TRIPtych: A glimpse of my semester in Edinburgh

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Recommended Citation
Available at: http://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol59/iss2/9
A US SENATOR TOLD ME ONCE THAT IF YOU WANT TO WORK IN DC, YOU NEED TO GET THERE AS EARLY AS YOU CAN, GO BACK AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN, AND WORK AS HARD AS YOU CAN.”

boss (chairman Reince Priebus)—“What does the chairman of the Republican Party think?” He’s my responsibility when it comes to TV,” she says. Sugg’s day-to-day duties may also include editorial pitches to news networks, helping book guests, media briefings, interview preparation, media training, and following up with on-air corrections. “I’m essentially the point of contact for TV producers to the RNC,” she says. “We’re focused on how to promote our values while contrasting them with the Dems.”

That requires Sugg to stay on top of all the news coverage around the election. “I have four TVs that are mine at work. I am always watching something,” she says. “It’s situational awareness. It’s why I’m here for 14 hours.”

There is, of course, a significant payoff for all the hours in the office and sleepless nights. “When I take a step back, I realize I’m getting to be in the middle of the cycle . . . I realize the things I do matter on a national scale. That’s pretty cool.”

CULTURE, CREATIVITY, AND COFFEE SHOPS: my three favorite aspects of my semester in Edinburgh, Scotland. The country’s culture of independence enhanced my participation in classes, my internship at a theater, and my ability to explore. Performances, personal interactions, and photography fed my creative spirit.

Sunrise at Seat: 4 a.m. was my wake up call, and 5:20 a.m. was the sunrise. On the last day of our trip, two of my friends and I traversed to Arthur’s Seat, the extinct volcano located in the middle of Edinburgh. The sunrise was a sight to behold. We could see the entire city from the mountains to the water, and it took my breath away that I had been living in Edinburgh for an entire semester.

Bagpipe Dreams: Scotland taught me how to live on my own, and I recognized strengths within myself that I might not have capitalized on before. I felt more autonomous and like a more developed person. This bagpiper was on the Royal Mile, the main street in Old Town, Edinburgh. I admired his dedication to his craft, and his willingness to step into the limelight. We all need to be our own bagpipers; we need to stand tall, face our fears, and live our dreams.

Highland Magic: The Scottish Highlands are the most beautiful place that I’ve ever experienced, and I marvelled in the wonderful nature that was within my grasp. We visited many locations including Glen Coe (with a picturesque scene from Skyfall) and Glenfinnan (with the viaduct from the Harry Potter series). My favorite image from the trip is this one I took from the window of one of our bus rides.