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A Diplomatic Head Start

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A diplomatic head start

Jeff Primozich ’09 said Dawn Nowacki, professor of political science, was instrumental in helping him secure an internship at the Canadian Consulate last summer. Primozich’s professional goal is to become a diplomat somewhere else in the world and immerse myself in the culture. It would be a gateway for me to accomplish something with my life,” Primozich said. “Canada is not just an adjunct of the United States. It is a country selected to participate in the Carleton College Summer Mathematics Program for Women in Math. Niece studied complex subjects such as dynamical systems and the knot theory, but also discovered new careers that she can choose after graduate school.

Upton said it was stimulating to work in an environment with students who shared her love of math and were enthusiastic about the material. “It was really nice to collaborate,” Upton said. “Many times during the school year, you work in groups with students who aren’t math majors and you have to explain (different concepts). We didn’t have to do that with each other. It was cool to have that kind of equality.”

At Carleton, Upton attended classes and listened to guest speakers who outlined math research projects. Discussions of math and what the students had learned did not end with the classes or speakers. After working on group projects, the women explored how everyone had answered the problem and shared plenty of laughter and fun. “It’s no surprise that Upton, who is from Corvallis, has an affinity for math. Both of her parents are engineers.”

Stephen Bricher ’86, professor of mathematics at Linfield, is a math and physics tutor and works at Applied Physics Technologies (APTECH) where the pieces of the space shuttle Columbia exploded. Mathematicians were called together to calculate where the pieces of the space ship might have fallen. During the school year, Upton is a math and physics tutor and works at Applied Physics Technologies (APTECH) founded by Bill Mackie ’71, professor of physics at Linfield. APTECH produces and develops electron emitting materials and electron sources, work that stems from the Linfield Research Institute.

Linfield’s strong faculty is one of the reasons that Upton selected the college. She said her professors at Linfield encourage her in and out of the classroom. Stephen Bricher ’86, professor of mathematics, calls Upton talented and hard working, and encourages her passion for mathematics.

“I can tell that she truly loves studying mathematics,” Bricher said. “She has the tools to successfully pursue an advanced degree in mathematics, and this program reinforced that perspective.”

Upton finds math paradise

Julianne Upton ’11 combines her interests in math and physics by working at Applied Physics Technologies (APTECH). Last summer, she participated in the Carleton College Summer Mathematics Program for Women.

“Julianne Upton ’11 spent a month in math paradise last summer. Advised by Linfield faculty to apply for the program, Upton was one of only 20 women from around the country selected to participate in the Carleton College Summer Mathematics Program for Women in Math. Niece studied complex subjects such as dynamical systems and the knot theory, but also discovered new careers that she can pursue after graduate school.

The Carleton program gave Upton a glimpse of the variety of career options available after graduate school. Previously, her goal was to become a math professor, but other career options that she has considered are engineering and teaching. "She has the tools to successfully pursue an advanced degree in mathematics, and this program reinforced that perspective.”

“I learned so much about graduate school that I wouldn’t have even thought to ask about.”

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