



INTRODUCING THE 2011-2012 KILLAM FELLOWS

BRIANA BENDER

FROM ITHACA COLLEGE TO L'UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

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My Killam exchange has been a study in contrasts that presents an intellectually stimulating challenge in many ways. Since Université de Montréal is significantly larger than Ithaca College, I had to adapt to a more impersonal environment with a twenty-minute jaunt to attend large classes that offer little or no class discussion, a challenge further handicapped by a language barrier, as French is my second language at this exclusively French university. Consequently, I relied heavily on my resourcefulness and self-reliance in order to know my professors and understand the material. Additionally, being evaluated by native standards challenges me to seek greater perfection in my academic work and cognitive thinking. Furthermore, my classes have exposed me to a new cultural perspective. For example, Introduction to Quebecois Literature provides a cultural experience that deepens my appreciation for the Canadian spirit. As a result, I have gained a new, more steadfast confidence that has further broadened my horizons.



STEPHEN BIRARDA

FROM CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TO SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

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My Killam experience has been instrumental in allowing me to apply the theory I have learnt in classes throughout my computer science program both at Concordia University and on exchange at San Francisco State University. While studying here so close to Silicon Valley I have had the opportunity to attend numerous technology conferences and network with like-minded individuals of all ages. This semester I was fortunate enough to start an internship with an exciting startup company here in San Francisco, helping them build a new iPhone application and continuing development on their existing website. This internship will complement the technical knowledge I learn in class by teaching me how to both create and continue to grow an internet company. It is thanks to the Killam Foundation that I am studying in California this year and have been lucky enough to be granted these opportunities.



MAUDE CHALIN

FROM CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TO KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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My Killam experience has given me opportunities that largely exceeded my expectations. First of all, discovering the sub-culture of the American Mid-West, its uniquely beautiful scenery, and pleasant weather has been a real treat. It is no exaggeration to say that Kansans are extremely friendly! The most life-changing benefit of this exchange has been to discover a field of study that I am passionate about. Not only that, the Architectural Engineering program at Kansas State University is among the best in North America; the program is small, the instructors are fantastic, and the professionalism is striking. I feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to study there. Finally, I was fortunate to do some research assistantship on wind turbines and solar panels, since the wind and sun in Kansas are quasi perpetual! It was very enriching, and exactly what I was hoping to do one day. I come out of this experience inspired, motivated, and with many exciting connections for my future career. Thank you!

OSTA DAVIS

FROM WHITMAN COLLEGE TO MCGILL UNIVERSITY

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I am a junior politics Major at Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. As a recipient of the Killam Fellowship, I had the opportunity to spend a semester studying at McGill University in Montreal, QC. Through the Killam Fellowship I gained a better understanding of the Canadian political system and particularly benefitted from the opportunity to converse with the scholars and students researching Canadian issues at the Fall Orientation in Ottawa. Although my Killam experience will conclude with the Spring Seminar in Washington D.C., I hope that Killam will act as a springboard for further examination of U.S.-Canada relations. Beyond academics, my interests include spending time in the outdoors whether that be by hiking, skiing or horseback riding.

STEFAN DEHOD

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA TO ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

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Back in the frighteningly cold city of Edmonton I'm certainly wishing that I was still riding my bike in Arizona. My Killam experience was nothing short of amazing. I am excited to see how those few months living in the United States will continue to impact the direction of my life. I'm thankful for the opportunity to have lived in an entirely new city where I knew no one and still felt like I was supported in what I was doing. (Un)fortunately for those who read this I'm painfully cheesy: I think if I were to have one more semester abroad with Killam I would be able to fly... no, not only figuratively—literally! I believe my email is listed above. Most definitely feel free to write me should you ever feel so inclined.

SARAH DENSLOW**FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA****EMAIL: sarah_denslow@comcast.net**

I could not be more thrilled to be spending the year in such a beautiful city such as Ottawa. I am currently a 3rd year International Affairs major at the University of Maine and during my time abroad, I have been focusing on Women's Studies and French at the University of Ottawa. My time spent in Ottawa has been indescribable and I am so thankful that I still have half a year left. The relationships I have formed with the people and the city will forever be a huge part of me. I cannot wait to see all of the smiling exchange student's faces and be able to spend a great weekend with great people in yet another great city!

**KRISTIN D'SOUZA****FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO****EMAIL: kristin.dsouza@gmail.com**

I am a third year at Arizona State University, studying justice studies and women and gender studies. Through my studies Canada, a wealth of frameworks, research and social study has proven highly beneficial to my understanding of immigration and healthcare as a social justice issues, and as a specific policy issues facing both Canada and the United States. I have studied immigration and refugees to Canada in terms of Canadian society and diversity, and about the universal medicare and healthcare debate in Canada from the viewpoints of native Canadians. I am empowered to bring this new, exciting knowledge and political ideology to the U.S. in my studies and in my research of these highly-contested topics in the United States government, especially in light of the upcoming 2012 election, where how these issues are addressed are more important and volatile than ever.

**ALANNA FLYNN****FROM MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON****EMAIL: alanna.flynn@mun.ca**

I am a fourth year physics student at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada. I will be attending the University of Washington for the Spring quarter beginning at the end of March. Although I haven't yet gone on my exchange, I have already gained so much from the Killam experience! Meeting so many amazing people and participating in all the great activities at the Fall Orientation was wonderful, and I look forward to doing this again at the Spring Seminar. I'm also very excited to begin my exchange in Seattle, where I'll be able to take advantage of opportunities, both academic and otherwise, that are not available to me at home.



MANDY FOLK**FROM PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA****EMAIL: folkmandy@hotmail.com**

It's hard to come up with just one umbrella reason of how I most benefitted from my experience with the Killam. Going abroad has really touched every aspect of my life. I'm much more confident with my abilities to achieve my goals and figure my way around if in unknown territory. Receiving the Killam really allowed me the chance to get to know myself; my strengths, weaknesses and so on. I was able to determine who it was I was becoming and what it is what I wanted to be as I grow older. My entire outlook on my life has changed after coming home and I'm a much more confident and joyous person. It's a marked enough shift that the people around me have noticed the change and are happy and proud for me. I'm not really sure I could ever truly express how important it was to me that I was able to become a Killam Fellow, it's allowed me to become the person I always hoped to be.

TORI FRAPPAOLO**FROM AMERICAN UNIVERSITY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA****EMAIL: vf9573a@student.american.edu**

I am a senior at American University. This fall I studied International Development and Middle Eastern Politics at the University of Ottawa. I am an International Relations major with concentrations in International Business, International Development, the Middle East and languages. I study Italian, French, Arabic, and Spanish. I was president and treasurer of American University's community service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega and American's Language Exchange Program. My professional experience includes internships with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, UNICEF, the International Council of Caring Communities (a not-for-profit organization that has Special

Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations), the DC Children's Art Studio, and Earth Day Network. I feel that through my Killam Fellowship experience, I was afforded the opportunity to grow on an academic level through the International development program at the University of Ottawa as well as further my foreign language skills in Italian, French and Arabic. Furthermore, by becoming involved in the international program, I was able to meet and develop lasting friendships with people from all over the world.

GENEVIEVE GAY**FROM QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY TO CLEMSON UNIVERSITY****EMAIL: genevievegay@hotmail.com**

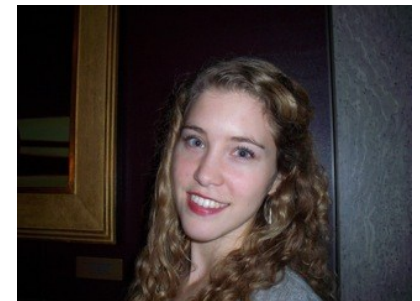
I am currently studying at Clemson University in South Carolina and have already fallen in love with the campus and the people. I am living with three other girls, each from different parts of the world and with different experiences and we all get along very well. My economics classes are very interesting as the teachers approach the subject in a slightly different way than I am used to. My teachers as well as people on campus have been very friendly and approachable and I feel very comfortable in this new environment. This Killam experience has allowed me to discover a new state that I may never have travelled to and has also allowed me to make lasting friendships with people from around the world.

IAN GREEN**FROM OAKLAND UNIVERSITY TO L'UNIVERSITÉ SAINTE-ANNE****EMAIL: icgreen@oakland.edu**

I am an International Relations & French student from Oakland University who spent my Killam experience in a French Immersion program at Université Sainte-Anne in Nova Scotia. Not only did I see a dramatic improvement in my ability to speak and understand French, I also had the opportunity to become immersed in Maritime/Acadian culture. I also really enjoyed seeing the differences between the Acadian culture I was surrounded by and the culture of Quebec when I used the mobility grant to travel to Montreal. After both of these experiences, I feel that I now have a much greater understanding of how bilingualism has shaped Canadian culture. In the end though, the most valuable aspect of the whole experience for me was the opportunity to make friendships in Canada that will last a lifetime and that made my host community feel like a second home during my exchange experience.

**ALEXIS GUY****FROM WHITMAN COLLEGE TO MCGILL UNIVERSITY****EMAIL: guyar@whitman.edu**

The experience that the Killam has given me has been fascinating so far, in several different ways. Montreal possesses an extremely unique culture, different not only from that of the US and the west of Canada where I've spent time, but also from France, where I was last semester. Different even from the rest of Quebec, it has been a continual source of surprise and interest for me. I've endlessly enjoyed studying the linguistic distinctiveness of the region, its accents and expressions, as well as the cultural differences, and the ways the Quebecois identity is expressed. Additionally, the opportunity to study science at McGill University, renowned for its medical school has been a rewarding, if challenging experience, one that I'm sure will serve me well as I continue next year to finish my undergraduate degree at home and consider the future.

**ELLI HANSON****FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA****EMAIL: Elli@ualberta.ca**

When I began the application process in 2010 for the 2012 Killam Fellowships program, I had no idea I was entering myself as a candidate for a life changing experience. Not only has the Killam exchange program provided me with an outstanding educational abroad experience, but I have grown more, learned more, and explored more in the past year as a Killam Fellow, than I have throughout my entire undergraduate degree. The program has not only allowed, but also encouraged me to take my studies beyond the classroom, and open myself to experiential learning opportunities during my exchange. At the fall Orientation in Ottawa I discovered the distinct value of cross-disciplinary discussion with other fellows and scholars to foster a mutually collaborative academic forum. The Killam Fellowship has been an outstanding experience, and my semester abroad has provided me with the unique international and global tools that I have no doubt will guide my future endeavours within my education and beyond. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Killam Program for providing such a venerable program to undergraduate students throughout Canada and the US. I feel honoured to have had the distinctive pleasure to experience this past year as a Canadian Killam Fellow.



MAHDI HUSSEIN

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO TO AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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I am a Political Science and Peace & Conflict Major at the University of Toronto. Over the last few years, and especially during my time at the Canadian Embassy and while on exchange in the United States, I have developed a significant interest in the field of diplomacy. This opportunity has allowed me to attend a remarkable educational institution like American University in Washington DC, and be taught by distinctive and impressive faculty who've all had extensive careers as diplomats and international scholars. The Killam Foundation is well aware that the learning outside the classroom can be just as important as the learning done in the classroom, as such, has allowed me to travel to New York City to visit historical landmarks as well as other prestigious educational institutions. All these experiences have allowed me to grow as a

student and as an individual, and has without a doubt this had a profound positive impact on my life.

ERICA ISOMURA

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

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My Killam fellowship experience has been amazing. Without this program, I most likely would not have ventured away from my home university to study. Although Vancouver Island is geographically close to Seattle, it has been an entirely new experience to attend such a large university in such an urban area. I have gained a newfound appreciation for larger educational institutions and really value all of the resources and learning opportunities that UW has offered. Between volunteering at the UW student farm and attending several of the diverse lectures and workshops offered on campus and in the community, it seems that I do just as much learning outside of classes as I do in the classroom. The fellowship has helped to broaden my educational interests and has given me opportunities that I wouldn't have acquired otherwise. I can't say how pleased I am to be a Killam Fellow.

EUGENE KOBIAKO

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TO THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

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I study biology and international studies. I strongly believe that through exchange programs, such as the Killam Fellowship, individuals become more diverse, unique and discover the world around them. What makes Killam unique is that it gives a Canadian and an American a chance, one that is frequently overlooked, to learn more about each others' country and create the tie between the nations that much stronger: one individual at a time. I benefited from the Killam experience substantially because not only was I able to study abroad, I was able to discover the differences between the US and Canada in an academic and a social setting, which allowed me to embrace the differences and learn more about the relations of the two nations. I was also able to travel throughout Canada and even visit the capital of my own nation, something I could not have done without the generous contribution of the Killam award.

CÉLESTE LALIME

FROM L'UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

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I'm from Montréal and I'm presently studying abroad in the United States with the Killam Fellowship Program. It's been 10 weeks since I came at the University of Maine, and it seems like I just arrived. It is the first time of my life that I have the chance to live on an American campus and I enjoy my experience everyday. I met awesome people here, and not only Americans, but also people from all around the world. The activities offered on campus are numerous and extraordinary. We don't have time to get bored because there are always so many things to do (trip, excursion, sport competition, etc.). School here is extremely different from my home university, Université de Montréal. Yes, classes are harder, but I know I can take advantage of it. Since I'm a French speaker living in a French city, I was never really forced to speak English. Here, I have to, and it was one of the main reasons I wanted to study in the United States. Clearly, I will remember this fantastic experience all my life.



ANNE LARKIN

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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I just graduated from the University of Idaho with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in History and English. I spent the fall in Vancouver, BC, where I took courses in literary theory, creative writing, history, and photography at the University of British Columbia. I also went on some beautiful hikes and ate lots of sushi and a little bit of poutine. It was interesting getting to know Canada and Canadians a little more intimately, and considering the contrasts between the two nations provided a rich context for my studies. Taking classes--especially history classes-- that came from a Canadian perspective was entirely different from classes in The States and made the courses doubly engaging. I traveled to Montreal during the semester and had a wonderful time exploring the unique city. Now I'm in Seattle, Washington, interning at a city magazine and planning on grad school (perhaps in Canada) in the next few years.



TRAVIS LECTURE

FROM CLEMSON UNIVERSITY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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I most benefited on my exchange in many ways. Most importantly, I developed more as a person. I also learned how the higher standard of living affects the prices of just about everything, especially food. It was quite the learning experience figuring out how to deal with ~35C/92F temperatures without air conditioning since there was none to be had in Edmonton when I got there, and then how to deal with -18C/0F for the first time (thankfully I missed the brutal part of winter). The funniest part was learning the different words people use, especially since we could make fun of each other for saying sneakers instead of tennis shoes or soda instead of pop, etc. I had a completely unforgettable time with amazing new friends, and I hope I can visit them all again someday.



MICHELLE LEPAGE

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA TO BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY

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While on exchange at Bridgewater State University I had the opportunity to develop professionally by taking hands-on courses that introduced me to aspects of journalism I knew nothing about. Though I've always thought of myself as a writer, experiencing the thrill of directing a live television program in one of my courses exposed me to a different career path that I am now considering. The people I've met, the places I've been, and the opportunities I've had this year have also been benefits of my Killam experience. When I applied for the Killam Fellowship I wanted to travel to places I otherwise never would have gone to on my own and to connect with people throughout Canada and the United States and I think I have accomplished just that.

ABBIEY LIND

FROM ITHACA COLLEGE TO YORK UNIVERSITY

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My Killam experience so far has truly been eye opening. Although at the moment I am merely halfway done, I have already gained many insights. In particular, this has been an opportunity to grow. In just the past few months, I have learned what it takes to be independent, to take matters into my own hands, and to adapt when circumstances are not what you expect. Having never gone abroad before, these were things I previously had never encountered. I have realized that things don't always run smoothly; it was these bumps that I faced, however, that made this experience all the more worthwhile. I know that in the end I will cherish every memory I have made here in Canada and will not want to leave; I already feel that I have a better understanding not only of how the world functions, but also of myself.

BRIAN LUONG

FROM MCGILL UNIVERSITY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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I am a student at McGill University studying Accounting and Finance. I will be graduating May 2013 and am excited about joining the business world and starting my career. My passions in life include entrepreneurship, badminton, skiing, exploring new places, and making new friends. The Killam Fellowship program allowed me to further explore my passions and have one of the best and most defining experiences in my life. Thanks to the generous program, I was able to go on exchange to University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business for the Fall semester and not have to worry too much about living expenses. As a result, I was able to

focus all my energy on my studies, exploring the city, meeting new people and forging lasting relationships with those of whom I had the privilege of spending more time with. Not only did I learn a tremendous amount in terms of academics and personal development, but this experience allowed me to establish an international network of friends from the USA, China, Japan, Korea and many European countries that I can count on to take me out for a drink whenever I am visiting.

KRISTINA MANSVELD**FROM MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY TO AMERICAN UNIVERSITY****EMAIL: kmansveld@gmail.com**

Originally from a small town in British Columbia, I am currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in international relations with a minor in economics at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick. I found my semester as a Killam Fellow at American University in Washington, DC to be thoroughly enriching in every sense - intellectually, professionally and personally. I developed strong connections with knowledgeable and inspiring individuals, including professors, undergraduates such as myself, and key members of civil society. The spectrum of opportunities available to me to pursue my academic passions widened immensely. All the while, I was able to explore one of the most diverse and fascinating cities I have ever seen, and also benefited from a trip to historic Boston, thanks to the Killam Mobility Grant program.

I am thoroughly grateful to all those who made my experience, and those of the other Killam Fellows, possible. This program is unique and invaluable. I look forward to further interaction with the network of friends and colleagues that I was so lucky to gain through my Killam experience.

**LINDA MONAHAN****FROM AMERICAN UNIVERSITY TO MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY****EMAIL: linda.monahan12@gmail.com**

My Killam experience stands out as one of the most rewarding of my undergraduate career. I was able to gain a broader North American perspective on key social issues through my Canadian Studies courses at my host institution, Mount Allison University, that I would never have had access to as an American Studies major at American University. I am now much more aware of the importance of Canadian-American relations, and it has become a favorite conversation topic with friends from Mount A and AU alike. During my time in Canada, I also traveled from Halifax to Vancouver, experiencing Ottawa and Montreal along the way. I got to experience the diversity of these major urban centers, while getting to know small town Canada in Sackville, New Brunswick. Finally, the people I have met through the Killam Foundation are all bright and ambitious, and I am honored to be counted among them.

**REBECCA MOYNES****FROM LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING****EMAIL: rc_moynes@laurentian.ca**

I am from a small farming community just south of Belleville, Ontario. I grew up on my parent's strawberry and cash crop farm, spending the summers working in the fields. When the farm work was done (or close to) we would get away to our cottage on a lake near Coe-Hill, Ontario, where I would play in and on the water all day long. Almost every morning I spend training for my next barefoot waterskiing tournament. I also play hockey, and did competitive gymnastics for 12 years. Now, I am currently taking a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario.

For my Killam experience, I traveled to Laramie, Wyoming to do a semester at the University of Wyoming. So far this exchange has been an amazing experience. I have met several new friends; some people who are locals and native to Laramie, and others that are also studying abroad from other countries. Attending classes at a different institution has given me the opportunity to experience new professors and each of their unique teaching styles. Going through the exchange process, I have seen how both my host and home institution work, and feel that I will now be able to go back to my home university and share what I have learned so that the program can be improved for students wishing to do an exchange in the future. I have already learned lots about what life is like in the mid-western states, and experienced first-hand the welcoming from people in this small town/community.



ADRIELLE MUNGER

FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY TO QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

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I entered Queen's University as an inquisitive literature student with a background in modern American fiction and an interest in Canadian literature. In other words, I was totally a clueless exchange student with no idea what to expect – which, in hindsight, was probably the best way to begin my life in Canada. I went into my year abroad with no expectations, and soon realized the importance of my time in Kingston. Not only did I stretch my academic abilities in the challenging classes at Queen's, but I easily opened myself to new and different people, languages, and cultures from across Canada and around the world. More than the chance to study at a world-renowned school, the Killam allowed me the opportunity to create meaningful relationships with incredible people. The Killam forced me to undergo a provocative and formative culture shock that will resonate within my academic and personal spheres long after my academic exchange is over.

TAYLOR MURRAY

FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY TO MCGILL UNIVERSITY

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My Killam experience has been an extremely enlightening. Although I'm still spending time abroad, it is easy for me to see how the experience has contributed to my growth as a person and as a student. While preparing to study in Montreal, I formed certain expectations of the city, the university where I would study, and the general experience of spending time abroad. These expectations, while nevertheless important, continue to be exceeded. Before traveling to Montreal, I had no idea what I was in for. Moving to such a cosmopolitan city has its advantages. For one, I've noticed the culture is much different in Montreal than in my hometown of Phoenix, Arizona. Not necessarily better or worse, but intrinsically different. I have also enjoyed the experience at McGill University very much; gaining new perspectives, while studying the subjects that I'm interested in, has only magnified the learning experience.

JOHN NYMAN

FROM YORK UNIVERSITY TO VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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Being a Killam fellow has meant seeing a completely different side of America—American people, American culture, American education, American thought—and how I fit in to both countries and their relationship with each other. Studying at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee has given me both a taste of American personalities and interests from all across the country, and a sense of how people live in a particular part of America (The South) which is often excluded from generalized and stereotypical views of American identity. Experiencing Nashville in relation to, for example, New York (which I visited through the Killam Cultural Awareness Program), has shown me that people in both Canada and the

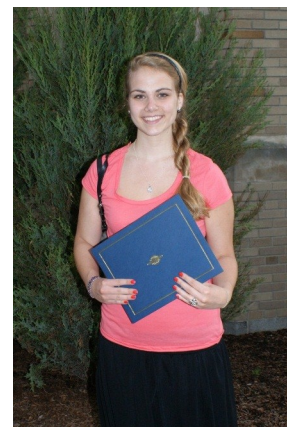
U.S. live in complex relationships with what it means to be "Canadian" or "American," though these questions take place under very different circumstances for each country. Overall, I have been forced to rethink who I am in terms of nation (how Canadian, American, or North American am I?), seen how my interests, work and even my personality play out differently in different places, and realized which of my personal qualities I can bring with me to any new experience I may encounter.

WILLY O'HANLEY**FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND TO ITHACA COLLEGE****EMAIL: wohanley@upei.ca**

The best part of my Killam exchange experience was being able to meet so many new people and, in some ways, be a new person myself. There's something in people, or at least in me, that needs adventures and new places, and getting those is what really wakes me up. Being in a new place, with no one expecting anything of me, I was more open to new things and found it so much easier to do them. Doing that, I met people that weren't like anyone I had met before. Ithacans are a strange and wonderful breed, and I like to think I carried a little bit of that place and those people away with me. Even if I hadn't, there's always Skype, and they're still my favourite people to talk to about whatever's going on in my life and theirs. Those people are some of my best friends, and I think I'm the best version of myself when I'm around them.

**HILLARY SPONABLE****FROM SUNY—PLATTSBURGH TO L'UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL****EMAIL: hspon001@plattsburgh.edu**

As a Killam Fellow during the fall semester of 2011 I studied at l'Université de Montréal. I am preparing to be a French teacher when I graduate from SUNY Plattsburgh, my home institution. I can say definitively that studying away from one's home university is an important experience that teaches you a lot about yourself. For me it taught me how to relate to other people and realize who is important in my life. Academically, attending an all French-speaking university greatly ameliorated my French and I feel that it is important to have such an experience when one is going to teach a language. Studying Quebec French was an interesting challenge and definitely makes me more marketable as a teacher. I knew Standard French before my exchange, but having a familiarity with Quebec French only improves my knowledge of the language as a whole.

**AMY TANG****FROM MCMASTER UNIVERSITY TO SMITH COLLEGE****EMAIL: amytangwg@gmail.com**

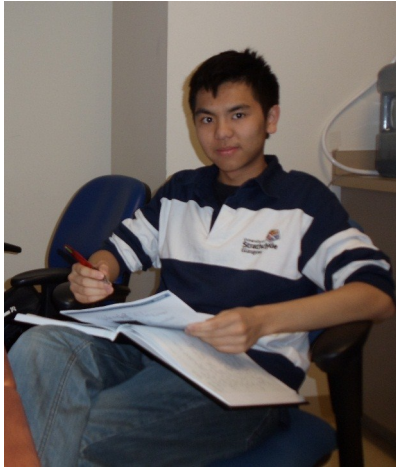
I've been studying at Smith College as an exchange student since the end of January. My tip on settling into a new environment is to say 'yes' to most things and to take advantage of exciting opportunities as much as possible. For me, that has meant taking a class on fencing, joining the ultimate frisbee team and going winter camping in New Hampshire. I've learned that you don't need to go very far in order to get a different educational experience. Studying at an all-women's, liberal-arts college is proof of that. But, I've also managed to find the little things that remind me of home (a.k.a. McMaster University): an independent coffee shop in Northampton, the college-run greenhouse on campus...etc. In short, every decision that I have made on my Killam exchange to step outside my comfort zone has resulted in new friends and unforgettable adventures.



KYLE TSANG

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO TO HARVARD UNIVERSITY

EMAIL: kyletsang8@gmail.com



The Killam Fellowships Program has provided me with an incredible opportunity this past academic year to pursue my dream of becoming a leading researcher in the biomedical stem cell field. Through the aid of the Killam foundation, I have been able to relieve much of the financial burden that comes with this once-in-a-lifetime internship. Furthermore, I have been introduced to the many of the important cultural and political differences between the United States and Canada especially through a health care perspective. I have become more aware of the health policies and reforms that have drastically impacted my future prospect in biomedical research. Lastly, the one aspect of the Killam experience that has most influenced me is the contacts that I have been able to create. The diverse community that Killam has provided me with has certainly improved my professional network and I am truly thankful for all the support and guidance this organization has offered me.