



Michael Esteban Receives Frost Scholarship

Mr. Michael Esteban of the University of South Florida has been awarded a Frost Scholarship to study at the University of Oxford. The Frost Scholarship funds current students of the State University System of Florida (SUSF) to study one-year, full-time master's courses in science, technology, engineering and mathematics ('STEM' subjects) at the University of Oxford. The Frost scholarship will allow Michael to complete an MSc in Water Science Policy and Management at the University of Oxford. Completion of this graduate program will allow Michael to explore the policy and management aspects of his future career and enable him to develop his engineering research into practical solutions for coastal cities.

Michael, an Honors College senior, will graduate from USF in May with his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Environmental Engineering. He represents the USF College of Engineering, where his achievements inside and outside of the classroom have been noted. He is on the Dean's List for the College of Engineering and a recipient of the USF Director's Award and the Florida Academic Scholars Award. In 2012, Michael was awarded a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Ernest F. Hollings scholarship. The Hollings Scholarship Program provides undergraduate students with awards that include academic assistance (up to a maximum of \$8,000 per year) for full-time study during the 9-month academic year and a 10-week, full-time internship position during the summer at a NOAA facility.

During his time at USF, Michael has been heavily involved with Engineers without Borders-USA. He has served as the organization's Vice-President from 2011-2012 and was the Event Coordinator for their signature fundraising event, "EWB Run for Water". Michael recently competed as part of a seven person team on the USF Capstone Waste Water Design Team. His team's project was conducted for the Hillsborough County Public Utilities Department. The designs they completed for the county were

presented and won at both the Florida Water Resource Conference (state) and the Water Environment Federation's Technical Exhibition Conference (national).

Michael participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) last summer at the Colorado School of Mines. His project was to test the performance of a newly developed stream water treatment structure by testing water nutrient levels and the presence of denitrifying microbes within the structure to see if both matched spatially. Michael's current research project at USF in the College of Engineering REU program with Maya Trotz, associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, focuses on the development of a storm water management mobile phone app that crowdsources data on identifying the location and monitoring the performance of Green Infrastructure storm water management practices. Along with a fellow honors computer science student, Michael is conducting this project as his Honors College thesis. They are now testing the app, named "Hydro Hero", to explore the app's potential to be used as a tool in a community based management strategy.

Upon receiving his master's degree at Oxford, Michael plans to attend Berkeley or Colorado School of Mines to pursue a PhD in Environmental Engineering. With both his MSc and PhD degrees, Michael plans to pursue a career involved with the regulation or policy for the water resources of coastal communities with a federal agency like the EPA, NOAA or the Army Corps of Engineers.

The Office of National Scholarships identifies, recruits, and mentors high achieving students to apply for national merit scholarships across all disciplines. The scholarships and fellowships are for creative, motivated, and academically strong students who are leaders in and out of the classroom.

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