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News

CSULB student awarded humanities internship

By Elysse James
On-line Forty-Niner

Chhunny Chhean, a junior at Cal State University Long Beach, is one of 18 students selected nationwide for the National Endowment for the Humanities internship. Chhean was chosen from more than 200 applicants. As an intern, Chhean will spend 10 summer weeks beginning June 1, in Washington, D.C. where she will work at the Old Post Office Building on Pennsylvania Avenue.

"I intend on working hard and spending every free day exploring the museums and monuments in and around D.C.," Chhean said. "I'm especially looking forward to the Vietnam Memorial, the Library of Congress and riding the Metro."

This internship is not Chhean's only accomplishment; she is also the president of the English Students Association, vice-president of the College of Liberal Arts Council and secretary for the Student Philosophy Association. Chhean is a President's Scholar and has served as a President's Ambassador and Conservation Commissioner for Associated Students, Inc. Chhean applied for the internship online, where she submitted two short essays.

"I did a bit of Internet research, found the NEH internship and then applied exclusively online," Chhean said. "For me, rejection is OK but regret is not, so I apply for everything."

Each intern is assigned to an agency office to assist with the endowment's work and involve themselves in daily life at the organization. Interns are responsible for both working in the office and completing an individual project that assists in the research and development of humanities in the United States. Some past projects have involved gathering data, assisting with Web sites, writing articles and evaluating endowment materials.

The endowment describes its internship as a vehicle to introduce college students to the "programs, policies and operations of the federal agency charged with promoting scholarship, education and public programming in the humanities in the United States." The endowment is an independent agency of the U.S. government that supports the humanities through grants, funding and support of humanities programs. Education and research are part of their focus.

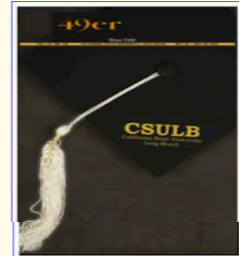
"I am honored and grateful to have such an awesome opportunity and I intend on making the most of it," Chhean said.

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