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FROM MY LITTLE WOODEN DESK...

By: Dr. Bill Hendricks, Department Head

As summer quarter commences, while a few RPTA students have remained in San Luis Obispo to take classes, most students have scattered around the country and internationally as they pursue internships, summer jobs, careers, and travel around the globe. This issue of "The Report" recaps the experiences of many of these students who continue to amaze me with their zest for a career in our industry, passion for life, and exploration of other cultures and regions of the world. Read more.

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EDITORIAL: A PASSION FOR WORK AND LIFE

By Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '12), Editor, The Report

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The RPTA team of Amber Black, Amy Lepp, Kristen McClay, and Kelsey Pavao captured the first-ever Academic Quiz Bowl

Another year has passed and Cal Poly RPTA is happy to send its newly graduated seniors into the real world. In the RPTA department, students are given the tools and skills needed to succeed in their future endeavors. Many of them have successful internships and jobs lined up, some have plans for graduate school, and others have dreams of traveling and experiencing the world. So while other graduates are desperately trying to find a job that interests them, RPTA students are getting exciting jobs with wineries, resorts, event planning companies, professional sports teams, national parks, and leadership camps, just to name a few. And one thing can be said for all of them: They will be true to the "Reccie" nature and have fun while doing it! Why are Cal Poly RPTA students so successful, happy, and hard working? They do what they love and live their passion every day. **To all the Cal Poly RPTA recent graduates, we at "The Report" wish you big and loud Congratulations!** We've given you top billing and highlighted a few outstanding graduates below, but you are all special in your own right.

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MCCLAY MAKES HER MARK AND LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

By Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer

One of the greatest things that can happen to any college student is that when they graduate, they can look back on the time they put into their major with fond memories and a true appreciation for all the experiences along the way. One recent RPTA ('11) graduate who can certainly do this is Kristen McClay (RPTA '11), the co-winner of the Oustanding RPTA senior award (along with Nika Jalali). One particular experience that sticks out to McClay is the opportunity to compete and win the Academic Quiz Bowl with Cal Poly's team at the 2010 NRPA Annual Congress in Minneapolis, MN. Another such experience was her chance to assist Dr. Goldenberg in teaching and implementing the two camping trips that go along with RPTA 325, one that pushed her and proved her abilities as an outdoor leader. Read more.

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HI! MY NAME IS ROBERT COOPER, RPTA AMBASSADOR

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By Kim Saavedra (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

Although the University may regard Robert Cooper as a "super senior" (i.e., taking a longer route to graduation), his tenure in the Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Administration department at Cal Poly has led his peers and the faculty to consider him as a "super Reccie!" In fact, RPTA faculty believed that so much that they created an award simply to honor him at the 2011 banquet, the RPTA Ambassador Award. With

wild flowing reddish hair, and his overwhelmingly friendly and helpful personality, "Coop" is easily recognizable. Yet, more importantly, he became a role model for current and future RPTA majors at Cal Poly by being so involved with the major. Dr. Hendricks stated, "Sure, Robert is charismatic and has a memorable look and personality, but when it came time to needing someone to do something, we could always count on him to be there." Read more.

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WINTERS SHINES WITH CAL TRAVEL

By Kim Saavedra (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

Courtney Winters has event planning undergraduates everywhere fawning over her spring quarter internship. From Late March until the end of June, Winters (RPTA '11) took on the pressure of becoming Cal Travel's first ever intern. As the Cal Travel Assistant Conference Coordinator for the 29th Annual California Travel Summit, Winters had the incredible task of coordinating and assisting with every aspect of the two-day conference.

Winters spent the past few months living in Pasadena and working hands on in managing guests, speakers, auction details, social media and even assisting with the future Board of Directors for the upcoming year. While undertaking such an assignment can be daunting, RPTA internship coordinator Cynthia Moyer recommended Winters for the position due to her confidence that Winters would rise to the challenge. Read more.

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MILICH NETWORKS FOR INTERNSHIP WITH INTERNATIONAL AGENCY

By Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer

As RPTA students, we all recognize the importance of being able to gain practical field experience while working with organizations that

promote our interests and share our common goals. For recent RPTA ('11) graduate Lindsay Milich, this opportunity came while completing an internship with The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) as a Research and Communications intern during spring quarter. Her position involved assisting with various programs that help to increase awareness of sustainable travel and tourism opportunities throughout the world. Read more

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ARMSTRONG DELIVERS FOR SAN LUIS OBISPO VCB

By Kalli Sandberg (RPTA '13),Staff Writer

Recent RPTA ('11) graduate Jillian Armstrong spent the last quarter as an intern for the San Luis Obispo Visitors and Conference Bureau (SLOVCB). Armstrong says that her interest in the SLOVCB was sparked by Molly Cano, the director of Sales and Marketing who was a guest speaker in Kendi Root's RPTA 317 class. “She talked about her job, and everything she said made me excited about the prospect of working there. I felt like Molly would be a great person to work for and so I really wanted to work for her too. Both of those things led me to get involved with the VCB as soon and as much as possible.” Read more.

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THE "RECCIE BUNCH" AWARD WINNERS

By Kalli Sandberg (RPTA '14), Staff Writer

The 2010-2011 academic year ended with a bang thanks to everyone who planned and participated in Cal Poly RPTA’s “The Reccie Bunch” End of the Year Banquet. The night was full of laughs, tears, and "old school" music and dancing, as RPTA students and faculty embraced the 1970's "Brady Bunch" theme. The night was not only a farewell to all of the graduating seniors, but a time to award outstanding RPTA students on their accomplishments.

The RPTA faculty was proud to present the following awards:

Thom Group Award - Amy Lepp

Outstanding Contribution - Charlotte Gorton, Dani Correll

Outstanding Senior - Nika Jalali, Kristen McClay

Outstanding Graduate Student - Ryan Soares

Honored Alumnus - Elisa Weaver

Senior Project Award (sponsored by Pismo Coast RV Village) - Ben Turley, Lindsey Milich

Pismo Coast RV Village Scholarship - Kelly Mangan

RPTA Ambassador Award - Robert Cooper

Congratulations to all of the award winners!

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'START YOUR ENGINES!'

SAAVEDRA TURNS MENTORING OPPORTUNITY INTO SEASONAL POSITION WITH NASCAR

Adapted from Cal Poly News - Press Release Archives (May 2011)

Cal Poly students are known for taking their hands-on learning experience and parlaying it into exciting real-world jobs. One career-minded student, Kimberly Saavedra (RPTA '14), stepped up to the podium when she turned her selection to NASCAR's prestigious mentoring program into a full-time seasonal position with the stock car auto racing sanctioning body's main racing series this summer.

Saavedra was one of four students selected to participate in NASCAR's Nationwide Diversity Mentorship program at the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, CA. Through the mentor experience, Saavedra met Dan Patin, NASCAR's Broadcast Communications Director. After exchanging several phone calls and emails, Patin offered Saavedra a full-time seasonal position with his department for this summer. Although 8 states in 10 weeks was admittedly rather daunting, the opportunity was a "dream come true" for Saavedra in being able to put her sport management and event planning skills in action. Read the official press release.

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FROM FIJI, WITH LOVE

RPTA STUDENTS CONTINUE SPRING BREAK LEGACY OF LEARNING THROUGH TRAVEL AND EXPLORATION

By Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '12), Editor, The Report

While many of us returned to our hometowns to relax or spent countless hours sunbathing at the beach or the pool during spring break, Dr. Jacobs' RPTA 412 class was learning all about adventure travel and tourism by exploring and enjoying the wonders of Fiji. The class spent the week learning about the culture through meeting and listening to the Fijian locals. And yes, they also got a chance to enjoy the clear blue waters of this beautiful island paradise!

The students who were able to experience this amazing opportunity were able to learn outside of a classroom and truly appreciate both the beauty around them and the importance of ecotourism to Fiji's economy and way of life. Kaci Knighton (RPTA '12) said, "Being in Fiji was an eye-opening experience. I learned so much more than I ever could have from a class lecture or textbook. It was so awesome to be able to experience their culture and be able to exchange stories with the local Fijians. The experiences I gained on this trip will forever be a part of my memory, and I would encourage everyone to take the Adventure Travel and Tourism course!" Read more.

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RHO PHI LEADERS DELIVER 'BEST CAREER FAIR YET!'

By Kim Saavedra (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

For several years now, Rho Phi Lambda, the RPTA department's professional honorary society, has hosted an industry career fair for those interested in opportunities with an RPTA-related organization. While past career fairs have been moderately successful and well organized, Dr. Hendricks asked leaders to place special

emphasis on the fair this year. He did so for several reasons. One, he felt it was important to send a message to RPTA students that the industry had rebounded from the economic recession. And two, he knew that organizations in a post-recession economy were concerned about efficiency and wanted career fairs to be worth their while. In true RPTA fashion, the Rho Phi leaders who comprised the career fair planning and coordination committee stepped up to the challenge set forth by Dr. Hendricks and delivered the most successful career fair to date. The career fair was held on campus on May 18 in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center with a record 31 companies and nearly double the number of student attendees from previous years. Read more.

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JASON ALEXANDER: ONE MAN BEHIND THE MOUSE

By Kalli Sandberg (RPTA '14), Staff writer

During spring quarter, Professor Kendi Root taught RPTA 412: Hotel and Resort Management, a 10-week seminar, teaching students the ins and outs of the hotel business. One of the highlights of the class was meeting Jason Alexander, the General Manager of The Grand Californian Hotel at Disney's California Adventure. Alexander has a wealth of experience in the industry with over 15 years at Disney alone. The ability to hear from top executives in the field has become a hallmark of classes taught by Root, and one of the many reasons her classes are some of the most popular ones in the major. Read more.

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RPTA CLUB SPRING UPDATE

By Kim Saavedra (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

As the school year came to a close, the RPTA Club was ready to embrace the warm California sunshine! Club officers Kelsey Pavao (RPTA '11) and Kimberly Saavedra (RPTA '13) stepped up in the absence of other officers who were away on internships and worked to create a fun last few weeks to finish out the year. In April, the club participated in Cal Poly's 18th Annual Open House. Current club members were able to mingle and talk over cold, refreshing Sno-Cones with visitors, students, and most importantly future RPTA majors. Read more.

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RPTA FACULTY SUMMER UPDATE

Compiled by Brian Greenwood, Faculty Advisor for "The Report"

Have you ever wondered what RPTA faculty do over the summer? We thought you might, so we've decided to open up a bit and share some tidbits from our summer. We wanted RPTA students, alumni, parents, and friends to get a brief glimpse into our lives. No, we're not all out playing golf or lounging by the pool all summer! Yes, we are a bit busier than you may have imagined! Read more.

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MEET THE STAFF OF "THE REPORT"

Staff for "The Report" are nominated by RPTA faculty for demonstrating excellent writing skills in RPTA classes. Student writers then coordinate with the editor and faculty advisor Dr. Brian Greenwood to develop and write articles.

The editor for 2010-2011 is **Anthonia Edgren** (RPTA '12). The staff is comprised of **Kevin Mould** (RPTA '14) and **Kim Saavedra** (RPTA '13) and **Kalli Sandberg** (RPTA '13). Read more about the staff.

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Interested donors should first choose "**College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences**" and then have the choice of giving to the **"Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Administration department**" OR the "**Excellence in Recreation Administration (REC Excellence) fund**," which is designated to benefit RPTA student and faculty professional development.

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Last Update: 12/20/10

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Before Alexander moved to the "Happiest Place on Earth," he graduated from the top hospitality program in the country at Cornell University. At Cornell, he was given plenty of hands-on experience but in reflecting on that experience offered RPTA students some advice in saying that he wished he would have "taken advantage of all of the opportunities beyond the campus borders, like studying abroad."

Alexander's first position at Disney was the Manager of Attractions, which took him outside of his comfort zone of the hotel industry and plopped him into the world of rides. He said he believes you can make any job worthwhile and interesting. H said many of his co-workers at the time just stood and pushed the same button day in and day out, but Alexander loved the job and enjoyed the thousands of new faces he met every day. He continued to flow in between the hospitality and attractions aspects of

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Disney, which gave him well-rounded knowledge and experience that made him a better leader and person.

As the General Manager of The Grand Californian Hotel in the California Adventure theme park, the largest of three in-park hotels (and according to him, the one with the most heart), Alexander has proven that a “dream that you wish can come true” if you work hard and persevere. Alexander's visit and message helped inspire RPTA students to continue to dream big and chase their passion in life.

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Armstrong spent this past quarter working on two big projects. “One was to create five themed 3-day itineraries about the county that were put up on the website to give visitors an idea of what one of their vacations could look like if they were to come to the county. The other big project was to collect information about our members who get our sales leads. I sent out a survey to get information, and then I also updated our system that sends out our leads. I had to go through each property and retag all of them to make it a more efficient process. Additionally, we coordinated large groups coming to the county and arranged an event at Hearst Castle that was a huge success.”

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Now that she has graduated, Armstrong is working at the SeaCrest Oceanfront Hotel in Pismo as a front desk agent to get front line and human relations experience. Additionally, she plans on managing ticketing for the “Savor the Central Coast” event to be held in late September. This second annual event is a collaboration between the SLOVCB and "Sunset" magazine. Armstrong feels that the SLOVCB gave her a good taste of what is available and allowed her to try new things and expand her interests. Her advice to students looking for work? “Have experience in as many different things as possible. The more diverse you are the more marketable you are to those looking to hire. It is a tough market out there and once you get a job, stick with it and work as hard as you can to prove your worth to your employer.”

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RPTA students Amy Lepp ('12), Teagan Lazzarotti ('11), Caitlin Looney ('13), Katie Nice ('13), and Brittany Glasnow ('13) comprised the planning and coordination committee and were responsible for recruiting companies such as Chumash Casino & Resorts, SLO

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Parks and Recreation, SLO Blue's Baseball, Cass Winery, Pebble Beach Resorts, and many more. For the future, Rho Phi Lambda leaders hope to build upon this year's success and move the event up to February to help students find positions for spring and summer internships.

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Hailing from Laguna Hills in Southern California, Cooper (RPTA '11) began his journey at Cal Poly with the hope of escaping the routine of a 9-5 standard desk job. Since his transfer into Cal Poly three years ago, Cooper has flourished within the RPTA department and found hope

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in his future career aspirations by concentrating in Outdoor, Adventure, and Resource Recreation.

While many people know Cooper for his adventurous attitude or the many stories he loves to tell about his travels with Dr. Jacob's RPTA 412 classes to Belize and Fiji, he has also impacted Cal Poly Athletics. If you have attended a Mustang football or soccer game at Alex G. Spanos Stadium in the last two years, you are familiar with his talents. No, he was not a two-sport athletics star kicking field goals and making dazzling saves. But, he was the one showing the replays of those field goals and saves, as Cooper ran the video board and kept fans entertained with the latest game updates.

His most recent appointment with California State Parks has given Cooper an eye opening and experiential opportunity as an intern. Cooper was tasked with transitioning the Law Enforcement Training Academy for California Park Rangers from Asilomar State Beach in Monterey to Camp SLO. For the past few weeks, Cooper has worked to create new programming procedures for the Camp SLO Academy. Following his internship with the State Parks, Cooper plans to pursue a position as a Senior Park Aid in an effort to continue strengthening his relationship with the academy.

As mentioned, Cooper decided to take a "leisurely approach to education" in becoming labeled a "super senior," but he has no regrets. According to Cooper, his theory of "The Spaghetti Effect" allowed him to fully embrace all aspects of his education by permitting him to determine which subjects "stuck" and sparked his interest so that he didn't graduate without any idea of his future. As Cooper leaves Cal Poly, he has certainly made a lasting impression that will stick with students and faculty alike for may years to come.

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FROM FIJI, WITH LOVE

RPTA STUDENTS CONTINUE SPRING BREAK LEGACY OF LEARNING THROUGH TRAVEL AND EXPLORATION

By Anthonia Edgren (RPTA '12), Editor, The Report

While many of us returned to our hometowns to relax or spent countless hours sunbathing at the beach or the pool during spring break, Dr. Jacobs' RPTA 412 class was learning all about adventure travel and tourism by exploring and enjoying the wonders of Fiji. The class spent the week learning about the culture through meeting and listening to the Fijian locals. And yes, they also got a chance to enjoy the clear blue waters of this beautiful island paradise!

The students who were able to experience this amazing opportunity were able to learn outside of a classroom and truly appreciate both the beauty around them and the importance of ecotourism to Fiji's economy and way of life. Kaci

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Knighton (RPTA '12) said, “Being in Fiji was an eye-opening experience. I learned so much more than I ever could have from a class lecture or textbook. It was so awesome to be able to experience their culture and be able to exchange stories with the local Fijians. The experiences I gained on this trip will forever be a part of my memory, and I would encourage everyone to take the Adventure Travel and Tourism course!”

The trip also gave RPTA students a chance to get to know each other better and to share their amazing experiences. Nikolas Harth (RPTA '12) stated, “It was amazing being able to spend so much time with classmates. At the beginning of the trip, I felt like I didn’t know everyone very well, and then at the end, we were a family. I learned a lot about group travel, and that you have to be flexible with most of your plans in a big group, because it is hard to get everyone to agree on one idea. But everyone on the trip was so much fun, and I think the trip went marvelously, and I'm already saving up so I can take the class next year!”

If you’re looking for an out of the ordinary and exciting spring break for next year, consider signing up for RPTA 412 (winter quarter), where adventure travel, cultural awareness and ecotourism awaits you!

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MCCLAY MAKES HER MARK AND LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

By Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer

One of the greatest things that can happen to any college student is that when they graduate, they can look back on the time they put in to their major with fond memories and a true appreciation for all the experiences along the way. One recent RPTA ('11) graduate who can certainly do this is Kristen McClay (RPTA '11), the co-winner of the Oustanding RPTA senior award (along with Nika Jalali). One particular experience that sticks out to McClay is the opportunity to compete and win the Academic Quiz Bowl with Cal Poly's team at the 2010 NRPA Annual Congress in Minneapolis, MN. Another such experience was her chance to assist Dr. Goldenberg in teaching and implementing the two camping trips that go along with RPTA 325, one that pushed her and proved her abilities as an outdoor leader.

When asked to look back on RPTA in general, McClay noted that her favorite thing was probably the fact that RPTA classes are a great blend of learning and playing. She cites her appreciation of being able to learn from such a dedicated faculty and the chance to take to the field and practice everything learned in the classroom. As McClay states, her favorite moments were when she was outside in an RPTA class gaining experience and passing students would exclaim, "What class is that?!"

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As for McClay's future, this summer she is completing an internship as an assistant ranger at Eklutna Lake in Chugach State Park in Alaska. She has kept her job with SLO County Parks, and upon returning from Alaska, she plans to work there part time while traveling as much as possible. Although McClay says she may not have her sights set on one particular career, she states that she will be happy as long as "I get to play outside as much as possible and make kids happy at the same time."

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FROM MY LITTLE WOODEN DESK...

By Dr. Bill Hendricks, Department Head

As summer quarter commences, while a few RPTA students have remained in San Luis Obispo to take classes, most students have scattered around the country and internationally as they pursue internships, summer jobs, careers, and travel around the globe. This issue of "The Report" recaps the experiences of many of these students who continue to amaze me with their zest for a career in our industry, passion for life, and exploration of other cultures and regions of the world.

Once again the highlights for 2010-11 are many, as we continue to face the budget deficit and belt tightening with a "can-do" attitude. Dr. Jacobs' sixth adventure travel class to an international destination returned from Fiji with a new sense of the world beyond our little utopia in SLO. Rho Phi Lambda pulled off its largest industry career fair ever with 31 companies in attendance. Students landed extremely competitive internships and mentorships such as those completed by Courtney Winters with Cal Travel, Lindsay Milich with the International Ecotourism Society, Jillian Armstrong with the SLO VCB, and Kim Saavedra with NASCAR. RPTA Club and Rho Phi Lambda continue to be extremely active on and off-campus with fundraisers, recreational activities, and professional development experiences for students willing to go the extra mile. Our faculty have once again been recognized for their expertise and teaching. Dr. Brian Greenwood recently received the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Certificate of Merit. Finally, we wrapped up spring quarter at the annual RPTA banquet with several students receiving awards for excellence in academics and leadership. Moreover, Elisa Weaver, Director of Community and Personnel Services for

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Sierra Madre received the RPTA Honored Alumnae award, and Charlotte Gorton, retiring as the Recreation Services Manager for Paso Robles, was recognized for her contributions to RPTA.

In closing, congratulations to our graduating seniors! You are an incredibly talented and intelligent group of individuals who will without a doubt have countless successes in your future. Let us know about your personal and career endeavors, join us on Facebook, and as my dad always said, “keep those cards and letters (emails) coming.”

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MILICH NETWORKS FOR INTERNSHIP WITH INTERNATIONAL AGENCY

By Kevin Mould (RPTA '14), Staff Writer

As RPTA students, we all recognize the importance of being able to gain practical field experience while working with organizations that promote our interests and share our common goals. For recent RPTA ('11) graduate Lindsay Milich, this opportunity came while completing an internship with The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) as a Research and Communications intern during spring quarter. Her position involved assisting with various programs that help to increase awareness of sustainable travel and tourism opportunities throughout the world.

Milich added, “It also addressed important issues in the tourism industry, such as wildlife conservation, tourism’s ‘footprint’, and sustainability issues, among others.” Her primary responsibility, however, was to edit and post articles regularly for the blog, www.yourtravelchoice.org, where she was in direct contact with authors regarding various travel controversies and successes around the world, helping them shape their stories so they could be shared with everyone. Among the stories Milich worked on were articles about a “Voluntourism” project in Fiji, a community-based tourism endeavor in Malaysian Borneo, and a controversial development in Mexico.

Milich first became interested in TIES while attending the 2010 Ecotourism and Sustainable Tourism Conference in Portland, Oregon, with Dr. Hendricks, Dr. Jacobs,

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and several other Cal Poly RPTA students. As a result, while searching for a place to do her internship, Milich contacted TIES, who had an internship position available. Her work with TIES has helped her to gain a greater understanding of the tourism industry and changes being made to make it more sustainable.

Milich stated, “It’s helped to personalize the industry - and the concept of ecotourism, and has helped me to better understand my long term career goals.” Those interested in learning more about TIES can visit their website at www.ecotourism.org.

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RPTA CLUB SPRING UPDATE

By Kim Saavedra (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

As the school year came to a close, the RPTA Club was ready to embrace the warm California sunshine! Club officers Kelsey Pavao (RPTA '11) and Kimberly Saavedra (RPTA '13) stepped up in the absence of other officers who were away on internships and worked to create a fun last few weeks to finish out the year. In April, the club participated in Cal Poly's 18th Annual Open House. Current club members were able to mingle and talk over cold, refreshing Sno Kones with visitors, students, and most importantly future RPTA majors.

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At the end of spring quarter, it was time to say goodbye to the graduating seniors and elect officers for the 2011-2012 school year. After receiving more applications than expected, the RPTA Club officers in conjunction with club advisor Dr. Jeff Jacobs carefully determined which applicants would best represent the club in leadership positions. Of the many applicants, the following RPTA students were selected to become the club leaders for the 2011-2012 school year:

Co-Presidents: Kacianne Knighton ('12) and Nikki Harth ('12);
Co-Vice Presidents: Grace Bowermaster ('12) and Kimberly Saavedra ('13);
Treasurer: Kaya Rader('14);
Co-Social Chairs: Katie Draeger ('14) and Anna Wagner ('14)

The RPTA Department and faculty congratulate the new club officers and look forward to another great year of recreating with the club

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RPTA FACULTY SUMMER UPDATE

Compiled by Brian Greenwood, Faculty Advisor for "The Report"

Have you ever wondered what RPTA faculty do over the summer? We thought you might, so we've decided to open up a bit and share some tidbits from our summer. We wanted RPTA students, alumni, parents, and friends to get a brief glimpse into our lives. No, we're not all out playing golf or lounging by the pool all summer! Yes, we are a bit busier than you may have imagined! Here goes (in alphabetical order by last name):

Marni Goldenberg - Two of my research papers were presented at an international conference, and I have also worked on some of my grants/research and traveled in CA. Enjoying the great SLO weather!

Jerusha & Brian Greenwood - The first part of the summer was spent traveling back East (NC/VA) for one-year old Max to finally meet his grandparents on Brian's side. Notice we did not use the term "vacation" in that sentence. Traveling with two kids ages 1 & 3 is no "vacation!" But in all seriousness, it was wonderful seeing friends and family and making stops in Washington, DC, Asheville, NC, and Charlottesville, VA to name a few.

Upon our return, we've been very busy. Brian is juggling work with Cal Poly's Center for Teaching & Learning, teaching an online course through NC State, and overseeing a research grant

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studying the the Junior Giants, the San Francisco Giants' flagship youth program. Jerusha is busy supervising senior projects and internships, compiling the department's assessment report, planning for next year, and writing journal articles. And we're both busy chasing Max around the house (he's walking now) and shuttling Evie to swimming lessons (with Jayson Jones, RPTA '11). We have one last trip planned up to Oregon in mid-August, which is a combined work (data collection) and family fun time.

Dr. Hendricks - On a professional basis I have been busy holding down the RPTA "fort" here at Cal Poly. We have a few exciting projects in the works that hopefully will be announced in an upcoming newsletter. I've also spent time visiting interns and attending functions including the Cal Travel Conference and Cal Travel Board of Directors meeting, and a strategic planning meeting with President Armstrong and other department heads. I have a couple of research endeavors in the hopper including a request to write a chapter(s) for a new recreation, parks, and tourism research/evaluation textbook and a manuscript for a journal.

Now, the fun stuff! Our 15-year old son, Sam spent nearly three weeks traveling in Australia with People to People as a Student Ambassador. We braved "carmageddon" to pick him up at LAX in mid-July. While he was away, Maggie and I spent a couple of days in Santa Barbara, hosted college friends over the 4th, and celebrated our 26th wedding anniversary! I have been trying to surf at least a couple of days a week, and we

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have a camping trip planned at Lake Tahoe with Maggie's side of the family. I will also be playing in a golf tournament up at Graeagle with old high school buddies later this summer, and Sam and I will be taking our annual surf/camping trip.

Jeff Jacobs - Every summer, Dr. Jacobs returns to his roots and serves as the Camp Director for Camp Henry in Michigan. It's a family affair with all of the Jacobs family chipping in. And most summers, a couple of RPTA students join him for firsthand experience in running a large summer camp. This summer is no different, as Dani Correll ('11) and Lara Choma ('11) made the trek to serve on Camp Henry's staff. We look forward to hearing about all the adventures!

Cynthia Moyer - As many of you can attest, Professor Moyer has earned the label of "advising guru" and that label along with her countless advising awards led to her being asked by Dean Wehner to head the development of a centralized advising structure for CAFES. After her sabbatical in the spring quarter (which was spent mostly working on the new advising structure), Professor Moyer has been working overtime this summer finalizing the development of the new system. Two new college advisors have started, which means lots of training and meeting sessions.

In addition to the new responsibilities, she's taken time to play "Grandma" with her grandsons - how else could she explain the fact that she's seen the new "Transformers" film. And of course, she enjoys her daily 3-mile walk with her dog Sienna and finding time for bike rides. She's also looking forward to a much deserved vacation traveling to Sisters, Oregon in August.

Kendi Root - No down time yet.... but soon. Here's a list of things happening in my life this summer: **(a)** With a year long commitment planning CTTC's Sustainable Summit (unfortunately it was recently cancelled) and the Ecotourism and Sustainable Tourism Conference, the team and I jumped right into the most critical planning phase...summer, which is the 3-month timeline when all the action happens. This means we are busy auditing room blocks, food menus, planning details, and pre-planning of controlling and measuring waste for the conferences. **(b)** Moved offices. Such an endeavor. Never realize how much stuff accumulates over time. Still purging through this, but I like my new digs! Come and visit me next to Dr. Jacobs. **(c)** Teaching a new course RPTA 470 Sustained Planned Events. The students are engaged, curious, and delightful, and we are all learning excellent insights into sustained and green planning tactics. **(d)** Family, family, family. I am enjoying time with my family. We finished our first 3000 piece puzzle and just started a 5,000 piece. We are all reading our Kindles outside on the patio with BBQ's, dogs, walks, and great movies! **(e)** I have been gardening, and re-painted my home office and Halle's room.

(f) Speaking of Halle, we celebrated her 11th birthday on 7/11/11 with several RPTA students at Mustang Lanes (pictured above). **(g)** Traveling on the weekends to Newport Beach, Balboa Island, El Dorado Hills, San Francisco, Santa Cruz. Nieces and nephews having birthdays, babies and getting married! **(h)** When in town, garage sales every Saturday morning with my mom and Halle. **(i)** Moved a childhood friend who was very ill this past year into her own small home with assisted daily care. This was very exciting, considering we didn't think she would be with us today! **(j)** Volunteering my time for my church to help raise money for kids camp.

Kirk Sturm - Kirk is taking a risk management course from the University of Southern Florida. The course is similar to RPTA 342, and it is interesting to see how different professors present the concepts and learning domains. Kirk finished his pilot data collection for his dissertation, including interviewing students on the Cal Poly campus, generating transcripts, and starting the analysis. Kirk hopes to present his findings in September and start his 'real' data collection in the fall. Kirk is enjoying walking at Montana de Oro State Park and rowing. His host daughter, Anna, went back to Germany in early July and his daughter Emma is headed to Switzerland for a one-year study abroad.

Rene Van Hoorn - Rene just finished up with the Junior Wheelchair Sports Camp and is excited now for her vacation to begin!

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INTERN SPOTLIGHT: COURTNEY WINTERS

By Kim Saavedra (RPTA '13), Staff Writer

Courtney Winters has event planning undergraduates everywhere fawning over her spring quarter internship. From Late March until the end of June, Winters (RPTA '11) took on the pressure of becoming Cal Travel's first ever intern. As the Cal Travel Assistant Conference Coordinator for the 29th Annual California Travel Summit, Winters had the incredible task of coordinating and assisting with every aspect of the two-day conference.

Winters spent the past few months living in Pasadena and working hands on in managing guests, speakers, auction details, social media and even assisting with the future Board of Directors for the upcoming year. While undertaking such an assignment can be daunting, RPTA internship coordinator Cynthia Moyer recommended Winters for the position due to her confidence that Winters would rise to the challenge. When approached by Cal Travel CEO and President John Severini, Moyer immediately thought of Winters. With a minor in Business Administration and concentrations in Event Planning and Tourism in addition to her wealth of co-curricular involvement, Winters was the perfect candidate.

According to Winters, Cal Poly's RPTA department "absolutely" prepared her for her

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NEWS & EVENTS

Dr. Brian Greenwood was recognized by the North American Colleges & Teachers of Agriculture with a meritorious award for outstanding teaching at the annual CAFES leadership banquet. Read more

RPTA's annual benefit and auction with the theme "Fly Away with RPTA: Your Passport to the World" was held Saturday, February 26, 2011 at the San Luis Jet Centre and was a smashing success in breaking records for attendance and overall money raised for the department. Read more

The RPTA team of Amber Black, Amy Lepp, Kristen McClay, and Kelsey Pavao captured the first-ever Academic Quiz Bowl

position with Cal Travel. Now that the internship and conference are over and were a smashing success, Winters has returned to her hometown of Arroyo Grande and hopes to parlay her fabulous experience with Cal Travel into a full-time position in a tourism-related field. In the meantime, she has kept busy in returning to her three part-time jobs at Cass Winery, Starbucks, and San Luis Obispo's El Dorado Broadcasters. With the experience and talent that Winters brings to the table, RPTA undergraduates should look out for three part-time jobs being open in the near future.

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championship at the 2010 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Annual Congress in Minneapolis, MN. Read more

Katherine Soule, a recent RPTA Masters degree recipient, received the prestigious "Future Scholars" award at the 2010 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Annual Congress in Minneapolis, MN. Read more

A team of RPTA faculty and students partnered with the California Travel and Tourism Commission to develop the Sustainable Tourism Marketing Handbook. The handbook as presented at the 2010 California Sustainable Tourism Summit in Lake Tahoe. Read more

Dr. Jeff Jacobs was honored with the 2010 CAFES New Faculty Teaching award; this same honor was bestowed upon Dr. Marni Goldenberg in 2009. Congratulations to both of these well deserving RPTA faculty! Read more

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