School of Labor and Employment Relations

Scholarship Reception
September 12, 2014
R. Wayne Anderson Family Fellowship

LER Alumnus R. Wayne Anderson and his wife, Dottie, established the first alumni-endowed fellowship at LER to honor the entire family’s commitment to education. The fellowship was created to enable industrious, promising and appreciative students to achieve their educational and professional goals. Recipients are selected on the basis of financial need, scholastic ability, and evidence that they worked throughout their undergraduate years.

Wayne Anderson served as the senior vice president of HR for Amoco Corporation.

*Anderson Fellowship will be awarded to an incoming spring student in January 2015!*
Calvin Brown
Mahomet, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Agribusiness Markets & Management
May 2014

R. Wayne Anderson Family Fellow

- Research Technician Intern with Eurofins Agroscience Services
- Field Foreman Intern with Precision Soya
- Treasurer of The Wells Project at UIUC
- President of the Cru men's house at UIUC
- Camp counselor in Bre, Ireland and Roatan, Honduras

Through LER, I look forward to gaining valuable experiences as well as knowledge that will help me to become a successful professional in the Human Resources field. In addition, I hope to develop lifelong friendships and professional contacts with students, faculty, and alumni.
John T. Delaney and Susan Schwochau Family Scholarship Fund

Professor John T. Delany, MA 1980/PhD 1983, and Dr. Susan G. Schwochau, MA 1984/PhD 1986, established a scholarship to assist MHRIR and Ph.D. students that are non-Illinois residents. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a suitable international or domestic applicant.

John currently serves as the Dean in Katz Graduate School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh and Susan serves as Special Counsel for Duane Morris, LLP.
J. Delaney/S. Schwochau Scholar

• Beijing, ZXYT Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Assistant General Manager
• Beijing, IPG (Beijing) Fiber Laser Technology Co., Ltd.
• Awarded “Best Employee” in 2011-2012 and received a roundtrip ticket to Europe for 15 days
• Secretary General in Student Union, Central University of Finance and Economics
• Awarded prizes for “Best Organization” and “Outstanding Contribution” for planning and organizing two times English Competitions

Miao Zhang
Beijing, China
Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE)
English of Economics & Trade
July 2010

I would like to proceed my career as an HR consultant. LER’s courses and activities afford me great opportunities to train my ability in time management, teamwork, stress management, and help me to be professional.
Loichle Family Foundation Fellowship in honor of Professor Martin Wagner

LER alumnus Lee Loichle and his wife Jan chose to honor the former director of LER, Professor Emeritus Martin Wagner, through the Loichle Family Foundation Fellowship. Through this endowment opportunity, Lee demonstrates his gratitude for the educational experiences he had at the School, as well as aiding future students in having similar success. Recipients are selected for outstanding academic achievement and an expressed career interest in all aspects of Human Resources, including labor relations.

Lee is retired from Ford Motor Company, where he had a 27-year career in human resources.
Loichle Family Fellow

- Sister Cities Association of Springfield Board of Directors
- English as a Second Language Instructor, University of Illinois Springfield
- Junior High School English Teacher, Ashikaga Japan

Kevin Ramsey
Rochester, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Psychology
May 2003

The Human Resources and Industrial Relations program will teach me current HR practices and allow me to develop professional skills to attain accreditation that is recognized by top rated employers across the United States. I’m looking forward to an exciting career!
May Family Fellowship

LER alumnus Alan May and his wife Hope established this student fellowship to encourage study in the area of international human resources. The fellowship will be awarded annually to a suitable international applicant, or a domestic applicant with a demonstrated interest in international human resources. Preference is given to students with strong linguistic skills and academic or professional experience in a foreign country.

Alan is the past president of the Alumni Board, an ILIR Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, and the VP for Strategy, Compensation and Benefits for Boeing.

*May Family Fellowship will be awarded to an incoming spring student in January 2015!*
The William and Donna McPherson Fellowship was established by Donna McPherson to help LER students who are pursuing studies in labor and industrial relations. This award honors the late Professor William McPherson’s love of teaching and his distinguished service to the field. Professor McPherson was the first academic faculty member hired for LER in 1946.

*McPherson Fellowship will be awarded to an incoming spring student in January 2015!*
Walsh Family Scholarship

Michael Walsh, MHRIR 2005, and Christine Gilboe Walsh, MHRIR 2006, have made a commitment to endow an LER student scholarship for future incoming master’s students. The Walsh Family Scholarship has been earmarked to honor incoming LER students with an excellent academic background, focusing on those students with a business or Human Resources undergraduate degree and/or are veterans of the United States military.
Walsh Family Fellow

- National Guard - Second Lieutenant, Mattoon, Illinois
- UIUC Department of Health and Human Services - Personal assistant for students with disabilities
- Foundation of International Medical Relief of Children - Medical volunteer program abroad
- Undergraduate Psychology Research Assistant

I am looking forward to learning how to lead and motivate employees. The tools and resources the University of Illinois LER program provides to their students is eye-opening, and I’m looking forward to joining such a distinguished program. Human resources is an exciting field in which I wish to enhance my competencies and strategies needed to be an effective leader.

Brandi Tyne
Polo, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Psychology
December 2012
Graduate College Fellowship/ LER Scholar

- Experience: Community Manager for the Dept. of Housing & Residential Education, Teller at First National Bank of SC (FNBSC)
- Involvement: Project Scholar, Ronald E. McNair Scholar, First Vice President of the Kappa Omicron Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta
- Honors: Order of Omega Honor Society, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Sigma Alpha Pi

I chose LER because of the opportunity for not only achieving a top-tier education, but also being surrounded by faculty and students genuinely invested in my future who create a friendly, family-oriented environment.
Graduate College Fellowship/
LER Scholar

• Work Experience or Student Involvement: Summer HR Internship at local rubber manufacturing plant, Black Male Leaders Union, University of Illinois Men's Rugby club

• Awards/Honors: University Honors, Psychology Honors, McNair Scholar

Elijah Rogeay Seay
Keokuk, IA
University of Northern Iowa
Psychology
May 2014

I believe that this program will set me up to be confident to obtain any job that I am attracted to. I am excited to learn from my peers, professors, and all those offering to assist and guide me along the way.
Stephanie Mieczkowski
Chicago, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Psychology major; Leadership Studies minor
May 2014

Graduate College Fellowship/LER Scholar

- Work experience: EY Human Capital Performance Improvement intern, Rising Medical Solutions Talent Management intern, Exp Global Human Resources intern
- Student Involvement: Graduate Assistant at The Career Center, Counseling Center Paraprofessional, Alternative Seasonal Breaks; Career Services Paraprofessional
- Honors/Awards: Illinois Homecoming Court 2013, Horatio Alger Scholar, Dean’s List

I am looking forward to learning more about the topics in HR that I am most passionate about. More specifically, I hope to learn a lot about diversity and inclusion and the impact it is having on today’s increasingly global organizations.
Abayomi Oke
Houston, TX
University of Lagos
Industrial Relations and Personnel Management
December 2003

LER Scholar

- HRDP Associate Intern with McKesson Corporation
- Benefits Implementation Consultant with American International Group (AIG)
- Benefits Delivery Specialist with Aon Hewitt

The major reason why I choose LER was because of its excellent graduate program and its solid accreditation in the HR industry. The program has been ranked consistently among the top 3 HR schools in the US. Also, LER has very excellent faculty members and good placement rate of graduating students.
LER Scholar

- Jimmy John's
- Enterprise-Rent-A-Car
- College of LAS Dean's List

Kevin Pennington
Chicago, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
German and Commercial Studies
December 2007

I had the option between Ohio State and Illinois but I chose LER because of it's superior reputation and excellent program not to mention the fact that I would have never forgiven myself if I went to Ohio State being an Illini!
I chose LER for its unbeatable reputation in the HR field. I always strive to challenge myself in new ways and a school known for producing top talent was the obvious choice when transitioning from my undergraduate education. The school has outstanding courses, faculty, and resources that allow me to capitalize on my prior education, hone my skillset, and build new capability to prepare for a successful future.
BP Scholar

- Graduated summa cum laude
- Founding President of the Student SHRM Chapter at UIS
- Beta Gamma Sigma Member
- SHRM Foundation Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Recipient
- Student Recipient of the University of Illinois Alumni Association Student Leadership Award
- Presented research entitled "Ethical Leadership and its Implications for Workaholism, Stress, and Health"
- Human Resources Intern for Prairie Power, Inc.
- Human Resources Intern for Tom Lange Company

Ashley Tague
Mt. Zion, IL
University of Illinois at Springfield
Business Management and Business Administration
May 2014

I chose LER because human resources is my passion. I have been wanting to apply my business background with a more in-depth perspective into HR trends, issues, and practices to further myself in the profession. LER is one of the top schools to pursue this type of Master's degree, and I will receive exposure to some of the world's top companies.
Jennifer O’Connell
Chicago, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Political Science & Communication
December 2011

BP Scholar

• Work Experience: Associate Human Resource Manager Intern at General Mills; Paralegal at Sidley Austin; Employee Relations Intern at Carle Foundation Hospital
• Student Involvement: University of Illinois Student Senate; Lambda Pi Eta National Honor Society

Before enrolling at LER, I knew I wanted to pursue a career that allowed me to play a dynamic role within a company whose mission I felt passionate about. I am very grateful to have found my niche in Human Resources and absolutely love learning about the field. I am looking forward to further exploring the different areas of Human Resources and discovering my passions once I begin my career. I am excited to become an innovative HR professional and apply the knowledge and critical thinking skills that I have gained in the classroom to make an impact throughout my career.
Boeing Scholar

Work Experience:
• Counseling Center Paraprofessional Graduate Assistant
• Graduate Upper Division Resident Advisor

Student Involvement:
• President of Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI)
• Learning In Community Project Manager
• Childreach International Team Leader

I am looking forward to working with individuals who are constantly challenging themselves and others around them in diverse environments. I look forward to these individuals pushing me out of my own comfort zone to develop new skills, network and gain experience in the human resources field.

Ryan Nemethy
Lisle, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Psychology
May 2014
Caterpillar Scholar

- McNair Scholar (Leadership Research)
- Mattress Firm Manager
- Steak N Shake Manager
- Target Cashier Supervisor

I look forward to developing my HR knowledge and networking to find an organization that best fits my personality.

Tapiwa Saliji
Zimbabwe, Africa
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale
Psychology
May 2014
Eaton Scholar

• Psi Chi Honors Society,
• Research Team Leader, Penn State Industrial Organizational Psychology Lab
• Research Assistant in LER, Work and Family Studies at Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP)
• Manager at PC Aide Plus, Inc.

I am looking forward to a career in human resources after receiving my degree from LER. Being able to make an impact on a company’s performance and spending a great deal of time working one on one with employees of all levels are key in my decision to pursue this avenue of the business world. I am eager to hone in on skills that are highly valuable in this field, which include, but are not limited to: creativity, problem solving skills, professionalism, reasoning, "big picture" thought, and diplomacy.
Emerson Scholar

- Graduate Assistant for Career Planning and Campus Outreach at The Career Center
- Social Justice Education Paraprofessional
- I-Connect Diversity and Inclusion Workshop Facilitator
- Program Intern for University of Illinois study abroad course in Vienna, Austria
- Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Illinois Department of Psychology
- Leadership Certificate

I chose LER for its outstanding reputation and the wealth of opportunities it affords its students. The supportive environment, distinguished faculty, and its incredible network and career services really set LER apart from other programs. I am confident that LER will allow me to gain the critical skills and practical knowledge I need to succeed in the field of human resources.
ExxonMobil Scholar

- HR Intern, Baxter Healthcare
- HR Intern, The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
- Graduate Advising Assistant, University of Illinois Media Career Services
- Forté Fellow, University of Illinois MBA Program 2013
- National Society of Hispanic MBA Scholar 2012
- Vice President/Treasurer, Diversity Association, University of Illinois, 2013-2014
- China Consultant, Global Consulting Program, University of Illinois, Spring 2013

Rosa Pasillas Labak
Rockford, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Recreation, Sport and Tourism
May 2006

I look forward to challenging myself in uncomfortable roles. I am excited to grow as a professional, taking on responsibilities which utilize the tools I have learned in school and through internships. But I am more enthusiastic about roles that will push me to think beyond what I know.
ExxonMobil Scholar

- Assistant Branch Manager at J.P. Morgan Chase 2013-2014
- Perfect Branch Audit July 2013
- Personal Banker at J.P. Morgan Chase 2011-2013
- Student Dining Supervisor at UIUC 2008-2011
- Student Dining Worker at UIUC 2007-2008

After working in a professional setting and only experiencing a taste of applied HR practices, I knew I wanted to learn more. LER at UIUC is Awesome. Graduates of the program spoke very highly of their experiences here and UIUC has always felt like home. The most successful companies look for talent here and with the knowledge LER will provide, I know my career is headed in the right direction.
General Mills Scholar

- Admission Counselor, Illinois College (2012-2014)
- Secretary, World Travel Associates (2011-2012)
- Study Abroad Participant in Alicante, Spain (Spring 2011)
- Translation Intern for COEPA in Alicante, Spain (Spring 2011)
- Student Supervisor, Illinois College Telecounseling, (2009-2012)
- Communication Studies and Foreign Language Honor Societies Member

Amy Anderson
Bourbonnais, IL
Illinois College
Spanish & International Studies
May 2012

Transitioning to a new career path, I knew that I needed preparation. However, I knew that not every program would prepare me for my future as well as the LER program. With an outstanding track record and committed alumni, I could tell this was a special place. After hearing wonderful things and visiting the program myself, I knew that I could make no better choice. I am looking forward to expanding my skill set and beginning a rewarding career in the field of human resources.
Herff Jones Scholar

- 5 Years experiences working in financial industry as real estate banker
- HR Graduate Internship with Intel Corporation
- Dean’s List Honors
- University of Illinois Men’s Track and Field Team
- University of Illinois Army ROTC
- Hometown Heroes Mentoring Program

Durrell Williams
Aurora, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Communications
May 2008

This degree will assist me in acquiring the tools to become a company’s strategic partner, helping organizations leverage their human capital to capitalize on a firm’s strategic advantage.
Kristine Barzano
Des Plaines, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Psychology
December, 2013

Kellogg’s Scholar

- HR Intern at ThyssenKrupp Crankshaft Company
- HR Intern at Elgin Mental Health Center
- Office Associate at S37 Property Management
- Mock Interview Team at The Career Center

The MHRIR Degree will help me to achieve my career goal as an HR Professional by providing me the necessary learning opportunities to develop specialized knowledge, skills, and expertise, in the area of human resources, from established faculty, internship experiences, and peers.
Kellogg’s Scholar

- Human Resources Summer Intern at Housing Management Resources Inc., 2014
- Graduated with distinction in psychology, 2014
- University of Rochester Wilder Trustee Scholarship, 2010-2014
- National Merit Scholar, 2010

I am most looking forward to expanding and applying my knowledge of human resources, getting to know everyone in the LER program, and setting the foundation for a successful career with a company whose mission and values I am passionate about.

Ilana Friedberg
Newton, MA
University of Rochester
Psychology
May 2014
Maxim Integrated Scholar

- HRLP Intern, Halliburton
- Portfolio Management Intern, Crown Castle
- Legal Intern, Emerson Process Management: Daniel Division
- Co-Vice President of Programming, SSHRM
- Executive Council, Delta Zeta Sorority
- Research Assistant, LSU Cognitive Psychology Department
- Psi Chi Honor Society

Frances Boudreaux
Missouri City, TX
Louisiana State University
Psychology major; Business minor
December 2013

I chose LER at UIUC because of its reputation as a top HR graduate program, its outstanding faculty and staff and the program’s strong commitment to student success. The networking and exposure to Fortune 500 companies at LER has been extremely valuable to my career. I am very excited about my future as an LER alumni and am ready to represent LER in the workforce.
Maxim Integrated Scholar

• Working as a Grad Assistant in the Office of Student Conflict Resolution
• Summer of 2014 Human Resources Internship at the Champaign Park District
• President of Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honors Society
• President of New Revels Players, Student Theater Troupe

I chose LER at the University of Illinois because I knew my peers and educators here would share my passion for community building.

Casey Thiel
Oswego, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Political Science & Economics
May 2014
McKesson Scholar

- Human Resources Intern at The Heico Companies
- Internship Coordinator at UIUC Internship Program Office
- Recruiting Intern at Red Circle Technology Recruiting
- Director of Recruitment and Public Relations for Illini Dance Marathon
- Vice President of Foundation for Delta Gamma Fraternity
- Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, PGA of America Scholarship, Delta Gamma Foundation Scholarship

I chose LER because it is a prestigious program that prides itself on a competitive yet team-oriented environment. I believe my experience at LER will provide me with the skills and experience needed to establish myself as a leader in the field of Human Resources. I am looking forward to using my education at LER to help me achieve a successful and rewarding career in HR.
PepsiCo Scholar

Work Experience:
• Illinois Army National Guard
• Brigade Personnel Strength Manager (July 2014-Present)
• Battalion Human Resources Officer (June 2012-June 2014)
• Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program
• Event Coordinator (October 2011-December 2012)

Student Involvement:
• Illini Veterans Student Organization
• Co-Founder, Secretary (October 2009-May 2011)
• Reserve Officer’s Training Corps
• Various Positions, (August 2007-May 2011)

A graduate degree in Labor and Employment Relations will not only improve my skills as a Human Resources Officer in the National Guard, but also help me start a full-time career with a reputable company.
I choose LER because I wanted to acquire a Master’s Degree in Human Resources and Industrial Relations from one of the top programs around, and more than that, the LER program had an air of accomplishment and unity surrounding it. Each individual associated with the LER program that I have ever crossed paths with has had an approachable quality to them that could facilitate the flow of wisdom and insight that I believe would prove as an invaluable resource. This is a program I could envision myself growing with both professionally and personally. When choosing my graduate program that was the most important quality for me.
LER would like to thank the following companies for sponsoring financial aid to incoming students in the 2014-2015 school year:

**Fall 2014:**
- BP
- Boeing
- Caterpillar
- Eaton
- Emerson
- ExxonMobil
- General Mills
- Herff Jones
- Kellogg’s
- Maxim Integrated
- McKesson
- PepsiCo
- Shell

**Spring 2015:**
- Norfolk Southern
- PepsiCo
- Phillips 66
Endowed and Family Fellowship Donors

LER would like to thank the following individuals and families for sponsoring financial aid to incoming students in the 2013-2014 school year:

**Fall 2014:**
- Anderson Family
- John Delany and Susan Schwochau
- Loichle Family
- Walsh Family

**Spring 2015:**
- May Family Fellowship
- McPherson Fellowship