Public Service Fellowship report to the Class of ‘78, 2008-2009

Submitted by
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Introduction

The Public Service Fellowship program motivates and enables MIT students to use their skills and energy to address the needs of under-served communities around the world. A significant part of the MIT mission is to “develop in each member of the MIT community the ability and passion to work wisely, creatively, and effectively for the betterment of humankind.” We believe that, for this mission to be achieved, students must have the necessary support and opportunities to begin working this way while at MIT. Thanks to the generosity of the Class of ’78 and our other donors, a total of 61 Fellows received support from the program to work with communities in 22 countries around the world over the past year.

This report details the activities of the Fellows funded by the Class of ’78; outlines all the Fellowship projects undertaken in the 2008-2009 academic year; and lists the awards that Fellows have received in the past year, academic outcomes of Fellowship projects, and some of the recent media exposure that Fellows have enjoyed. It also introduces two new “flavors” of Fellowship that we have piloted this year: the NOLA Fellowships and the Paul and Priscilla Gray Value-Added Internships.

Pilot Programs

Typically, Fellows work on their projects for a single semester, the summer, or IAP. Starting this spring, however, we are piloting a new model of extended Fellowships for students working on post-Katrina development projects in New Orleans. The NOLA Fellows are jointly supported by the Public Service Center, and the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP). During the spring semester, three pilot NOLA Fellows worked with faculty and staff in DUSP to develop long-term service projects in collaboration with community partners in New Orleans. The Fellows are implementing the projects with their partners in New Orleans over the summer and will complete any remaining tasks back at MIT during the fall semester.

The Paul and Priscilla Gray Value-Added Internships were developed in response to student requests for two things: 1) a program model that would allow them to identify and develop capacity-building service projects while “on the job” interning with community organizations and 2) opportunities to explore service-related career options by working within service organizations (rather than partnering with them, as Fellows typically do.) Value-Added Interns may begin their work by assisting with the general operations of a service organization, but they are required also to explore and develop personal projects that make good use of their skills and knowledge to add value to the organization or the community they serve. The primary donors for the pilot internships are an MIT alumnus and his wife, and they asked that the program be named in honor of Paul and Priscilla Gray.

Whether they are undertaking classic Fellowships or following one of these new models, Public Service Fellowships enable students to develop the confidence and skills to be leaders in service throughout their lives and careers. Many MIT students are consciously using their time on campus to prepare themselves to meet the enormous humanitarian challenges of the 21st century. For instance, one Fellow recently wrote to us that “MIT is truly an amazing place...
where dreams can come true – even dreams of building a social enterprise to provide affordable expert medical care to patients in the developing world.” We are very grateful to the Class of ’78 for helping students to turn these large-scale public service dreams into reality.

**Fellowships funded by the Class of ’78**

*Bringing potable water to the rainforest*

**Kendra Johnson ’09** has been working with the indigenous community of Santa Ana in the Ecuadorian rainforest since she was a freshman. The community of 35 families in Santa Ana had been struggling for years to rescue an abandoned government potable water project that had never been finished. Thanks to the dedicated support of Kendra and her teammates over the past four years, funded largely by the Public Service Fellowship program, Santa Ana now has a functioning water system that delivers treated water to 18 families, individual rainwater systems that serve a further 17 families, a knowledgeable community water board, and even an “art for water” project that sells the beautiful ceramics and bead jewelry made by the women in the community and channels some of the profits into maintaining the water system.

Kendra and teammate **Fatima Hussein ’11**, returned to Santa Ana for IAP 2009 – this time with the goal of enabling the community members to take over their mission - being “essentially superfluous” is how the students described it! Now that their own water system is functioning well, the Santa Ana water board decided to use the skills they had learned by working with Kendra to help neighboring communities to fix their water supplies. They chose to work with the village of La Encañada, a small community deeper in the rainforest. Kendra and Fatima supported the water board in their work, but were delighted to find that the Santa Ana community took ownership of the project from the start and no longer relied on them to plan activities or motivate people to get involved.

Working together, the two communities were able to plan and complete the work in a very short period of time, as described in this communication from Kendra:

The community members of La Encañada decided that they wanted to work on the installations together as a community rather than individually, so they organized six consecutive ‘mingas’ or community work days to get the systems up and running. They went into the jungle and cut down strong chonta logs to form the pillars of their platforms, dug 60cm holes to stand these posts in, constructed the platforms, connected the tanks with hose to a kitchen tap and the bathroom sink and toilet, and on the last day they worked to fix any leaks or problems in the plumbing.

The work in La Encañada was a fantastic success. The sixty-two members of the community were elated to have received a good, although maybe not perfect, safe water solution in so little time, and the water technical team was able to convince the regional mayor to provide them all the materials they need to go into other communities and do the same project in the future.
Over 20 million people in the developing world need wheelchairs, and most of these people cannot afford the roughly $200 price tag of a basic wheelchair. This stark fact motivated Forrest Funnell '09 and a small group of friends to found a non-profit organization to make high-quality mobility aids more accessible to low-income people around the world. Worldwide Mobility aims to match donors in the US with wheelchair workshops in developing countries to provide robust, custom-made wheelchairs to local people. Working from MIT during fall 2008, Forrest prepared the legal framework for Worldwide Mobility, recruited a board of directors, and filed for formal 501(3)C status. Over IAP '09 he traveled to Kenya and Tanzania to lay the groundwork for a pilot program with some of the most prominent disability organizations in East Africa.

The wheelchair workshops that Forrest visited ranged from relatively large, highly coordinated manufacturing facilities to personal, compact operations. Though they operate very differently, Forrest found that all of the organizations had an impressive drive to serve the local disabled communities and were all very eager to work with him to develop the business plan and local infrastructure for the Worldwide Mobility network. As Forrest describes it:

Throughout the fellowship, I met with wheelchair builders, workshop managers, orthopedic technicians, and a variety of other people involved in disability services. Together, we figured out how to organize many aspects of the wheelchair donation network. Going beyond the immediate work, however, this Fellowship has been very meaningful to me in a variety of ways. One of the most powerful aspects of the trip was just seeing the faces of the men, women, and children who had received wheelchairs that they could not afford on their own. These wheelchairs empower them to act as an independent individual, giving them the freedom to explore the world around them, earn a living, and become a contributing member of their family.

Complete list of Public Service Fellowships 2008-2009

Classic Fellowships

**Clean Water**

Over the summer, three students worked on water issues in northern Ghana with a non-governmental organization (NGO), Pure Home Water. Derek Brine (G, Urban Studies and Planning) traveled to Tamale, Ghana, to develop educational and promotional materials and techniques for both the users and sales people. Katherine Clopeck (G, Engineering Systems Division) worked on evaluation of the Pure Home Water system and also partnered with Vanessa Green (G, Civil and Environmental Engineering) to establish an innovative clean-water supply system, called Community Water Solutions. Over IAP, Katherine followed-up on this Community Water Solutions project with another Fellowship that enabled her to assess the
success of the pilot project and investigate possibilities for expansion into new villages. Katherine and Vanessa have now incorporated the project as an independent non-profit.

Over IAP, Sara Ziff (G, Civil and Environmental Engineering) also worked with Pure Home Water to assess the viability of using a newly developed water filter to clean the very turbid water that is available to households in northern Ghana. As part of her Master’s thesis, Sara will use the results of this fieldwork to determine whether the siphon filter would make a sensible addition to Pure Home Water’s product line.

Fatima Hussain (’11, Environmental Engineering) and Kendra Johnson (’09, Environmental Engineering) continued a 3-year collaboration with an indigenous community in the Amazon rainforest of Ecuador by forming a water technical team and helping the team to implement individual rain water systems in a neighboring community.

Tanguy Chau (G, Chemical Engineering) investigated and implemented potable water systems for a Cambodian orphans’ village and school run by a recent MIT (and Fellowships program) alumnus.

Community Development

Lisa Rayle (G, Urban Studies and Planning) held a set of community planning workshops in Mandeville, Jamaica, to improve the public space in the town center.

Alex Goldenberg (G, Urban Studies and Planning) worked with the London Coalition Against Poverty (LCAP) on grassroots community organizing around issues of affordable housing and welfare rights for poor and working class residents of London.

Digital Divide

George Gathuru Waithaka (’10, Mathematics) installed hard-drives containing MIT OpenCourseWare materials in computers at the University of Nairobi, Mombasa Polytechnique University College, and United States International University in Kenya. He also raised awareness of OCW on the campuses and strengthened connections between the universities and MIT OCW.

John Hilliard (’09, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) helped the Kabulasoke Teachers College in Uganda to transform their under-utilized computer lab into a resource that will ensure that future teachers graduate with basic computer skills.

Disabilities

Sameer Alkarim Hirji (‘11, Business and Biological Engineering) had a summer ’08 Fellowship to introduce appropriate educational technologies to the Uhuru Blind School in Tanzania and to strengthen the school’s volunteer systems. Over IAP ’09, Sameer had a second Fellowship focused on expanding and increasing the sustainability of the project. He also organized an educational awareness camp to promote communication, leadership skills, and synergy of resources among students from a number of schools in Tanzania.

Jameslevi Schmidt (’10, Mechanical Engineering) worked with wheelchair workshops in Kenya and Tanzania to produce a removable wheelchair attachment allowing for both long distance travel and domestic use.

Over the summer of ’08, Tish Scolnik (’10, Mechanical Engineering) designed and distributed five “small-business wheelchairs” to entrepreneurs in Tanzania. This January, she collected feedback on the mechanical design of the wheelchair, assessed the success of the
businesses, and investigated funding mechanisms to enable other disabled entrepreneurs to buy the wheelchairs.

**Xuefeng Chen** (’10, Mechanical Engineering) a student in the Wheelchair Design in Developing Countries class, took her team’s design for an inexpensive and effective wheelchair tricycle attachment to a wheelchair workshop in Vietnam for further development and testing.

**Jared Sartee** (’09, Mechanical Engineering) refined the design of a free-swinging prosthetic knee in collaboration with Jaipur Foot Organization in India. The free-swing knee was initially developed with classmates in the Developing World Prosthetics class.

**Forrest Funnell** (’09, Physics) traveled to Kenya and Tanzania to develop the business plan and local infrastructure for Worldwide Mobility, a non-profit he is currently co-founding with other MIT students and alumni, which will connect US donors to wheelchair workshops and wheelchair riders in developing countries.

**Disaster Relief**

**Erica Gralla** (G, Engineering Systems Division) worked with Oxfam GB to improve its supply chain management across the global organization by developing a process improvement toolkit for field-offices which she then tested in Indonesia and Zambia.

**Education and Leadership**

**Scot Frank** (’09, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) worked with the Sustainable Futures Initiative at Tech High in Atlanta, Georgia, to incorporate sustainability-related projects into the public school curriculum.

**Margarita Trevino-Garrido** (’10, Chemical Engineering) worked with Project ARRIBA (Advanced Retraining and Redevelopment Initiative in Border Areas) to review and update existing adult education programs for Hispanic residents of El Paso, Texas.

**Jessica Laviolette** (’09, HASS – Psychology), and **Paul Nikandrou** (’09, Mechanical Engineering) established a science fair program at Nicosia University, Cyprus, and continued work on an energy production project.

**Shammi Quddus** (’10, Biology), who also won a Davis Peace Prize for her project, traveled to Chittagong, Bangladesh, to work with Young Power in Social Action to create a service-oriented leadership workshop for students aged 17-19 from diverse backgrounds, promoting active citizenship and social responsibility.

**Jodie Wu** (’09, Mechanical Engineering) traveled to Arusha, Tanzania, to establish an appropriate technology curriculum with the Global Alliance for Africa Vijana Centre, a vocational training center for orphans and vulnerable children.

**Jeremy Flores** (’09, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) spent the fall semester and IAP developing OpenLabWare, a web-based portal to MIT’s research. Jeremy oversaw
the user interface development, collaborated with the Introduction to Technical Communication class on the research and writing of new research profiles, and began building a network of teachers interested in piloting OLW in their classrooms.

**Anupong Tangpeerachaikul** (’12, undeclared) spent IAP 2009 at Oglala Lakota College, on the Oglala Sioux reservation in South Dakota, helping the laboratory staff with environmental testing and diabetes research.

**Christine Hsieh** (G, Health Sciences and Technology) developed a primary school curriculum for 1st grade mathematics and science for a Cambodian orphans village and school run by a recent MIT alumnus.

**Raqeebul I Ketan** (’11, Aeronautics and Astronautics) created an interactive virtual lecture series on VCD disks (including animations, videos of lab experiments, and interactive software) that matches the format and content of the standard physics textbook used in Bangladesh. He and a team of volunteers piloted the materials with 100 grade nine and ten students from a village school in Bangladesh.

**Somani Patnaik** (’11, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) piloted a three-week leadership and education camp for high school students in Orissa, India. The curriculum increases awareness of how physics applies to the real world, demonstrates available opportunities in the field of science, and builds leadership qualities for the students.

**Entrepreneurship and Financial Empowerment**

**Allison Lu** (’09, Management and Economics) graduated a semester early and spent the spring in the South Bronx working with GreenFab Ventures, a business incubator for grassroots design and manufacturing enterprises that “upcycle” waste items into consumer products. Allison worked with start-up businesses to write professional business plans and enter them into social entrepreneurship competitions.

**Energy and Environmental Sustainability**

Two students worked with the Oglala Sioux Tribe's Environmental Protection Program on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota in summer 2008. **Kendra Johnson** (’09, Civil and Environmental Engineering) focused on watershed management planning. **Allison Brown** (’08, Earth Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences) worked on wind farm planning and policy development. Together, they also developed the environmental sample testing capability of Oglala Lakota College.

**Amy Qian** (’11, Mechanical Engineering) joined the SolSource team to design and field-test an improved portable solar cooker in western China for use in the Himalayan region.

**Food and Agriculture**

**Ming Leong** (’09, Mechanical Engineering) worked with the Full Belly Project in Wilmington, North Carolina, on optimizing their Universal Nut Sheller (a low-cost, hand-cranked agricultural machine) for use in the developing world.

**Mustafa G Dafalla** (’09, Civil and Environmental Engineering) and **Zahir A Dossa** (’08, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) traveled to Sudan to establish a business that will supply subsistence farmers along the Nile with treadle pumps
and drip irrigation kits that will enable better irrigation and better economic support. Mustafa and Zahir also won a Davis Peace Prize for this project.

**Health and Health Technology**

**Ke Zhang** (’10, Physics) traveled to Karatu, Tanzania, to troubleshoot the electrical systems for a new out-patient clinic and to design and implement information systems to enable the clinic to work more efficiently.

**Somani Patnaik** (’11, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) worked in Bihar, India, as part of the Innovators in Health team to develop software that enables data collection and analysis related to tuberculosis drug adherence for the poor.

**Joaquin Andres Blaya** (G, Health Sciences and Technology) and his colleagues have developed a web-based laboratory information system to expedite tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment. Over the summer, Joaquin evaluated the cost effectiveness of this system to enable additional health centers to adopt it and to allow other countries to learn from their experience.

**Mangwe Christabel Sabtala** (’11, Brain and Cognitive Sciences) worked with the Fobang Foundation in Yaounde, Cameroon, to develop radio programming with a public-health focus and connected the Foundation to malaria research resources.

**Housing and Homelessness**

**Debmalya Guha** (G, Urban Studies and Planning) worked with the affordable housing organization Bread and Roses in Lawrence, MA. He converted their hand-drawn house plans into digitized Autocad drawings that can be quickly and easily updated and customized to incorporate site-specific energy efficiency features.

**Women’s Empowerment**

**Shirin Kasturia** (’10, Brain and Cognitive Sciences) set-up a computer lab and educational programming for women in Phnom Penh through AFESIP, an anti-human-trafficking organization in Cambodia.

**NOLA Fellowships in New Orleans**

During the spring semester ’09, **Aditi Mehta** (G, Urban Studies and Planning) worked with Broad Community Connections to develop their internal systems and resources. Over the summer, Aditi is developing plans to convert a vacant lot into a food market and distribution center for local produce.

**Anna Brand** (G, Urban Studies and Planning) is working with the Lower Ninth Ward Center for Sustainable Engagement and Development on a long-term project to assist with the return of people and businesses to historic St. Claude Avenue and the Lower Ninth Ward Communities in New Orleans. She is also working on a carbon neutrality plan for the community.

**Jacquelyn Dudakis** (G, Urban Studies and Planning) is working with the St. Roch project to launch a business venture focused on reducing household energy use through simple retrofit technology.
Paul and Priscilla Gray Value-Added Internships

Community Development

Danielle Martin (G, Urban Studies and Planning) worked in Lawrence, MA with Lawrence CommunityWorks to assess their current communication practices and make recommendations on how to effectively use new-media and online organizing tools.

Elizabeth Chimienti (G, Urban Studies and Planning) worked for the Commonwealth Corporation in Boston on three workforce development projects, two focused on older workers and one on disenfranchised youth. She evaluated the strategies that employers and policy makers use to meet the needs of these two key segments of the State’s workforce.

Entrepreneurship and Financial Empowerment

Gregory Snyders (G, Business) worked with Covalent Global Capital, a start-up non-profit that aims to connect donors in the US with under-funded community-based organizations that provide locally valued public services in developing countries. He traveled to Kenya to gather and analyze data that will inform Covalent’s micro-granting process.

Education and Leadership

Hannah Farrow (’11, Neuroscience) worked with the math, science, and reading departments at the Mulberry High School, FL to provide Spanish language resources, connect the school and students to hands-on educational resources, and investigate funding possibilities to make these resources sustainable.

Nahathai Srivali (’10, Chemical Engineering) worked with UNIAKTIV, a center at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany, to develop fundraising and recruiting campaigns, to help expand a service-learning program, and to find potential international projects that promote service learning, community collaboration, and global awareness for the students at the university.

Health and Health Technology

Laurie Denyer (G, Urban Studies and Planning) worked with a public health clinic in the Sapopemba favela of Sao Paulo, Brazil. She assisted with the clinic’s day-to-day work, surveyed local women about maternal health programming, and worked with local women’s groups to advocate for appropriate maternal health resources and public health policy that serves women’s needs.

Ting Shih (G, Business and Engineering Systems Division) worked with ClickDiagnostics (a social enterprise that she co-founded) to implement mobile phone-based telemedicine service to enable effective diagnosis and treatment of skin ailments in Egypt and Botswana. In Egypt, she explored a micro-finance business model that would enable entrepreneurial nurses to provide the service. In Botswana, she collaborated with local mobile network provider to plan the nationwide launch of the service.

Kathleen Li (’09, Biology) graduated a semester early and spent the spring in Uttarakhand, northern India, interning with CHIRAG, an NGO that focuses on health education, health clinic systems, and improved public health infrastructure. Kathy conducted health outreach in the villages in which CHIRAG works and developed a jaundice education program.
Emma Brunskill (G, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) spent five weeks in the spring working with the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva. Emma developed statistical methodologies to more accurately estimate the global burden of specific diseases. This will help the WHO to evaluate the impact of their health programs and enable policy makers to direct resources to appropriate programs.

**Energy and Environmental Sustainability**

Christiana Obiaya (G, Business) and Srilata Kammila (G, Business) collaborated with the Millennium Promise Organization to develop business plans for economically viable biogas plants in the rural villages of Garissa and Dertu, Kenya, that will allow residents to replace diesel power generation with locally available renewable energy sources.

**Women’s Issues**

Caroline Huang (‘10, Brain and Cognitive Sciences) interned with the Cambridge Women’s Commission to conduct a needs assessment for the Cambridge YWCA and to develop an immigrant women’s roundtable for the city.

*Note that some of the Fellows named in the following sections received their Fellowships in previous years.*

**Fellows’ Awards and Recognition**

It is a real pleasure for us to track the awards and recognition that Fellows receive for their remarkable service work, and an even greater pleasure to have a hand in this process by nominating students for awards or supporting their applications with references. Increasingly, we are seeing students use the Fellowships program as a mechanism to develop enterprises that they continue to lead post-graduation, and these students are also very successful in pursuing major grants and scholarships. Recent awards and recognition that Fellows have received include the following:

**Alia Whitney-Johnson** received a Rhodes Scholarship to pursue a graduate degree at Oxford University.

**Tish Scolnik** has been awarded a $30,000 Truman Scholarship for graduate study in a public service field and has been named one of Glamor magazine’s Top 10 College Women for 2009. Last year, Tish was selected to attend the Global Engagement Summit at Northwestern University to develop resources for her wheelchair projects in Tanzania. At the summit, Tish was invited to participate in a two-week fundraising challenge through GlobalGiving.org. She won the challenge and was awarded a $3,500 grant on top of the funds she raised. Her project has been given long-term permission to fundraise through GlobalGiving.org. Tish was also invited to be a panelist at the annual STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) for Girls Think Tank hosted by the National Coalition of Girls’ Schools. Finally, she also won a $1,000 award from the Staples Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition.

The prestigious Echoing Green social entrepreneurship program received over 1,400 applications from organizations world wide for their 2009 seed-funding fellowships. Among the 300 semi-finalist organizations were five that were founded or co-founded by past Fellows:
Katherine Clopeck’s and Vanessa Green’s Community Water Solutions project in Ghana.

Greg Snyders’ Covalent Global Capital innovative philanthropy project in Kenya.

Alia Whitney-Johnson’s Emerge Global programs for abused and disadvantaged women and girls in Sri Lanka.

Scot Frank’s and Amy Qian’s One Earth Designs solar cooker project in the Himalayas.

Sarah Bird’s SaafWater household drinking water project in Pakistan.

Fellows Scot Frank and Amy Qian, along with their colleagues from One Earth Designs, also won the $75,000 St Andrews Prize and received a $5,000 Clinton Global Initiative Outstanding Commitment Award for their SolSource solar cooker. Scot led a skills training workshop for solar cookers at the Clinton Global Initiative University conference in Houston, Texas. One Earth Designs and Jodie Wu’s enterprise, Global Cycle Solutions, were both finalists in the Development Track of the MIT 100k Competition and Global Cycle Solutions went on to win the Development Track Award of $20,000 and the $10,000 Audience Choice Award.

Rany Woo was one of a dozen students nationwide to be awarded a $20,000 Merage Foundation for the American Dream Fellowship in 2008. Rany’s American Dream is to provide direct health care services for the needy, to pioneer treatment strategies, and to be a leader in international health.

Of the 16 MIT students who made it to the final selection stage of the Fulbright U.S. Student Fellowships, four honed their leadership skills through the Public Service Fellowships program: Katherine Clopeck, Diana Jue, Matthew Orosz, and Amanda Shing. Matt and Amanda both received Fulbright scholarships.

Matt Orosz and Amy Mueller won a $10,000 P3 Award from the EPA for their non-profit STG International, a continuation of their solar energy Fellowship projects. Amy Mueller and Sarah Bird were panelists for the Technology Review Emerging Technologies Conference workshop on Social Entrepreneurship in September 2008.

Mario Bollini won the 2008 RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America) Student Design Competition with his innovative wheelchair drive train and was a finalist in the MIT de Florez design competition with the same project.

Ting Shih and her ClickDiagnostics team members won second place and $5,000 in the USAID Global Development 2.0 Challenge.

Fellowships’ Academic Outcomes

We encourage students to publish results of their Fellowship projects, incorporate the work in their theses, and find classes through which to keep pursuing their projects. Some recent academic outcomes of Fellowship projects include:

Recent journal papers and conference presentations resulting from Fellowship projects include:

Somani Patnaik, Emma Brunskill, and their collaborator Bill Thies have had a paper on their TB drug adherence work accepted to the 2009 International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD) in Qatar: Evaluating the Accuracy of
Data Collection on Mobile Phones: A Study of Forms, SMS, and Voice. This is particularly impressive for Somani who is still a sophomore.

Amos Winter presented his innovative wheelchair for developing countries, the Leveraged Freedom Chair, at the Duke Bioengineering Applications to Address Global Health Conference in November 2008. Amos and Mario Bollini will be giving a paper about wheelchair design for developing countries at the Unite for Sight Conference at Yale in April and will be presenting wheelchair work at the MOVE conference in Amsterdam. Amos has also submitted an article on the Leveraged Freedom Chair to the ASME IDETC conference. Amos and Amy Smith published an article on disability organization models: Assessing MAARDEC: A Comparison with Other Assistive Device Workshop and Disability Organization Models Innovation Journal, Summer 2008.

Erica Gralla presented a poster on heuristics in emergency response supply chains at the 2009 Humanitarian Logistics Conference in Atlanta.

Recent and current Fellowship-related theses and UROPs include the following:

Erica Gralla’s Fellowship work with Oxfam will be included in her PhD thesis in Engineering Systems.

Tish Scolnik continued work on her small-business wheelchair project as a UROP during the fall of 2008.

Jodie Wu wrote her senior thesis in Mechanical Engineering on pedal-powered solutions to the needs of underserved communities.

MIT classes closely tied to Fellowships:

Amos Winter continues to teach the class Wheelchair Design in Developing Countries, and has incorporated a four credit seminar on proposal writing to help students in the class secure funds to work with their community partners around the world. Tish Scolnik is a lab instructor for the class.

Jodie Wu and Ke Zhang were selected to be trip leaders for the D-Lab class’ Tanzania trip this January. Jodie also served as a teaching assistant for the Social Entrepreneurship Seminar.

Jared Sartee is teaching assistant for the Developing World Prosthetics class.

Fellows in the Media

Fellows projects are frequently featured in the media both on campus, locally, nationally, and in the communities the students serve. Some recent media exposure includes:

Articles by Liz Karagianis in MIT’s Spectrum magazine:

- Shriddha and Samiksha Nayak Empowering Children Spring 2008
- Rany Woo Helping TB Patients Fall 2008
- Amy Mueller Designing Solar Solutions Spring 2009
- Justin Tan Power of Inspiration – Establishing Clinics in Southeast Asia Spring 2009
Other media exposure for and by Fellows includes these examples:

**Hrishikesh Ballal**
Schultz, Dave *SDM student on e-waste project in Mauritius* by Dave Schultz, MITsdm, April 14, 2008

**Vanessa Green**
*TeCom executive helps bring drinking water to Ghana* Emirates Business 24/7 (in the UEA), February 9, 2009

**Saul Griffith**
The Ever Inventive Saul Griffith by Jessie Scanlon, Business Week, March 2, 2009

**Kendra Johnson** and **Froylan Sifuentes**
*Using art to pay for clean water* by David Chandler, MIT Tech Talk, May 14, 2008

**Raqeebul Ketan**
*iSchool For a Better Learning Experience* by Raqeebul Ketan, The Daily Star (in Bangladesh), February 15, 2009

**Maria Luckyanova, Tess Veuthy and Philip Garcia**

**Amy Mueller** and **Matt Orosz**
http://current.com/items/88871322/d_i_y_solar_africa.htm

**Amit Sarin**
Amit’s work on the Navajo reservation was Featured on Fellow Kendra Johnson’s weekly show “Spherio” on WMBR 88.1
http://web.mit.edu/hemisphere/spherio/

**Tish Scolnik**
The 2008 Global Engagement Summit by Carrie Porter, Abroad View, Fall 2008
*Waccabuc’s Tish Scolnik: Building wheelchairs for Africa’s disabled* by Matt Dalen, Lewisboro Ledger, September 19, 2008

**Ting Shih**
YouTube posting for Click Diagnostics: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYdKDUt1K_s

Click Diagnostic’s presentation at the USAID Global Development 2.0 Challenge awards ceremony in January 2009 is featured on the USAID website:

**Greg Snyders**
*Working for Social Impact in Africa* by Sarah Foote, News@MITsloan, February 23, 2009

**Nahathai Srivali**
*MIT Studentin als Pratikantin bei UNIAKTIV / MIT student joins UNIAKTIV Team* Uniaktiv Duisberg-Essen newsletter (in Germany), January 8, 2009

**Alia Whitney-Johnson**
This is the student. These are the beads. And these are the girls they help. Tina Sutton, Boston Globe, April 24, 2008

**Amos Winter**

*Serendipitous Passion – how a Public Service Center Fellowship got me hooked on international development* by Amos Winter, Technology Review, May/June 2008

*Students help bring mobility to developing countries* by David Chandler, MIT Tech Talk, May 21, 2008


*Reinventing the Wheelchair* interview by Virginia Prescott on Word of Mouth for New Hampshire Public Radio, July 14, 2008 http://www.nhpr.org/node/16686

**Jodie Wu**

*An A-maize-ing Path out of Poverty* by David Chandler, MIT Tech Talk, MIT in the world column, October 1, 2008

*The Farmer, the Engineer, and the Cycling Solution* by Jude Isabella, Yes Mag, March/April 2009 http://www.yesmag.ca/

**Public Service Fellowships Program Costs**

Fellowship funds primarily support the students' personal expenses, either through a weekly stipend or a travel advance to cover plane tickets and basic living expenses, depending on the needs of each student. Fellows may also apply for supplemental grants to purchase equipment and supplies that will significantly enhance their projects.

In response to dramatic increases in fuel costs and the general cost of living in many countries, we increased the funds available to individual Fellows during 2008-2009.

In 2008-2009, we supported a total of 61 Fellowships.

The following numbers represent financial support received by students through the Fellowship and Internship programs in the past year:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer ’08</td>
<td>$96,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall ’09</td>
<td>$3,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAP ’09</td>
<td>$58,680</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring ’09</td>
<td>$12,930</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$172,153</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program Funding Sources
In the past year, the following organizations and individuals have contributed to the Fellowships program:

Individual alumni donors
The Class of ‘78
The Lord Foundation
The Bridgeway Foundation
The Baker Memorial Foundation
The Office of the Dean for Graduate Education
The Office of the Dean for Student Life
The MIT Women’s League
The Graduate Student Council
The Wheelchair Design For Developing Countries Class

Conclusion
We thank the Class of ’78 for your support of the Public Service Fellowship program. As we hope this report demonstrates, these Fellowships not only provide significant benefit to underserved communities around the world, but they are also invaluable opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills and truly put their MIT education into action.

It is so often a humbling experience for us to meet with students after their Fellowship experiences and to hear first-hand all that they have achieved and all that it has meant to them, and how much they appreciate the support of our donors. As one of the IAP Fellows commented in her final report, “I thank the donors for their generous contribution that allowed me to make this life-changing trip, and hope to honor their hard work as well as that of the MIT PSC with my efforts to make a lasting difference.”