



Southwestern University

Career Services

POST GRADUATE SURVEY

**Seth Allen '03, says
Southwestern helped him
gain "hands-on" experience
that helped him land a job**

student profile

Seth Allen

CLASS OF 2003

Seth Allen '03 developed a strong connection with the ideals of community service while he was a student at Southwestern University, and he set goals for himself to one day land a job that contained a community-service component.

A summer of service learning in Honduras, an internship with The Salvation Army in Austin, and participation in numerous skill-building programs through the Office of Career Services all helped Allen, an international studies/Spanish major, to land a position as assessment coordinator with the Texas Institute for Measurement, Evaluation, and Statistics (TIMES) at the University of Houston's Department of Psychology.

TIMES performs research in educational development, curriculum development and statistical modeling. Allen serves as project coordinator on a grant from the Gulf Coast Community Services Association and the city of Houston. The grant was awarded to provide evaluation for the local Head Start system.

Allen and 57 percent of his fellow 2003 classmates secured full-time employment, despite the nation's competitive job market. Like Allen, 80 percent of Southwestern's 2003 graduates work in Texas. Sixteen percent work elsewhere in the United States, and three percent hold positions overseas.

Employers say developing diverse skill sets and "on-the-job" experiences are important elements for successful job searches. When combined with classroom knowledge, these elements offer students the best opportunity to establish a foundation for success post graduation.

"Participating in activities outside the classroom was just as important to my college career as the in-class learning," says Allen. "Each experience taught me not only effective skills for career building, but also about the values for living a life of learning.

"The summer that I spent in Honduras as a member of the Global Leadership Initiative Destination: Honduras took me out of my comfort zone and taught me how to make the world my classroom. During my senior year, Maria Kruger '91, Internship Specialist at Southwestern's Office of Career Services, introduced me to an internship opportunity with The Salvation Army in Austin. It was a great match for my skills, experience and career goals."

