

THE SYDNEY Shout!

SEMESTER
BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SYDNEY PROGRAMS
1 '07

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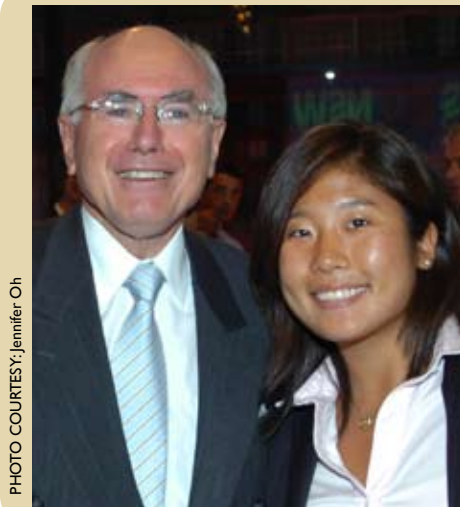


PHOTO COURTESY: Jennifer Oh

RUBBING ELBOWS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER

Boston University's Jennifer Oh completed her junior year with an internship that led to her meeting Australian Prime Minister John Howard, twice! The Hawaiian native worked on the political campaigns for Liberal party members during the Sydney Internship Program.

Full Story on PAGE 5

IN THE PAGES OF ROLLING STONE

by Ashley Mateo

I'm late. I'm somewhere in Redfern – an area my bosses warned me about – and after what seems like forever, I see the sign for the Dolphin Hotel. A minute later I walk in, trying to look nonchalant. The band I'm supposed to interview sits in a booth to the side and I walk over to them, striving for professionalism as I extend my hand. "Hi," I say. "I'm Ashley, from Rolling Stone."

I came to Australia with the intention of interning at a publication where I could build up my portfolio. When

people suggested I intern at *Rolling Stone* [Australia], I thought long and hard about it, fearing I would end up making coffee and fact-checking for two long months. Eventually, however, the weight of the name won out.

Rolling Stone [Australia] is a direct offshoot of the flag-ship edition in New York City, with only fifty percent of its content focusing on the Australian music scene. The offices are a far cry from what you would imagine the offices of a major magazine would look like – no movie stars drop by for photo shoots, no **CONT. PAGE 2**

AUSTRALIA'S "ISLA DE MUERTA"

by David Freeman

At first glance, Melbourne, Victoria (pronounced "MEL-bin" – you'll get funny looks if you pronounce it otherwise) appears to be quite an accessible city. Its user-friendly design – supplemented by an exceptional public transportation system – makes Melbourne seem like a city that takes little effort to really understand. It just feels, in a word, easy. The curious thing – which quickly turns from curious to fascinating – is that even the slightest deviation from Melbourne's central streets reveals an entirely different world. Ask any Melburnian for the best bar, café or shop and they'll be sure to point you in the direction of one of Melbourne's famous laneways. The laneways are compact alleys that run between the city's major streets packed with shops and eateries. It is within these lanes that the hidden Melbourne culture thrives, the world that Melbourne hides from the casual observer.

Many of Melbourne's laneways are lined with cafes and shops, while others are significantly less welcoming. Croft Lane, for instance, is tucked away in Chinatown, entirely invisible from any of the main streets. At night, it presents

as the absolute scariest, darkest, potentially deadly alley on the planet. Trash bags and dumpsters line the graffiti-adorned walls. The olfactory presence is indescribable, other than to say that it is most certainly the smell of someone's week-old everything. A single bulb flickers on and off about halfway down the alley. If it existed anywhere in the United States, this is an alley that no one in their right mind would ever dream of venturing down. **CONT. PAGE 2**



Degraves is just one of the many laneways that students were able to explore during the semester's group trip to Melbourne. **PHOTO: Cal Hawk**

PAGES OF ROLLING STONE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

musicians play spontaneous sets in the conference room. Instead, a bunch of aging hipsters work quietly at their computers with headphones permanently covering their ears. The staff at the Australian edition consists of a three-person editorial board and an editorial intern – me.

Working at *Rolling Stone* [Australia] was more of an opportunity and challenge than I had imagined. At the beginning, I agonized over whether I had made a mistake, having been drawn in by the magazine's reputation. I spent most of my time transcribing interviews and editing copy. Through that, however, I found a flourishing music scene: Wolfmother, Jet, Expatriate, Silverchair, Sneaky Sound System – all of these bands rocked just as hard as the American and British bands filling my iPod. As the May issue went to press, the deputy editor decided to send me to

“when you know your article is going to appear next to that of Rolling Stone veteran writers, it's a real incentive to work harder.”

ISLA DE MUERTA

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

What, then, compelled my friends and I into such an environment? Well, we'd heard there was a really cool, quirky bar at its end called the “Croft Institute.” Designed to resemble an old science laboratory, with various types of vintage lab equipment and paraphernalia adorning the walls, “Croft” was supposed to be a must-see. Sure enough there was a dimly-lit, little sign above two large metal doors at the very end of the alley, which was altogether unreadable from any further than five feet away. “Croft Institute.” Unfortunately – because I sought it out late on a Monday and Tuesday night, the bar was closed both times I attempted to go.

“down at the end of a suspect, memorably pungent alley – there it lies.”

For me, that's kind of a moot point. The fascinating thing to me is that a place like the “Croft Institute” actually exists. It's not advertised anywhere, there is no signage out front or anywhere on the street, and yet – down at the end of a suspect, memorably pungent alley – there it lies.

For reasons you've hopefully gleaned from this short description, I've taken to thinking of Melbourne as Australia's “Isla de Muerta”: a kind of oasis that you can only really get to if you already know where to look. (If you haven't seen *Pirates of the Caribbean*, kindly accept my assurance that the analogy is entirely brilliant and spot-on). If

an interview with Sydney-based pop-rock outfit the Cops. The only problem – he decided this an hour before the interview. I had an hour to research a band I'd never heard of and come up with a list of questions that weren't too generic for a band that had already dealt with the press all day. I wanted to say no, but then I realized the absurdity of turning down a feature story for *Rolling Stone* that's now published in the June issue.

After writing the Cops article, my assignments increased in importance. I started with reviews and news briefs. At the Dropkick Murphys concert – I simply said “I'm from *Rolling Stone*” and I had free tickets and backstage passes. I interviewed the mother of deceased singer/songwriter Jeff Buckley to commemorate the tenth anniversary of his death. I also interviewed Tom Morello, the former guitarist of Rage Against the Machine and Audioslave, two bands that achieved international fame. I was surprised by the

you really want to get at the heart of Melbourne, to understand its incredibly prideful people and unique culture, you have to know that it's there and know where to search. A genuine knowledge of the city is reserved for those travelers who are determined enough to learn about and earnestly explore the city's laneways, like Croft Lane.

Melbourne, Australia, then, is not a city to be approached directly, or with significant ease. It is a city that is best understood through a different avenue; an avenue off to the side and hidden from view, that is as likely to end in a trendy bar as it is an over-filled dumpster.

David Freeman is entering his Senior year at Boston University's School of Education.

ease with which the editors assigned these interviews to me. Apparently, they trusted my abilities enough to give me significant page space within the magazine.

In two months at *Rolling Stone*, I learned more about the journalism industry than two and a half years at BU. One of the most important things I'm taking away from my internship is not the clips that now bolster my portfolio, it's the faith I gained in my own writing. I pushed myself to make my writing unique and cohesive – when you know your article is going to appear next to that of *Rolling Stone* veteran writers, it's a real incentive to work harder. What I've learned at *Rolling Stone* is that music is a passion, but writing is a skill – a skill, while somewhat intrinsic, that must be challenged and perfected. When you see your name in print, next to words you really believe in, you can't help but feel a distinct sense of pride.

Ashley Mateo is going into her senior year at Boston University's College of Communication as a Journalism Major.



SEMESTER STATS

Sydney Internship Students:	109
SMG Program Students:	5
Schools/Universities Represented by Students this Semester:	17
Staff / Faculty Total:	17
Total Years Running:	15
Total Students Attended Sydney Programs to Date:	2,424



Eddie Silvera

Brandeis '08
American Studies

Favourite Aussie Slang: "Reckon"

TOP 3

- Symphony in the Park
- Charity Dinner at Parliament House
"My internship hosted the Champions of Sport dinner at Parliament House. After partying like a kid in Australia, I got to see the corporate side."
- BBQ's on the roof of Unilodge

Parting Thought: "Going to miss being new to an environment. Always sort of an adventure that way."



Molly Parr

BU '08
Communication

Favourite Aussie Slang: "How ya going?"

TOP 3

- Taronga Zoo
- Sydney Dance Company Classes
"Take hip-hop classes at the Sydney Dance Company!"
- Surf Camp

Parting Thought: "I decided I'm getting married on the rocks at Coogee. You're all invited!"



Lauren Wolfe

BU '08
Exercise Science

Favourite Aussie Slang: "Heaps"

TOP 3

- Rafting on the Tully River
*"I fell out at a rapid and lost my shorts and shoe!"
(no worries, both were recovered)*
- V-fest at Centennial Park
- Friend's wedding on a glass barge in Darling Harbour

Advice: "Go to an Australian BBQ because they make a mean Kangaroo."



Zach Flanagan-Frankl

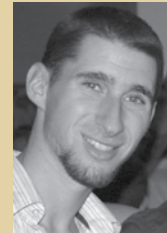
BU '08
Economics

Favourite Aussie Slang: "Too Easy!"

TOP 3

- East Coast Blues & Roots Festival
"The Blues Festival was incredible. I definitely recommend the live music here."
- Canyoning down Empress Falls
- Sandboarding

Advice: "No matter what you think, you never have enough time to do everything!"



Brian Forte

BU '08
Advertising

Favourite Aussie Slang: "No Worries"

TOP 3

- Seeing the Opera house the 1st time
- The 75th Anniversary Harbour Bridgewalk
"We decided we're going to come back in 25 years and do the 100 year anniversary."
- Scuba on the Great Barrier Reef

Parting thought: "I'm going to miss the beaches. 'Cause the beaches in Connecticut? ...Not so much."



Michelle Forelle

BU '08
Film

Favourite Aussie Slang: "Hey (at the end of sentences)"

TOP 3

- Cape Tribulation
- Purple Sneakers @The Abercombie Hotel
- Bondi to Coogee walk
"I remember being by myself with this gorgeous view!"

Advice: "Melbourne I loved! Take advantage of it!"

PHOTO CONTEST WINNER!

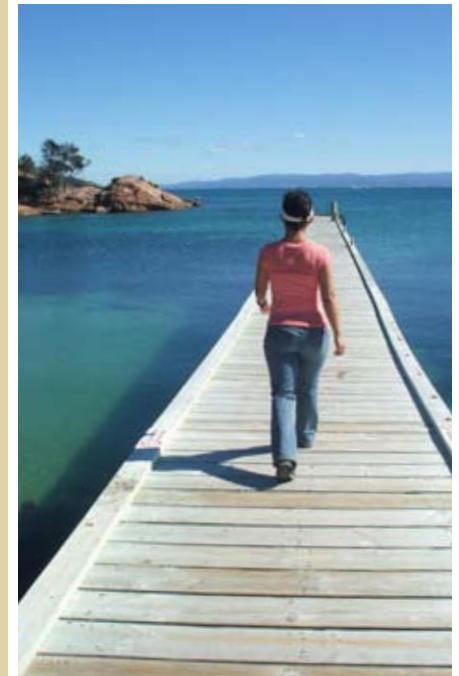


PHOTO: Julia Ong

Julia Ong won this season's photo contest held every semester and awarded to the submission that visually captures some portion of the Australian experience. (Runners Up Below)

PHOTO CONTEST RUNNERS UP



Rebecca Brand



Vivian Ng



Cathy He



Farah Baxter



Jean Bentley

DREAMING WITH QANTAS

by Michael Cowen



I write this article as I fly on one of Qantas's Boeing 737-800 aircraft to Uluru, better known as Ayers Rock, in the middle of the Outback. Two months ago I began an internship with Qantas Airways Ltd. Since then I have made three business trips around Australia working on Indigenous employment and community initiatives.

The Qantas CEO promised to double the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people employed at Qantas by the year's end. He also committed to support Indigenous communities through various company-sponsored initiatives. Qantas agreed to fly Indigenous and non-Indigenous people on a plane painted in Aboriginal art—the Yananyi Dreaming—to the country's capitol, Canberra, for the 40th anniversary of a referendum vote allowing Indigenous people to be counted in the national census for the first time. Qantas CEO Geoff Dixon and Australia's Prime Minister John Howard would attend the commemorative events in support of Indigenous issues. This became my internship project.

My first week on the job involved a briefing of the project and a list of the people I would need to work with throughout the country to make it all happen. The next few weeks I was on the phone with people, writing e-mails requesting an Indigenous pilot and cabin crew, booking 90 seats on a single flight and meeting Olympic gold medalist Cathy

Freeman. My group general manager directed me to employ a contracted company to help plan the entertainment and media relations surrounding the arrival of the Yananyi Dreaming in Canberra. One e-mail later, we had a didgeridoo player and Indigenous dancers—appropriate colour and movement as my manager called it—scheduled to greet the guests on our plane in Canberra.



Michael w/ Cathy Freeman

My internship supervisor and project manager provided me with excellent guidance and confidence to carry out the project. The barriers that kept me from performing well at previous internships dissolved with her mentorship. She was not in the office everyday, so I could not use her as a crutch when I felt incapable of doing a job. I did what I knew to and tried to have something to show for it when she was back in the office. Building a network of support from colleagues in the company resulted in positive outcomes every week.

This was an internship where I really contributed to the company and my work affected a culturally significant event in Australia. The success of my internship had mostly to do with the amazing team of professionals I worked with, but it also had to do with the way I approached the internship on a daily basis. One reason I got to sink my teeth into this project was because I raised my hand and asked, "May I do that?" When

action items were being delegated in our periodic debriefing meetings, I volunteered to do the things I felt I could handle. My coworkers were delighted that I was taking work off their plates.

The opportunities I had to work with Australian professionals provided insight into the greater Australian society and its dynamic culture. That immersion into Australia's way of life and way of doing business coupled with exposure to the inner workings of a major corporation resulted in a unique and valuable experience to remember the rest of my life.

The wonderful, heartfelt people at Qantas celebrated my internship experience and the work I did on the Yananyi Dreaming project by sending me to the Outback to experience one of the most sacred, spiritual sites on Earth—Uluru. When my colleague and I arrived at the Sydney airport to catch our flight, we were to fly on none other than the Yananyi Dreaming.



at Uluru or Ayer's Rock

Michael Cowen was the first student with the Boston University Sydney Internship Program to work with Qantas. Michael graduates this May with a degree in Public Relations from Loyola University.



by Jo-Anne Duhamel

For my Spring Break I took the Indian Pacific Railroad across the country to Perth, the capital of Western Australia. I had read about the trip in Bill Bryson's book *In a Sunburnt Country*, and it sounded like a good way to see and experience the Outback and the other side of the country.

The three day train ride makes four stops on the way to Perth: Broken Hill, a silver-mining town where two of the Mission Impossible films were shot; Adelaide, the capital of South Australia; Cook, an abandoned Outback town; and Kalgoorlie, a gold-mining town with a huge gold pit. At each stop you can purchase tickets to go on one-hour tours of the place, which I recommend since if you don't you will either have to look around on your own with no idea what to see, or you will wait at the train station. The rest of the time you are just traveling on the train, so bring a lot to read, a good music player or just take long relaxing naps.

Perth was a great city, not as big or loud as Sydney but with a lot of nice restaurants, great shopping and plenty to do and see. I went to Hay Street to the huge shopping complex of Carillon City Mall, where down every little street there is a separate shopping center, above and below ground, with something for everyone. Another highlight was Kings Park, with an enormous collection of indigenous plants. A great place to walk, relax and it has some of the best views of the city and the Swan River. I took a cruise down the Swan River and saw other parts of the city and a little bit of nature. Another great day is a wine-tasting river tour. There are a lot of tours to wineries along the Swan River or to the Margaret River Valley, a couple of hours outside of Perth and home of many famous Australian wines. In Perth there is also a nice zoo, an art museum with a lot of modern and Aboriginal pieces and a weekend market. This is a trip probably one or two people in the program will make, so you will be seeing something no one else will.

Jo-Anne Duhamel is entering her senior year as a journalism major at Boston University.

PRIME INTERNSHIP TIME

by Jennifer Oh

My internship experience at Dr. Brendan Nelson's electorate office has been both an incredible educational and cultural experience. As a foreigner, I was exposed to a lot of unique opportunities that I would have never experienced in my own country. During the seven weeks of my internship experience, I have had the privilege to attend exclusive Liberal Party events and meet influential Australians. It was at these functions, I met the Prime Minister of Australia, John Howard.

I first met the PM at the Millennium Forum Luncheon, a Liberal Party fundraiser for the elections in New South Wales. I was very fortunate to attend this event

because tickets were \$1000 per seat. Another intern and I introduced ourselves as American interns and the Prime Minister seemed very fond of Americans and very aware of politics in the United States. He asked us which state we were from and welcomed us to Australia.

I then met the PM at the NSW Liberals' election after-party. The Prime Minister made a surprise visit to show his support for the Liberal party by walking around and meeting supporters. The PM did not remember me from the first time and assumed that I was an Australian. He asked me which electorate I was from and I told him that I was from the United States and that I helped out on three of the Liberal candidates' campaigns. I was

aware of all the cameras and lights, but did not realize until the next day that a short segment of me talking to the PM was aired on SBS World News.

Prior to this internship, I never expected to attend such events and to meet the Prime Minister. None of this would have been possible without my supervisor, the Vice-President of the Liberal Party in NSW. It was through her connections that we were able

"I was aware of all the cameras and lights, but did not realize until the next day that a short segment of me talking to the PM was aired on SBS World News."

to attend private Liberal Party events and to help out on their campaigns. These events are opportunities that most Australians have not had.

Prior to my placement, I wanted an internship that would give me exposure into Australian politics and would allow me to become immersed into Australian culture. This internship was my first experience working in a political office and has also motivated me to take a more active interest in politics in the United States. This internship has given me experience in an Australian work environment and a lot of exposure to politics. My internship has surpassed all of my expectations and has contributed greatly to my experience here in Australia.

Jennifer Oh, is a Boston University International Relations student from Hawaii, and she will be graduating in 2008.

STAYING TO SEE THE FRUITS OF YOUR LABOUR

by Alexandra Kalil



A layer of fog covers Sydney Harbour and the Opera House during early morning rush hour. PHOTO: Cal Hawk

Each morning I have the pleasure of walking through Circular Quay, arguably one of the world's most beautiful harbours and home to the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge. This morning was overcast; a faint shadow blanketed the harbour and threatened rain, while a cool breeze suggested the coming of heavier winds. I suddenly remembered something a family friend told me about visiting college

campuses: if you liked a campus on a rainy day, you would be happy there. Even on this chilly and cloudy morning, I felt amazed and privileged to be in Sydney.

Sharon Clarke (my advisor) placed me at the Sydney Writer's Festival. She was prompted by my interest and involvement in the arts and writing, but also emphasized that Boston University had never before tried to place an intern at the festival. The Sydney Writers' Festival is the second largest of its kind in the world, and Sharon had great respect for it. Although hesitant, I was intrigued.

To remedy my being a "public relations" major, they proposed that I split my time between working at the festival office and working with Andy, the festival's publicist. There was a catch though—the festival itself was not for five weeks after the end of the program. Although my leaving would not jeopardize my opportunity to work with the festival, they were concerned that an early departure would be anticlimactic. Suddenly there was talk of extending my stay in Sydney. Sharon was confident that this was

a legitimate possibility that I should seriously consider, but initially I was hesitant. I loved Sydney, but I did not know what the work would involve or if I would get along with everyone. I resolved to sit on the matter and decide after the first week of work.

I started my first day at the Festival with some trepidation, and much anticipation. I still did not know much about the Festival, but staying in Sydney had quickly become very appealing, and it hinged on my internship. After reading a series of short biographies on the confidential confirmed authors, I realized how significant the Sydney Writers' Festival is. Accomplished authors and figures were coming from all over the world to take part. After my first day, I was officially decided. I could not bear the thought of putting hard work and energy into preparing for the festival without seeing the results.

All of my subsequent work at the festival has only confirmed my decision to stay until after the Festival in June. The first thing that

struck me was how I was treated—most everyone I had contact with was friendly and accommodating. Furthermore, when I began to receive multiple packages a day (with my name on them!) from some of the world's biggest publishers, I realized how much responsibility I had. Only having five regular staff members, all roles and tasks at the Sydney Writers' Festival are critical and interdependent. I truly felt like a part of the festival at the launch party where several publicists and others I had been in contact with through email and telephone approached me to be formally introduced. I felt incredibly proud to be involved with the festival; people were congratulating us all.

Two days later, the Sydney Morning Herald released the program. To see and hold the physical product of everyone's hard work was so satisfying. Our long days of researching and typing and editing had finally paid off. Although I have been a part of two significant benchmarks in the preparations leading up to the festival, I have no doubts that staying is the right decision. I have so much more to learn from the Festival. I now have an idea of how I could make the arts a viable career path. Every day at work only reaffirms my decision and I am reminded and relieved that my time is not yet finished in Sydney.

Lexi Kalil will be with the Sydney Writer's Festival until it's completion in June. Lexi is a public relations major at Boston University.

THE FINAL WORD

This has been the first edition of the Sydney Shout - A newsletter of the Boston University Sydney Programs to showcase and feature the experiences of our students during the recent semester. We hope that you have been able to vicariously enjoy the experiences of many of these students through their own words and stories. Thank you to everyone that contributed to the first edition of the publication.

-the BU Sydney Staff

Contributing Students

- Michael Cowen
- Jo-Anne Duhamel
- Michelle Forelle
- Brian Forte
- Zach Flanagan-Frankl
- David Freeman
- Alexandra Kalil
- Ashley Mateo
- Jennifer Oh
- Molly Parr
- Ed Silvera
- Lauren Wolfe

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- Lauren Scott
- Cal Hawk

Layout/Design

- Cal Hawk



2007 Spring Semester

PHOTO: Cal Hawk