Four LAS Students Are Named T.Rowe Price Fellows
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LAS Peak Ambassadors

On September 15th Peter Braza (Dean of the College of Letters, Arts & Sciences) and executives from T. Rowe Price (TRP) joined together for the 2017 T. Rowe Price Fellowship Kickoff honoring seven UCCS newly-named fellows. The colleges of Business and LAS are partnering with TRP's foundation to offer the fellows $2,000 for the 2017-2018 academic year. Four of the seven awardees are LAS students Natalie Cruz (Spanish/Junior), Tia Gillespie (Psychology/Senior), Sarah Kellar (English/Junior), and Kevin Stewart (BioChem/Junior).

“The overall goal of the program is to prepare students for the Colorado Springs workforce, which may or may not include the financial market,” commented Leah Wells, TRP HR Consultant. Each of our LAS students will have the opportunity to network and gain skills needed to prepare them for post-graduate employment by working directly with TRP volunteer mentors.

Fellows and mentors commit to 10 hours per semester participating in TRP and UCCS activities relevant to their personal career goals. At the end of the year, all fellows will present to TRP and UCCS executives on the fellowship experience and their individual future career plans. Each fellow receives $1000 for personal academic finances and a matching $1000 per student is contributed to LAS and Business Scholarship Funds.

TRP mentor, Alisha Pagan (UCCS alumni), is excited about this new program and the possibility to give back to her alma mater. Alisha is committed to finding ways to connect TRP to the community, and this fellowship program is just the ticket. Serving as Natalie Cruz’s mentor, Alisha and Natalie are enthusiastic about creating a close relationship. Natalie is eager to learn from her mentor and the networking opportunities this fellowship has to offer.

So far, Natalie and other fellows participated in a TRP company tour, spoke to company executives in one-on-one discussions, and met company workforce investors and HR consultants to learn about the TRP workforce management procedures. Exposing students to hiring practices, employee benefits, and job growth possibilities within an established organization provides our fellows with a strong start to their own future career goals.

As a successful organization, TRP has a shared commitment to their clients’ success, professional development and growth. They believe in an inclusive workforce that centers on support and collaboration. TRP also encourages employees to act on their passions and to achieve professional and personal fulfillment.

Partnerships between LAS and community partners such as TRP strengthen the bond between UCCS and the surrounding community. In addition, they provide our students with valuable connections and lessons not always available within the classroom.
LAS is enthusiastic about the investment being made in our current and future students who will consequently become the future leaders of our workforce. Dean Braza is excited and confident that this new relationship between the college and TRP will have a tremendous benefit to the fellows as well as all LAS students.

“We are grateful to T. Rowe Price for creating a program with our university to mentor and provide support for our students. This is particularly beneficial for the students in Letters, Arts, and Sciences since they usually don’t have a direct career path; the T Rowe Price environment shows our students that what they learn in any discipline in our College can prepare them for an exciting career,” Dr. Peter A. Braza.

We congratulate our fellow students on being named TRP’s newest fellows and are excited to hear about their experiences and their future successes.

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