

Welcome to our newsletter

It is with great excitement that we welcome you to **ACE Your Life**, a newsletter for ACE alumni, current students, and friends of the program. Twice a year we will bring you ACE news, as well as spotlights of individuals and events of interest.

This academic year has seen many developments, including the growth of the ACE Alumni Network and the completion of the new business building, Lucas Hall.

On a low note, we are saddened by the loss of our leader **Tyzoon Tyebjee**. In his memory, the ACE Program continues to educate students with the energy, passion, and commitment that Tyzoon brought to the program.

We are thrilled by the energy around the ACE Alumni Network and appreciate the hard work and effort of our new Leadership Development Fellow, **Tonja Brown**, who has started the program. The network's mission is to serve ACE alumni by providing educational, professional and social opportunities to connect alumni with one another and to the ACE

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Marking an ACE Milestone

***Editor's note:** Shortly after writing the article below, Tyzoon Tyebjee lost his long battle with pulmonary fibrosis. SCU faculty, students, and alumni have lost a great colleague, friend, and mentor. If you would like to send a note of condolence to Tyzoon's family, please send them c/o the Undergraduate Office and we will forward them on to his family.*

This newsletter marks an important new milestone in the evolution of the ACE program.

Though our ACE alumni have always been in our thoughts and we have had ad hoc contact with several of them, we have neglected our alums in our overall program design. With this newsletter, and some upcoming events, we strive to weave our alums back into the fabric of the ACE program.

The ACE program was established a decade ago under the leadership of Dean Barry Posner, Jo-Anne Shibles and myself. Its objective was to attract high potential students to SCU.

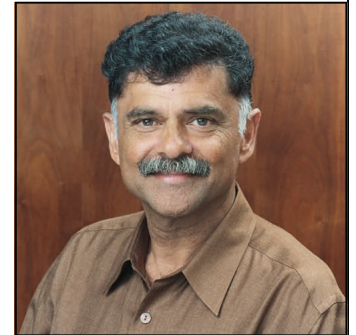
Happily, our track record demonstrates that we have met this objective.

The ACE students maintain high academic achievement. The 2008 graduating ACE class will leave us with an average

cumulative GPA of 3.7! Many of the ACE students are also Leavey Scholars in the business school's honors program. ACEs also frequently double major or have multiple minors.

But the ACE program is about more than academics. It is also about personal development.

Each entering ACE class takes a leadership class as a team. During spring of the freshmen year, students spend a day participating on a ropes course, where personal success is connected with



Continuous improvement is one of the cornerstones of the ACE Program. We keep and improve what works: the ice breakers (smile), the buddy program, the ropes course, the community service by sophomores, and the summer internship for juniors. Over the years, we have also added new pieces: a company tours/shadowing program, visits to local companies and museums, an optional mentoring program where business execs volunteer their guidance to interested ACE students, and an annual graduation celebration.

A new facet to the annual Business Partners Meeting is that the company tables are staffed by ACE alums who now work at these companies.

There have also been some changes in the program's administration.

Jo-Anne Shibles is now Assistant Dean and

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Continuous improvement is one of the cornerstones of the ACE Program.

developing personal bonds and learning to trust others.

During the reflections sessions each summer, ACE interns share their leadership accomplishments on the job. The Santa Clara Leadership Lecture series and opportunities to dine with these speakers, bring students face-to-face with inspiring role models.

In this issue of *ACE Your Life*, you will find tales of leadership by our ACE students and learn more about our new alumni.

Senior ACE puts principles into practice



The first time Kyle Ozawa experienced an SCU “immersion trip,” he spent a couple of days and nights in San Francisco’s Tenderloin.

Not exactly a glamorous weekend, but it was enough to hook Ozawa, who grew up in upscale Los Gatos, on the concept of learning about other people by living with them.

Since then, he’s been on eight immersion trips sponsored by SCU’s Ignatian Center.

It was during a trip to El Salvador in 2006, that Ozawa noticed that he was one of only a few business students involved in the trip, and that was too bad because he was getting a new view of economic policies he’d studied in business classes.

“I knew in theory what free trade agreements are supposed to do in terms of improving the economies of developing countries,” he said. In El Salvador, he witnessed some negative impacts of the change.

“I saw that most of the people who liked the free trade agreement tended to be well off, while the poor were affected in a negative way. You wouldn’t be able to get that from a text-

book.”

So Ozawa put together his ACE program leadership experiences at SCU to organize – with his friend Sam Baker -- the business school’s first ever Business Immersion Program for 13 students during 2008 spring break.

“As a senior, I would describe the ACE program as providing amazing resources in terms of my peers in the program, faculty and staff,” he said.

He and Baker used those resources to craft the program with Prof. John Toppel. Participants attended a winter quarter lecture series at SCU, as well as in-country meetings with political and business leaders. However, the students also spent time in a village where part of their trip fee was invested in a micro-loan to local farmers to build an irrigation system.

“My understanding of reality could be completely skewed from only seeing the top echelon of society. In El Salvador, we saw the people who benefited from our micro-loan. We saw how proud they were. It was an educational experience you can’t have in a classroom.”

Today, his post-graduation plans include traveling in Southeast Asia and Australia before beginning work as an Online Operations Associate at Google in August. He’s especially interested in exploring—either on the side or as a career—work in “green technology or marketing in philanthropy. ♠

—Sandra Burnett

ACE In ACTION

Jackie Rogowski, '03, is living in Colorado and working for Google as an Associate Account Manager in Google Media Sales. She returned to SCU to attend her 5-year reunion this May.

Stefani Tobin, '05, is newly engaged and hanging up her green visor after 2.5 years with Ernst & Young, LLP to pursue an MFA in Photography at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco.

Leah Verhoeven, '05, has turned her summer ACE internship into a role as a Program Manager in the Learning Services group at Cadence Design Systems.

Exciting life changes? Email UGBPrograms@scu.edu with any information you would like to share in an upcoming issue of *ACE Your Life*. ♠

ACE Alumni Network Get-Together Recap

On May 15, the ACE Alumni Network hosted its first gathering, meeting in the enjoyable surroundings of Fiorillo’s Restaurant.

On the hottest day of the year thus far, 32 alumni, Class of 2008 ACEs, guests, and program leaders braved the 100 degree heat to enjoy each other’s company over tasty appetizers and plenty of air conditioning.

A short program included words from **Dean Barry Posner**, **Jo-Anne Shibles**, **Tonja Brown**, and the Leavey School of

Business’ Alumni Director, **Leanna Christie**.

Old friends reconnected and new relationships were formed between the various ACE cohort years.

Alumni representing the classes of 2003-2008

attended, though we did miss seeing those from the 2000-2002 cohorts.

Our next event will occur in the fall so look for details coming in the next months.

If you did not hear about

the recent event this means we have outdated contact information.

See page 4 for information on where to send your updates. ♠

If you missed receiving an invitation to the event, it means we have outdated contact information for you!

An ACE student reflects on El Salvador's present and future



Today I stand at a crossroads. I wonder, how do I, as an individual, and as a business student, stay true to my values and still pursue global change when the challenges that face our world seem insurmountable?

Upon leaving for El Salvador, of course I had been told of the power of the Salvadoran people, but never once did I imagine that their compassion and

generosity would reassure me of the importance of business.

It was there in a small village in El Salvador that I experienced hope in its purist form. Hope for a greater acceptance of love, hope for improved infrastructure, hope for the revival of the entrepreneurial spirit without the threat of corruption, and hope for sustainable change.

Without saying a word,

the community members of Santa Maria de la Esperanza reassured me of my own voice and the ability of that voice to bring about change.

Having returned from El Salvador, I am left with the overwhelming memory of a smile, the smile of a boy no older than 14, a smile so true it can bring you to tears while simultaneously causing a laughter so deep it can not be described.

It is a smile of hope and love; it is a smile that reminds me of the pure compassion of children in the face of adversity. I am humbled by this child, as he reminds me just how much generosity and love we too have the ability to give. In the words of Dean Brackley of the University of Central America in San Salvador, "the Salvadorans have lovingly mended my heart and given it back to me, albeit with scars – painful reminders forever part of my heart, of the Savior's (El Salvador's) people."

My own heart has been broken and mended by the Salvadoran people, but the scars serve as a constant reminder that we must continue to challenge what is placed before us, to love unconditionally, and to never become complacent.



Lauren Rossi is a marketing major with a studio art minor, and will graduate in June

Congratulations to the Graduating ACE Class of 2008!

We are proud of the accomplishments of this year's class of ACE students. During their time at SCU, the Class of 2008 maintained an average 3.71 GPA, the highest yet of any ACE cohort.

After graduation, our grads will travel and begin their careers. Among the destinations, both geographic and vocational, include Europe, and Argentina and Costa Rica (where one of our former students will be teaching English), Deloitte and Touche, Ernst and Young, Frank Rimerman and Co., Google, Grant Thornton, Novellus, Price Waterhouse Coopers, and Teach For America, among others. We wish you all the best in your endeavors!



ACE seniors celebrate four years of rewarding work and fun

Congratulations to:

Jared Abercrombie
Mark Almassy
Colette Barnes
Travis Black

Will Cahill
Stephanie Chun
Malley Driscoll-Luttringer
Christopher Foster
Christian Gagel

Travis Heim
Derek Kato
Scott Kirk
Judy Kuo
Stephanie Metzger
Brendan Mulholland
Kyle Ozawa
Kaylie Pezzuto
Lauren Rossi
Lauren Russi
Marcus Sarmento
Dan Shinstrom
Christopher Stewart
Michael Teschke
Catherine Waite

Welcome

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Program in the Leavey School of Business.

In order to establish the network, join **inCircle**, Santa Clara's in-house social networking site for alumni.

This secure site unites graduates with their friends, affinity groups, and the university. The ACE Program has its own inCircle group, **ACE Program, Business School**. This group will unify our efforts and be the main platform to post current events, jobs, and networking opportunities.

Currently we are looking for alumni to provide feedback about their needs for the Alumni Network via this group. (To learn how to join inCircle, see accompanying article on this page.)

As the school year comes to a close and the roses burst out in full bloom we look forward to a relaxing and rejuvenating summer in our new home, Lucas Hall. If you have some time, come visit us in the

Undergraduate Business Programs Office, located on the first floor of the new building. We would love to see you and give you a tour!

Enjoy reading the rest of *ACE Your Life*. Please send any comments, suggestions or story ideas to UGBPrograms@scu.edu.

Jo-Anne Shibles
Brenda Versteeg
Tonja Brown

Contact Us and inCircle

Updates to your contact information? Send us your address, phone, job, or life changes to UGBPrograms@scu.edu.

**ACE Alumni and Class of 2008**

Join inCircle, Santa Clara's online networking tool.

To connect follow these four easy steps:

1. Point your web browser to www.scu.edu/incircle.
2. You will need an Alumni ID # to register. To obtain your number, email alumupdate@scu.edu or call 408-554-6800.
3. Once you have your ID #, enter this information on the main login page, set up your account, and create your profile.
4. Add the group, **ACE Program, Business School**, to your profile.

inCircle will be the main location for the **ACE Alumni Network**. Through the group we will advertise upcoming events, post jobs, host discussion threads, and work to best connect you with other ACE alumni.

ACE Milestone

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though she continues to be a driving force in the program, and keeps me on the straight and narrow, her wider responsibilities have required her to step back from day-to-day involvement in the program.

This gap is now ably filled by Brenda Versteeg. Brenda recently completed her MBA at SCU and teaches some of the leadership course sections. Her good cheer, optimistic outlook and

professionalism serve well the program, the students and me.

Tonja Brown, who is our Leadership Development Fellow, has been overseeing our alumni outreach. She has convened ACE alums at breakfast meetings to generate ideas about how we can better serve them.

ACE Alums, we hear you. This newsletter brings you a touch of nostalgia and our future plans for you. Read on, and welcome home. ♠

About ACE Your Life

ACE Your Life is published twice yearly for ACE students, alumni, and friends. Contact Tonja Brown in the Undergraduate Office for more information.

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