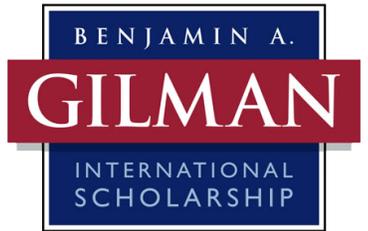


HANNAH ALLEN, SOUTH AFRICA, 2012

University of Kentucky
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Interning and studying abroad was different from anything I have ever experienced before. It opened so many pathways, professionally, academically and personally. I gained insight into South African culture, politics and history. I learned numerous skills by working in an office setting during my internship.

A central and unique aspect to my study abroad program was my internship with Inyathelo: The South African Institute for Advancement. Inyathelo is a non-profit organization which works to promote sustainability and good governance in the non-profit sector and to inspire philanthropy

in South Africa. Good governance within the board and directors promotes effectiveness and efficiency. Good governance creates a foundation for a strong civil society. Through honest and sustainable civil society, democracy is strengthened. Inyathelo promotes these ideas through their non-profit workshops and online informational resources.

Specifically, I worked in the philanthropy and media/marketing department at Inyathelo. In the philanthropy department, my tasks included transferring information and resources from their original form to Inyathelo's newest website. My other responsibility was to write inspirational stories of South African philanthropy. The goal of the stories is to encourage giving and philanthropy in an effective manner. Inyathelo is innovating different ways to inspire giving and to promote a prospering civil society through their marketing, media and resource centers.

Interning at a non-profit helped me realize that I enjoy desk work,

but I also thrive in applied and hands-on tasks. In addition, I learned that I enjoy analytical, logical, practical, and creative work.

My time in Cape Town reinforced my scholastic decisions and my desire to continue studying international relations and policy. I am now more than positive that I will go to graduate school to further these academic goals.

"Interning at a non-profit helped me realize that I enjoy desk work, but I also thrive in applied and hands-on tasks. I learned that I enjoy analytical, logical, practical, and creative work."

Studying and interning abroad broadened my horizons and opened doors for the future. Thanks are owed to the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, which made this all possible.

FOLLOW-ON SERVICE PROJECT

For my Follow-on Service Project I created a blog in which I wrote in detail about the educational, personal, and professional impact studying and interning abroad had on me. In addition, I included

information about finding scholarships and securing them. I used YouTube to post videos of my experiences onto my blog, making it more interactive, creative, and attractive. In order

to reach my target audience, my blog was promoted by the University of Kentucky Education Abroad office and through their Twitter account.