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2009 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Recipients

Zonta International is pleased to announce the 12 international recipients of the 2009 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships.

District 1 – Ashley Greene (Canada/USA)
District 3 – Amanda Burd (USA)
District 4 – Samantha Seto (Canada)
District 6 – Kelsey Palmer (USA)
District 7 – Irina Rodina (Russia)
District 11 – Holly Spencer (USA)
District 12 – Alecia Johnson-Bowers (USA)
District 15 – Marcy Gilstad (USA)
District 16 – Valeria Kern (Germany)
District 21 – Sophie Nelson (Sweden)
District 23 – Angela Sawyer (Australia)
District 29 – Jiajing Lou (China)

Ashley Greene (Canada & USA)

As an undergraduate business student at Acadia University, Ashley has excelled academically while showing tremendous commitment to service and extracurricular activities both on and off campus. According to one of her professors, “Her academic achievements in combination with her extracurricular efforts suggest that Ashley, in addition to being an outstanding scholar in business, is a well-rounded, engaged and self-motivated individual who willingly invests in her local and regional community.”

On campus, Ashley has taken on leadership roles on the Acadia Students’ Union, Acadia Young Liberals and the Acadia Student Newspaper, while off campus she participates in a number of political and volunteer activities, including the Nova Scotia Young Liberals, Liberal Party of Canada, the Annapolis Valley Regional Hospital and Students Against Drunk Driving, among others.

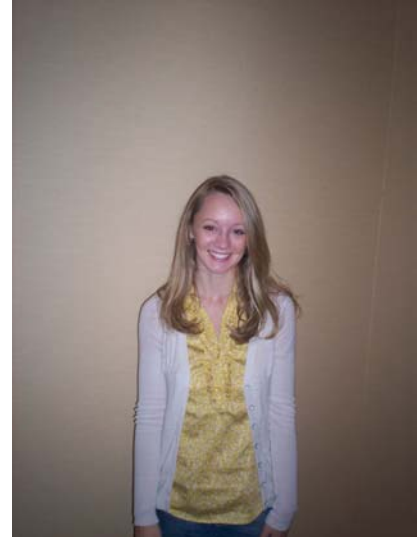
Ashley will graduate from Acadia University in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Business Administration with majors in Finance and Marketing. After completion of her undergraduate degree, she plans to pursue a dual J.D./M.B.A., specializing in corporate law, to prepare for a career in international finance, investor relations and investment banking.

Her long-term goals involve merging her business expertise with her political interests for a career in politics. “Developing as both a leader and an engaged citizen has always been a high priority because it is those very skills that will allow me to achieve my personal and professional ambitions which include starting my own corporation, running for a seat in the House of Commons, serving a term(s) as Finance Minister and eventually leading a political party.”

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Amanda Burd (USA)

As a 2008 Summer Scholar at Saint Joseph's University, Amanda collaborated with her faculty mentor on a series of projects that focused on bridging "green gaps" between companies and consumers, including the creation of a "green game" for children which has been distributed to grade schools in paper, board game and digital media formats. Her mentor was so impressed with her work and work ethic that after the conclusion of the Summer Scholars Program, he invited her to join him as a co-author on two manuscripts for publication.



Amanda is ranked #1 in Saint Joseph University's marketing program and was described as leader among her peers by the Chair of the Department of Marketing after her participation in a study tour course to Belgium, Germany and Switzerland, led by the Department Chair. "Definitely a leader among her peers, Amanda was able to ask probing questions, analyze disparate pieces of information, conduct in-depth research and develop intuitive working hypotheses about sustainability...I believe that Amanda's strengths lie in her ability to see the practical side as well as the ethical implications of a particular issue."

Outside the classroom, Amanda is a student ambassador, mentor and a member of the Service Club. She will receive her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in Marketing from Saint Joseph's University in 2010 and hopes to one day start her own marketing consulting firm.

Samantha Seto (Canada)

Samantha not only excels academically as one of the top students in the University of Toronto Scarborough's Co-op Program in Management, she also stands out as a leader in her extracurricular and service activities both on and off campus.

As one of six senior executives of the Management & Economics Students' Association, the largest student group on campus, Samantha serves as a liaison between the business program and the students and has created a new program to promote corporate social responsibility within the university community. Her contributions to the management program and its student body have been recognized by her



professors and the Coordinator of the Co-op Program. "Samantha is an outgoing and ambitious student who is a positive role model for our female management students."

Outside the classroom, Samantha serves as a Sergeant in the St. John Ambulance Cadet Division where she coaches junior members in first aid and leadership. In December 2008, she received the St. John Ambulance Grand Priors Award in recognition of more than 700 hours of first aid and volunteer service.

Samantha will graduate from the University of Toronto Scarborough in May 2011 with a Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in Management. After completing her undergraduate degree, she is interested in exploring careers in teaching and corporate social responsibility. "One of my visions is to be in a field where I can make a difference and break the notion that profit and social responsibility are on opposite spectrums."

Kelsey Palmer (USA)

Kelsey was inspired to pursue a degree in business from a project she completed for her Girl Scout Gold Award in high school. The project, titled "The Apprentice," gave high school students their own non-profit to run for a day in a simulation game to teach the students about the business behind non-profits. From this experience, Kelsey decided to pursue a degree in business at Marquette University and hopes she can one day give back to the non-profits that inspired her by using her passion and business experience to benefit her community.

Active in academic and volunteer activities both on and off campus, Kelsey is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi Spanish Honor Society and a student member of the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants. She is President of the Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit Honor Society and Treasurer of the Wisconsin Forensic Coaches Board of Directors, a Girl Scout mentor and a volunteer for Campus Kitchens.

Her demonstrated commitment to service and her desire to give back will serve her well in her business career according to a former professor. "In addition to being bright, conscientious and ambitious, Kelsey possesses integrity and compassion, and she is the kind of person in whom people and clients would readily place their confidence and trust."

Kelsey will receive a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from Marquette University in May 2010. After completion of her undergraduate degrees, she would like to continue her studies in a graduate program and become a certified public accountant and eventually a professor.

Irina Rodina (Russia)

Born in Moscow in 1988, Irina witnessed the collapse of the USSR and the transformation of Russia from a planned economy to a capitalist system. “Without government assistance, income inequality increased rapidly and many found themselves on the edge of poverty. I remember seeing this transition and being desperate to make a change one day that would make people’s lives better. That is how I became interested in politics and business administration.”

Irina is now applying her strong math, analytical thinking and critical writing skills to her business and political science courses at Columbia College of Missouri in the United States. She hopes her knowledge of three languages and familiarity with diverse cultures will one day help her be competitive in the field of international business.



Irina is a member of the Mock Trial Team, the Model UN, the International Student Club, Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society, Alpha Chi National College Honor Society and Sigma Beta Delta Business Honor Society.

She will graduate in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Political Science – the first of her family to receive a Bachelor’s degree. She plans to continue her studies in either an M.B.A. or a dual J.D./M.B.A. program and will eventually seek employment in the international business field.

Holly Spencer (USA)

According to her professors in Florida State University’s Dedman School of Hospitality, Holly demonstrates great work ethic, drive and passion for the hospitality industry in everything she does. “Holly is dedicated to superior service and excellence both in her career and in her studies.”

Her exemplary academic record has earned her membership in the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, the Eta Sigma Delta International Hospitality Honor Society and the Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society. Holly has also



demonstrated strong leadership skills among her peers in the Dedman School of Hospitality as a student ambassador and as chair of the College of Business Student Leadership Council’s Hospitality and Golden Opportunities Mentorship Program.

In addition to completing the required coursework for her degree, Holly has taken the initiative to coordinate and complete five external internships to complement her studies. She has also

begun working to obtain her real estate license and has gotten involved with the Society for Human Resources Management.

Holly will receive her Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Administration from Florida State University in May 2010. After completion of her undergraduate degree, she plans to pursue an M.B.A. and hopes to obtain a management or executive role with a major hotel or restaurant company.

Alecia Johnson-Bowers (USA)

Alecia will receive her Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in Management from The University of South Dakota in May 2010.

In addition to maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade point average, Alecia finds time to participate in numerous extracurricular activities. She is a member of the Financial Management Association, Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

As Secretary and Sector Team Leader of Coyote Capital Management, a student-managed investment fund at The University of South Dakota, Alecia is getting real world, hands-on investment experience working with her peers to manage a US\$500,000 portfolio of publicly traded equities. During these interesting economic times, she is happy to be a part of this group and is eager to continue to learn how to better analyze stocks and research companies to make smart investment decisions.



After receiving her undergraduate degree from The University of South Dakota, Alecia plans to continue her studies in pursuit of an M.B.A. Her long-term goals include taking advantage of South Dakota's positive entrepreneurial climate and opening her own business to provide employment opportunities for residents of South Dakota.

Marcy Gilstad (USA)

Marcy is in her third year of undergraduate study at Alma College in Alma, Michigan, pursuing a degree in Business Administration with minors in Spanish and Public Health.

In addition to maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade point average, Marcy is also very active in service activities both on and off campus. She has already participated in two Alternative Break experiences; and, during the summer of 2009, she volunteered at the Baca Ortiz Children's

Hospital in Quito, Ecuador as part of a study abroad program in Ecuador and Peru. On campus, Marcy is the Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach for the Alma Tigers Special Olympics, the Vice President for Public Relations for Students in Free Enterprise, a Resident Assistant, Teaching Assistant and founder of “Active Minds at Alma College,” a chapter of a national mental health awareness student organization.

Marcy will leave college with a fellowship endorsement from the Center for Responsible Leadership and the Public Affairs Colloquium and plans to pursue graduate study in Healthcare Administration – a necessary educational step in her pursuit to become a healthcare administration consultant. As a healthcare consultant, Marcy hopes to combine her interest in public service with her penchant for innovative enterprise to help hospitals, nursing homes and other health care providers implement ideas and practices to make healthcare more affordable, satisfying and efficient.

Valeria Kern (Germany)

Valeria is pursuing a Bachelor of Business in Accounting and Finance at Massey University in New Zealand.

Her long list of scholarships and honors includes the Massey University Dean’s Scholar Certificate, the 3M New Zealand Prize in Finance, the ASB Bank Prize in Finance, the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants Prize in Accounting and the ACCA Prize in Accounting.

In addition to her exemplary academic achievements, Valeria is also an accomplished violinist. As a member of the Auckland Youth Symphony Orchestra, she manages a demanding rehearsal schedule yet still finds time to teach music and music theory to 5 to 10 year olds – children who would otherwise not have access to classical music – in a remote rural area of northern New Zealand.

Valeria is currently working towards becoming a Chartered Accountant and would like to obtain a postgraduate qualification. As part of her postgraduate studies, she is considering conducting comparative research on the different accounting systems in Europe and New Zealand to contribute to and help facilitate the international harmonization of accounting standards. She is also interested in using her various language skills to work overseas in Germany, France or Canada as an auditor or financial analyst and hopes to one day own a small accounting and business advisory firm.

Sophie Nelson (Sweden)

As Co-founder of “Female Navigators,” a group aimed at empowering and strengthening female business students, Sophie hopes to change the way women are perceived in the business

world. By creating a space where talented females can meet, debate, discuss and develop, the group hopes to refashion the way women are perceived in the business world.

In addition to her work with “Female Navigators,” Sophie is an elected member of the Student Council, an elected representative of the International Business and Politics study board and a tutor for new students.

Her strong academic performance and fluency in Swedish, English, French and Dutch has given her the opportunity to study at three schools - Copenhagen Business School, the London School of Economics and the Université Paris Dauphine. She also worked as a commercial trainee with the Royal Danish Embassy in Singapore where she collaborated with the ambassador on a public diplomacy event on Scandinavian and Singaporean experiences of empowering women.

Sophie will receive her Bachelor of Science in International Business and Politics from Copenhagen Business School in 2009. After completion of her undergraduate studies, she plans to pursue a Master’s degree in Finance and Strategic Management and hopes to one day take the lead on corporate social responsibility projects for a multinational company.

Angela Sawyer (Australia)

Angela is simultaneously pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce with majors in Corporate Finance, International Business Economics and Money & Banking and a Bachelor of Science in Anatomy & Human Biology and Physiology. She believes her three business majors will provide her with a varied and extensive knowledge of business theories and applications while her science degree will help develop her research and analytical skills which she can then apply to her business pursuits.



In addition to her ambitious academic goals, Angela finds time in her busy schedule to volunteer and is studying French to broaden her knowledge of other cultures and enhance her communication skills. She has already completed the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Standard and is working toward the Silver Standard which involves completing service, skill, physical recreation and expedition components over a given length of time.

After completing her undergraduate studies, Angela hopes to find employment in finance or banking where she can use her skills and abilities to contribute to a team in overcoming challenges and achieving goals.

“I want to make the most out of this opportunity I have to go to university by finishing my studies to the highest standard and becoming a well-educated, intelligent woman in the business world. I believe by achieving this I can be a representative of the potential and meaningful contribution women can make to business and therefore encourage other women who want to pursue a career in business.”

Jiajing Lou (China)

Jiajing is currently in the second stage of the Fudan-Groningen Double Degree Joint Program in International Economics and Business – a very select program for students with the highest grades in their first two years of undergraduate study. After successfully completing her first two years of study at Fudan University in China, Jiajing, among the top 5% of students in the World Economic Department at Fudan, was selected to continue her studies at the University of Groningen. In June 2010, at the completion of the Program, she will receive a Bachelor of Science from the University of Groningen and a Bachelor of Arts from Fudan University.



In addition to her impressive academic achievements, Jiajing also finds time for volunteer and extracurricular activities. She was Vice Head of the Fudan Economic Faculty Student Association and the Fudan Student Union, a reporter for the University newspaper and a member of the Fudan Young Economic Association and the Management and Accounting Association. She has volunteered as a teacher at Sun Home, a charity for children with learning disabilities, the Shanghai 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games and the Lu Xun Museum

After completing her undergraduate degree, Jiajing plans to pursue additional studies in economics and business in a business school and hopes to become a business consultant. Eventually, she would like to establish her own consulting company to employ her professional knowledge and experience to help small and medium-sized Chinese companies expand their business and compete internationally.