

# *Oscar and Rosetta FISH Scholarship for Excellence*

## *FISH Scholars' Newsletter – Spring 2015*

### *Semester Recap*

Welcome to the Spring 2015 FISH Scholars' Newsletter! This issue highlights the FISH Scholars' initiatives under the leadership of Stephanie Suda, our cohort coordinator. It has been a busy semester for the FISH Scholars with Service-to-School, Community Service, Johnson Hall Mentorship Program, and Study Abroad Adventures.

This semester, the FISH Scholars focused on getting our fellow students excited about business. We hosted events for the Johnson Hall pre-business residents to help with their professional development as aspiring business leaders. With a total of five Johnson Hall events, the scholars and the residents were able to discover and discuss multiple business concepts!

We wrapped up the semester with a fun and family-style dinner at Side Street Inn. It was a night filled with laughter and great way to relieve stress after a very busy semester! We enjoyed delicious *local* food and enjoyed each other's company as we reminisced on the past semester and planned for the coming school year. We also bid farewell to the second year FISH Scholars who were graduating: Stephanie Suda, Natasja Goodin, Manuel (Tony) Wong Cam, Patrick Ma, and Ren Tachino, as they embark on the next chapter of their life.



**First Row (left to right):** Michelle Dang, Angelica (Wai Sam) Lao, Kathy Oyadomari, Cassandra Joy Ecraela, Ren Tachino. **Second Row:** Ken Kanemitsu, Stephanie Suda, Jessica Lee, Manuel (Tony) Wong Cam, Christina Amundsen, Patrick Ma.

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

## **Internship and Career Expo (Career Fair)**

**February 26, 2015**

This semester, we had the opportunity to assist with the Spring 2015 Internship and Career Expo. During the Career Expo, the FISH Scholars played an active role as the necessary manpower to run the event. The cohort assisted with the morning set-up, company registrations, and afternoon breakdown. The scholars also helped the professionals throughout the event to ensure a successful recruiting experience. It was a great opportunity for the FISH Scholars to gain exposure and learn more about internships and available job openings. Additionally, the scholars created a resume booklet for professionals at the Career Expo. With over 60 companies in attendance, this provided great exposure for the FISH Scholars that were seeking internships or employment. Overall, the Career Expo was a great event for us to give back to the Shidler College of Business!



## **Lunch with the Dean**

**April 23, 2015**

This semester, Dean Vance Roley was gracious enough to have lunch with the FISH Scholars. The

luncheon consisted of a formal presentation from the current FISH Cohort; an uplifting speech from former FISH Scholar, Mr. Daniel Hee, Registered Client Service Associate with UBS Financial Services, Inc; and, an inspiring Skype call from former FISH Scholar, Mr. Azamat Kumykov, Chairman of the Board of Directors, PSN Group. Mr. Kumykov is also finishing up his Master's degree in Political Science and Government, Global Affairs at Yale University. In order to make a good impression, everyone on the cohort, including those abroad, spent the preceding weeks creating and practicing the presentation. At the event, the cohort was able to share their professional and



personal aspirations with the Dean, as well as, detail the numerous cohort events and activities from this past year. Luckily, Natasja Goodin, who had been studying abroad in London, was able to make it back to Hawaii for the lunch! Another scholar, Bethany Kwan, was also able to Skype in to share her experiences in Hong Kong. After the presentation and speeches, we were all able to network and talk-story with the Dean, Associate Director of Development, Ms. Jana Light, and FISH Cohort Advisor and Coordinator, Ms. Rikki Mitsunaga. It was a great chance for us to look back and appreciate everything we've accomplished with our FISH Cohort! We hope it can become a yearly tradition for the FISH Scholars!

## **Executive Vineyards**

**March 5, 2015**

On Thursday, March 5, 2015, the FISH Scholars assisted with the Shidler Alumni Association's annual wine tasting event, Executive Vineyards. The event was held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. The Scholars were assigned to a variety of different tasks that included assembling programs, executing registration tasks, and monitoring the silent auction items. At the end of the event, the Scholars helped with cleanup and delivery of all silent auction items. Overall, the event was a great success and the FISH Scholars were more than happy to help!

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

## **Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowties and Bling**

**January 24, 2015**

The first service project of the spring semester was the "Bow Ties and Bling" fundraising event at the M Nightclub on Restaurant Row, benefiting Hawaii's Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. The FISH Scholars helped with BBBS previously, so we looked forward to another fun and fulfilling event. Our duties spanned the entire duration of the fundraiser, from set-up at 2 pm, checking in attendees, assisting with the raffle, manning the silent auction, taking pictures, and breaking down after the event ended at 10 pm. The FISH Scholars had a good time talking and meeting with not only donors and benefactors of the program, but also the beneficiaries—the children whose lives have been touched by the good work of BBBS. Last but not least, dressy attire was requested, so we got to look good while doing good!



## **Hawaii State Science Olympiad**

**February 21, 2015**



On February 21, 2015 the FISH Scholars were able to take part in the Hawaii State Science Olympiad at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Teams from all over the state participated in various workshops and competitions. Each part of the event promoted the education of different sciences, ranging from geology to physics. Along with the early setup and registration, the scholars also helped with other various tasks, such as beverage delivery. Once the Olympiad officially began, the cohort was split up into multiple groups. In our groups we helped to direct the teams to the right rooms. The cohort even got to participate in one of the science lessons and learned about geographic mapping. It was a great experience and

we even got to learn thing or two about the sciences!

## **Hapalua Packet Pick Up**

***April 10, 2015***

On April 10, 2015, the FISH Scholars volunteered at the 2015 Hapalua event during the first day of packet distribution. The cohort's responsibilities included passing out bids to the runners and directing them to stations for their shirts and bags. It was a fun event where the cohort was able to talk to people from all over the world. We were also able to hear some great stories, including some from a staff member who volunteered with Hapalua for over 10 years!

## **Honolulu Festival**

***March 8, 2015***

On Sunday, March 8, 2015, the FISH Scholars spent the day volunteering at the Honolulu Festival. The festival included performances, a craft fair, carnival games, and a parade. Families from all over the island and the world gathered to partake in the rich and diverse cultures of Hawaii. The scholars teamed up with



college students from Japan to help manage the carnival games. The students from Japan spoke Japanese with minimal English and the FISH Scholars spoke English with minimal Japanese. Although the language barriers created a challenge, we quickly adapted by communicating through hand signals and broken Japanese and English. Moreover, it was a chance to teach the children a little about the cultures in Hawaii. Not only did it give the cohort a taste of life abroad, it allowed us to test our problem-solving skills. Many of the scholars will be traveling abroad next semester and this event allowed them to learn a little more about cultural exchange. In all, it was a very interesting and enjoyable international event!

# ***Oscar and Rosetta FISH Scholarship for Excellence Johnson Hall***

## **Welcome Back Event**

***January 12, 2015***

The cohort's first Johnson Hall event was a Welcome Back get-together for the Business Residential Learning Program students. To start things off, the FISH Scholars presented a short PowerPoint to introduce themselves and the ideas they had for the semester. Then, the cohort was able to network with the students over food and refreshments. During the talk-story portion, the cohort was able to give advice to the Pre-Business students, share their experiences at the Shidler College of Business, and discuss their aspirations for the upcoming semester.

The night ended with a "life-size version" of *The Game of Life*. This activity allowed the residents to interact and socialize while also exercising their decision-making skills. The scholars facilitated the game and acted out the roles of the life activities. Some of the life activities and decisions included choosing between college and a job; home purchases; and whether or not to start a family. The objective was to have the most money at the end of the tiles. Those who won each round were able to pick from a variety of prizes. Overall, it was an entertaining night. A lot of the residences were able to attend and everyone seemed eager to begin the semester.

## Study Abroad Info Session

**February 2, 2015**

This semester, the FISH Scholars hosted a study abroad info session at the Gateway Cafeteria. This allowed the cohort to show the students the many and various study abroad programs offered at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The cohort had a great time answering their questions and speaking about their personal experiences abroad. Each FISH Scholar provided information on how to apply and hosted an international trivia game. Also, some of the second year scholars presented a slideshow of their study abroad adventures. The objective of the event was to spark the students' interest and to motivate them to study abroad in a foreign country. The cohort truly helped the students to recognize the invaluable benefits of studying abroad and gaining global experience.



## FISH Tank

**March 9, 2015**

On Monday, March 9, 2015, the FISH Scholars hosted a Fish Tank event, which is our version of the hit television show *Shark Tank*. Dreamers, innovators, and future business owners came together for a fun night of creativity and entrepreneurship at the Johnson Hall A Lounge. Three of the FISH Scholars participated as judges/investors while the rest received a team of pre-business students to guide.



This Johnson Hall event was a great opportunity to help the students develop their entrepreneurial capabilities. As business students, we learn early on about the benefits of good teamwork and the great ideas that can come from it. We experience these benefits through the group work in our classes, but we seldomly have the chance to experiment with product development and creativity. The event showed the students how valuable and useful entrepreneurship can be for any profession or career!

Moreover, the FISH Scholars were able to help the students improve their public speaking skills. Effective public speaking is not an easy task, but with practice and effort, it can prove to be an invaluable strength to have. Through the Fish Tank event, both the scholars and the students were able to get their creative juices flowing. It was a great night for everyone to develop and refine their entrepreneurial, presentation, and teamwork skills!

## Game Night

**April 13, 2015**

During this Johnson Hall event, the FISH Scholars set up a few games for the residents to play. There were a total of three games: *Clue*, *Apples to Apples*, and *Sorry!* However, each game was modified to incorporate various business concepts and topics. The FISH Scholars prepared the business themes beforehand and were eager to play them with the Johnson Hall residents. For example, the game *Sorry!* taught them about the importance of teamwork and collaboration within the business world. Moreover, *Apples to Apples*, allowed the students to develop their marketing abilities and negotiation skills.

The residents had fun playing the games while also learning about various business strategies. In addition, the scholars enjoyed bonding with the residents, as well as teaching them a thing or two about business. It was a really entertaining night and a great opportunity for a fun little study break!



## Farewell Event

**May 4, 2015**

The Johnson Hall Farewell event was held on May 4, 2015. At the event, the FISH Scholars were located at six different stations, each with a different topic of discussion. Some of the topics included: Study Abroad/UH MIX application processes; resume, cover letter, and interviewing advice; and registration and class planning. Each resident was given a passport to keep track of the stations they visited. Altogether, the stations gave the residents a synopsis of this semester's Johnson Hall events. They were also able to have any of their questions answered. Once they visited all six stations, the residents were able to enjoy some pizza. The event was a great way to close the semester and bond with the residents!



# *Oscar and Rosetta FISH Scholarship for Excellence*

## *FISH Scholars Abroad*

### **Natasja Goodin**

#### ***London, England - University of Roehampton***

This semester, I was fortunate to study abroad in London at the University of Roehampton. It was truly an opportunity of a lifetime. Through the University of Hawaii's Study Abroad program, I traveled with ten other students and one professor, who served as our resident director. Each student came from various backgrounds and majors, which allowed our cohort to gain a greater appreciation for one another.



Studying abroad taught me so much about myself and my surroundings. Since this was my first time away from home, the greatest thing I learned was how to be independent. From cooking to using public transportation, I gained a deeper understanding of how to be on my own—which is great preparation for life after college. In addition, I acquired a greater appreciation for cultural differences. London is an extremely diverse city. For example, in my dorm, there were people from all over the world. This taught me how to interact

with people from various cultural backgrounds. I believe that I matured while studying abroad and returned home with a new perspective on life.

Being in Europe gave me the opportunity to travel a lot. I was fortunate to visit ten cities in four months. From Paris to Rome to Dublin, I really took advantage of my time in Europe. My favorite city was definitely Barcelona because it reminded me of home. It felt like a very young city with a rich culture and history. However, traveling in Europe can be somewhat unsettling at times. Language barriers and pickpockets were a few of the things I encountered quite frequently. However, I learned how to handle myself in these situations and came out triumphant.



My experiences would not have been possible without the Oscar and Rosetta FISH Fund for Excellence. I cannot express how grateful I am for their support in studying abroad. I am definitely counting down the days until I can travel again!

*Read more about her experience on her travel blog available at [londonatasja.tumblr.com](http://londonatasja.tumblr.com)*

## **Bethany Kwan**

### ***Hong Kong - University of Science and Technology***

This semester, I was given the awesome opportunity to study abroad in Hong Kong! Before arriving in Hong Kong, I was scared, worried, anxious, hopeful, and excited all at the same time! Having had a lot of previous travel experience, I thought I knew what to expect, but boy, was I wrong! Knowing absolutely no one, I had to really work hard to put myself out there and meet new people. This experience has taught me how to thrive independently and embrace cultural differences.



The 'school culture' is a lot different in Hong Kong. I noticed that the assignments were done with little collaboration—nobody talks to each other in class, there aren't many study groups, and even group projects are split up and completed on separately. The competition among the students is fierce and causes the students to attack their schoolwork with amazing intensity and determination.



During my semester abroad, I also did a lot of traveling. I was able to visit Taipei, Taiwan; Seoul, Korea; Busan, Korea; Shanghai, China; and Boracay, Philippines. Each place had a unique culture and that allowed me to have a lot of great experiences. Taipei was a huge learning experience for me because it was the first time I ever had to book my flight and hotel by myself. In Korea, I really pushed my limits and leaped far past my comfort zone. My travel buddy was sick for most of the trip, which gave me the chance to explore alone. There were many 'scary' moments on this trip, but with hand gestures and a strange mix of broken Korean and English, I was able to

communicate with the locals. Since I've been there before, I thought going to Shanghai was a bit more familiar. However, I still had a lot to learn since I had to find my own way around the bustling city, where little to no English is spoken. Boracay was my favorite trip! Not only were the beaches beautiful, but so were the people! Everyone was so friendly, and it made for such a pleasant atmosphere! The culture was quite different from anything I've experienced, but it was great to catch a small glimpse of life in the Philippines!

There aren't enough words to express how grateful I am for all of the experiences that the Oscar and Rosetta FISH Fund has given me both abroad and at the Shidler College of Business. Moreover, it allowed me to make my dream of studying abroad come true. Without their generosity and support, I wouldn't have been able to visit these fascinating cities, experience these captivating cultures, create these unforgettable memories, and form these lifelong friendships. This semester abroad has amounted to more than I ever thought possible! I'll definitely be returning as soon as I can!



*Read more about her experience on her travel blog available at [bethanykwan@wordpress.com](mailto:bethanykwan@wordpress.com)*



