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## How I Spent My Summer

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# How I Spent My Summer

10/31/2016



## Adventure in Asia

Last summer, I had the opportunity to visit businesses and learn about culture in Vietnam, Thailand, and China with the Global Learning Experiences Program at the Huntsman School of Business. This experience has been the highlight of my college experience. This amazing experience provided me with an opportunity to expand and strengthen my own perspective, and helped me one to understand and better analyze global business issues in a broader perspective. Moreover, the cultural experience helped me, as a student, and a future worker, to think objectively about myself, tolerate differences, and recognize and appreciate diversity.

Spending extensive time abroad gave me a new perspective through which I was able to challenge myself both personally and academically. Getting out of my comfort zone opened my eyes up to the countless new options and ideas. These experiences have better prepared me for my last year at Utah State and for the work force. I gained skills and experiences to that have made me more open-minded, tolerant, and considerate of others, I have broadened my network, and I have formed lifetime friendships with members of my group.

Ruby Parkin Earl is graduating with a BA in Marketing in Spring 2017.



## Teaching and Learning in the Philippines





Not many people can say they had the chance to work with their spouse in a foreign country for three months, but we did just that through the SEED program at USU. My wife and I have very different backgrounds—she studied vocal performance and I studied finance and economics—and that worked to our advantage in the Philippines. We connected with our clients in different ways and worked with them to achieve their personal and business goals.

We taught basic business principles to our clients and one of our most gratifying, memorable experiences happened after teaching a small restaurant owner about recording income and expenses. When we met the following week, he had faithfully tracked both categories for the entire week! He was excited by all the insights he gained through tracking and recording information about his business. We watched his business begin to grow and mature as he applied the principles he learned.

My wife shared her musical talents through both presentation and performance. She inspired groups of youth in Pasig to keep learning and to achieve the goals they set for themselves. She even worked with a local choir and instilled confidence that they could better their lives and to lift the lives of those around them.

We are grateful to the Jeffrey D. Clark Center for Entrepreneurship, the SEED program, and the Huntsman School of Business for the amazing opportunity we had to spend a summer in the Philippines. We loved working with local entrepreneurs and go-get-em youth. We will never forget the people we worked with, the memories we made, and the things we learned. Go Aggies!!!!

*In May, Seth and Kimberly Muhlestein graduated with their bachelor's degrees. Seth is pursuing his Master of Science in Financial Economics degree in the Huntsman School and Kimberly is a Faculty Associate in the Caine College of Arts Music Department.*