

# *Oscar and Rosetta Fish Scholarship for Excellence FISH Newsletter – Spring 2013*

## *Semester Recap*

Welcome to the Spring 2013 Fish Scholars Newsletter. This issue highlights all the fun and exciting Fish Scholars initiatives from the past few months under the leadership of our cohort coordinator, Jarenn Nagaishi-Choi. It has truly been a busy semester filled with meaningful volunteer projects, amazing foreign travels, and new opportunities which helped us to create memories to last a lifetime!

This semester we focused our efforts and energy on mentoring pre-business students. We created a Buddy Program which included students from Shidler's Direct Admit Program (DAP) and the UH Manoa's NICE program. We also restructured our efforts into a buddy system to mentor the Johnson Hall Residence Life Program (RLP) pre-business students.

We wrapped up the spring semester with a Shidler Spring Graduation Reception in which Jarenn Nagaishi Choi gave an inspirational and touching farewell to her fellow graduating seniors and a final Fish Scholars get-together at Wahoo's Fish Taco to bid Jarenn, Huy, Ricardo, and Do a successful future!

## *Oscar and Rosetta Fish Scholarship for Excellence Service to School*

### **Career Expo**

The Spring 2013 Shidler Career Expo was held on Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> and was a huge success. Students were able to interact with forty- three different employers including nationally well-known companies such as Merrill Lynch, Northwestern Mutual, and New York Life. The FISH scholars were

responsible for checking in employers, escorting them to their tables, and providing water refreshments when necessary. Overall, we are pleased that this year's Career Expo ran smoothly and was a success for both students and employers.



### **Executive Vineyard Wine Tasting**

The Executive Vineyards Wine Tasting Event was held on Thursday, March 7, 2013. The Fish Scholars greeted the guests as they walked in and monitored the Silent Auction station. There were wines from all over the world and delicious snacks. The guests looked like they had a great time!

## Financial Literacy Program

The Fish Scholars participated in the UH Financial Literacy Program's "UH Saves Day." This event covered the span of two days: Wednesday, February 27, and Thursday, February 28. On Wednesday, the Fish Scholars assisted the main exhibition at the Campus Center. The Fish scholars helped exhibitors set up their displays, pass out materials to students as well as explain the different programs available to help them save money. On Thursday, with the other Fish Scholars in attendance, Christopher Saki and Do Kim represented the cohort group in the "LifeSmarts Challenge," a game-show-type competition where teams answer trivia questions about personal financial planning. The competition was held in the Hale Aloha dormitory courtyard, with numerous UH students and passersby as an audience. The Fish Scholars were represented well, and Chris and Do were able to win the competition, beating out teams from the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and the Department of Family Resources, among others. The competition was a successful rematch of the previous year, when the team from the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources won first place.



## *Oscar and Rosetta Fish Scholarship for Excellence Community Service*

### Passport to Luxury

Each spring, Ala Moana Center presents Shop a Le'a, a weeklong event. Modern Luxury Hawai'i magazine is the exclusive host for Shop a Le'a's only luxury shopping event—Passport to Luxury. The event hosts more than one thousand guests excited for a night out surrounded by fashion, special services, gourmet food, and events. This year, Passport to Luxury supports The University of Hawaii Foundation in support of Manoa Arts & Minds. Fish Scholars who attended this event volunteered their services by welcoming guests, stamping passports, and selling raffles to raise additional funds. They also had the exclusive opportunity to partake in the night's food and fashion.



### Great Aloha Run

The Fish Scholars volunteered to help the 29<sup>th</sup> Great Aloha Run on Presidents` Day, February 18, 2013. The scholars arrived at the scene at 5:30 AM and helped to set a distribution area outside the stadium. With the run starting at 7:00 AM, the Fish Scholars were handing out refreshments to the finishers. Although it was windy and drizzling during the event, there were nearly 22,000 participants sharing the great aloha spirits.

# Oscar and Rosetta Fish Scholarship for Excellence Fish Scholars Abroad

Read their experiences on their blogs available at [www.shidler.hawaii.edu/fishscholars](http://www.shidler.hawaii.edu/fishscholars)

## Dakota Robinson – Vietnam and Cambodia

Fish Scholar, Dakota Robinson, traveled to Vietnam and Cambodia this semester to participate in the Ride for Hagar, which raises awareness for human trafficking and exploitation. For her journey, Dakota biked a total of 403 miles. Below is the story of how she found out about the journey and how it all became possible.

“In the beginning part of 2012, I had 'liked' Hagar on Facebook and towards the end of October, the news feed about the Ride for Hagar came across my screen. Long story short, this is how I was blessed with the opportunity to go on the Ride for Hagar. It was a late Thursday night when I saw the post but I was instantly interested and emailed Hagar and got a sample itinerary within five minutes! I prayed that if I was to go on this ride, I would have \$400 to save my spot by the end of the weekend. Friday happened...Saturday happened... Sunday happened...no money. I said shucks and continued on with my day. 6:30am on Monday morning, I had a phone call with \$400 on the other line! That was the moment I knew doing the Ride for Hagar was going to be a reality. From that moment out, God provided for every single thing that I needed for the trip. 85+ family groups and individuals donated to the ride and I was able to do a lot of research and raising awareness of human trafficking and exploitation, even here in Hawaii. I had a fundraiser in California and in Hawaii, but had donations from all over the US.”



## Kai Taniguchi – Denmark

“Living abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark has been a priceless experience! This is my second time studying abroad in Europe, having studied in Spain last year, and I’m so grateful that through the Oscar and Rosetta Fish Scholarship I’ve gotten the chance to study in Northern Europe as well. Studying in Denmark has given me an entirely new perspective on Europe as a whole. It’s been amazing learning a different language, culture, and way of life. Copenhagen Business School has stunning modern facilities, interesting

classes, friendly local students, and wonderful exchange students! Taking Danish classes has been both challenging and rewarding, and it’s been fun trying to communicate with the locals in their native tongue. I’ve had the chance to network with people from all over the world and learn more about international



business and entrepreneurship through my courses at CBS, participating in Startup Live Copenhagen, and attending events at the Copenhagen School of Entrepreneurship. While in Europe, I had the chance to travel to London and visit a fellow Fish Scholar, Carter, for a week. When the weather gets warmer, I plan on visiting family in Spain, Germany, and Greece, along with traveling to Sweden multiple times since it's so close. From seeing snow fall for the first time, to joining a gospel choir, to playing soccer with the neighborhood kids, I'll always treasure my time here in Denmark!"

### **Jonathan Carter Daubenspeck – UK and Austria**

“Studying abroad has been an experience that you can't really understand until you do it. I can tell you about it, but you won't really know what it's like until you do it. When you hear stories, you will hear the best and you will hear the worst, but you won't really hear the in between. But really it's the in between that you often learn from. The worst tells you what you definitely don't like, the best becomes a part of what you love, but everything else, that is what you really learn from. You learn how you handle every little situation that comes about, what really



living independent in another country is like, and you learn so much about yourself. In London, I had some amazing times. I went to see Big Ben and Windsor Castle and a whole myriad of other things, I even went to Belfast, Northern Ireland! And of course I learned on those trips and also loved them. But it was really every day things that showed me who I was, who I was apart from my friends and family and the world that I know. It showed me what I care about, and showed me how small what I cared about was compared to who I cared about. I learned, really, about myself, and a culture, and friends, and more people who I now just consider my family. And it's not over! I'm still on this adventure, and I'm still learning, and I am so excited to see what more God has in store for me. This time has not always been easy, but it has been so good, so fun, and so profitable as well. And if you wonder if you should do it and want to second guess but don't know why, just do it, don't second guess. It's worth it.”