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## Fordham Summer Internship Program IWU Students going from Central Illinois to the "Big Apple"

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Feature Editors**Fordham Summer Internship Program****IWU students going from Central Illinois to the "Big Apple" for summer internships**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Good Morning America, the New York Rangers and MTV are among internships available this summer in the Big Apple for students from Illinois Wesleyan University.

IWU is sending students to work in New York City through the New York Semester program, sponsored by Fordham University at Lincoln Center. The program, which used to be offered year around, is now only offered in the summer, but students still are able to work at companies known world wide such as Sony Music and fashion designer Liz Claiborne.

IWU internship coordinator Ann Harding said, "The Fordham program, gives students from a small Midwest school the opportunity to work at places many have only dreamed about." IWU has been sending an average of three students each summer since the program began in 1995. Other students have gone for an entire semester when that option was offered. IWU holds the record for the greatest number of students to participate in the program.

Three students from IWU will attend the program this summer: Amanda Moreau, a business administration major from Schaumburg, Ill., who will graduate next month; Ryan Hornbeck, an English major from Rockton, Ill., who will graduate in 1999, and Matt O'Connor, a business administration major from Rochester Hills, Mich., who will graduate in 1998.

Nancy Nath, a 1996 business administration graduate from Buffalo Grove, Ill., was a Fordham participant in 1995, working at Forte Management Co., which does financial advising for models. She went on the program because, "I wanted to get into the modeling industry and there was no way for me to do that in Bloomington. After working here for a summer, I was able to distinguish myself from others on my resume by saying I worked in New York." After graduation, Nath received a full-time job with Forte and moved to New York. Robert Rave, a 1996 IWU graduate who majored in English from Bloomington, Ill., and Laura Jacobs, a 1996 public accounting graduate

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from Bloomington, Ill., also are Fordham program veterans who have moved to New York City as a result of their internships.

Working for the New York Rangers hockey team provided Elisia Siegert, a senior international business major from Bloomington, Ill., the opportunity meet people such as businessman Donald Trump and numerous sportscasters. She wrote press releases and other public relations work for the Rangers.

Theater major Justin Williams, who will graduate next month from IWU and is from Elgin Park, Ill., said, "The greatest thing you learn while in New York is how to live on your own. At college you really do not learn to do everything for yourself, but when you're in New York you have the chance to see what it is like in the real world."

According to many students, the Fordham program gave them the chance to be completely independent and meet new, exciting people. Some like Rave, who interned at ABC television's Good Morning America, met celebrities like actress Heather Locklear.

Fordham assures students that once they are admitted into the program they will receive an internship. Ralph C. Meyer, director of the New York Semester program, said, "I get the internships, which we offer, in many different ways. Some call us or are alumni, but many are a product of me calling around and spending a lot of time on the phone."

The program also consists of two classes. One course teaches students about the New York City. It is team taught by senior professors in the arts and social sciences. Half of the time is spent visiting various New York City sites such as museums and theaters, while the other half is spent in the classroom where students learn about what they will see and read literature about New York City.

The other class students take is in their specific area of academic interest. There are five areas of concentration: the arts, business, communications, international relations and urban public service.

Interns can earn two credits at IWU after attending the Fordham.

Harding said, "I would recommend this to any students who are interesting in business, communication, the arts, international relations and urban service. New York is

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the center of all of these fields and there is no better place for the students to be able to work.”

Student accommodations are apartments with four to six students living in each unit.

For those students who are new to New York, Meyer orients them in how to get around the city and places to visit. He said, “For those students who are having any type of problem, my office door is always open and I will help them in anyway I can.”

Two thirds of the students attending the program receive financial help from Fordham. Meyer said, “Some of the aid is need based, but there is some for merit also.”

Students also are able to get outside jobs. Williams, for example asked around Fordham and at USA Live, a program on the USA TV network, and was able to find paying jobs at the Fordham Fitness Center and the New York Health and Racquet Club. Williams said, “The worst thing about the trip is everything is expensive, but if you work hard you’ll be able to do everything you want.”

Each summer approximately 50 students from 40 or more schools attend the Fordham program.

Fordham University is more than 150 years old and enrolls about 14,000 students in its four undergraduate colleges and six graduate schools. They are located on two campuses: one is at Lincoln Center with modern buildings and a beautiful plaza, while the other is an 85-acre Bronx campus with a mix of traditional Gothic and modern architecture.

IWU, established in 1850, enrolls about 1,900 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. A \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994; and a \$25 million science center building opened in the fall of 1995. The \$4.6 million Center for the Arts--a facility housing 60 faculty offices, six classrooms, and other facilities for the social sciences, humanities, business and economics, and interdisciplinary studies’ faculty--is slated to open next August, as well as a \$6.8 million residence hall. The Carnegie Commission for the Advancement of Teaching promoted Illinois Wesleyan to a ‘Baccalaureate I’ institution in 1994, classification that places it among 161 highly

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selective National Liberal Arts Colleges in the annual *U.S. News and World Report* rankings. *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, another respected college guide, ranked IWU "highly competitive(+)" in its latest edition.