CC Alumnae Support Student Research (continued from page 1)

Megan was also able to meet with the mayors of two major cities in the country and the country’s Archbishop, all of whom are very interested in protecting the rights of children. Megan concludes, “My trip to Honduras made my winter break unforgettable, and made the holiday season a lot brighter for 92 children and eight overworked staff members.”

We are delighted to report that following the completion of her SIP, Megan was awarded the prestigious Fulbright scholarship to continue her study of child inhalant addiction. In August, she will return to Honduras to expand upon her research with Fundación Proniño. Megan hopes to develop an improved treatment plan aimed to better enable facilities with limited resources the ability provide more effective care to make a difference in the vicious cycle that afflicts so many children.

Lindsay Lehr ’07, an economics major, completed a thesis that explores various forms of social capital within the cartonero community of Buenos Aires, Argentina. The cartoneros are Argentineans who live in dire poverty and are able to gain respect. Through her CISLA internship with Cámaras de Exportadores de la República de Argentina (CERA), The Argentine Chamber of Exporters, Lindsay worked with El Ceibo, a non-governmental organization (NGO) that educates middle-class neighborhoods about recycling and also promotes the role of the cartoneros. Relationships are built among different social classes and the cartoneros are able to gain respect. During her stay in January, Lindsay interviewed the founder of El Ceibo, as well as several managers and cartoneros. She felt pleased and privileged to have the opportunity to go out with the cartoneros and gather firsthand information and observations about this disreputable segment of society. Furthermore, Lindsay’s travel research award allowed her to collect essential quantitative and qualitative data that gave her thesis a stronger foundation.

This year, CISLA gave three seniors these awards to return to the site of their internships to continue research. Lindsay Lehr ’07, an economics major, wrote her SIP on graffiti and public art in the world of fine art. The travel research award provided Lilli with an opportunity to explore the evolution of graffiti art in a unique way. Megan McCarthy ’07, a psychology major, wrote her senior integrative project on “The Etiology and Treatment of Glue Addiction in Street Children.” For her CISLA internship, she worked with Fundación Proniño in El Progreso, Honduras, a small NGO that attempts to rehabilitate young street boys at the Las Flores treatment center who have become addicted to Resistol (dope glue),
Welcome CISLA Class of 2009

A very warm welcome is extended to the CISLA Class of 2009.

Our newest members are Sarah Allen, Gili Ben-Yosef, Ingrid Brudvig, Annie Burrows, Emily Carter, Jessamy Cox, Caia Delbanco, George Fernandez, Erin Holstein, Emily Lawson, Alexandra Mamo, Anders Molnar, James Nooman, Ferdi Salman, Taylor Sperny, Lynne Stillings, Qiyao Sun, Jacques Suarez, Madeleine Thompson, Abner Kaan Toprak, Caroline Troubridge, David Uzhuraev-Furelos, Dina Weinstein, and Titan Xu.

These scholars have proposed to travel to 12 countries for their Summer 2008 CISLA internships and speak a variety of languages including French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish. Their journey began spring semester in the gateway CISLA course, Perspectives on Modern Global Society, IS 201, a special course is designed to prepare CISLA scholars for their international experiences.

Upholding Universal Ethics and Law by Gozde Erdeniz '08

On November 6, 2006 the department of Philosophy and CISLA welcomed Middle East politics and international law expert Dr. Noah Feldman to Connecticut College for a much-anticipated lecture titled, “Citizens of the Middle East and the relation between religious and political bodies?” Feldman’s address attracted more than 200 hundred members of the campus community.

Feldman became the object of widespread interest when he briefly served as senior advisor on constitutional law to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq. Specializing in the prospects for democracy in the Middle East and the relation between religion, law and politics, he is the author of What We Owe Iraq: War and the Ethics of Nation Building: After Jihad: America and the Struggle for Islamic Democracy (2003) and Divided By God: America’s Church-State Conflict (2005) respectively.

Feldman’s lecture focused on two fundamental, ethical questions, “can law exist that is not connected to any political body?” and “can law reach across borders?”

Dr. Feldman argued that “without that, it’s hard to say that you’re living under a rule, not a system. What’s the most irrefutable component essential in a legal rule that exists is the right to have ‘some kind of government judicial review of your detention’.”

The issue was brought to the international limelight when a detainee of the camp—a Yemeni national named Ahmed Hamdan, challenged the legality of his detention on the basis of the 2004 Supreme Court ruling that permitted the detention of non-citizens. Feldman further asserted that the most basic, universal right that exists is the right to have “some kind of government judicial review of your detention.”

Within that framework, the detainment camp at Guantanamo is troublesome from the ethical standpoint based on basic rule-of-law ideals. Feldman upheld the philosophy of universal, natural law and focused on the effect of the war on the citizens rights of the detainees. He called for a new initiative to protect the rights of the Guantanamo prisoners to file lawsuits under habeas corpus.

He focused on the ethical and legal issues surrounding the detainment camp in Guantanamo, particularly the US government’s reversal of a previous 2004 Supreme Court ruling that permitted prisoners to file lawsuits under habeas corpus. The Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts

CISLA Alumni Update

Page 10 was published on November 13, 2006. It features an update on CISLA scholars and the activities of the program.

Matthew ‘94, who was selected to travel to 12 countries for his Summer 2008 CISLA internship, is an intern at the US Embassy in Tunis, where he is currently working on the US State Department’s Pre-Departure Orientation Program.

Michelle Miller ‘02 goes a traditional route in the business world. Her new job with Credit Suisse First Boston (CSFB) in New York is her first job after graduating from CC.

Michael Janina Welcome John, born on April 25, 2006. The couple invited many CC alumni including CISLA alumnus Shannon Stock Herzfeld ’74 and Natalie Di Giorgio were married at St. John’s College in 2007.

Kathy Argueros ‘06 has been working in Washington, D.C. as a translator and editor for a Russian-American Business Consortium. Her new book, Russia was also recently published in English.

Alex Barrett ’02 and his wife Lindsay welcomed Sade, born on January 11, 2006.

Kate (Green) Fite ’94 and her husband Jamie welcomed Jude, born on July 30, 2006.

Rebecca (Ross) Shapiros ’06 and her husband Peter welcomed Benjamin Georgi “Benny”, born on April 24, 2006.

The Class of 2009 steps for a picture between meetings with the US and Argentinean delegations during the annual CISLA United Nations trip.

CISLA Alumni Update

(continued from page 10)
CISLA Alumni Update

BY KATIE MCCORMACK

As an effort to create better networking opportunities for CISLA alumni, we ask that you please complete the CISLA alumni survey which has been sent via email. Also, be sure to visit the new CC Alumni Online Community http://www.conncoll.edu/alumni/. If you have trouble logging on, contact alumni.relations@conncoll.edu.

Elisa Roller '93 lives in Brussels, Belgium and works for the European Commission in the Directorate-General for Regional Policy. Her first child, Francesca, was born on July 21, 2006.

Keri Sarajian '96 and her husband Rick Stratton '96 live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Keri is a brand manager of Oust Air Sanitizer at S.C. Johnson & Son and works with a global team on new product innovation. Rick and Keri welcomed their first child, Beckett Azadoot Stratton, on February 8, 2007. They can’t wait for him to get a little older so they can take him on his first international trip – back to Paris, where Keri spent her CISLA summer.

Heidi Suycker Grabson '95, her husband Flex and their children Janina Leis (six), Amelie Maret (four), and Dominic Mohr (three) have moved back to the U.S. after 10 years of living in Germany, and now live in Madison, New Jersey. In April 2006, Heidi ran the 30th Paris Marathon with her brother, followed shortly by a triathlon in Herzogenaurach, Germany.

Lauren (Half) Warren '96 received her Ph.D in clinical psychology at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in May. She lives there with her husband, Josh, and their two-year-old son, Nathan.

Laure (Carpentier) Cousineau '97 is a global marketing manager at the international law firm Baker & McKenzie in Washington D.C. and works with lawyers in over 50 countries. She received her MS in marketing from Johns Hopkins and now lives in Silver Spring, Maryland with her husband Matthew and four-month-old daughter, Charlotte.

Dana Luedke Jacob '97 and her husband, Kurt Jacob still live in Seattle, Washington. In September 2005 they had their first child, Aubrey Susanna Jacob, born three weeks before her third year of law school. Dana finished law school last June, graduating in the top ten percent of her class, and passed the Washington State bar on her first try. She is now clerking for a judge on the Washington State Court of Appeals and loves it. Her life is an eclectic combination of researching and writing judicial opinions and chasing a very active 16-month-old child around.

Catie Ryan '99 was a Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand from 2003-2005. After serving, she traveled to Cambodia, Myanmar and Europe before returning home. She is now attending graduate school at Brandeis University where she is pursuing an MA in Sustainable International Development.

Irina A. Telyukova '99, who interned at Deutsche Bundesbank (German Central Bank) in Frankfurt, Germany for her CISLA internship, graduated with a Ph.D in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania in the summer of 2006. Irina is now an assistant professor of Economics, at the University of California, San Diego.

Kristin Mueller '00 completed her MA in International Affairs and China Studies at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in May 2003. She works as a consulting firm in Washington, DC doing financial analysis for white-collar litigation. She has been traveling a lot and will take her first trip to Africa this summer.

Laurel Dudley '02 moved to Hawaii in August 2006 to participate in the Asia Pacific Leadership Program, a graduate fellowship program at the East West Center. She is finishing up the program, and just returned from a month excursion to Vietnam. Laurel also works as a guide for an outdoor adventure tourism agency, which allows her plenty of time to go hiking and biking in the lovely Hawaii rainforests.

Michelle Miller '02 who interned at the International Labor Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, joined the Peace Corps and is serving as a community and organizational development volunteer in Moldova. This summer, she will be in charge of a young women’s camp for ages 17-21, empowering and educating the most vulnerable victims of human trafficking.

Wilbert Quintanilla '02, spent several months living in Niamey, Niger in 2007. After graduating, Wilbert joined the Peace Corps where he served for almost three years. Following the Peace Corps, he worked as the Carter Center Resident Technical Advisor in Togo on the Guinea Worm Eradication Campaign until December 2006.

Kathy Argerinos '06 has been working in Moscow at an American law firm that specializes in immigration and arbitration law. She works directly with the firm’s top attorney and often represents clients at the American Embassy. She also works on the side as a translator and editor for a Russian-American Business Consortium. Her CISLA SIP on the oil trade industry in Russia was also recently published in Vestnik: The Journal of Russian and Asian Studies.

Dear CISLA STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of another academic year. It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming back the Class of 2007 from abroad and listening – enthralled – to their accounts of all the wonderful things they experienced during their CISLA internships. This year has witnessed many changes. We have continued to develop the program in order to challenge our students and enhance their experience within the program. In Fall 2006, the Class of 2007 completed the final CISLA course, IS401: New Perspectives on Modern Global Society. This year we arranged a series of faculty discussions and presentations to expose students to a variety of issues and perspectives on contemporary society. My personal favorite was a modern dance workshop led by Professor David Dorfman that had the class on our feet and moving around the floor (We have videos). We also enjoyed engaging and excellent presentations by Professor Alex Hijbel of the government department, who spoke about the recent conflict in Iraq. Assistant Professor Simon Hay of the English department, who discussed postcolonial theory, and Professor Alexis Dudden of the history department who spoke about the standoff with North Korea. This was a successful course, which integrated international studies and the liberal arts and I believe the students truly appreciated it.

In other news, we are saying goodbye to Katie McCormack who will be heading to Korea in the fall. Katie has been the internship and publications coordinator for CISLA for nearly five years and has worked tirelessly with our students to track down and secure internships in a wide variety of institutions and organizations around the world. We owe Katie an enormous debt for all the work she has done for CISLA and for all of the advice, counseling, and friendship she has offered our students. We are very sad to see her go but, at the same time, we are delighted that she is embarking on her journey.

Finally, looking to the future, we are exploring ways of funding a CISLA Travel, a TRIP to Brazil. Focused here are, 1st row: Amanda face name withheld), Megan McCarthy, Elina Wierams, Marissa Yenwood, and Rachael Gallitto. Back row: Zachary Olson, Katie (last name withheld), Paul McGough, Robert Gay and Lily Bowen.

During spring break 2007, Professor Gay led an eager group of students, who were predominantly CISLA students, on a TRIP to Brazil. Pictured here are, 1st row: Amanda face name withheld), Megan McCarthy, Elina Wierams, Marissa Yenwood, and Rachael Gallitto. Back row: Zachary Olson, Katie (last name withheld), Paul McGough, Robert Gay and Lily Bowen.

It is interesting to note that five of the seven students who traveled with me to Brazil were CISLA students. Why? Maybe it’s because CISLA students enjoy the challenges of new international experiences. Or maybe it’s because CISLA students are best prepared to take advantage of international opportunities and learn from such unique experiences. Based upon my experience, I feel that international opportunities that supplement traditional classroom learning should also be made available to all CISLA students. The educational and cultural impact that a TRIP could offer our students would truly enhance our program.
The CISLA Experience - A Parent’s Perspective

by HOLLY COHEN P ’07

When my daughter Tes began researching colleges during her junior year of high school, she was impressed with so many of the of the prestigious New England liberal arts colleges. However it was CISLA that made Connecticut College stand out and influenced her choice to apply Early Decision. The preparatory classes as well as the opportunity to work abroad held strong interest for her, and when she was accepted, it was a dream come true. Tes developed a senior integrative project (SIP) through the Psychology Department to compare the portrayal of sexuality in adolescent magazines of Spain and the US. She took classes in various departments to supplement her Psychology courses, in addition to IS201: Perspectives on Modern Global Society with her entire CISLA class.

Throughout her junior year at CC, Tes, with support and guidance from Katie McCormack, searched for an internship in Spain. When she told me that her CISLA internship was going to be in Pamplona, I had visions of her watching (and hopefully not running into!) the running of the bulls. Pamplona is famous for “San Fermines,” the running of the bulls. I was also excited that I would have the opportunity to live in Spain, as I had 30 years earlier. My wish was that this experience would be as life changing for her as it had been for me. And it was.

Although Tes had studied Spanish since 6th grade, she wanted to have a positive impact in the years to come. To do so, she registered for an intensive Spanish language program in Madrid and left for Spain three weeks before her internship was to begin. Tes’s internship was at the Department of Preventative Medicine and Public Health at the University of Navarra. Soon after she arrived, she learned that the University was started by the founder of Opus Dei, the strictest prelate of the Catholic Church. Tes had never been exposed to devoutly religious people before; perhaps more startling for her was that she was the first Jewish person that most of her friends and colleagues had ever met. This proved to be an opportunity for them to learn about her culture as she learned about theirs.

As part of Tes’s internship, she was asked to read a book by her supervisor titled Understanding Homosexuality. As she began reading, she soon realized that he believed that homophobia was not an acceptable lifestyle. This was contrary to what she had believed her entire life. After she finished the book, she spoke honestly to her supervisor about her reaction, and they had an open dialogue. Throughout the summer, controversial issues, including homosexuality and abortion, were discussed at work and with her friends. She was able to uphold her beliefs while respecting the beliefs of others, which is a lifelong skill that she will carry in her future personal relationships and professional endeavors.

Tes has continued her connection with her friends in Spain and is, quite happily, returning in September for Teresa’s wedding. She will already be in Spain, working as a Resident Advisor for a study abroad program in Barcelona, a city she became enchanted with when we visited last summer. Her CISLA internship experience changed her life and also strengthened her desire to apply as a volunteer in the Peace Corps in the fall. From her classes at CC to her internship experience in Pamplona, the CISLA experience will continue to have a positive impact in the years to come.

Although Tes had studied Spanish since 6th grade, she wanted to learn a new language. She is devoutly religious and is one of the few Jewish students at her university. As part of her internship, she was asked to read a book by her supervisor titled Understanding Homosexuality. As she began reading, she soon realized that he believed that homophobia was not an acceptable lifestyle. This was contrary to what she had believed her entire life. After she finished the book, she spoke honestly to her supervisor about her reaction, and they had an open dialogue. Throughout the summer, controversial issues, including homosexuality and abortion, were discussed at work and with her friends. She was able to uphold her beliefs while respecting the beliefs of others, which is a lifelong skill that she will carry in her future personal relationships and professional endeavors.

Nico, her supervisor, slowly let her out on larger ones: photocopying and distributing posters for promotional events, delivering magazines to FNAC (the largest chain of bookstores in Paris), and assisting staff at Cassandre/Horschamp meetings. In addition, he helped create a mural out of x-rays along the wall of a nearby cathedral. Nico also worked at the Salon du Théâtre at St-Sulpice, a huge theater festival that brought together all the major theaters and theater reviews to discuss the current state of the arts in France. One day, one of the women told me that she had her biggest mission yet. She would need to go to every kiosk in Paris that sold the magazine, and to not only buy a copy, but chat with the kiosk owner about the magazine, so that he or she would remember the interest in the magazine when, the following week, we went to sell them the new issue. She was very nervous about this, afraid of not being a convincing enough “mystery buyer,” and fearful that her level of French would give her away. When I returned back to the office very successfully, I was chatted with a new name by one of my co-workers: Elisabeth 007 (in French, that rhyme).

Throughout all these missions, I learned that the arts in France are not at all like they are in the United States. In France, the Ministry of Culture is a government bureau that promotes and provides substantial funding for the arts. Through their support, artists are bestowed a sense of value that is not as prevalent in the US.

The driving force for Nicolas was to show a world of art that does not exist solely to entertain the masses. Through art, he aims to inform, to teach, and to initiate change in order to create a better society. The group of people I was working with had dedicated their lives to promoting this notion, and I felt privileged to have been invited into this mission.

The passion that drove my coworkers, and all that they have taught me about art, how I plan to continue my studies of theater in the future. I now recognize the great power of the arts to hold over communication information to society, in ways very different from newspapers or even the scientific community.

The arts are bestowed a sense of value that is not as prevalent in the US.
Elisabeth 007: An American in Paris by BETH PEARSON ’07

In the United States, whenever I introduce myself, I call myself Beth. However, in French, “Beth” does not exist, so when people attempted to say my name, it came out sounding like “Beto,” the French word for “stupid.” I knew there was no other choice than to adopt “Elisabeth.” At first, I felt like I was biding my real identity. However, over time, I realized that I wasn’t actually disguising my true self; instead, I discovered a new aspect of myself, the “Elisabeth” in me, which I had never found in the United States.

Nicolas Roméa welcomed me into Cassandre/Horschamp, a French non-profit organization, for the months of May, June, and July. He was the leader of the small group in charge of Cassandre, one of the most influential arts reviews in France. Our office was in a small former convent in the northern part of the city. Outside the gates of the convent, there was the constant bustle of travelers coming in and out of the Gare de l’Est, but within the walls, there was the quiet determination to bring back the arts to a place of importance within society.

I began my internship just as the latest issue of the women's magazine when, the following week, we arrived at an abandoned airstrip in a jungle in the middle of a remote island very few had even heard of. It also took my husband and I 10 years of planning and $900 miles of walking using all sorts of transportation to arrive at our destination. It was a place I had dreamed of traveling to for years. Its name is Runway Able.

Runway Able is located on the remote island of Tinian in the Central Northern Marianas Islands nestled between the Pacific Ocean and Philippine Sea. Slightly south of Saipan, it was once considered the most strategic aviation post during World War II. Without knowledge of their cargo, seamen of the USS Indianapolis left the port of San Francisco and carried two atomic weapons to Tinian. In the early morning of August 6, 1945, the first of these bombs, called Little Boy, was loaded onto an airplane called the Enola Gay. At approximately 3:18 a.m., the Enola Gay left for Hiroshima to forever change history. It departed from Runway Able.

While at Connecticut College, I majored in Asian studies and history. As a CISLA scholar, I interned with AT&T in Beijing, China. I received six job offers by the end of my fall semester senior year, all related to my interest in China. I accepted a position within the Chinese Business Unit of Deloitte & Touche in Manhattan. Having a limited knowledge of business, the firm offered me a signing bonus of an MBA degree at the prestigious Stern School of Business at New York University. After spending slightly over two years with Deloitte, I accepted another offer with the pharmaceutical giant Bristol-Myers Squibb where I specialized in operational auditing and industrial engineering. My five great years at Bristol-Myers Squibb took me to over 25 countries with quite a few trips back to familiar China, as well as to many other countries in Asia. One of my favorite travel stories and memories from that time was randomly running into Martin Lopez ’97, also a CISLA scholar, in the lobby of the Shangri-La Hotel in Manila.

My life and career were somewhat put on hold in 2002, when I was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disease called Lupus. Unable to maintain a rigorous travel schedule, I sadly left the company. Between 2002 and 2005, I worked for several other companies on a short-term basis, still specializing in financial operations in Asia. I was part of the team that traveled to India for Standard & Poors, where I assisted in the company’s first merger and acquisition in that country. In addition, I traveled back to China where I evaluated the business operations for the Conair Corporation.

My husband, Wesley Simmons ’95, who I met my first day at Connecticut College, is a non-commisioned officer in the Army specializing in Military Intelligence. His job required us to maintain a rigorous travel schedule, which was the case when they vacationed on the island Tinian. Suzie and Wesley were married this year on January 20, 2007. Congratulations!

CISLA has placed in me a sense of adventure: to go places others would normally just read about and the desire to live out my dreams.

Yet after 10 years of dreaming and 10,000 miles of trekking, I returned to Asia yet again and stood on the abandoned airstrip on Tinian Island. For a brief moment, I felt as if I were able to touch history and dreamed as if I, too, would one day make history. Odd as it may sound, my CISLA experience led me to Runway Able.

I felt severely under-qualified for this role, as both the newcomer and the innocent American who suddenly represented the whole of the United States to these eight people. Not only that, but when Nicolas first asked me where I was from, and I told him “north of Boston,” I suddenly represented all of American history. Nicolas would introduce me to anyone who came into the office as, “Elisabeth, une petite américaine qui connaît les secrets du Sud et le file du thé du Japon.” (Elisabeth, our little American who knows the Salem witches and the Boston Tea Party.)

My goal was clear: to get American universities to subscribe.

Beth Pearson ’07

Reflections from a CISLA alumna by SUKEY SIMMONS ’95

Sukey Simmons ’95 and her husband Wesley Simmons ’95 show in this tale her road trip traveled when they vacationed on the island Tinian. Sukey and Wesley were married this year on January 20, 2007. Congratulations!

Where has my CISLA experience led me in life? Well, it brought me quite a few job offers. CISLA has led me to the far reaches of the earth. It has provided me with perhaps a lifetime of interesting anecdotes on places I’ve gone and people I’ve met. But above all,
It took getting used to waking up every morning in July to grey skies and a heavy, misty humidity.

It took getting used to ordering chicken soup and finding a chicken’s foot, onions included, protruding from the oily broth. It took getting used to meandering bus rides that on a given day would get me to work in 25 minutes, 90 minutes the next.

It took getting used to walking by amputee women and unkempt children shoving bags of trash towards my body, asking for “Us Sa Saludito” and feeling the ignoble weight of that one-third of a US dollar that I placed in their hands.

Daily life in Lima, Peru definitely took getting used to, but the experience of establishing a daily routine was one of the most valuable lessons of my summer. I got to know the doormen of my building, the artisans of the Sunday craft fair that I went to every week and the waiter at my favorite café who knew exactly how I liked my cof- fee, among others. My life there felt real, and in the words of a favorite travel-show host, that I was “always a traveler, never a tourist.” Still, arriving in Lima in June after having spent four months studying in the Andean city of Cuzco during the previous fall, I expected to know the ropes. My first Lima lesson: The rural countryside lifestyle of the Andes is one third more than just a 20-hour bus ride from the crowds and metropolitan chaos of the coastal capital.

Last summer, I interned with Red Nacional de Educación, Salud Sexual y Desarrollo de Jóvenes (REDESS Jóvenes), a small NGO that serves the United States. As a small NGO, REDESS Jóvenes had received most of its funding through US foundations and assistance; however, the current administration has cut off all international aid to organizations dealing with reproductive rights, cutting off important resources needed to realize these educational programs in the region. Our lunch breaks would be conversations ranging from US versus Peruvian poverty to eating habits in the US to the best way to prepare “ceviche,” the national dish of Peru... and they never got sick of making fun of my lack of culinary skills; in fact, co-workers gave me several recipes and cooking tips to use when I returned home. It was hard at times to feel responsible for representing the US and explaining aspects of my culture, politics and lifestyle that I don’t fully understand or agree with. Yet, those conversations brought me closer to my co-workers and definitely made me more self-aware.

To set aside the comforts of my American lifestyle, my native language, and the constant availability of friends and family to have taken a backseat during my internship summer; definitely took getting used to. Still, my apartment address at 120 Independencia was a constant reminder of the personal rewards of stepping outside my comfort zone. Taking that step away from security has taught me how to comfortably navigate through new situations with open eyes and an open mind.

My first experience with the “Peruvian schedule” was my first day of work, when my boss offered to pick me up at my apartment around 9:30 a.m. to take me to the office in