

A Summer of Sharks! Corrin Flora at the National Marine Fisheries Service



Corrin Flora, MSB, '03, National Marine Fisheries Service Panama City, FL

"I have always wanted to work with sharks," said **Corrin Flora, '03**, a Marine Science major from Youngstown, Ohio, when she walked into the Co-op office at the start of the Spring semester. And work she did. During her Co-op with Dr. John Carlson, a shark researcher with the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Fisheries Science Center in Panama City, Florida, Corrin worked with Atlantic Sharpnosed sharks, Black Tip sharks, Scalloped Hammerhead sharks, Fine Toothed sharks, Makos, and one infamous Bull shark. Much of the work dealt with population studies that involved heading offshore as far as four miles and setting a large gill net to trap the sharks. The sharks were brought on board, measured, tagged and then released.

Corrin's initial project was to study the relationship between a shark's diet and tooth shape. She analyzed stomach contents and used a special computer program to obtain tooth measurements. Age was determined by cleaning, cutting and

(Continued on page 5)

Dolphin Conquest: Jennifer McGee at Dolphin Quest

While still in Australia last spring participating in another Southampton College experiential program, **Jennifer McGee, BPS '03**, learned that a summer 2001 Co-op was possible at Dolphin Quest, Oahu, Hawaii. Since dolphins have been in Jennifer's dreams since childhood, she applied and was one of four students accepted into this very cool but very competitive program.

All of the basic tasks like cleaning, feeding, and daily record keeping associat-



Jennifer McGee, BPS, '03, Dolphin Quest, Honolulu, HI

ed with animal related Co-op's were certainly part of the routine, but Jennifer's participation in Dolphin Quest's new children's program, Quest for Knowledge, was the unexpected bonus.

Jennifer explained, "The children fed sea turtles, touched stingrays, kissed dolphins and acted out a sea turtle life cycle. We conducted tropical fish snorkel scavenger hunts, and hands-on activities showing similarities between dolphins and humans. How many kids do you know who have kissed dolphins? Not many that I know, but we hope to change that." Quest for Knowledge includes games in

(Continued on page 5)

Music to Her Ears: Nicole Courtenay at Virgin Records

Some people might not know Perry Farrell, Nikka Costa, or Miranda Lee Richards, but if you wanted to work in today's recording industry, you would. **Nicole Courtenay, '02**, a Communications major, was "completely psyched" when she had the opportunity to meet these three recording artists during her full-time summer 2001 Co-op spent working at Virgin Records America.

Nicole is one of the lucky students who has already chosen a career path and planned for success. For the past two years Nicole, whose concentration is radio broadcasting, has been the music director and assistant station manager at the Southampton College student-run radio station, WLIU. The volunteer position feeds her career interests and will strengthen her resume.

As WLIU's music director, Nicole deals with recording company promotion directors, all seeking air time for their artists. Through those business connections Nicole found her 2001 summer Co-



Nicole Courtenay, BFA, '02 Virgin Records America, Manhattan, NY

op with Virgin. Having worked the college-end of radio promotions, Nicole thought it logical to experience the corporate end and did just that as an assis-

(Continued on page 5)

Co-op Sets New Placement Record

The Cooperative Education Staff is proud to announce that 2000-01 was a record-setting year for the office, with 250 Southampton undergraduates placed in part or full-time Co-op positions, both nationally and internationally. The previous placement record was 231, for the 1998-99 academic year.



**Jessica Lopes, Bio, '03 ,
National Aquarium,
Baltimore, MD**



**Erin Flowers, Env. Sci., '03,
Adam McEvoy, Env. Sci. '03,
Blue Heron Farm, Pittsboro, NC**



**Ashley Schoenburg, BIO, '01
Living Desert , Palm Desert, CA**



**Nora Leibman, BPS, '04
Jenkinson's Aquarium
Pt. Pleasant, NJ**



**Johanna Ferguson, BUS, '02
Hildreth's Department Store,
Southampton, NY**



**Jessica Everett, Env.Sci, '03
Brookhaven National
Laboratory, Upton, NY**



**Melissa Shaver, MSB '03, Clearwater
Marine Aquarium, Clearwater, FL**



**Tamikka Benson, BUS, '02,
North Fork Bank,
Southampton, NY**



**Laura Thompson, MSB, '03
Wells National Estuarine
Research Reserve, Wells, ME**



**Lisa Lim, HUM, '04
Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL**



**Cynthia Cleary, Bio '03
Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, NB**



**Patrick Powell, BPS, '03,
CRESLI Whale Watch,
Montauk, NY**

White House Science and Tech Director was Co-op Luncheon Guest Speaker

Dr. John Marburger knew in June as he addressed employers at the Southampton College **Annual Cooperative Education Employer Luncheon** that he was being considered for the prestigious position as Assistant to the President of the United States for Science and Technology Policy for recently elected



President George W. Bush. The publicity for the appointment did not surface until June 25, a few days after his address at Southampton College.

Dr. Marburger, keeping a lid on the news of his pending appointment, and speaking to 60 employers and Southampton faculty as the Director of the Brookhaven National Laboratory, offered a unique and intimate look at lab operations

and challenges for the new millennium. He spoke of the necessity of effective and open communication with the public on all issues related to laboratory research and the impact on the environment. He also spoke of the importance of developing relationships with communities, educational institutions as well as open communication with lab researchers. Dr. Marburger's official appointment has received Senate confirmation and since then he has assumed his new role in the current administration.

Corrin Flora (Continued from page 1)

mounting shark vertebrae on slides to analyze growth patterns.

Although interesting scientifically, one assignment became Corrin's least pleasant task of the summer Co-op. She had to obtain tissue samples from the Bull Shark that, in an incident widely reported by national news services, mauled a young boy vacationing in Florida. To get the samples Corrin had to dig up the dead shark's carcass at the beach where it was buried after the attack.

On a related though much happier level, Corrin was the spokesperson in a segment on sharks and water safety when a German educational television station filmed a children's video at the lab.

Now, Corrin is looking forward to finishing her undergraduate degree at Southampton College and plans to specialize in shark research in graduate school.

1999-2000 Alumni Stats

The 1999-2000 Southampton College Alumni have done well since graduation in May 2000!

Ninety-Five percent (95%) of the respondents to the most recent alumni survey conducted by the Career Center were employed within the first six months of graduation. Fifty-Seven percent (57%) of the class participated in Co-op/Internship experiences and Forty-Five percent (45%) of that group received job offers from their co-op/internship employer!

Jennifer McGee (Continued from page 1)

which children learn about varied sea animals, their characteristics, life cycles, the challenges they face, and conservation

"This Co-op isn't anything you'd expect and it is more than you would expect at the same time"

issues. Ever see the inside of a dolphin belly? Jen has. Because of its commitment to preventative medicine, DolphinQuest is one of the few facilities where the animals are trained for weekly endoscopies required to obtain medical baselines for each animal.

Jen was able to assist the trainers and the veterinarians in those procedures as well as the lab tests associated with them. "I'm not really sure what I expected of this Co-op," she said. "All I know is that I've done more than I ever thought I would. This Co-op isn't anything you'd expect and it is more than you would expect at the same time, as long as you're willing to put forth the effort to learn."

Nicole Courtney (Continued from page 1)

tant in Virgin's college promotions division.

While at Virgin, the world's third largest music company, Nicole's responsibilities extended to calling college music directors, promoting new releases and new artists, and explaining terms under which Virgin would send new music to stations for play time. Occasionally she crossed over to assist in video promotions and general promotions. "Even when I was doing grunt work like copying or faxing, I knew I loved this business and this Co-op," Nicole said. "The whole experience just confirmed for me that this is where I want my career to go."

When Nicole returned to Southampton this fall as WLIU'S full-fledged station manager, she brought a tremendously broadened perspective of music's corporate side that will benefit her, the station, and her future job prospects. And, thanks to Virgin, she also brought back "an amusing amount of free music" she collected during her successful summer Co-op.

The 2000-01 Co-op Employer of the Year Award



Recipients are The Wildlife Rescue Center of the Hamptons, Hampton Bays. Seen here following the awards luncheon are, from left: Katrina Zawacki and Nicholas Parente, Southampton College students who worked there, and the Center's Executive Director Virginia Fratti, Director Jim Hunter, and Executive Volunteer Augie Fratti.

To view the history of Cooperative Education at Southampton College, read student comments on the Co-op experience, see photos of Co-op alum, or review a history of placements, visit the Co-op web site at: www.southampton.liu.edu/academic/coop



Lorena Cantos, LIB, '01
Good Shepard Service, NY, NY



Kathleen Weiss, AGD, '02
Marvel Enterprises, Manhattan, NY



Regina Malfatti, AGD, '01
Visionary Graphics, Patchogue, NY



Emily Owen, BFA, '03
Gayle Willson Gallery,
Southampton, NY



Jessica Berrio, BPS and
Kristina Yarbar, BPS '03
National Aquarium Baltimore,
Baltimore, MD



Mecca West, Bio, '03
JFK Medical Center,
West Palm Beach, FL

Thank You!!!
The Co-op staff would like to thank employers, Southampton College staff, faculty and Long Island University for continued support of Co-op students and the Cooperative Education Program at Southampton College.



John Carroll, MSB, '04, Aquarium
for Wildlife Conservation,
Brooklyn, NY



Katie Tulip, Exp. Psych., '03
New York Wildlife Conservation Society,
Brooklyn, NY



Melinda Holding, HUM, '01
WLNG FM, Sag Harbor, NY



Emily Karlqvist, AGD, '03, Poster.com,
Bridgehampton, NY



Charles Mulligan, MSB, '04, Jessica Snug, BPS,
'02 Zeehondencreche, Pieterburen, Netherlands



Elizabeth Tromblee, COMM, '02
Bridgehampton National Bank
Bridgehampton, NY



Jill Stocks, BPS, '03, East End Kennels,
Westhampton Beach, NY, Agility training
exhibition at the Hampton's Classic, Aug. 2001

INTERNSHIPS AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Exchange Program Sails

During the 2000-01 academic year eight Southampton College students participated in our Exchange Program with the University of Southampton and the Winchester School of Art, both in England, and with the University of Miskolc in Hungary. Southampton College was host to two WSA photography majors, Greg Day and David Gates, in the spring.

"If anything, this trip has made me realize how much I want to learn," says **Christina Krahforst**, a senior photography major who spent the fall at WSA and traveled to Miskolc in the spring to study and photograph a gypsy village nearby. "Living in Europe for eight months wasn't easy, problems with new experiences and languages consistently arose. However, I learned to be tough and the difficulties only prepared me for more

travel. Now I believe I can go anywhere."

Senior Fine Arts major **Elizabeth Dembinsky** also journeyed to Miskolc for landscape painting. "Taking time to experience another culture is a worthwhile experience for anyone up to the challenge. I can honestly say that it has changed my life in immeasurable ways." If you get the chance, ask them to show you their sensational portfolios!

Stephanie Jaeger and Leah Cullison, both Marine Science majors, studied at the University of Southampton. Scott Tucker and Mike Rundberg participated in the sculpture program at WSA and Dan Hart in the painting program. They were amazed at how much time they could actually spend working on their projects. At WSA



*Elizabeth Dembinsky and Christina Krahforst
Senior Fine Arts majors
Castle Hill, Budapest, Hungary, February 2001*

learning is by doing and students are expected to be almost entirely responsible for their independent educational growth. Faculty members guide students and offer feedback, but self-learning and self discipline is the principle philosophy.

Intern Jennifer Ryan Receives Ph.D Sponsorship in Italy

Ever imagine doing marine research on a tropical island? Ever hear of the island of Ischia in the Bay of Naples, off the coast of Naples, Italy? Ever think you'd learn to "cook like an Italian" and speak the language you chose for your high school foreign language course?

Jennifer Ryan, a senior Marine Biology major, partook in all of this and may very well be studying for her doctorate in Italy after she graduates from Southampton in spring of 2002

Jennifer knew that she would do an internship to complete her honors requirements and after applying to internships in California, Washington and Italy, she decided to accept the offer of octopus research in Ischia under the guidance of Dr. Graziano Fiorito. Dr. Fiorito directs the Ischia laboratory and its sister lab in Naples at Stazione Zoologica. We are so pleased to announce that in July Dr. Fiorito offered to sponsor Jennifer as a Ph.D student assistant which Jen has happily accepted.

"When I decided to do an internship I knew it would be a good opportunity. However, I had no idea how many other opportunities it would create and what a variety of things I would be learning. Every day presents new challenges in the

study of *Octopus vulgaris*, its behavior and learning. I was amazed to see that an invertebrate can learn, but they do! Part of my job was to train them to learn with visual discrimination tasks. An octopus can be taught to choose between objects of different shapes and hues and I've seen them learn to open glass jars to get to a crab inside. I also helped produce a catalogue of cephalopod patterns and postures.

The work in the lab is helping me with my individual research project, which is studying their learning abilities in the field. These animals have the most incredible ability to change patterns and colors to perfectly blend into the background. I had to learn what to look for and I've become rather good at finding them, sometimes two at a time.

Besides the research aspect, I learned to cook, which is a real experience for someone who regularly uses the microwave. You cannot do that in Italy, as Italians take food very seriously. I learned how to make chicken cutlets and tomato sauce from actual tomatoes! All of my newly acquired skills in research and yes, cooking, will certainly become more important when I begin four years of graduate study."

Dr. Fiorito's research has reached a multidisciplinary level so that the learning abilities of the octopus are studied at the behavioral level and the biological one in order to find more answers about learning and memory of *Octopus vulgaris*. Dr. Fiorito has hosted two other Southampton College interns.

Education Internship in Australia



Jordan Forestell, a senior History/Political Science major and Education minor, completed her Internship at the Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort in Queensland, Australia during the Spring '01 semester.

Visit our new Career Center web page at: www.southampton.liu.edu/career

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Jen Grabianowski Selome Brathwaite
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CO-OP STUDENT
OF THE YEAR 2001

Vanessa Saari '01 BIO

*Co-ops completed with
Southampton Town and Moss Landing*

Directors Dedication

This summer the Career Center celebrated the return of three previous Career Center Directors and dedicated the newly renovated Abney Peak conference room as the Directors Conference Room honoring past and future directors of these very successful services and award winning programs.

The **Bridgehampton National Bank** donated the funds used to renovate the Conference Room and upgrade the BNB Career Center Resource Room, a leading-edge career resource computer lab named in honor of the bank.



Seen here from left are Ellen Avenoso (1987-98), Hinda Pollack Bodinger (1980-86), current director John McCrudden and Andrew Bales (1976-78).



Strabuck Retires

Grace Strabuk retired in April, almost exactly 20 years to the day after she started working at Southampton College as the Cooperative Education Secretary. She is seen here with Provost Tim Bishop, who joined her co-workers as they celebrated her tenure and wished her farewell.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION INTERNSHIP & CAREER CENTER
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