

# A Pharmacy Student in London

by Jeffrey

When I was accepted into Xavier's College of Pharmacy, I effectively thought that my options for studying abroad were over. Studying abroad was always something I had always imagined myself doing; however, with school in full tow, there was little time to even plan such an endeavor. Additionally, once part of the program, there is little reason for one to pursue such curriculums outside the college. Or so I had thought. Little did I know how quickly things can get moving when you put your mind to it and what opportunities expose themselves if you happen to look hard enough.

For this summer, I chose to accomplish an internship as well as a study abroad at the same time in London. The hardest part of the whole journey was actually getting things started. For one, approval from my advisors were met with uncertainty. They did not understand the value in traveling to a foreign environment and how didactic it can be (to be fair, neither did I at the time). I was willing to go regardless, so I persevered with the arrangements and I am very glad I did.

Through the Capa London Program, I was placed to serve an internship at King's College Hospital, one of the foremost teaching hospitals in the UK. Furthermore, I also did a course in International Marketing, through the same program. Very quickly, I found that pharmaceutical marketing was not in my future. Nonetheless, through the internship, I gained a wealth of knowledge about the intricacies of the United Kingdom's healthcare system as well as increasing my own drive to help develop Clinical Pharmacy practices back in the States.

Although we were working and studying, we did still have plenty of free time to explore the city. London is almost 27 times larger in terms of population than New Orleans! Even with exploring and playing tourist, I still felt that there was more to see even after 6 weeks with the program. Not only do you get to experience new sights and smells, you make lasting memories with the many friends that you make along the way.



*Jeffrey out on the town with friends in London.*



So to those students who are thinking about pursuing pharmacy, there are plenty of options and didactic opportunities out there that can help you decide your future. It may be hard finding that perfect placement, but the sense of independence and maturity you gain by the program's completion is well worth the effort.



# Student International Research in Mexico

By Lauren Baron

There are a plethora of research programs filled with a number of different opportunities. This summer I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to participate in a research project in Merida, Mexico at the Universidad Autonomica de Yucatan (UADY). As a part of the Tulane-Xavier **Minority Health International Research Training (MHIRT) Program**, I spent ten weeks working on Chagas disease research.

In the lab, I worked specifically on an experiment looking at the treatment of Chagas disease. The different treatments were all tested on mice in the laboratory. Before this program, I had never completed a research project in a lab or worked with live animals. My mentors taught me all of the lab techniques necessary to complete my project, and with the support and teaching I received I believe that my experience has helped in making me a better biology student.

I always hear about different diseases and illnesses affecting people, but this was a unique experience for me because of fact that I was in Mexico rather than the United States. Chagas disease is prevalent mainly in Latin America. Before leaving for Mexico, I read a lot about the disease: its causes, effects, how its spread, and the public health initiative that lab at UADY was launching to combat its spread. When I was actually there I had the opportunity to visit one of the towns that I had read about. Being able to meet the people who will benefit from the work we were doing in the lab made the project mean that much more.

Outside of research, I was able to experience everything that Merida and the state of Yucatan had to offer. I climbed Mayan pyramids, walked through caves, swam in cenotes underground, and became familiar with the culture and customs of Yucatecan people. Through the MHIRT Program I learned about the research process; that in addition to the opportunity to explore and experience Merida made this summer unforgettable.



*Lauren performing tests in a lab in Merida Mexico*



*Lauren in Mexico*





## CIIP Director Receives Fulbright International Education Administrator Award to the United Kingdom

Mr. Torian L. Lee, Xavier's director for Intercultural and International Programs was recently awarded the Fulbright International Education Administrator (IEA) Award. In August, Mr. Lee participated in a three-week program in the United Kingdom where he traveled to eleven colleges and universities in England and Scotland to learn more about their higher education systems and campus internationalization strategy. Lee was selected among hundreds of administrators from across the U.S. to take part in this inaugural Fulbright award.

The IEA program aims to enhance U.S. administrators' ability to serve international students, promote multiculturalism and diversity, and encourage study abroad in the U.K. Lee writes, "It is an honor to receive this prestigious award and I utilized this opportunity to examine the potential for Xavier partnerships and engage colleagues abroad on topics of campus internationalization."



*Mr. Lee at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh*

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. The Fulbright Program awards approximately 8,000 new grants annually. Currently, the Fulbright Program operates in over 155 countries worldwide.

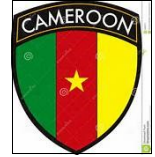
***Mr. Lee and Dr. Steve Salm are the Xavier campus representatives for the Fulbright program. Students, faculty, and staff who are interested in the program should review the opportunities at <http://eca.state.gov/fulbright> or stop by the Center for Intercultural and International Programs in the Saint Joseph Student Resource Building, Room 312.***



2013 U.S.-U.K. Fulbright Seminar Cohort

# Xavier Starts a GlobeMed Chapter

By Raven Holmes



*Pictured left to right: Mr. Torian Lee (CIIP Director), Ms. Jamilla Emerson (Chapter Co-President), Ms. Raven Holmes (Chapter President and founding member), and Dr. Krista Mincey (Chapter Advisor and faculty in Public Health Sciences)*

GlobeMed's mission is not unlike Xavier's own mission, to promote a more just and humane society.

GlobeMed is a Xavier student organization that aims to strengthen the movement for global health equity by empowering students and communities to work together to improve the health of people living in poverty around the world.

The purpose of GlobeMed is to educate and train student advocates for global health equity. The organization accomplishes this by partnering with a grassroots organization overseas and building strong long-term relationships. Our work will help make a measurable impact in the partner's community. Further, it will create an opportunity for Xavier students to develop a passion for global health equity.

Xavier's GlobeMed partner is the Food and Rural Development Foundation (FORUDEF) in Buea, Cameroon. This organization is dedicated to promoting the wise use of natural resources, the improvement of rural living standards, and the building of local capacities in the Southwest region of Cameroon.

Our goal is to raise the funds necessary to promote FORUDEF's good hygiene and safe sanitation project. Too many people in the rural areas of Cameroon are becoming ill unnecessarily because they do not have the means to have safe drinking water or a place to bathe free of contamination. Our hope is to raise enough funds to construct a community latrine and to hold several training sessions to raise awareness in these communities about how important sanitation is to their health.

In addition to raising money for this organization, members of GlobeMed will have the amazing opportunity to travel to work on-site at FORUDEF in Cameroon this summer. This will give members of GlobeMed the opportunity to see the project come to life!

GlobeMed at XULA is now accepting applications for all Executive Board positions. In the next few weeks, the chapter will be holding a meeting for those interested in becoming a staff member to help us make this year amazing.

**For information on GlobeMed's impact visit [www.globemed.org](http://www.globemed.org) and for more information on our partner organization, visit [www.forudef.org](http://www.forudef.org).**

**If you have questions about GlobeMed at Xavier, please email [xula@globemed.org](mailto:xula@globemed.org). Or contact get in touch at the following social sites:**

**Twitter: [GlobeMedXULA](#)**

**Facebook [GlobeMed at XULA](#)**

**Instagram: [GlobeMedXULA](#)**



# Study Abroad in the Dominican Republic

By Sydney Wing

In the summer of 2013, I participated in the Xavier study abroad partner program with the University of Iowa. The University of Iowa Health, Environment and Nutrition program provides undergraduate students with an opportunity to study a broad range of health and nutrition-related topics through interdisciplinary, field base studies, as well as an immersive environment in which to improve Spanish language skills.

The summer session took place in two locations. During the first half of the program, I lived in Jarabacoa, a small city in the central mountains about 45 minutes from Santiago. The second half of the program took place in La Esquina, a small rural community near the northern coast. Both sites offered unique opportunities for cultural immersion and research.

My program included educational excursions to sites relevant to the study of Dominican health, nutrition and environmental issues. I was housed with Spanish-speaking Dominican families and had my own bedroom. This opportunity to study abroad was wonderful and I look forward to returning to the Dominican Republic.



*Sydney, a Xavier Psychology major, with fellow students in Dominican Republic.*



*Sydney receiving a certificate of participation from the program Spanish Instructor, Mr. Juan Lopez.*

