have been successful in their post-graduate endeavors.

Our graduate and professional school alumni have also had success. All of our graduate students who completed their Ph.D.'s have landed post-doctoral positions or tenure-track faculty positions at institutions including Harvard, the University of Wisconsin, Calvin College, Hiram College, Stanford and Cornell among others. And our professional school students have also been fortunate in finding employment in their areas of expertise in business, law, medicine, nursing, divinity and the environment.

I try to keep up with as many University Scholar graduates as I can. I have been working to strengthen our alumni base, to establish a stronger network of USP alumni to whom our current scholars can reach out for advice and inspiration. You can read more about some of our alumni's

(Continued on page 2)



Table of Contents

- *From the Director* pg. 1-2
- *Commencement 2009* pg.2
- *About Our Graduates* pg. 3-5
- *Awards and Honors* pg. 6
- *New Unis* pg. 8-9
- *Alumni News Briefs* pg. 9
- *Calendar of Events* pg. 10

recent activities later in this issue.

2008-2009 was an event-filled year. So many undergraduate scholars received funding from the USP for summer enrichment projects that we held three seminars to discuss their experiences and results. Projects included an internship with Teachers Without Borders in Abuja, Nigeria; an internship with *The National*, an English language daily newspaper in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.; research on sea turtle conservation efforts in Baja, Mexico; an internship with the Public Defender's Office in Washington, D.C., and independent research on conspiracy theory movements in Austin, Texas. Our seminars featured discussions led by University Scholar graduate students, including a panel discussion on "Choice" with Irene Liu (Biology), Sarah Heilbronner (Cognitive Neuroscience), and Carlos Mariscal (Philosophy), who are all USP Grad Mentors for the 2009-2010 academic year, along with Mari Armstrong-Hough (Sociology). Other seminars last year included dissertation research presentations by Erin Gentry Lamb (English) on "The Glandular Grail: Scientific Rejuvenation and the 'Cure' for Old Age," by Jonathan Bird (History) on "Marital Disputes in Colonial Mexico," and current research by Dean and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Life, Steve Nowicki (Biology) on the evolution of signal complexity, constraints on signal evolution, and mechanisms of signal production and perception using birdsong as a model system.

Last year concluded with the USP welcoming eight new undergraduates from as near as Charlotte, NC to as far as Sunsari, Nepal, along with eight new graduate students and six new professional school students. Meanwhile, nine un-

dergraduates, two graduate students, and eight professional school students completed their studies in 2009. You can read more about our graduates as well as our new scholars later in this issue.

For the forthcoming 2009-2010 academic year, I anticipate another series of stimulating seminars, coffees, the annual spring symposium, coffees and other USP events, and selections of new University Scholars on the agenda. As we begin the fall 2009 semester, current University Scholars will gather at our annual fall retreat, August 29-30 at the Haw River State Park, where they will reconnect with returning Unis and meet out newest University Scholars, whose bios are featured on pages 8 and 9 of the newsletter. We will also plan for a full year of USP seminars, coffees, mentoring, and symposia. Scholars have already made excellent suggestions for seminar topics and mentor group outings, including an interdisciplinary panel discussion on health care system reform in the U.S., a seminar on climate change, embracing the theme of "choice" as a symposium topic, and hosting Uni outings to the Durham Farmers' Market and to "you-pick" farms in the area.

We'll also entertain ideas for how to celebrate the USP's 10th anniversary during our events throughout the year, including inviting alumni back to share their current work and experiences, while keeping mindful of how to honor our past and present scholars in these times of financial austerity. I have full confidence in the creative ingenuity of all our scholars to know that we will celebrate the varied achievements of the University Scholars with flair. I look forward to working with everyone as we craft another terrific year with the program.

All the best! ~Tori

University Scholars Class of 2009

The University Scholars Program proudly presents our graduating University Scholars from the Class of 2009:

UNDERGRADUATE

Jane Chong (Trinity)

A.B. English, B.S. Economics, Philosophy minor

Edwin Figueroa (Trinity)

A.B. Cultural Anthropology, Film/Video/Digital certificate

Wei Gan (Trinity)

A.B. Cultural Anthropology, Psychology minor, Human Development certificate

David Graham (Trinity)

A.B. History, Asian & Middle Eastern Studies minor, Islamic Studies certificate

Yeney Hernandez (Trinity)

A.B. Psychology, A.B. English

Jonathan Karp (Trinity)

B.S. Earth & Ocean Sciences, Chemistry minor (December 2008)

Andrea Marston (Trinity)

A.B. International Comparative Studies, B.S. Environmental Science & Policy, Political Science Minor

Oindri Mitra (Trinity)

B.S. Economics, A.B. English

Maria Wojakowski (Trinity)

A.B. Interdepartmental Biology-Math

GRADUATE

Marion Adeney (Ecology)

Remote Sensing of Fire, Flooding and White Sand Ecosystems in the Amazon

Erin Gentry Lamb (English)

The Age of Obsolescence: Senescence and Scientific Rejuvenation in Twentieth Century America (December 2008)

PROFESSIONAL

Stephanie Becherer

M.S. Nursing, Clinical Pediatrics. *School of Nursing* (December 2008)

Sarah Keeton Campbell

J.D. *School of Law*
M.P.P. *Public Policy*

Kimberly Trabbic Carlson

M.Div., *Divinity School*

Ian Dick

P.A., *School of Medicine*

Drew McConville

M.A. *Environmental Management Nicholas School of the Environment*
"Treatment of Early Emissions Reductions by Leading Climate Bills in the U.S. Congress"

Loren Robinson

M.D., *School of Medicine*

Gretchen Scheidler

M.B.A., *Fuqua School of Business*

Leanne Stanley

M.D., *School of Medicine*

More About Our Graduates



Marion Adeney, (Ph.D. Ecology) Before arriving in Durham in fall 2003, Marion completed a Master's in biology at Columbia University, examining bird community composition along a gradient of fire severity in a lowland tropical forest in

Sumatra, Indonesia. At Duke, she continued her study of the effects of fire in the Brazilian Amazon, focusing on how bird communities are affected by gradients of disturbance and how this changes over different scales. Currently, Marion is writing an NSF proposal for a postdoc with Lisa Curran at Stanford University to work on a comparison between white sand heath forests in Brazil and in Borneo. Marion may have the possibility of a postdoc at Duke to work on Amazon deforestation.

Stephanie Becherer, M.S. Nursing, Clinical Pediatrics, School of Nursing. (December 2008) Stephanie returned to her home state of Florida to work as a staff nurse in the cardiac intensive care unit at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando, Fla. She hopes to return to the research she began in the Master's of Nursing program examining interprofessional collaboration, primarily between nurses and physicians. She hopes that work will inspire the development of interventions that can improve collaboration and therefore the quality of patient care.



Sarah Keeton Campbell J.D. *School of Law, M.P.P. Public Policy* graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in Public Policy. She joined the USP and Duke in 2005 as a joint degree candidate in the Law School and in Public Policy. She served as editor of the Duke Law Review, was active in the Christian Legal Society

and in Moot Court competitions, and re-established the Education Law and Policy Society at the Law School. She helped co-author an article with Professor Doriane Coleman, a USP faculty advisor, on perceptions of corporal punishment in the child welfare system. Sarah won the Law School Advocacy Award. After clerking this summer for Judge William H. Pryor, Jr. of the 11th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, Sarah is joining the law firm of Williams and Connolly in Washington, D.C.

Jane Chong (Trinity) of Elk Grove, Illinois double majored in English and Economics, and completed a minor in Philosophy, just one course shy of a third major, if Duke al-



lowed it. Jane completed a senior thesis in English on "Lolita and the Reader Death-Instinct," and graduated *summa cum laude*. She received a Davis Project for Peace Award to expand upon her concept of the Mobile Classroom in Nigeria, a project which began with funding from the USP. Following completion of the project, Jane will be headed to Thai-

land as a Hart Fellow. Jane will work with the Human Development Foundation's Mercy Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. Mercy Centre is a shelter for street children, an orphanage, a hospice, a home for mothers and children with HIV/AIDS, a 400-pupil kindergarten, and a community meeting place for children and families living in the Bangkok's largest slum of Klong Toey. In addition to completing a community-based research project for Mercy Centre, Jane will collaborate with key staff to assist with operations and development at the Mothers' and Children's Home and Mercy Schools. Jane plans to attend law school after completing her Hart Fellowship and returning to the U.S.

Kimberly Trabbic Carlson, M.Div. Divinity School, completed her Master's in Divinity at the Duke Divinity School in Spring 2009. Before coming to Duke, she earned a BS in Engineering from the University of Michigan and a PhD in Bioengineering from the University of Washington. She joined Duke's department of Biomedical Engineering as an Assistant Research Professor and has co-authored numerous articles on protein purification while pursuing post-doctoral research in Professor Ashutosh Chilkoti's research lab. After her husband's death, Kim joined the Divinity School in 2006.



She is interested in the intersection of science and religion with particular emphasis on end-of-life and grief pastoral care. Kim completed her final year of coursework at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago in 2008-2009, a full year internship in a church (a Lutheran requirement for ordination). She will be serving Christ Lutheran Church in Fairbanks, Alaska.



Ian Dick, P.A., School of Medicine was born and raised in Akron, Ohio. He graduated from The Ohio State University in 2007 with degrees in biology and psychology. He has experience as an EMT and a combat medic, and has done relief work in New Orleans. After completing his

degree as a Physician Assistant in summer 2009, Ian will be staying fairly local. He is moving to Raleigh and taking a job in a hospital nearby. Ian will be getting married next year and hopes eventually to be living and working abroad within the next 5 years. He plans to continue keep honing his medical and language skills.



Edwin Figueroa (Trinity) graduated in May 2009 with an A.B. in Cultural Anthropology and a certificate in the Film/Video/Digital program. This summer, Edwin participated in the Duke in New York program for his last semester. He is currently interning with Lumiere Productions, a documentary production company in NYC, working on research and development for a couple of different projects for theatrical and public television release. He plans to stay in the NYC metro area doing work in a similar vein.

Wei Gan (Trinity) was born in Nanjing, China and came to the U.S. at age 9, and lived in Nebraska and Louisiana. Wei graduated *cum laude* from Duke, majoring in Cultural Anthropology, with a minor in Psychology and a certificate in Human Development. She received summer funding from the USP for research on conspiracy theory movements in the U.S., which provided the foundations for her senior thesis on the topic. After graduation, Wei moved to Philadelphia and is working under the Veterans Administration and the Penn Geriatrics division at the University of Pennsylvania. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology eventually.



David Graham (Trinity) graduated *magna cum laude* with an A.B. in History, a minor Asian & Middle Eastern Studies minor, and the Islamic Studies certificate. David completed his senior thesis in History on "Global Media, Regional Crises," comparing Arabic and English language newspaper accounts of the Suez Canal Crisis. After graduation, David interned with the *Wall Street Journal* in summer 2009, where he worked on the Global Real

Estate and Property Bureau in Manhattan. Afterwards, he hopes to find employment as a journalist with a respectable news organization. He is also considering intensive Arabic language programs for either next summer or next fall.



Yeny Hernandez (Trinity) was born in Batabano, Cuba and came to the U.S. at age 8. Her family settled in Florida, where she graduated from Barbara Goleman High School in Hialeah, FL. At Duke, Yeny completed a double major in Psychology and English. She wrote her senior thesis in Psychology on "Narcissism and Relationships" and is graduating *summa cum laude*. After graduation,

Yeny is headed to Yale Law in the fall with an eye toward public interest. Her main areas of concentration would be Criminal Law or Immigration and Human Rights advocacy. The Criminal Law route would lead to a prosecutor position in a D.A. office. The latter option could allow Yeny to explore her personal connections to immigration and human rights. She would ideally travel to Latin American countries and expose human rights violations and their connection to waves of immigration, legal and otherwise.

Jonathan Karp (Trinity) pursued a Bachelor of Science degree in Earth and Ocean Sciences and a minor in Chemistry, and graduated in December 2008. Outside of class, he was also involved in many community service projects



in the greater Durham area, lately with a focus on Habitat for Humanity. In his spare time, he played all manner of sports, writes trivia questions for a campus TV game show, and hosted a bi-weekly event, Dinner at PFJ's, to flex his fledgling culinary muscle. After graduation Jonathan will be working with Teach for America in St. Louis, Missouri.



Erin Gentry Lamb (Ph.D., English) accepted a tenure-track position at Hiram College, a small liberal arts college in North Eastern Ohio, whose most notable alumnus is James Abrams Garfield, the twentieth President of the United States. Erin was a USP Graduate Mentor in 2002-2003 and 2003-2004. She has taught courses on "Global Health and Human Rights" and "Aging, Sex, and Popular Culture," and co-coordinating the Human Rights Working Group at Duke in 2007 as well as the HASTAC Scholars in 2008-2009. Erin's dissertation, "The Age of Obsolescence: Senescence and Scientific Rejuvenation in Twentieth Century America" focused on aging and critical gerontology, medicine, science, science-fiction, technology and the body. She is now an Assistant Professor of Biomedical Humanities at Hiram College.

(continued on page 5)



Andrea Marston (Trinity) is from Alberta, Canada and graduated *magna cum laude* with an A.B. in International Comparative Studies, a B.S. Environmental Science & Policy, and a Political Science Minor. While at Duke, Andrea served as general manager for the Duke Coffeehouse and a writer for the Arts section of *The Chronicle*, Duke's Independent Daily Newspaper. She has done extensive summer research on issues of women's roles in fair trade movements and environmental sustainability in Panama, Ecuador, and Argentina, which culminated in a senior thesis on these issues. After graduation, Andrea is staying at Duke and is currently employed as the Hart Leadership Program Coordinator at the Sanford Institute of Public Policy.

Drew McConville, M.A. Environmental Management, Nicholas School of the Environment. While at Duke, Drew served as a policy researcher with the Climate Change Policy Partnership, conducting research on the integration of state and federal greenhouse gas markets and congressional oversight of proposed federal markets. In summer 2008, Drew worked as a policy analyst for the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. Drew's work on "Treatment of Early Emissions Reductions by Leading Climate Bills in the U.S. Congress" was awarded a Doris Duke Conservation Fellowship for 2008-2009. He is currently working at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. as a Presidential Management Fellow, a prestigious two year paid fellowship for recent graduates seeking a career in public service.



Oindri Mitra (Trinity) hails from Jamshedpur, India and graduated from Duke with a double major in Economics and English. Oindri completed a summer internship in microfinance in Bangalore, India as part of the Hart Leadership Program's Service Opportunities in Leadership program after her freshman year. She received USP summer funding to do coursework in

documentary filmmaking at NYU and to begin working on a documentary exploring the role of student activists in Indian universities, while completing an internship with Phat Phish Films in Mumbai, India after her junior year. After graduation, Oindri returned to India where she is working in public relations at an advertising agency in New Delhi.

Loren Robinson, M.D., School of Medicine After graduating in May 2003 with a major in French from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA, Loren spent two years doing HIV/AIDS research in Boston, MA before starting medical school at Duke in 2005. She is interested in issues surrounding HIV/AIDS in



both the local and international communities and has been actively involved in the Duke HIV/AIDS Interest Group. Loren spent her 3rd year as a research fellow for the Doris Duke International Clinical Research Fellowship program in which she traveled to South Africa to conduct clinical research and community outreach as it relates to women and children with HIV/AIDS. After graduation, Loren began her residency in Internal Medicine / Pediatrics at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Gretchen Scheidler M.B.A., Fuqua School of Business graduated from the University of Dayton with a degree in pre-medicine. She complemented her undergraduate study with a second bachelors degree in nursing from John Hopkins University. After volunteering in the health sector in Zambia, South Africa, and Malawi, Gretchen began her studies at Duke at the Fuqua School of Business in Fall 2007. In her second year, she studied abroad at the Indian School of Business in Hyderabad, India. Since graduation, Gretchen has been working as a consultant with McKinsey and Company in Atlanta, GA. Ultimately, she hopes to achieve her long-term goal of working in the nonprofit sector with a focus on international health care.



Leanne Stanley, M.D. School of Medicine, finished her undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke with a double major in biology and chemistry. A mother of three, Leanne completed a final rotation over the summer of 2009 in pedi-

atric intensive care. She will spend the next year doing more research in traumatic brain injury. Leanne will be applying to residency programs in pediatrics this fall and will start June 2010.

Maria Wojakowski (Trinity) of Brooklyn, NY, pursued an Interdepartmental Major in Biology and Mathematics at Duke. Her studies in biology and math allowed her to take an interdisciplinary approach to research on sea turtle conservation efforts during an internship in Baja, Mexico with funding from the USP. After graduating Duke in May 2009, Maria returned to Baja to continue her work for the summer before heading to Seattle as a Duke Marine Lab Fellow for a six month internship. Ultimately, Maria plans to earn a Ph.D. in marine biology.



Kudos, Awards and Honors

James Bourke (Political Science) was married to Veena Viswanatha on August 15, 2009 in Morristown, NJ in a Hindu ceremony. Veena graduated in May from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, cum laude, and was also an articles editor for the Penn Law Review. She will start



working in October for Cravath, Swaine, & Moore, a New York law firm. James and Veena plan to move to New York together in spring, as James continues his dissertation work focusing pluralism and liberal theory.

Jane Yumi Chong (Trinity '09) was named to Phi Beta Kappa. Jane also received the Anne Flexner Award for Creative Writing in Fiction and the Academy of American Poets Prize from the English Department. Duke also recognized Jane's leadership and service to the university by awarding her the William J. Griffith University Service Award and the Student Affairs Distinguished Leadership Service Award.

Wei Gan (Trinity '09) received the Judith E. McDade Prize in Cultural Anthropology, given to the graduating seniors majoring in cultural anthropology judged to have the most distinguished record in the major.

Aaron Houck (Political Science) is the brand new father of **Watson Mack Houck**, born Sunday, August 23, at 2:51 am. Watt was 21.5 inches long and 8 pounds 5 ounces.



Michal Koszycki (Trinity '09) received the Edward H. Benenson Award in the Arts, given annually to undergraduate students to broaden their educational and professional objectives in the arts. Michal is pursuing a Program II self-designed major on "Designs Shaping the World," which combines mathematics, engineering, art and architecture. Michal also received the Visual Studies Initiative Fellowship to work on digitally reconstructing the historic progression of architectural forms from the 13th century to the present of a Franciscan convent near Naples, Italy.

Katie LaFiura celebrates her wedding to Steve Misuraca, on Saturday, August 29, 2009. Steve graduated from Fuqua Business School with his MBA this past May and just started working with Fuqua as the Associate Director of Admissions.



Katie and Steve will be married at the Duke Chapel with the reception at the Washington Duke Inn. The couple met at Duke and chose to get married at the place that brought them together. Fellow Uni **Autumn Bernal** is in the wedding party.

Drew McConville (NSOE) was named a Presidential Management Fellow, a two-year paid internship with a U.S. governmental agency. He will be working with the Environmental Protection Agency as the special assistant to Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Office of Air and Radiation.

Jacob Remes (History) was awarded a Josephine de Kármán Fellowship, a national award that pays \$22,000 over the academic year. DeKarmán fellowships are open to students in any discipline, including international students, who are currently enrolled in a university or college located within the United States, with special consideration given to those in the Humanities. Students must be in their final year of dissertation work. Jacob is also a Colloquium Fellow at the Kenan Center for Ethics. The Graduate Colloquium is an interdisciplinary group of advanced graduate students from across the university whose work contains a substantial focus on ethics. Participants receive a \$1,000 stipend for participation in the colloquium.

Loren Robinson (School of Medicine) received the American Medical Association's Minority Scholars Award in 2007, which provides \$10,000 in tuition assistance for medical school; the Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship, which provides support for one year of full-time clinical research training, including a stipend of \$27,000, for her work on "Expanding Access to AIDS Treatment Using Electronic Decision Support"; and the Leonard B. Tow Humanism in Medicine Award which recognizes compassion and sensitivity in the delivery of healthcare.

Roxanne Flint Rosenberg (Psychology) and husband Mike (Trinity '04, Law '07) are the proud parents of son, **Marco Andres Rosenberg**. He was born on May 13th in the late afternoon after 46 hours of labor! Marco was 19.5 inches and 7 pounds 1 ounce. He had a full head of hair and looked just like his daddy. He is a very mellow, happy baby.



Maria Wojakowski (Trinity '09) was named a Marine Conservation Service Intern for recently graduated students who have studied at the Duke Marine Lab. The program provides interns with practical experience in service in marine conservation that contributes in a meaningful way towards conservation efforts. The internship program provides up to \$5000 support for a 10-week service internship that can be used towards living expenses, travel, and supplies. The program is supported with funds from the Oak Foundation, an international philanthropy funding projects in conservation, human rights, abuse, housing, learning disabilities, and other social justice issues.

Welcome New Unis!

New Undergraduates

The University Scholars Program proudly presents our newest class of undergraduates, class of 2013.

Paidamoyo Ash-girl Chapfuwa (Pratt) is a native of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. She attended high school at Mpopoma High in Bulawayo through 2007. She left Zimbabwe to complete the International Baccalaureate program through Pestalozzi International Village at Hastings College of Arts and Technology in the UK. Paidamoyo was the Zimbabwe Junior chess champion and continued to play chess at Pestalozzi. She also served as an apprentice for the Visionary Soap Company, a fair trade company that helps families in developing countries to send their children to school. At Duke, Paidamoyo is interested in studying engineering, mathematics, and business and hopes to return to Zimbabwe to use her engineering degree to help her community.

Kanchan Chauhan (Pratt) hails from Sunsari, Nepal where she attended the Budhanilkantha School in Kathmandu, a government designated National School of Nepal. She completed her high school education in the UK through the International Baccalaureate program through Pestalozzi International Village at Hastings College of Arts and Technology. She is an avid swimmer and runner and is committed to community service. As secretary of the Rotoract Club and UNYSA, Kanchan helped raise funds to volunteer during the summer at her village school in Nepal, encouraging awareness of global warming and environmental hazards in the community. Kanchan intends to study electrical engineering, political science, environmental studies and anthropology at Duke and hopes to return to Nepal to work in the Ministry of Environment, Science, and Technology.

Amy Flis (Pratt) is a graduate of Carmel High School in Carmel, Indiana, where she served as editor-in-chief of the school newspaper, treasurer of Key Club, and principal member of the Central Indiana Dance Ensemble, a not-for-profit ballet company. She has worked summers as a kennel assistant at a veterinary hospital and as a substitute instructor at her dance studio. Amy plans to continue dancing at Duke, while plunging into biomedical engineering. After spending her most recent summer in China, she also plans to study Chinese and pursue the Global Health certificate. She hopes to eventually work and research in veterinary medicine.

Bora Kang (Trinity) was born in South Korea and came to the U.S. at age 8, settling with her family in McDonough, Ga. Bora graduated from Union Grove High School, where she was very active in several community service organizations, including serving as founder and president of her school's chapter of the Key Club. She also received awards for her roles as witness and attorney in Mock Trial. In addition, she plays the flute and joined the Clayton State Univer-

sity Ensemble in her first year of high school. An avid researcher, Bora won 4th place at the Intel International Science Fair for her research exploring the bactericidal and antiseptic properties of honey. At Duke, she plans to continue her research in science and to major in chemistry and to pursue her interests in law and music, whether in the classroom or extracurricularly.

Samuel Chun Chit Lai (Trinity) of Hong Kong, completed the International Baccalaureate program at Armand Hammer United World College in Montezuma, New Mexico. Chun Chit is planning to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Duke, following the path laid out by his last name, which means "philosophy" in Chinese. He dreams of creating an ancient Martial Arts world with an epic scale of Peter Jackson's Middle-Earth, but in reality he cannot even manage to scoop a sphere of frozen chocolate ice cream, let alone perform tae-kwondo.

Margaret E. Love (Trinity) received her I.B. Diploma from North Mecklenburg High School in North Carolina. She played 1st violin in the UNCC Youth Orchestra and was committed to community service. As a student ambassador for the Echo Foundation, Maggie and other ambassadors visited Holocaust sites in Europe and met with Elie Wiesel and donated art supplies and shoes to children in Rwanda, the Echo Foundation's current focus. She has a wide range of intellectual interests including neuroscience, chemistry, French, Spanish, and creative writing. She hopes to study medicine and writing and use her skills to benefit underserved areas of the world and to write about health and social issues in developing nations.

Dhrusti Patel (Trinity) was born in Nairobi, Kenya and came to the U.S. in 2001 where she graduated from South Forsyth High School in Cumming, Georgia. Fluent in Gujarati and English, Dhrusti also studied Latin and Spanish, and received awards in both languages in high school. She also won regional and state awards with her teammates on the math team as well as in Science Olympiad and served as president of Mu Alpha Theta, the national math honors society. Dhrusti also helped raise funds for Project Nicaragua to build houses for the homeless in Chacraseca. She is interested in studying pre-medicine, foreign languages and literature, and philosophy at Duke and hopes to return to Kenya to serve as a "doctor without borders."

Silvia Secleanu (Trinity) hails from Cluj-Napoca, Romania. She started the "New Horizons Club" NGO, developing and implementing an "interdisciplinary class" to help students to think more critically and analytically, beyond the constraints of the rigidly disciplinary Romanian education system. Sylvia has won awards in English, history, computer science and political essay competitions. She was active in the school debate club, Habitat for Humanity Romania, and was team captain of the Romanian national high school championship basketball team for 5 years. She intends to study political science and economics at Duke, with a focus on inter-

(Continued on page 8)

national relations. Silvia hopes to return to Romania to become a prominent woman politician and to improve Romanian political life or else to work as a policy analyst in an international organization to help create sustainable economic policies for developing countries.

New Graduate Students

Christopher Castorena grew up in Texas. Chris did his undergraduate at Cornell in operations research. He is a PhD student in the computational Biology department. His research interests are studying the ecology of Infectious disease. In his spare time, he enjoys swimming, running, camping, and most outdoors stuff.

Kristina Burnside-Oxendine graduated from Brown University in 2006 with a B.A. in English. After graduation, KB returned to her home state of California where she worked as a mitigation specialist for Center for Capital Assistance. She joined Duke's Program in Literature in Fall 2009 and plans to focus her research and studies at the intersection of law and literature, from narrative analysis of legislative language to prison literature as a subgenre of contemporary American literature.

Katherine Duch graduated with a B.S. and M.S. in Labor Economics from Cornell University in her home state of New York. For her Master's thesis, she analyzed the determinants of endowment spending rates at higher education institutions. Kate also served the prestigious role as a voting member of Cornell University's Board of Trustees. She joined the Ph.D. program in Public Policy at Duke in Fall 2009, pursuing an interdisciplinary program in economics and public policy. Kate is particularly interested in researching the economics of higher education.

Aaron Houck (Political Science) is a Ph.D. student in the Political Science Department. A long-time resident of North Carolina, Aaron is a graduate of Davidson College (2002) and Harvard Law School (2005). Prior to coming to Duke, Aaron worked as an attorney at the Charlotte-based law firm of Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson and as the Associate Director for the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) at UNC Charlotte. Aaron and his family live in Durham. He enjoys reading and college basketball. He is the proud new father of son Watson Mack, born at 2:51 am on Sunday, August 23rd, weighing 8 lb., 5 oz. at 21.5 inches.

Erik Lykken (Immunology) from Duncanville, Texas, Erik completed his undergraduate studies at Pomona College with a B.S. in Molecular Biology. His senior thesis investigated whether the lifespan extension properties of resveratrol derive from an interaction with the retrograde response, and explored how deletions in the retrograde response and resveratrol treatment impact the reactive oxygen species profile of a cell. He also worked as a Writing Fellow, helping other undergraduates to improve their writing and initiated Pomona's Writing in the Sciences program. Erik began his studies in the Ph.D. program in Immunology at Duke in Fall 2009.

Courtney Rainey (Cognitive Neuroscience) graduated with a degree in Biochemistry from Spelman College in 2005. After graduation, she completed a research assistantship at the National Institute of Mental Health in imaging genomics from 2005-2007 before working as a program coordinator at the United Negro College Fund until spring 2009. Courtney joined the program in Cognitive Neuroscience at Duke in Fall 2009. She plans to explore questions regarding human decision making with fMRI and neuroimaging. She is especially interested in studying suboptimal decision making, how we make decisions against our goals or best interest.

Jeffrey Schroeder (Religion) is a graduate of Reed College in Portland, Oregon where he studied religion and Chinese studies. He wrote his senior thesis on American poet Gary Snyder's experiences as a yamabushi mountain ascetic in Japan. After college, he lived in Japan for a year before entering Duke's Master's program in East Asian Studies. His MA thesis looked at Japanese Buddhist views of "material progress" in the late 19th century. Beginning the Ph.D. Program in Religion in 2009, Jeff plans to continue researching the relation between Buddhism and the rise of capitalism in modern Japan. Jeff loves to sleep outdoors, and this summer he hiked 120 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from Crater Lake to Bend, OR.

Whitney Trettien (English) graduated from Hood College in 2007 with a BA in English and Philosophy. She then completed an MS in Comparative Media Studies at MIT, where she produced an online thesis on early modern text-generating volvelles that itself acts as a combinatory mechanism. As a doctoral candidate in the English department at Duke, she is particularly interested in book history, media archaeology, and the relationship between old and new media forms.

New Professional School Students

Gregory Michael Davies (Divinity School) graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA in 2007 where he double majored in Environmental Studies and Theater. He spent a year acting professionally in Pennsylvania and Delaware before deciding to come to Duke for the Master of Environmental Management program where he took a course in his first semester on "Spirituality and Ecology." In spring 2008, he was accepted into the Master of Theological Studies program at Duke Divinity. Greg still spends a good deal of his spare time with theater, and is currently preparing to perform in *Richard III* and *Stop Kiss*.

Nicole Feldman (School of Nursing) graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 2005 with a degree in Psychology. As an undergraduate, she volunteered as a peer counselor and worked in several psychology laboratories. After graduating, Nicole worked at a marketing research company. She will be starting the ABSN program at Duke's School of Nursing in Fall 2009. Her interests in-

(Continued on page 9)

clude preventative healthcare and increasing access to quality healthcare in underserved communities. After completing the program, she plans to work in Pediatrics and ultimately plan to pursue a Master's Degree as a Pediatric or Family Nurse Practitioner.

Elise Leduc (Nicholas School of the Environment) graduated from Williams College in 2006 with a degree in biology. After college, Elise went to Zambia with the Peace Corps to do a rural aquaculture project. Upon returning, she worked as an instructor at an outdoor environmental education center on the Outer Banks, as well as an education intern for the NC Coastal Federation. Elise will begin her Masters degree in Environmental Management this fall at the Nicholas School of the Environment.

Mimi Moll (School of Law) is a native of Arkansas. She graduated from The College of William and Mary in 2007 with a double major in Government and Science and Health Care Policy. After interning on Capitol Hill, Mimi accepted a position as a Government and Public Affairs Coordinator for the Society for Neuroscience in Washington, D.C., where she promoted policies that foster scientific research and ensure better health care for patients. Mimi is currently enrolled at Duke Law School and plans to use her legal expertise to continue the task of ensuring access to the best quality health care for all Americans.

Jason Sonnenschein (School of Medicine) Originally from Olney, Maryland, Jason graduated from the University of Virginia in 2006 with a concentration in Bioethics. An EMT and lifelong youthworker, he spent the last two years working as an HIV educator, tester, and counselor in Washington, DC. Jason is an AmeriCorps VISTA Alum with the National AIDS Fund Program, and is proud to be joining the Physician Assistant Class of 2011.

Christopher Thompson (Fuqua School of Business) completed his undergraduate degree at Long Island University where he excelled in accounting and finance. Chris has spent his professional career at JP Morgan Chase as a financial analyst for over 20 corporate clients. At JP Morgan Chase he volunteered his time to assist the company with their recruitment initiatives and served as co-chair of the Buddy Program, a career networking and career support group. He is a Management Leadership for Tomorrow Fellow, continues to serve as a volunteer tax preparer and is the co-Captain of a running team, A Running Start, which has raised \$5500 for East Africa.

Alumni News Briefs

Nicole Czakon (Trinity '04) received a NASA Graduate Fellowship for her work in graduate school in Physics at the California Institute of Technology. Nicole is working on the development of submm/mm-wave MKID camera, Bolocam massive cluster Sunyaev-Zeldovich effect observations for her dissertation research.



Kevin Fogg (Trinity '05) received a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship to pursue his dissertation research in Indonesia in 2009-2010. Kevin is in his fourth year of a Ph.D. program in History at Yale University. He is working on modern Southeast Asia, writing on the fate of Muslim nationalism and the idea of an Islamic state after Indonesian independence.

Lesley Hall (Trinity '02) has taken a new position with Deloitte Consulting in their Detroit, MI office doing health care strategy & operations work.

Will Horn (Trinity '05) is working at a start-up company developing open source software for stock trading.

Makiko Hiromi (Trinity '08) began law school at Columbia University in Fall 2009.

Maya Hughes (Trinity '04) graduated from medical school at Columbia University in Spring 2009. She has now moved to Seattle, WA to start her pediatric residency at Seattle Children's Hospital.



Mark Roark (Law '06) recently completed a stint as Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Missouri College of Law. Mark and his wife, Carla, and children Madison and Cameron are now headed west to California where Mark has accepted a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor teaching in the College of Law at University of La Verne in southern

California. Marc's teaching and research focuses on commercial law, law and the humanities, torts, and law and religion. He is currently working on a book project exploring legal conceptions of property in the southern United States.

Venis Wilder (Trinity '06) completed her third year of medical school at Harvard University and spent part of her summer in Durham doing a rotation in community health at Pickens Health Clinic. Venis and Tori, the Director of the USP, met for lunch during Venis' time on campus. After finishing medical school, Venis hopes to return to Durham to do a residency in community and family medicine at Duke.



Fall 2009 Calendar of Events

August

- 24 Fall Semester Begins
- 27 OUSF Welcome Picnic
- 29-30 USP Fall Retreat, Haw River State Park

September

- 14 USP Seminar, 7:00-9:00 pm, 240 Franklin Center
- 29 USP Seminar, 7:00-9:00 pm, 240 Franklin Center

October

- 2-6 Fall Break
- 14 USP Seminar, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, 240 Franklin Center
- 29 USP Seminar, 7:00-9:00 pm, 028 Franklin Center

November

- 11 USP Seminar, 7:00-9:00 pm, 240 Franklin Center
- 23 USP Seminar, 7:00-9:00 pm, 240, Franklin Center
- 24-29 Thanksgiving Break
- 24 Graduate Classes End

December

- 4 Undergraduate Classes End
- 4 USP End--of-Semester Potluck
- 8-13 Final Examination Period
- 14-31 Winter Break

The University Scholars Program

234 Franklin Center

Box 90013

Durham, NC 27708

Victoria A. Lodewick, Ph.D., Director

<http://www.duke.edu/web/usp>

Designed to stimulate an interdisciplinary, intergenerational community of scholars, the University Scholars Program was created in 1998 by the Office of the Vice-Provost of Interdisciplinary Studies with a gift from Duke University Trustee Melinda French Gates and her husband Bill Gates, through the William H. Gates Foundation. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional school University Scholars are selected for their ability to explore new academic horizons. They represent a range of personal and intellectual backgrounds and share an excitement for original research, collaborative thinking, and innovative scholarship.

Congratulations 2009 Graduates!

University Scholars at the USP Graduation Luncheon at the Washington Duke Inn



From left to right, top row: David Graham, Wei Natalie Gan, Michal Koszycki, Maria Wojakowski, Erin Gentry Lamb. Second row: Andrea Marston, Oindri Mitra, Yeney Hernandez, Stephanie Becherer, Jonathan Karp, Victoria Lodewick

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Duke University