

X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise Internet Agent 6.5.2
Date: Wed, 01 Dec 2004 13:08:01 -0600
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Subject: AP Final Bush Comments/Report

This is to finalize my portion of the Bush Grant.

This summer in August I traveled to Geneva, Switzerland to both observe Ingrid Arneson's internship with Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and to make more contacts with them about sending other interns. I offer these observations:

1. I believe that the internship with LWF made a life-changing impact on Ingrid Arneson. This placement gave her an opportunity not only to be abroad, but also to integrate her three majors: philosophy, religion, and government. She had several opportunities to work in the UN and do significant research. I have noticed a new confidence in Ingrid's approach to her academic life. She has an investment in what she is doing. I had conversations with her boss and with Karen Bloomquist, both of whom were extraordinarily impressed with her work. They would like her to return to LWF in a position that is longer.
2. I met with several folks from LWF and in particular, with Dr. Karen Bloomquist. She is a former teacher of mine from times at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She and I spoke about opportunities for students not only with LWF, but also outside LWF and possibly with the Lutheran congregation in Geneva. Funding is always an issue. LWF does not normally take undergraduates, but Ingrid's time there has changed there attitude.
3. I have now been in contact with Dr. Bloomquist again (in October and now again this week) to follow up on the possibility of more interns, and of placing Ingrid Arneson and Paul Rasmussen in more permanent positions in Geneva. Her first response to me indicated that LWF/Geneva has issues around work permits and she is still checking on all of this. So, I'm still waiting to here from her what we can arrange. I have two students, Christy Hallenbeck and Andrea Halverson, who would like to go to Geneva this summer. We'll see.

It was very helpful for me to be in Geneva and meet folks at LWF and the UN. This trip will hopefully make the contacts we need to continue our internships.

Ingrid Arneson will send an additional report about her experience and its impact on her personal and academic life. She should have that to you by December 21st.

Thanks.

Ann Pederson, 01:08 PM 12/1/04, AP Final Bush Comments/Report

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