UNIVERSITY OF KENT IN AMERICA
Your alumni community

www.kent.ac.uk/alumni/UKA
Dear friends,

I’m honoured to be the Chair of the Board of the University of Kent in America (UKA) and it is with great pleasure that we help alumni in the US to keep in touch, share the latest news from the University, and support current students.

We are delighted to be able to report on the progress that the University of Kent in America is making and provide an update on some of the exciting developments over the last 12 months. We’ve enjoyed a successful year, hosting events from the East to the West Coast, raising funds to support an enthusiastic and engaging student by providing a scholarship to study at Kent, and getting involved in planning for the University’s 50th anniversary in 2015 at a series of workshops held in the fall of 2013. You can find out about all of our activities in our monthly e-newsletter. To ensure you receive it, simply update your details via the online community at http://alumni.kent.ac.uk.

As an alumnus I know that studying at the University of Kent is a life changing experience that broadens students’ horizons. I also understand how the work of the University’s alumni community inspires, supports and encourages current students to have high expectations for their education and their futures. US alumni already offer work placements for students to spend a year in industry, support the UKA-Fulbright Scholarship to enable a talented student from the US to study at Kent, and assist Kent staff by attending events and speaking to applicants and prospective students.

On behalf of both the Board and the students that you have helped, I would like to thank you for your support for the University of Kent in America. We hope to see you at one of our alumni events in the future. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments please don’t hesitate to get in touch with the alumni team by emailing alumni@kent.ac.uk

Cheers!
John

Your Board

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Kate Evert, Darwin 1984, Short-Term Studies
Dan Le Clerc, Rutherford 1981, International Relations
Walt Nason, Rutherford 1981, Management Science
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Vice President: Emily Perkins, Brussels 2009, International Law with International Relations
Keith Teare, Keynes 1973, Politics & Government and Sociology
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Elizabeth Eckert, Brussels 2012, Political Strategy and Communication
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Rima Hyder, Eliot 1996, Accounting & Finance with Computing
Our first Fulbright Scholar

2013 saw a prestigious new addition to the Kent Scholarship portfolio, as the University welcomed its first Fulbright scholar. After two years of the hugely successful UKA scholarship, the University of Kent in America is proud to lend its financial support to this initiative.

The Kent-Fulbright scholarship provides funding to an outstanding US student undertaking postgraduate study at the University of Kent. We recently welcomed our 2014 Kent-Fulbright Scholar, Rebecca Monteleone, who joined the University in September, where she is studying within the award-winning Tizard Centre, which received the Queen’s Anniversary Prize earlier this year for its contribution to improving the lives of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their families.

Rebecca follows in the footsteps of J Meade Klingensmith (pictured), the first Kent-Fulbright scholar, who spent a year in Canterbury pursuing a Master’s in History. After a fruitful year spent studying in Canterbury, Mead has now returned to continue his studies at Stanford University, and tells us:

“This year I spent at the University of Kent was, professionally and personally, a life-changer. As a student of modern British history, I knew it was important for me to study in the UK and experience British culture first-hand. My time at Kent fulfilled that goal and then some: its ideal location allowed me easy access to the resources and city life of London as well as the beauty and culture of the English countryside. On top of that, living in Canterbury was an historian’s dream. What I never could have expected, though, was how much warmth and energy I would find right on campus. The international nature of the school (I shared a flat with a two Brits, two Nigerians, a Cypriot, and a German) constantly exposed me to new worldviews and countless friendly people willing to share those views. I learned as much from those conversations with my peers as I did in the classroom – which is saying something!

This autumn I’ll be continuing my studies in the History PhD program at Stanford University. Thanks to my time at Kent, I feel as prepared as I can be for this next step. The Modern History MA program did a terrific job of preparing us for the challenges of independent historical research over the course of the year. The professors I worked with were excellent guides through this process. They were always willing to talk through my ideas and provide helpful input while still encouraging me to pursue my own interests and develop as an independent scholar.

Without the Kent-Fulbright award, I never would have had the chance to study at the University of Kent. The past year of my life would have looked very different, as, most likely, would the next. So, my deepest thanks go out to everyone who has contributed to the UKA scholarship programme. I can honestly say you changed my life.”
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