Princeton in Latin America Fellows, 2006-07

Christina Gamba ’07

InsightArgentina – Buenos Aires, Argentina

An English major with a certificate in Creative Writing, Christina will work for Por Los Chicos in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She plans to pursue a career in medicine and spent the summer of 2005 organizing an art program for pediatric hospital patients with funding from the Martin Dale Summer Award.

Daniella Gitlin ’06

Poder Ciudadano – Buenos Aires, Argentina

At Princeton, Daniella has pursued a Comparative Literature degree with a certificate in Russian Language and Literature. Throughout her four years, however, she has found herself veering towards Religion, Philosophy, Politics, and Social Science classes more than anything else. During her sophomore year, Daniella joined the Student Volunteers Council as a break-trip coordinator, and was elected to the SVC Executive Board the following year. During her sophomore and junior years, Daniella co-hosted the Professor Show on WPRB, the Princeton Radio station. For the past two summers, she has studied abroad in Saint Petersburg, Russia, and Buenos Aires, Argentina. Her love — both of language and of working with people — is what ties her many interests together. She hopes that her PiLA fellowship will help to guide her in what she does next, though that step will undoubtedly involve continuing her education in some way.
Brian Hedden ’06

Seeds of Learning – Ciudad Dario, Nicaragua

A native of Northern Virginia, Brian Hedden will work for Seeds of Learning, an educational non-profit in Dario, Nicaragua. At Princeton, he majored in Philosophy while also studying linguistics, a variety of foreign languages, and Latin American literature (for which he won the Premio Angel Ramo in 2004). These interests are tied together by his fascination with language and languages. In the summer of 2005, Brian studied Quechua in Peru and traveled throughout South America. After his year in Nicaragua, he plans to either work in the non-profit sector or attend graduate school in philosophy.

Jamie Loxton ’06

Human Rights Watch – Santiago, Chile

James Loxton is a Politics major from British Columbia, Canada. In the past four years, his interest in Latin America has taken him to Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Bolivia. He has a strong interest in human rights promotion, economic development, and social justice issues. After completing his PiLA fellowship, he hopes to attend graduate school and study either political theory or public policy.

Michelle Parris ’04

Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress – San Jose, Costa Rica

A native of New York City, Michelle graduated with a degree in History and a Certificate in African American Studies. As an undergraduate, she was captain of the Women’s Openweight Crew Team and earned All-Ivy and All-American honors. Since graduation, Michelle has been working as a litigation legal assistant at Davis Polk & Wardwell, participating in various pro bono projects, including Department of Education mentoring and research on improving indigent defense in
New York City. She is looking forward to learning about Central American politics and investigating international law, demilitarization, and economic development through work at the Arias Foundation in San Jose, Costa Rica. She plans to attend law school after her PiLA fellowship.

**Sarah Peterson WWS *07**

**Pan American Health Organization – Mexico City, Mexico**

As an undergraduate at Whitman College, Sarah spent time abroad studying in the universities of Buenos Aires, volunteering with a rural community development organization in Nicaragua, interning at a hospital in the Philippines, and conducting research on the war on drugs in Quito, Ecuador. After receiving her BA in Environmental Studies and Politics in 2001, she turned her attention to environmental issues closer to home. Prior to beginning her graduate studies at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton, she spent three years at Northwest SEED, a new nonprofit promoting renewable energy in the region's rural communities, where she dabbled in everything from fundraising to energy policy, most recently serving as Director of Project Development. In addition to her work at Northwest SEED, Sarah also stayed busy coordinating an exchange program to teach international students about local environmental issues. After a year at WWS, she is spending the summer as a PiLA fellow interning with the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization in Mexico City. She looks forward to putting her WWS education to work in future endeavors to promote environmental and public health.

**Sarah Schaffer ’06**

**IMIFAP – Mexico City, Mexico**

A native Marylander, Sarah majored in the Woodrow Wilson School, and earned certificates in Spanish and Latin American Studies. During the summers of her freshman and sophomore years, Sarah traveled to the Dominican Republic, where she taught English to children in an orphanage, which sparked her interest in Latin America. The summer following her junior year, she interned with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), for which she drafted a funding proposal for activities targeting Colombian refugee women in Ecuador. Sarah based her senior thesis on the research she conducted for UNHCR to evaluate the agency’s partnerships targeting Colombian refugee women in Ecuador. After PiLA, Sarah aspires to study and develop a career in
Renata Stepanov ’06

Santiago Times – Santiago, Chile

A native of Highland Park, New Jersey, Renata is excited to put her ‘Prince’ skills to use at the Santiago Times. While working her way up from a staff writer to a news editor at the Daily Princetonian, she has studied American and international politics and will receive a certificate in political theory. Renata spent her first summer out of Princeton in St. Petersburg, Russia, her second in Paris, and traveled to Budapest before her senior year to conduct thesis research on human trafficking. Her future plans include some combination of journalism, law, public policy, and world travel. Upon returning from Santiago she will work for the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office.