

# THE CLARION

## GWEN M. GREENE CAREER & INTERNSHIP CENTER

WINTER 2011-2012 EDITION | [WWW.ROCHESTER.EDU/CAREERCENTER/](http://WWW.ROCHESTER.EDU/CAREERCENTER/)

### Greetings,

The Rochester Curriculum encourages students to explore their passions. Many find their calling in the humanities, including art and art history, English, music, philosophy, religion and classics, modern languages, and film and media studies. Faculty members can help students who love the humanities translate their academic passions into internship and career opportunities.

Conversations with faculty can help students identify their goals and understand their options, and thus serve as an important complement to formal career counseling. Elizabeth Cohen, associate professor in the art and art history department, regularly meets with students to discuss how interests can be transformed into career options and then encourages a progression to experiential learning through internships, as showcased in this newsletter.

Our career and internship center professionals help students clarify their interests, define goals, and find diverse internship options like Lian Law did. As you read, think about how her story can inspire your students.

Encourage students to visit the career and internship center early in their college careers and to return regularly. Suggest they attend seminars such as “Connecting Majors, Potential Majors, and Academic Curiosities to Careers” and “Internship, Research, Exploration and Shadowing Strategies.”

Almost 20 percent of our students complete a major in the humanities and proudly personify our long-standing tradition of liberal arts studies and career diversity.

-Richard Feldman, dean of the College



Elizabeth Cohen, associate professor of art, leads a class in Sage Art Center.

### Art New York allows students to explore passions

The humanities have more career potential than students may realize, and with guidance from faculty members and professional counselors at the Gwen M. Green Career and Internship Center, Elizabeth Cohen says they will find opportunities to match their interests.

“For students who love the humanities there are lots of ways to continue that passion after school,” says Cohen, an associate professor of art.

Art New York, a one-semester program including an internship and two academic courses in New York City, is a great way for her students to explore their interests, she says.

“Internships give students a chance to try out career paths they have been thinking about, a chance to go and see and try,” she says. “Students find innovative ways to combine interests.”

Cohen recalls one art student whose parents wanted her to become a lawyer. After interning with Percent for Art, New York City’s public arts organization, she decided to pursue a career as an attorney for the arts.

“Finding internships is not just about placing students, but helping students initially focus on fields, then find or create opportunities to match clearly

expressed interests,” says Burt Nadler, director of the career and internship center.

Cohen helps her students brainstorm internship possibilities and then sends them off to the career center to continue the process.

“The internship component of the program requires thoughtful exploration and goal expression, not just looking at lists of postings,” says Nadler. “Our staff and Professor Cohen make a great team.”

Cohen says Art New York students come home transformed. “It’s not just about the internship, it’s not just about the coursework, it’s the whole package,” she says. “Living in the big city, living independently while being in the support system of the University of Rochester community, the students really flourish.”

Nadler adds, “Art New York is one of our favorite comprehensive internship and academic blended programs. It has impacted the lives of so many students who started with the typical ‘What can I do with a humanities major’ question and who now can express and, ultimately, attain their goals.

“It’s really all about goal expression, not necessarily the major. It’s really about people like Professor Cohen and our staff, and not just programs.”

### Did you know...

Nationwide, more than half of the class of 2011 had at least one internship, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

At the University of Rochester, 92 percent of the class of 2011 had at least one internship.

Humanities majors make up approximately 20 percent of students at the University of Rochester.

## Senior Lian Law Finding Opportunities to Fit Focus

Senior film and media studies major Lian Law is focused on a career in travel and photography and has spent her undergraduate years building skills she can use to reach her goals.

“Right now my interests are still pretty broad,” she says. “I’m trying a lot of different things.”

This semester that means interning for Open Letter Books, the University of Rochester’s literary publishing house, where she is assisting the director with writing reader’s reports and book reviews, creating a marketing plan, and proofing manuscripts.

Last spring she interned at Exit Art, an interdisciplinary cultural center in New York City, through the Art New York internship program.

Law edited exhibit walk-through videos for the gallery and particularly enjoyed helping to choose photos for an upcoming anniversary book.

“Internships are so important, and here in Rochester, with the George Eastman House and the Memorial Art Gallery, there are so many opportunities for art students,” she said.

Law made her own opportunity for an internship at the Eastman House fall of her junior year. “I was searching the career center job postings one day, and I saw a listing for an internship at the George Eastman House that was a year old,” she says.

Law called the contact for the expired listing and



explained her focus on working in photography and her interest in interning at the museum. She spoke to the photographic process historian, who hired her to help research historic photographic processes and assist with hands-on workshops.

Law has been working with Gwen M. Greene Career and Internship Center associate director Amber Graham. Graham helped her to focus her goals, identify career possibilities within that focus, and tailor her cover letter and résumé to each.

Law is attending the Career and Internship Connection in New York City next month. She has applied for positions at several of the media companies attending the event and hopes to find full-time employment.

She is open to possibilities but says with a smile, “I can really see myself working in New York.”

## Comprehensive Programs Great Options for Students

Comprehensive internship programs provide domestic and international opportunities for students in fields ranging from the arts and social sciences to medicine and engineering.

Such programs require an application and interview process and include housing, tuition, and program costs. In exchange, students are placed in high-quality internships and receive academic credit.

The University’s popular Art New York program, profiled on page one, has placed students in top-notch internships including Columbia Tri-Star, *Rolling Stone* magazine, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Island Def Jam Music.

In the political science department, the Washington Semester Program uses the Washington Center for Internships to secure placement and housing. Students experience areas of government such as public policy creation and implementation.

Some programs in science, engineering and medicine, like the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, include stipends.

Students can also find opportunities outside of the University through comprehensive internship programs such as:

### Dream Careers

[www.summerinternships.com](http://www.summerinternships.com)

### New York Media Experience Program

[www.marist.edu/nymep](http://www.marist.edu/nymep)

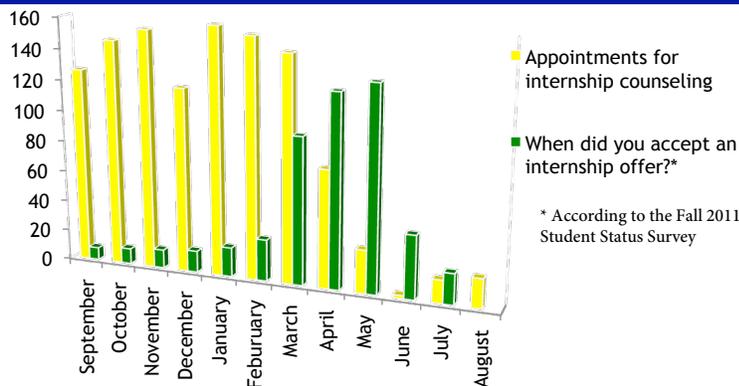
### The Washington Center

[www.twc.edu/](http://www.twc.edu/)

ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS to make an appointment with a counselor early in spring semester to start a summer internship search.

The “Internship, Research, Exploration and Shadowing Strategies” seminar offered weekly at the career center can help get them started. Seminar schedules are available online at [www.rochester.edu/careercenter/students/programs/seminars/](http://www.rochester.edu/careercenter/students/programs/seminars/).

Students seeking summer internships should meet with counselors in the Gwen M. Greene Career and Internship Center early in spring semester.



\* According to the Fall 2011 Student Status Survey

Summer 2011 Internship Timeline