On May 13, 2009, Ohio Governor Ted Strickland appointed first year Lindner Honors-PLUS student, Kyle Quinn, to a two-year term as the newest member of the University of Cincinnati’s Board of Trustees.

“It’s an unbelievable opportunity for me to learn about higher education, my university, and the State of Ohio,” said Quinn. “Oftentimes as students, we only see the end result of university happenings. Now, I’m able to witness the process behind the strategic decision making that drives what our university does. It’s simply incredible.”

Quinn went through a six-month application process conducted by UC student government officials, faculty, appointed. The search and administration to become committee recommended Quinn with other finalists to Governor Strickland for the final decision.

Quinn said the selection process was detailed. “At 19 years old, it’s a little overwhelming to go through such a thorough process and ultimately, be appointed.”

Each state funded university, according to Ohio law, is required to have an undergraduate and graduate student trustee. In Ohio, they are unable to vote and do not count for quorum, but they have a seat at the head table and provide valuable input during regular board and committee meetings.

“A primary responsibility of the student trustee is to be the figurehead that has the pulse of the undergraduate student body. The university continually strives to have an adequate and accurate representation of our students and the input given from a student perspective is highly valued,” said Quinn. “After all, the students are the reason our university exists.”

As the area’s leading employer, the University of Cincinnati drastically impacts our local economy. Representing the university at the highest level is, too, a great honor.

“The trustees are well-connected, brilliant men and women who are leaders and decision makers in their respective fields. I’m truly honored and humbled to serve the university in this capacity and work with these fine individuals on important issues that directly affect me and my fellow students. I trust it will be a learning experience like no other.” Quinn noted. “UC is going through dynamic changes as it’s at the cusp of defining itself as an internationally recognized institution. To be involved at this level and have the ability to place my stamp on this great institution at this point in time, is nothing less than a dream come true.”
Lindner Honors-PLUS Graduating Class of 2009

Dustin Alvey – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Jason Ballas – Honors Scholar

Zach Chaney – Honors Scholar

Kelly Collins – Magna Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Dan Cremons – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar; 2009 Outstanding COB Undergraduate Student; Runner up for Mr. Bearcat award.

Doug Cushman – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Kyle Dragan – Magna Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar; 2009 Top Cat Scholar of the year.

Patrick Fluegeman – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Kiana Herron – Cum Laude; Honors Scholar

Alex Huang – Honors Scholar

Kirby Huelsebush – Magna Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Jay R. Johnston – Magna Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Kathryn Johnston – Honors Scholar

Daniel Larsen – Honors Scholar

Mandi Martini – Magna Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Megan McElroy – Magna Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Joseph McVicker – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Kevin Perkins – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Alex Petre – Honors Scholar

Stephen Porter – Honors Scholar

Jay Radley – Honors Scholar; Student Body President, ’07-’08.

Stephen Repella – Honors Scholar; Lower Division Honors

Ryan Rosensweig – Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar; Student Body President’ 08-’09; Presidential Leadership Award Winner.

Anne Seitz – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar

Emily Taylor – Summa Cum Laude; Distinguished Honors Scholar
Lindner Honors-PLUS Graduating Class of 2009 – Words of Wisdom

I asked our graduates to send me a few words of wisdom or parting thoughts they would like to share about their experiences over the last 5 years. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

**Donna Fisher**

"Graduating from the Honors-PLUS Program has left me feeling fully prepared to take on the challenges of the 'real world'."  

Jason Ballas

"The Honor-PLUS program has enabled me to transition from the stubborn high school graduate that entered the program to a successful working professional as I exit. The specialized seminars, extensive co-op experience, and international travel has prepared me for the various challenges I will encounter in the real world. This program has truly differentiated me from my peers and has allowed me to compete with students from even the top MBA programs. Making the decision to attend the University of Cincinnati and participate in the Honor-PLUS program was one of the best decisions I have ever made."  

James “Jay” Radley

"If I had known five years ago how this program would challenge me, I would have certainly thought it was out of my league. I never expected to live on-campus, travel to Asia or work for a Fortune 500 company, but these and many other experiences I’ve had in Lindner Honors-PLUS have made me the driven, passionate and happy person I am today! I am more prepared than I ever thought I could be to say goodbye to the comforts of student life and become a productive member of our Cincinnati community."  

Kelly Collins

"It’s now been a full year since I graduated from the Lindner Honors-PLUS program, leaving me with a bit of additional perspective as I reflect on my time at UC. The years I spent in Clifton were truly some of the best in my life and I can now say with certainty that they were instrumental in preparing me for life as a professional. Thank you to Jeri, Judy, Scott, Donna, and the rest of my class for participating in and facilitating the process.”

Stephen Porter

"The Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS program has been an invaluable experience for me because of the diversified education the program affords its students. I have learned not only through my academic coursework, but exponentially through real-world experiences encapsulated in my many co-ops, the International trip, various seminars and lectures, amongst others. Lindner Honors-PLUS has prepared me for the global business environment and equipped me with the right tools to meet the ever-changing demands of both employers and society.”

Jay R. Johnston

"The Lindner Honors-PLUS program has been above and beyond any expectations I had set coming into college. The relationships that I have formed with my classmates and professors are life-lasting and tremendously rewarding. The Co-Op and International Travel are once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that were only made possible through the program. Our advisors and unique curriculum have afforded each of us with the ability to 'hit the ground running' and be prepared for success in both our careers and lives."  

Alex Huang

"Success is the result of opportunity meeting experience. Unlike any other Collegiate program, Lindner Honors-PLUS took a proactive role in providing both of these factors, along with an excellent education, to each of its students, paving an unprecedented path to our ultimate goal: success. Through requirements such as co-op, international study, and networking/leadership events, the program hits a tri-recta of sought-after qualities that attract top companies and it is in these trying economic times that the program truly proves itself to any who had a doubt in the outstanding professionals and leaders it helps to create. I am proud to have been a part of the legacy this program is sure to become, and am thankful for all of the opportunities and experience it has afforded me. I hope that the current and future classes will make the most of this extraordinary program and all it has to offer."

Kathryn Johnston

The Carl H Lindner Honors-PLUS program has taught me to go above and beyond; exceeding the expectations of not only teachers and classmates, but also employers. The experiences I have obtained through the program are once in a lifetime. Lindner Honors-PLUS has helped me to set myself apart from the magnitude of other college graduates, and has molded me into the young professional I have become. I am very grateful to have worked with such a wonderful staff and for all the opportunities provided to me throughout my college years.

Mandi Martini

"Honors-PLUS has given me the opportunity and motivation to make college a true experience. I could never thank the program, and those that make it possible, enough."  

Kirby Huelsebusch
“If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”
- African Proverb

“Our challenge is to be innovative through collaboration. We are brought here under a collective goal to operate with integrity and exceed all expectations within our communities—academic, leadership and spirit. Do more than attend class; make a commitment to our community and to the world. It is through this program that we are empowered to have an effect.

Enjoy your time—appreciate your peers, mentors and support. The Honors-PLUS program is truly about the people who believe in you and your mission, share it and celebrate often.”

Ryan Rosensweig

“No matter what you do after college, you'll appreciate having been part of the Lindner Honors-PLUS program. The education, the opportunities, and the experiences you receive from this program are, simply put, incredibly unique and invaluable. I hope students continue to appreciate the benefits of being in a program as exceptional as this one.”

Zach Chaney

“Five years ago I could never have imagined the great opportunities and wonderful experiences that lie ahead for me at UC and in the Carl H. Lindner Honors-PLUS Program. Honors-PLUS helped me make the most of my college experience through challenging classes, great co-ops, the international trip and the encouragement to get involved on campus and in the community. All of these aspects have been important steps to me becoming the well-rounded, business-world ready woman that I am today. My years at UC have been the best years of my life, and I am so thankful for each and every opportunity and the generosity and encouragement of everyone involved in the program who have helped me succeed.”

Thanks, Anne Seitz

“As I get ready to graduate I can look back and appreciate how much being part of the Lindner Honors-PLUS program has really benefited me throughout my collegiate career. Not only was I given great opportunities, but I was also pushed to go beyond and seek out rewarding and unique opportunities in and out of the classroom. From service opportunities to co-ops to study abroad, Lindner Honors-PLUS gave me the confidence and the resources to attain my goals and I am very thankful to be a graduate of such a great program.

To the underclassmen I urge you to push yourselves beyond what you thought you were capable of and never discount an opportunity to learn and grow no matter how trivial it seems. Make sure you leave no stone unturned in your college career and you will graduate with a true sense of accomplishment and satisfaction knowing you have done your best and seized every opportunity.”

Alex B. Petre

“As a senior upon graduation, I am very proud, thankful, and honored to have spent my five college years in the Lindner Honors-PLUS program. The altruistic actions of faculty and staff combined with near limitless opportunities create an unbelievable undergraduate program. Traveling to five continents, co-oping throughout the United States, climbing the Great Wall of China, venturing through a safari in South Africa, and independent studies to pursue my own interests are experiences for which I will be forever grateful.

The Lindner Honors-PLUS community is second to none and their presence on campus is known by all. I will be leaving close friends but envision potential business partners in years to come. Good luck to everyone!”

Kyle Dragan

“As a high school senior I didn’t really have a preference as to where I went to college, but after 5 years in the Lindner Honors-PLUS program I can’t imagine having gone anywhere but UC. I’ve received a great education, gained valuable professional experience on co-op and seen parts of the world I never thought I’d go to all thanks to Lindner Honors-PLUS. My advice to the underclassmen is to get involved in things you enjoy and don’t forget to have fun with your time in college because it goes by all too quickly. Rest assured that if you take advantage of all the opportunities this great program has to offer, you will have set yourself apart for future success. Thank you for an incredible college experience and good luck to future classes!”

Douglas Cushman
Welcome Class of 2014

September, 2009, saw 21 new Lindner Honors-PLUS students on campus. We are excited to be able to add this newest class to our current group of outstanding Lindner Honors-PLUS students. Joining us for 2009 are:

Sarah Brown
Sarah Chant
David Clark
Ryan Doughton
Kevin Gade
Ross Hambrick
Nicholas Hertlein
Megan Kelley
Scott Kelley
Stephanie Kenning
Victoria Lang
Bethany Maynard
Brett Niehauser
Matthew Regnold
Matthew Robben
John Ruther
David Schuler
Adrienne Spuzzillo
Lena Tome
Emily van Treeck
Marissa Woodrick

Upperclassmen, please take time to seek out our newest students and welcome them to the program. Remember your freshman year, and what you have learned since then. There is a lot you can do to help ease the transition into University life, by sharing information you have gained over the past year or more.

Judy Magazine is in the office Monday through Friday from 8:00am until 4:00pm. Since she is your freshman advisor, you will probably meet most with her. You can reach her at 556-7187 or email her at judy.magazine@uc.edu.

My office hours (Donna Fisher) are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 7:00am until 6:00pm. I am off on Wednesdays. If you have a problem that can’t wait until Thursday, don’t hesitate to leave a message and I will get back to you ASAP. You can reach me at 513-556-7099 or donna.fisher@uc.edu.

Since Jeri Ricketts teaches, as well as directs the Lindner Honors-PLUS program her office hours change a lot. It’s easiest to call her at 556-7046 or email her at jeri.ricketts@uc.edu and set up an appointment to see her.

Scott Gregory’s office is in the Undergraduate Programs Office on the first floor, suite 102. You can reach him at 556-7037 or scott.gregory@uc.edu.

If you have any problems with your class schedules, call me (Donna Fisher) and see if I can help before you stand in long lines at the One Stop Office. I can’t fix everything, but I usually know someone who can! If you don’t know where to go or who to ask about anything, stop and see me. I am willing and eager to help in any way I can, and I can direct you to the right person to see and save you a lot of wasted time. (PLUS, I always have candy on my desk to encourage you to stop and visit with me!) Once again, my direct line is 556-7099.

Please don’t hesitate to stop in when you have any problems or if you just need to talk. We really mean it when we say we have an open door policy. We’re here to help in any way that we can, and we want to get to know you personally. We want your college experience to be the best that it can be!

Hope you’ve had a great 1st quarter!

Donna Fisher
I knew it would be a challenging year for me to find quality placements for the 2009 summer internship program. Headlines like “A Million Jobless Americans” and “Unemployment rate creeps closer to 10%” in addition to the fact we admitted 29 students in fall 2008 rather than the customary 25 students, only underscored the difficult task ahead!

As usual, our freshmen performed extremely well during their interviews this year. Unfortunately, I lost some positions due to the poor economy and several students were not initially placed. In spite of this, I am very pleased to report our excellent relationships with recruiters, corporate partners and successful alumni resulted in 100% placement for all our freshmen.

On behalf of the students and staff of the Lindner Honors-PLUS program, I am sincerely grateful for these opportunities, particularly in view of the current economic climate. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you where our freshmen worked this past summer:

**ACCOUNTING**

Brien Dulle  
**Deloitte**

Rohan Hemani  
**Medpace**

Mike Jarvis  
**Fifth Third Bank**

Ann Junker  
**Grant Thornton**

Grift Krehnbrink  
**Great American Insurance Group**

Jay Lame  
**Children’s Hospital Medical Ctr.**

Katie Mideli  
**Ernst & Young**

Megan Mullinger  
**Children’s Hospital Medical Ctr.**

Kyle Neyer  
**Chiquita**

Kyle Quinn  
**Ernst & Young**

Anthony Voveris  
**PricewaterhouseCoopers**

**FINANCE**

Nick Bachus  
**Great American Insurance Group**

Chris Nesbitt  
**Medpace**

Tim Oliver  
**SHP Leading Design**

Janelle Wichmann  
**Procter & Gamble**

**MARKETING**

Jordan Hamons  
**LPK**

Alex Huron  
**LPK**

Andy Koesterman  
**Procter & Gamble**

Spencer Malone  
**BASES**

Ian McManis  
**UC Center for Entrepreneurship Education and Research**

Amanda Meyer  
**SHP Leading Design**

Chris O’Brien  
**WhatIfSports.com**

Graham Raabe  
**Jack Rouse Associates**

Autumn Utley  
**BASES**  
**(ACNielsen Analytical Group)**

**OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT**

Marissa Carducci  
**Kroger**

Michael Ponti-Zins  
**GE Aircraft Engines**

Korey Ryle  
**GE Aircraft Engines**

Jessica Welsch  
**Kroger**

Nick Whalen  
**GE Aircraft Engines**
This past December, two Lindner Honors-PLUS students were sponsored by the University Honors Program and Lindner Honors-PLUS Program to take part in a unique, energizing, intensive, six-day leadership training called the LeaderShape Institute. Held for one week at Camp Kern near Dayton, first year, Kyle Quinn, and second year, Rachel Bucalo had the chance to escape the rigors of first quarter examinations to take part in this nationally recognized training that focuses on the multiple aspects of leadership and how individuals can create a vision and execute it throughout their lives.

“It was an absolutely incredible experience, one that I will never forget from my college years,” said Rachel. “I think what’s most unique about LeaderShape is that it’s not the typical leadership seminar that focuses on the things you hear about all the time, it’s a chance to bond with other students who have similar visions and understand the issues that are facing our University.”

“What I like most was that the curriculum was realistic and accounted for our busy lifestyles,” said Quinn. “All the students who left felt empowered to make a change in their respective causes, organizations, and community groups. I can’t say that I’ve ever been involved in something that has had as deep an effect on me as LeaderShape has.”

UC Honors Program staff members as well as their LeaderShape facilitator accompanied the 60 student attendees.

Rachel noted, “Our facilitator was unbelievable. He had a great balance of humor and seriousness and always made every activity applicable to our lives. Additionally having University Honors staff there, added another valuable component to share our experiences and relate to people we work with daily. We built stronger relationships all while having fun.”

From 7:00 am – 9:00 pm, the students spent each day focusing on a different theme of leadership. The program had the following themes per day:

Day 1: “Building Community”
Day 2: “The Value of One, The Power of All”
Day 4: “Bringing Vision to Reality”
Day 5: “Living and Leading with Integrity”
Day 6: “Staying in Action”

“Along with how it fits with other’s visions. The entire LeaderShape experience was incredible. I would highly recommend future Lindner Honors-PLUS students to attend,” said Quinn.

Much of the breakout time was spent in “family clusters” which allowed for each student to deeply engage in the issues at hand and also build a support network.

“The people I met at LeaderShape are people that I still communicate with and have developed great friendships with,” noted both of this year’s participants. The next LeaderShape session for the University of Cincinnati will be held December 11-16, 2009. Visit leadershape.org or the www.uc.edu/honors for more information.

Kyle Quinn
Class of 2013
Surviving the True Pike Challenge

A wave of excitement and anxiousness hit me as I entered a room full of my new classmates. Even though we were strangers now, it was clear that the future had plenty in store for us to develop close friendships – learning together, traveling together, and most importantly, depending on each other as we discovered how to survive living independently. There was certainly a mutual sense of respect for earning a place here – nonetheless, we all realized that there was much hard work still ahead.

For new members of the Lindner Honors-PLUS program, these are some of the emotions that might have been felt during the Coldstream Welcome Banquet. It was certainly similar to how I felt when I attended the banquet four years ago.

Now, entering my fifth year in the program, I am discovering new challenges in which to immerse myself. In particular, I recently participated in the True Pike Challenge, an outdoor survival course operated by the Boulder Outdoor Survival School (www.boss-inc.com) this past June 14th-20th.

I was fortunate to be among 17 other Pi Kappa Alpha members selected to become B.O.S.S. students. My fellow Pike “classmates” and I spent one week hiking through the southern Utah desert and learning essential survival skills. Participants are taught to survive with minimal equipment – we carried little more than a knife, water bottle, blanket, and clothes.

That’s right – no sleeping bag, no tent. Portable stove for cooking? Forget about it. We endured a diet that basically consisted of oats, nuts and raisins – about 1,200 calories per day (and often less). On top of that, there were no guarantees for shelter or dry ground on which to sleep. That is, if one could manage to sleep in the first place – hampered by nearly freezing temperatures each night.

Looking back, it was clearly the toughest week I have ever endured.

It was also one of the most rewarding.

The greatest lesson I learned from the week was how to escape my “comfort zone” and test my physical and mental limits. Physically, it was a huge challenge to push myself to hike 10-15 miles per day on very little food. Mentally, it was a gut-wrenching test of my resolve and perseverance. However, once I discovered how I could push myself beyond these self-imposed barriers, I enjoyed a sense of accomplishment that is nearly impossible to describe in words.

This could not have been done without the support of my fellow Pike classmates. Not knowing any of the other attendees was slightly intimidating at first. Re-read the first paragraph above – that was not a reflection on my Coldstream experience, but rather a description of how I felt when I first met my fellow participants.

But by the end of the week, it was clear that our camaraderie provided motivation to overcome our own personal struggles. In fact, I believe that the friendships I developed are equally as meaningful as the sense of individual achievement that I gained. I have remained in contact with several members from my group and am confident that I will cherish the chance to stay in touch with my many new friends for years to come.

So, for freshmen whom just attended their own Coldstream banquet, perhaps therein lies the lesson. While the individual emotions described in that first paragraph might be true, realize that many long-lasting friendships are on the brink of being built over the next five years. Cherish those friendships, and when worst comes to worst – be thankful that you have hot food to eat and a roof over your head every night. After spending a week surviving in nature without it during the True Pike Challenge – I know I certainly am!

Brad Stephens
Class of 2010
The Lindner Honors-PLUS pre-juniors, a class of 25 students, traveled on their Lindner Honors-PLUS international trip this fall. They left on August 6th and the program ended on Sept 3rd. They traveled from London to Finland, to Belgium, to Switzerland and ended in Germany. This was a fast paced adventure that took them from the classroom to company visits, to fun excursions.

I asked for a few volunteers to write an article about each leg of the trip and I thought you might enjoy reading them.

London  by Alex Arroyo

Our international experience began the first leg in London, England. After a lengthy trans-Atlantic flight out of Washington-Dulles Airport our group landed at London’s Heathrow airport around 6:30 in the morning. Despite the many similarities to our own culture, the differences were very evident the moment we boarded our bus outside the airport. On the early morning bus ride to our hotel we came into contact with the first obvious differences: the cars, the driving style, the weather and the architecture. It gave us a glimpse into the experiences we were in for as we continued our journey throughout Europe. We arrived at the hotel after a short bus ride and quickly changed our clothes in preparation for our first company visit at Euromonitor. After leaving the hotel, our group boarded the Tube, London’s over and underground subway system, and took it to our first visit.

When we arrived at Euromonitor we were greeted by Alice Diepenbrock, a research manager for Western Europe which includes countries such as Belgium, France, and Portugal at the company’s London office. She spoke to us about Euromonitor as a company and gave us an in depth explanation on exactly how they operate. We learned that they have over 600 analysts in more than 80 countries that compile and analyze industry and country or regional data from published sources. This data is taken and used to produce Passport, Euromonitor’s client facing customizable website which the group was able to see in action and understand exactly why Euromonitor has such high profile clients such as Unilever and Procter and Gamble.

After leaving our first visit, we were off to our second trip of the day with Paul Polman, the CEO of Unilever. Despite the jetlag, the group was excited to sit down and listen to such a high profile speaker, not to mention a University of Cincinnati alum. When we arrived at Unilever’s newly renovated building, we were greeted by and had a chance to speak with Paul Polman at lunch prior to his talk. During the group’s discussion with the Unilever CEO, he stressed the importance of finding a vision and committing yourself to that vision. He explained while he is obviously concerned about the company’s profitability, what was more important to him was maintaining the company’s focus on its vision to “make people feel good, look good, and get more out of life” and do this through a “green” and sustainable business model.

We were very inspired by Paul Polman’s talk and were glad despite the long day. We had the chance to meet with him. After returning from their day of travel and company visits, and with no more obligations for the rest of the weekend, we were all ready to go out and experience London. We made sure we made the best of the short time we had in London whether it was seeing the sights via walking, bus, or bike tours, enjoying the local food at a number of different pubs, or experiencing the nightlife. The first leg of the trip is any indication of how the rest of it will go, we are all in for the experience of a lifetime.

Finland  by Alex Glutz

Moi from Finland! Our second stop of the trip began as we flew into Helsinki, the capital of Finland. We then took a bus ride through the Finland countryside to the city of Tampere, which would be our home for the next eleven days. Our official program began Monday morning at the University of Tampere with an overview of Finnish history and a course in Survival Finnish. We had a wonderfully energetic teacher who over three days managed to teach us multiple basic Finnish phrases that we could use to “survive”, such as good morning, excuse me, thank you and how to count to twenty. One of the interesting things to note, however, is that in Finland...
practically everyone has at the very least, a basic grasp of English. So when our phrases came up short, we had little difficulty communicating with the people. Finnish students begin to learn a foreign language in the third grade, and English is often the first they opt to take.

After our first day of school, we took a private bus tour around the city, which was a great experience that enabled us to find our way around the city with relative ease after classes were “Finn-ished” for the day.

The program at the University provided lessons on a wide range of subjects, including an introduction to intercultural communication, doing business in Nordic countries, the Finnish Welfare society, Finland’s role in the European Union and Finland’s educational system. All of these lectures provided a great amount of information, and really offered an opportunity to see that the “American way” is not necessarily correct and the “European Way” is wrong, but simply they are different systems for different people. It has challenged many of us to reflect on ourselves which enables us to understand our own behaviors and attitudes so much better.

Along with our schooling program we had several company visits. Our first was hosted by Nokia, the cell phone manufacturer.

We learned of their huge societal role as one of the largest Finnish employers as well as their sizeable market share of approximately 35% of all cell phones manufactured. It may come as a surprise to learn that despite our awareness of the Nokia brand, North American sales only make up about 4% of the headsets they sell around the globe. That fact alone forces us to understand that there is so much business outside of the United States and that while we may be a large economic force, we are not the only one.

Our next company visits took place in two industries that most, if not all of us, were very unfamiliar with, timber and glass-producing machinery manufacturing. Metsaliitto is a timber cooperative between approximately 130,000 forest owners that goes beyond simply procuring timber from the farms. They operate in several divisions that include pulp production, paper production as well as a timber design company called FinnForest. It was remarkable to learn about some of the innovations being made in the timber industry, an industry that I had personally seen as an outdated one. While steel and concrete replaced wood in industrial designing over the past century, it appears that wood has not been utilized to its fullest capabilities. For example, FinnForest has a wooden structural beam product that can withstand fire at the same temperature while maintaining its integrity over six times longer than a steel beam. Our visit to the glass-producing machinery manufacturing company, Glaston, was equally interesting. Glaston manufactures several different industrial machines that are then sold to companies that produce glass. One of the brightest spots in their future lies with the expanding field of solar thermal energy production. Parabolic mirrors focus the sun’s energy to create a heat source to produce steam that will turn turbines, and Glaston has a machine that is designed specifically to create those parabolic mirrors. Visiting both Metsaliitto and Glaston really enabled us to see that there is so much more going on in the business world today than we can understand. I truly believe it is one of those moments where you realize that the more knowledge you come across, the more you realize how little you truly are familiar with.

Along with the lectures and company visits we also had social events in Finland. One of our last group activities was a visit to a small village in the countryside that was actually the site of a glass blowing facility. We were able to see how all sorts of glass products were hand produced and then had an opportunity to purchase some of the objects we saw being made in their outlet. However, the highlight of the social events, and what most would likely say was the highlight of their week, was the visit to the Sauna. The evening began with a traditional Finnish meal, reindeer and potatoes. Most of us really cont…….
Lindner Honors-PLUS International Trip, cont.

Finland, cont……..

enjoyed the “odd” meat; in fact many couldn’t hold back on seconds. Afterwards we went out on the lake in traditional Finnish church boats, boats that were used in the past for families to get to church. Timing was certainly not on our side this day, because the overcast conditions broke into a full fledged rain while we were on the water. We didn’t let it rain on our parade however!

All in all, our trip to Finland was one that opened our eyes to the variety of lifestyles, businesses, and cultures that exist outside our own. It was a country that many of us would likely have never had the opportunity to experience, but we all are glad that we did.

Belgium by Max Schneider

After completing our studies at the University of Tampere in Finland, our group flew from Helsinki to London and took the Channel Tunnel (also known as the Chunnel) from England to France. We then continued on to Brussels, where we checked into Hotel du Congres around 11am on Friday, August 21. We had the 22nd and 23rd free, so the next morning, 24 of us took off to spend 24 hours in Amsterdam, while two others left to spend the weekend in Paris. Everyone returned Sunday afternoon and headed out to explore yet another city.

The city seemed to have two different worlds. On one hand, there was once again stunningly old and beautiful architecture. The city square was phenomenal, with buildings well older than the beloved United States of America. On the other hand, there were places throughout the city plagued with garbage and graffiti, broken glass and run down buildings, completely contrasting with the historical aspect. We found a restaurant district to meander through, which looked a lot like what I picture Venice to be- narrow streets with open air restaurants crowding the sidewalks as far as the eye can see. Through-out the next couple days, we ate countless helpings of the legendary Belgian waffles. No waffle I have ever had or probably will have can compare. Words do not do justice to the sensations the mouth experiences eating these. On the second night, all 27 of us went to a place to eat some mussels in Brussels. Most of us had never eaten mussels before, and were a little intimidated. We were told that mussels were like calamari. They were, in fact, and everyone who ordered mussels thoroughly enjoyed them. We also experienced the infamous Belgian french fries which, so we were told, were not actually invented by the French. As we learned during our stay in Belgium, the country and everyone and every company in it, suffer from an inability to brand themselves. Thus, the French now have credit for fries.

Before and throughout our trip, we have studied and heard much about the European Union and its interactions with member states. Finally, in Brussels, we had the opportunity to visit the EU Commission's headquarters to learn and ask questions face to face with EU representatives. The presentation went into great detail explaining the setup of the EU and how it functions similarly to the U.S. government. We have heard varying perspectives on the EU and its policies from the different companies and speakers we have visited, so it was helpful to see a presentation from the EU to have a balance of viewpoints. We also visited Deloitte, who gave us a presentation on its merger with Arthur Anderson and discussed how it has recently been able to successfully market itself. It sounds easy to just “merge” with another company, but having the opportunity to learn how it is done logistically provided an insight not many of our group previously had. Lessons like these continue to be a theme during the trip and are opening our minds to how global business really functions.

Switzerland by Upasana Todi

We might have started with a bang (a thunderstorm warning prevented us from exiting our aircraft for about an hour), but Geneva is one of the best places to relax in nature. After the tiring traveling and late night, we went to sleep as soon as we reached our rooms, and woke up to cont….
a gorgeous summer day, the Swiss Alps in the background and the perfect amount of nip in the air.

Our company visits were all very interesting. Givaudan, Procter & Gamble and LPK had some amazing experiences and tips to share with us about business, being a more acute professional, and about traveling and being open to new experiences.

Givaudan talked about the impact of the economic crisis on the fragrance industry in addition to describing the history of fragrances and the intricacies of mixing different elements to create new flavors and fragrances. Austin Lally, the VP of Western Europe Baby Care, talk about the power of agility, both personal and corporate, to gain a competitive edge in these challenging times. An extremely interesting speaker, it was great to listen to his experiences with living and working in different countries. LPK allowed us an insight into the importance of understanding and working with cultural and legal differences when branding products in various countries. The WTO cleared up a lot of the questions we had about its function and organization, and how they are adjusting to the global changes and those within the European Union.

Dinner at our host Bethanie's house was just what we needed to unwind and relax for a while. Her apartment was really pretty and her wall-to-wall bookcase was definitely something to desire!

We walked around the lake the first afternoon we had free. Some of us walked the couple of hundred steps up a church tower to be greeted with the most astounding view. Picture this: blue-gray alpine mountains, with soft mist surrounding them. Snow-capped peaks. A sea-green lake with a fountain spraying high in an attempt to meet with the sky. Beautiful, closely packed, pink and yellow buildings. And to make it perfect, the sun shining down on it all. Some people try to look for God in nature. I think Geneva is the perfect place to start.

Some of us went swimming in the crystal clear lake today. It was an amazing eye-opening experience... to look around and realize that we were swimming in the water from the Swiss Alps.

This stay in Geneva mayt have been a bit too short, although considering the exorbitant prices, that may be for the best! I am sure that for many of us, this trip has convinced us to someday return to visit Switzerland.

Germany by Stephanie Wenning

Munich, the twin city of Cincinnati, is by far the most like Cincinnati of all the cities we have visited thus far. Hans & Uta Papke, Cincinnatians themselves, joined the group in Munich and helped coordinate and carry out our activities, for which we were very grateful. It really helped give a firsthand look at life in Germany and they had some great advice on places to visit as well. We arrived in Munich around 6pm on Saturday and did not have to reconvene until Sunday morning.

On Sunday morning, the group was very lucky to be given a trip around Munich compliments of the City of Munich. Aside from and besides many sites in Munich we were also able to visit one of the summer palaces of the royal family. Our tour provided us with the long and vivid history of Munich and was a great way to see the whole city for the first time. Our afternoon was free that day so many students met up with a group of UC engineers who had been co-oping with BMW for the past 6 months and who were able to give us their own short tour of the city as well as a stop at Englischer Garten, one of the largest beer gardens in Munich.

On Monday we had the privilege to visit the Town Hall, home of the Glockenspiel. We had a presentation on the city and its building of a rich and diverse economic condition. We then were able to enjoy lunch with the Lord Mayor of Munich in the Ratskeller situated directly under the Town Hall building. This lunch proved informative and delicious. The rest of the afternoon was free to the students and due to many of the museums being closed proved to be a perfect day for souvenir shopping and tasting fine German cuisine.

Tuesday was by far our busiest day in Munich. We started early with a very interesting morning visit with...
Siemens learning about the history of the company and how they have continued to be successful by innovating and staying up with the latest technologies. Then, for the afternoon, we took a short train ride to Ingolstadt for a visit with Audi, a luxury car maker. Our visit included a tour of the plant and two very interesting presentations on the differences between their European and American marketing stance and the difference in the two markets. We also learned about the history of Audi and how they came to be what they are today.

Wednesday, our last full day with the group, included a visit to Ernst & Young in the morning with a lesson on being an expat from the US and the basics on what Ernst & Young does as a firm and how they brand themselves to their customers. This was followed up by an afternoon visit with the European Patent Office where we learned the basics on patents and how the European Patent Office successfully created an independent program linking 36 member states in Europe. After all of these visits the group began to break off and go their separate ways. All in all this was a life-changing experience that I know none of us will forget, and Munich was definitely the perfect ending to a wonderful trip.

Trip Wrap-Up  By Drew Smith

As I awoke in the Munich airport at 6:00 am on a bench, I realized that the best five and a half weeks of my life were coming to an end. Waiting for the next 7 hours to get on the plane back to America, I flipped through my journal to jog my memory of the first few weeks that seemed like ages ago.

Remember when we traveled for almost an entire day only to get off the flight in London and head immediately to a company visit? Everyone wanted to go to bed, but a lunch face to face with Paul Polmam, one of the most powerful businessmen in the world, was so exciting that we all had a sudden burst of energy. How about the Finland sauna experience or the night we ate wild boar and reindeer off of a sword? Riding bikes around Geneva, touring the Audi plant in Germany, or singing “Happy Birthday” to Nick Bikas on top of the Eiffel Tower are moments that I will never forget.

The trip was not just all fun and games. Even though we might not admit it, we all learned an incredible amount on this trip. We learned about interacting with all different types of people. By the end of the trip we were able to put our stereotypes and first thoughts aside and learn from people we met in the classroom, at the company visits, or even in the streets of foreign countries. I met so many different types of people to give me a global perspective about culture, communication, and language. We also learned a lot about our classmates and travelling in groups. Any of us can tell you that it is impossible to do everything with 25 people every night. All of those relationships we started freshmen year only grew stronger on our European journey together.

One huge thing that I learned was about my future. Through our company visits we visited and learned about so many different companies and industries from Metsallito (lumber) to Decuenick (PVC piping) to Givaudan (fragrance and flavors) to Audi (automotive) to LPK (branding and marketing).

I am (as well as many other classmates) set in my major but I realized how many different industries there are in the world. Coming off the trip my eyes have been opened to so many career paths and potential industries to dive into.

With our new global perspectives we are all excited to get back to co-op and the classroom with a new outlook on life and the business world. We are planning to share our new ideas and perspectives with other classmates, companies, and even professors. The summer trip was honestly the best time in my life and will follow me and aid me in all my future endeavors. I know I can speak for all of my classmates when I say that we are all looking into more international trips through UC and can’t wait to conquer the world!
Items of Interest

Zach Chaney, Class of 2009. For my Business Strategy class, I participated in an online business simulation, Glo-Bus, in a team with other UC students. This quarter, there were 436 teams in 39 countries around the world participating in the Glo-Bus simulation. Our team consistently improved our overall performance over 8 weeks (performance analyzed weekly), moving from the top 100 list to the top 50 to the top 25, eventually tying for 1st worldwide in overall performance. Another UC team also tied for 1st place. Additionally, our team ranked 10th in earnings per share, 22nd in return on equity, and 6th in stock price, effectively putting our team on the top 25 list in each performance benchmark for the simulation.

Dan Cremons, Class of 2009, was honored in May with both Entrepreneurship Student of the Year and College of Business Outstanding Student of the Year. In addition, Dan’s team placed first in the UC College of Business Undergraduate Venture Plan competition. He was also the runner up for the Mr. Bearcat Award.

Ryan Rosensweig, Class of 2009, won the 2009 Presidential Leadership Award.

Kyle Dragan, Class of 2009, won the 2009 Top Cat Scholar of the Year.

Stephanie Wenning, Class of 2011, got engaged when she got back from the Lindner Honors-PLUS international trip to Kyle Silver. He is a police officer in her hometown.

The date for the wedding is Oct. 1, 2011!

Janelle Wichmann, Class of 2013, was chosen as the undergraduate student representative for the UC Presidential Search Committee.

Brad Stephens, Class of 2010, was voted president of Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK).

Alex Hotte, Class of 2010, was voted vice-president of ODK.

Evan Clinkenbeard, Class of 2010, was voted treasurer of ODK.

Rosie Meyer, Class of 2010, was voted secretary of ODK.

Stephanie Wenning, Class of 2011, Ryan Rosensweig, Class of 2009, Leif Edgar, Class of 2010, were tapped into Cincinnatus.

Kat Crumley, Class of 2010 and Mandi Martini, Class of 2009, were tapped into CWEST.

Ryan Rosensweig, Class of 2009, was tapped into Men of Metro.

Drew Smith, Class of 2011, Brad Stephens, Class of 2010, and Kyle Snider, Class of 2010, were tapped into Sigma Sigma.

BJ (McGee) Hayden, Class of 2002, and her husband Taylor, announce the birth of their daughter, Aspen Symone Hayden. She was born on July 15, 2009 weighing in at 8lbs 2 oz and 20 inches long.
**Alumni News, cont.**

**Kevin Perkins.** Class of 2009, and Muriel were married on August 1, 2009. They were married in the chapel of Nazareth All in Grand Rapids, OH. So many of his fellow Honors-PLUS students were in attendance that they took this great group photo to remember the occasion.

**Ashley Cannon.** Class of 2005, got engaged to Kevin Copley, in Paris under the lights on the Eiffel Tower, on July 24th. Ashley was working in the UK for Medpace and Kevin came over for the weekend and met her in Paris. She was very surprised by the time he proposed as he did his best to convince her it wasn’t going to happen….even taking her to Cartier that day to look at rings and pretending he had no idea what she wanted. I understand the proposal itself was very romantic! They are getting married on October 2, 2010 in Cincinnati at the Hall of Mirrors in the Hilton Netherland Plaza.

**Jessica Kinnemeyer.** Class of 2006, was married to Dominic Iacobucci on Sept. 26, 2009. Dominic also a UC student, graduated with his bachelors and masters in architecture from DAAP. The ceremony was held in Clifton at St. Monica-St. George church. Unfortunately they missed the “white-out” football game against Fresno State, but they were able to take some photos on campus after the game ended. **Anna Godby and Christina Wagner,** both Class of 2001, were bridesmaids.

**Taylor Morgan.** Class of 2008, was accepted into the Teachers Education Apprenticeship Master’s Adolescent/Young Adult Program, (TEAM-AYA) at the College of Mount St. Joseph. He is studying to become a future 7-12 grade math teacher. School started for him in May.

**Carly Weiler.** Class of 2008, recently got engaged to Kurt Wellhausen. Their wedding date is set for Jan. 23, 2010 in Greenville SC. Carly currently works for GE Aviation in the OM Leadership Program, and Kurt is an Air Battle Manager with the US Air Force.

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