



Volume 7 - July 2007

"No one realizes how beautiful it is to travel until he comes home and rests his head on his old, familiar pillow."

~Lin Yutang



Photo submitted to 2007 Photo Contest by Alumni Matt Theis

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Photo submitted to 2007 Photo Contest by Alumni Alexis Townsend



AustraLearn adds two new universities to study abroad and full degree programs

Beginning in Spring 2008, AustraLearn will begin sending students to **University of Sydney** and **Swinburne University of Technology** in Melbourne. Both of these universities offer Master's degrees that AustraLearn can help you apply for.

Going back to Australia or New Zealand for graduate school is an awesome way to get yourself back to the country you grew to love, plus earn an internationally recognized degree that will advance you in your career.

AustraLearn helps degree students through the application, enrollment, student visa, and financial aid processes, which are surprisingly different and often even more complicated than for a study abroad program. There is **no charge** for AustraLearn's Degree Program services, so if you are considering graduate school in Australia or New Zealand, [contact us](#) immediately for assistance.

AustraLearn now works with 34 universities in Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji for semester/year abroad and 31 universities in Australia and New Zealand for degree programs.



www.australearn.org/fulldegree

Glimpse needs your help in sharing exciting and useful advice with future students



What should I pack? Will I get along with my host family? Will I make any friends?

If these were some of the questions you had before going abroad, now is your chance to answer them for future students! Glimpse is creating three new PDF Study Abroad Acclimation Guides: 1) *Packing and Preparation*, 2) *Getting Along with Your Host Family*, and 3) *Friendship and Dating Abroad*.

The purpose of these guides is to create an alternative to the materials traditionally provided to pre-departure study abroad students, which--let's face it--are often rather dull. You've lived the very experiences that pre-departure students are preparing for, so they want to hear from you! Share your horror stories, offer your counsel, tell us what you would do differently the next time around. Take their brief 10-minute survey here:

<http://glimpse.studyabroad.sgizmo.com>

AustraLearn is an active partner with the Glimpse Foundation. Glimpse is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that fosters cross-cultural understanding and exchange, particularly between the United States and the rest of the world, by providing forums for sharing the experiences of young adults living and studying abroad. It's Your World. Get Acquainted.

www.glimpseabroad.org

Intern with the Australia Embassy in Washington, DC this fall

The Embassy of Australia in Washington, DC is seeking a fall intern. The intern will assist with basic event management, student enquiries, database tasks, administrative tasks and research. The successful candidate will have completed at least two years of college (with a GPA of 3.2), possess strong written and verbal communication skills, be proficient with Microsoft Office, Dreamweaver and databases, have the ability to work independently and in a team, have the ability to show initiative, have a personal interest in the fields of education policy, science policy, international relations, public relations and /or marketing. Previous work or study experience in Australia is a plus.

Interested students should visit <http://www.usa.embassy.gov.au/whwh/Intern111.html>

The (paid) internship runs from September through December. Interns are normally required to work 20-30 hours a week. The deadline for applications is 13 July 2007.

Australian Monopoly - new places and tokens selected for the Australian version of this classic boardgame

The Australian Monopoly Here & Now Edition game board has been completely updated based on more than 16.8 million votes from the Australian public.

The new edition resembles present-day Australia as the properties now include landmarks from 22 great regions from around the country and the property spaces have been re-appraised to include modern-day property values.



In addition to the updated tokens and properties, the game's money is in higher denominations and the Chance and Community Chest cards include scenarios relevant to today. [LEARN MORE >](#)

Board Spaces:

- **Dark Blue** - SA: Barossa Valley, Adelaide
- **Green** - WA: Kalgoorlie, Broome, Perth
- **Yellow** - VIC: Sovereign Hill, The Great Ocean Road, Melbourne
- **Red** - TAS: Launceston, Cradle Mountain, Hobart
- **Orange** - NSW: Broken Hill, Tamworth, The Snowy Mountains
- **Pink** - NT: Katherine Gorge, Devils Marbles, Kakadu
- **Light Blue** - ACT: Anzac Parade, Lake Burley Griffin, Cotter Reserve

Australian Monopoly Tokens:

- Surfboard
- Pair of things
- Ute
- Koala
- Labradoodle
- Mobile phone
- Laptop computer



- **Brown** - QLD: Sunshine Coast, Great Barrier Reef

"That's a mark!" - Play Aussie Rules here in the States

While you lived in Australia or New Zealand, chances are you were introduced to the fabulous sport of **Australian Rules Football**, more commonly known as **Aussie Rules** or **Footy**. Whether you simply watched games from the stands or on TV, took a few kicks with your mates, or actually played in a league, we hope that you were lucky enough to experience this key element of Australian culture firsthand.

These days, Aussie Rules is growing more and more popular around the States as well, thanks to an organization called US Footy. **US Footy** is an amateur sports organization dedicated to the development of Australian Football. They promote participation in Australian football through promoting awareness and knowledge of the Australian culture, by promoting a sense of community among USAFL clubs and club members, and by fostering women's and junior programs across the United States.



There are currently [46 USAFL clubs](#), [25 MetroFooty leagues](#) (adapted version of the game to better fit with U.S. field facilities), and [six college clubs](#) around the nation, plus a U.S. National Team called [US Revolution](#). There are also 12 [women's teams](#) on the rise and two newly formed coed leagues across the U.S (see below). The USAFL season typically runs from July to October, with the season culminating with the National Championships, held in Louisville, KY this year.

Whether you played while abroad, wished you could have and are looking to learn now, or simply want to hear an Australian accent again, we strongly encourage you to get involved with your local Aussie Rules club. All teams are always looking for players and fans, so give it a go! [Find a club](#) in your area today, or if one doesn't exist yet where you live, US Footy will guide you through [starting your own club](#).

Did you play Aussie Rules while abroad?

If so, we want to hear from you! Email alumni@australearn.org with your a brief description of your footy memories.



Live in Denver or Baltimore? Give footy a go with a coed social league. No experience necessary... they'll teach you everything you need to know! Seasons start up again in the fall. Learn more: [Denver Aussieball](#) [Baltimore/Washington Ausball](#)

Featured Alumni - Kelsey McNichols is AustraLearn's Alumni of the Year, receives once-in-a-lifetime change to launch into a career in the field of study abroad

Kelsey's semester abroad in New Zealand was less about traveling and more about quality friendships with Kiwis. The strong bond she shared with her new friends impacted her in incredible and profound ways. Upon her return, Kelsey wanted to help other students have similarly amazing experiences, so she began working in her home uni's study abroad office and joined the [AustraLearn enCompass Alumni Program](#). By combining her study abroad memories with professional development opportunities, Kelsey grew interested in a possible career in international education. This led her to apply for, and eventually receive, [AustraLearn's Alumni of the Year Award](#), allowing her to spend a week in May 2007 at the annual NAFSA Conference amongst international education professionals all over the world, all sponsored by AustraLearn. She is spending the summer back in New Zealand as a sports marketing intern with the NZ Breakers basketball team in Auckland through the [AustraLearn Internship Program](#)!



What was the most memorable experience from your semester abroad at Waikato?

Everyday I spent with my friends resulted in memorable experiences. If I had to choose though, the most memorable experience I had while at Waikato would have to be the night a huge group of my friends went out onto the sport fields on campus and tried to teach each other how to play a few of our national pastimes. The Americans tried to teach the Kiwis baseball and American football, while the Kiwis attempted to teach us cricket. Needless to say, after a few hours we all ended up exhausted, muddy, and had come to realize that we may not be quite as athletic as we had once thought!

Why did you decide to work in the study abroad office at University of Minnesota last year? What did you like most about job?



I decided to apply to the peer advisor position at the U of MN's Learning Abroad Center while still in NZ. I felt that a job that allowed me to share my abroad experiences with others as well as help other students plan and execute their time abroad couldn't have been more perfect for me. I have a passion for travel, an interest in different cultures, and a love for meeting new people and this job had it all! Thus far, the best part of my job would be getting the opportunity to chat with students that are still trying to pin point a destination for themselves. It's always interesting to see what is driving and motivating students in their decisions to go abroad and also what they are hoping to get out of their time while away.



Why did you decide to participate in the AustraLearn enCompass Program? What was your favorite activity that you completed?

I was introduced to the enCompass Program through one of AustraLearn's regional directors while at a campus study abroad fair. He told me that it was a great way to continue to reflect on my time abroad and to help encourage other students to consider a similar experience. My favorite activity that I completed for the program was being a past program participant at the pre-departure meetings for students preparing to leave the country. It's a great feeling to be able to use some of what you learned abroad to answer others' questions and help to ease their worries in any way possible.

Semester Abroad:

February to June 2006

Host University:

University of Waikato,
Hamilton, New Zealand

Home University:

University of Minnesota-
Twin Cities

Academic Major:

Marketing and Supply
Chain Management

Graduate Date:

May 2007

Currently: Interning
in Auckland, New
Zealand for the NZ
Breakers basketball
team



Would you recommend the enCompass Program to other AustraLearn alumni? Why or why not?

I would definitely recommend the enCompass Program to other AustraLearn alumni because it is a great way for you to really internalize your experience abroad and to help create awareness for other students at the opportunities available to them. Also, it was hard for me to come back and just attempt to leave everything that had happened there behind. Being part of the alumni program helps you to be able to continue to apply what you've experienced abroad.

You received the 2007 AustraLearn Alumni of the Year Award and recently attended the NAFSA conference with AustraLearn. What was that experience like? What did you learn or gain from attending the conference?

The experience was nothing less than overwhelming, but at the same time really fun to be a part of. I came to realize the extent and range to which the international education community is developed and connected. I would never have thought there were so many organizations and educational institutions that make international learning such a priority. It is really comforting and intriguing to think about what the future holds for students and the globalization of their educational experience. The conference allowed me to see how many great and hard-working people are out there devoted to helping give students a better education and more opportunities for their academic career.

What interests you most about working in the field of international education as a potential career?

I think that the most important qualification that a student needs to gain before entering the work field is being a global citizen. I feel that means being open to change, welcoming and being able to effectively work with diversity, having an interest in more than one's own community, and being exposed to a variety of different cultures. I feel that the more people that are able to embody these characteristics, the better off our societies are going to be. If I can play any part in helping and encouraging others to embrace these responsibilities, I think it would be very gratifying.

What motivated you to do an internship abroad?

I'm a business student so it was very important that I had an internship this summer, but I had noticed that a lot of my professors are starting to really stress the impact of globalization on the field of business. International experiences in a study or work context seem to make a great impression on future employers. I thought that interning internationally would be a great way to gain a unique perspective on the industry as well as return to the country that I have come to love!

Please tell us a bit about your current internship in New Zealand. What sort of responsibilities/projects will you be working on? What is the work environment like?

Currently I am in Auckland, New Zealand as a marketing intern for the Harvey Norman NZ Breakers basketball team. The first week we did a variety of random tasks to get acquainted with the team from attending game nights with coworkers, taking tours of the community and associated organizations, to even taking a road trip to Hamilton to deliver marketing material to a business there. In the upcoming weeks however, our focus will switch to one main project that will entail developing a marketing plan proposal that attempts to increase the student population fan base at the Breakers games in the upcoming season. We are responsible for utilizing any resources we can to identify promotions or marketing efforts that will be the most effective in luring the students in. The Breakers office has a very small staff, but they have all been exceptionally kind to us thus far and the environment is



always comfortable, laid back and encouraging. Our supervisor does not micro-manage, so I think our experience will require a lot of hard work, resourcefulness, and creativity. Overall, I think it's great work experience with the added benefit of coming home everyday to a vacation!

Do you have any advice for other alumni looking to return to Aus/NZ for an internship program?

I would say that if you are pursuing a career that encourages internships, international work exposure, or are just a driven student looking for a new challenge or experience an international internship should be considered. If you've been abroad previously you may not have the room in your academic schedule to take off again for 5 months, but 10 weeks over your summer will not only get you back to the places you love, but it will surely be a wonderful boost to your resume and provide you with useful tools for any future job! The only advice I'd give is make sure that you make an effort to really find a placement that suits you and what you'd like to accomplish with an internship. Be open to new things, always keep in mind what a unique and rare opportunity an international internship is, and enjoy yourself! You're there to sell yourself and your work ethic professionally, while continuing to fulfill yourself personally!

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