Volunteering for *Spain For Hillary*
Gaining a global perspective on the 2016 U.S. presidential race

Monica Rios is a 5th year student from UC San Diego currently studying abroad at [Complutense University of Madrid](https://www.complutense.es/en). She recently shared, "Upon beginning classes in early October, I decided to search for a volunteer opportunity that I could get involved in during my time here. Through our coordinator, Paula Ortega, I was able to join a grassroots campaign, Spain for Hillary, initiated by Alana Moceri, a professor at the European University of Madrid and a UCLA Alumna. Since joining, I have met a diverse group of individuals from various professions, backgrounds, and different parts of the world currently residing in Madrid as well as Spanish natives. I have learned about Spaniards’ interest in our political campaign, reminding me how the U.S. president is not only a national figure, but also a global figure of power. I have realized the president’s actions and ideologies can influence progress and change in other nations as well.

My responsibilities include promoting Spain for Hillary through social media, sharing pertinent news to keep voters and supporters informed, as well as creating e-vites for our organization’s events. I am thankful to have encountered Spain for Hillary while in Madrid. I never would have imagined it to be a possibility a year ago."

You can visit their Facebook page at: [https://www.facebook.com/spain4hillary/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/spain4hillary/?fref=ts)
Melanie Woiwode Memorial Scholarship
Helping to promote immersion through sports!

The Melanie Woiwode Memorial Scholarship was established in June 2007 by friends of Melanie Woiwode and the University of California Trust UK. Melanie Woiwode was a vibrant, young Californian of grace, courage and passion, and the scholarship honors her memory as a dedicated sportswoman.

The goal of the Melanie Woiwode Memorial Scholarship is to facilitate life-changing sporting experiences for women studying in the UK or Ireland. Woiwode Scholars receive small grants to offset costs associated with undertaking a sporting activity during their year abroad. These funds are used by UCEAP students to help purchase items such as team uniforms or a bus pass for transportation to and from a practice field, costs that sometime prohibit students from participating in important immersion activities.

For the past nine years, the fund has supported over 50 students in diverse extracurricular activities, including rugby, badminton, and spelunking. Recent recipient Grace Yu used the Melanie Woiwode Memorial Scholarship to help fund her participation in the University College Dublin’s Trampoline Club! Click here to watch a video of Grace’s trampoline experience.

If you are interested in supporting the Melanie Woiwode Memorial Scholarship, please donate today or contact Elizabeth Janis Perl at eperl@eap.ucop.edu. We depend on the generous support of our alumni and friends like you. Even a small donation of $10 will help keep this important scholarship program in support of our female students in the UK successful.
Alumni Profile – Professional Violin Maker
James Wimmer

As a junior at UCSB in 1969, James Wimmer spent a year in Germany, at Georg-August University of Göttingen, where he developed fluency in the German language. After graduation, his language skills assisted him when he spent several years as a professional musician in Europe, and four more years learning the art of violin making from master violin makers Wolfgang Uebel and Herbert Rainer Knobel. Jim met his wife Peggy White, also from UCSB, while they were both studying abroad at Göttingen. Peggy and Jim lived in Germany from 1971 to 1986 where Peggy received a German teaching degree and worked in various capacities at Georg-August.

Upon returning to California, Peggy worked for UCEAP in the systemwide office for 16 years as our Academic Development Analyst, helping to get many of our current study abroad programs created and approved.

Jim has worked as a professional violin maker since 1980 and opened his studio in Santa Barbara in 1986. He brings old world tradition of classical violin construction to bear in his concert quality instruments.
In spring 2007, Westmont College in Montecito, California, commissioned Jim for the construction of the Hubert Schwyzzer quartet. The quartet consists of a cello, viola, and two violins, all patterned after Antonius Stradivarius. Jim flew back to Germany to hand carry back the wood needed for this very special project of matching instruments.

Jim recently returned from his second 3-week trip to Chennai, India to lead a Violin Wise program, teaching repair and restoration of the violin family instruments. He has written extensively about his work and experiences there with his Indian students in a series of fascinating and humorous blog posts and photographs on the Violin Wise website. You can read more about Jim’s interesting work as a luthier here.

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**Keira and Irish Dancing in Cork**

**UC Irvine dance major makes the most of her experience abroad**

UCI English literature student Keira Whitaker is on exchange at University College Cork. Her adventure abroad has so far been enriching and inspiring. Keira has joined the UCC dance club, and performed at the cork jazz festival. She is currently learning traditional Irish step dancing, which she finds really exciting.

Keira also won her UCEAP Study Center’s 50th Anniversary Scotland/Ireland student competition with the following sentence:

"UCEAP has provided me with the opportunity to reach distant places, where my mind is limitless and my courage borderless."

Keira shares, "I chose Ireland for many reasons...I wanted to explore my heritage, which is greatly Irish, and get a better understanding of my family history. I also wanted to go somewhere that spoke English, because I am not fluent in any other language, although I am now definitely interested in learning a new language.

_The program was affordable and made the most sense with my major. Everything I needed to take was at University College Cork, and once I saw the campus on Google maps, I knew it was a match made in heaven._ Read more >>

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**Volunteer to Read Student Scholarship Applications**

Use your experience of studying in another country to review scholarship applications from students preparing to go abroad in 2016. We need reviewers in the first two weeks of March (to read summer scholarship applications) and again the first two weeks of April (to read fall scholarship applications). You can participate in either or both rounds. Read scholarship applications online at a time that works for you. Total commitment is 3-6 hours per cycle.

To sign up for either the March or April review rounds (or both!) please click [here](#). Please sign up for the March review round by February 15 and for the April review round by March 15. Contact Jessica Trumble at [alumni@eap.ucop.edu](mailto:alumni@eap.ucop.edu) if you have any questions about becoming a volunteer reader.
Scottish and Irish Parliament Internships
Why these programs are worth it

Two cities, two Parliaments, 15 motivated UC interns. The Scottish and Irish Parliament Internship Programs offer UC students the possibility to spend a term in Edinburgh or Dublin, and further their political knowledge and experience by working closely with members of these two Parliaments. On top of their internship, students attend lectures: in Edinburgh, they learn about Scottish law; in Dublin they focus on Ireland's history, society, politics and literature.

What are our interns doing and what do they think about their experience abroad?

From Byron Roos-Collins (pictured right with his MSP in Edinburgh):

"I've been given substantial, engaging work including speech writing, interview writing, research, auditing, and more. Currently, I'm designing a pilot scheme to help bring remote notarization to island communities...I highly recommend any UC students interested in politics to go for this program..."

Visit the UCEAP England, Scotland and Ireland Study Center blog to read more student intern testimonies.

Thank You and Best Wishes
Letter from outgoing Associate Vice Provost & Executive Director Jean-Xavier Guinard

Dear Colleagues, Alumni and Friends of UCEAP,

With my term as director of UCEAP ending on December 31st, I wanted to write and thank you for your support and guidance over the past five years.

With record enrollments and in strong financial health, UCEAP is poised to continue to be a leader and an innovator in international education. Now fully self-funded, equipped with a sound business model and a powerful strategic plan, we have come a long way in the implementation of our vision of study abroad for all, academic excellence and best business practices, and UCEAP is sustainable for the foreseeable future.

I take wonderful memories from my tenure at UCEAP, mostly because it meant working with special people like you, and for the international education of University of California and our partners’ students. Visiting with UC students while abroad and witnessing the impact of their study abroad experience was always a highlight; so was signing off on scholarship awards to hundreds of students every year. Read more >>