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Jackson earns Future International Educator Award

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Andrea Morrison and **Alexander Thomas Maslow** '05, May 31. They live in Columbia, S.C. Andrea recently graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Master of Science degree in epidemiology.

Christin Marie Reichert (M.A. '07) and **James Andrew Daniel**, July 26. They live in Columbia, S.C., where she is a teacher at Heathwood Hall Episcopal School and he is employed by AIG Technology.

BIRTHS: Benjamin and **Tiffanie White Aiken**, a son, Benjamin IV, December 30, Columbia, S.C.

Lauren Ourt and Tom Wieme, April 19. Both recently earned Master of Physician Assistant degrees from the Medical College of Georgia and work in family practices in Augusta.

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Monica Handa is pursuing a law degree at the University of North Carolina.

Kathryn Melton was scheduled to enter the St. Louis University Physician Assistant program in August.

MARRIAGES: **Erika Barefoot** and **Tucker Mosteller** '06, July 7, 2007. They live in Macon, Ga., where Tucker attends Mercer Law School and Erika teaches history and economics at First Presbyterian Day School.

James Robert Bostwick III and **Suzanne Prak**, June 7. They live in Greenville.

Katy Carlson and **Bartley Sides**, July 26. Bartley completed his master's degree in management from Wake Forest University and now is an admissions counselor at the University of Georgia. Katy is pursuing a master's degree in public administration.

Jolene Clark and Brandon Horne, May 17. They live in Tryon, N.C.

Donna DeMint and **Drew Ferguson**, April 26. They live in Greenville.

John Dowlen and **Allison Geyer** '08, June 28. John works with the Reformed University Fellowship at North Carolina State University in Raleigh and Allison is director of marketing and communications at the Trinity School in Durham.

John William DuVal III and **Margaret Dozier** '08, August 9. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

Carrie Elizabeth Wallace and **John Cannon Candeto** '08, June 21. They live in Singapore, where John works with Accenture in management consulting and Carrie Beth works in the marketing field.

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Russell Dorn has been named a media relations assistant for the Southern Conference.

Adrienne Gilmore has joined the women's basketball coaching staff at Francis Marion University in Florence, S.C.

Lauren Lewis is a financial advisor with Smith Barney in Boca Raton, Fla. Her team specializes in estate plans, college planning, tax efficient investment portfolios and trusts, charitable giving and retirement planning.

Brian Lupo is a Latin teacher at Butler High School in Matthews, N.C. He heads the Latin Club and serves on the percussion staff at the school.

Daniel Teague has become a sales representative with ScanSource, Inc.,

JACKSON EARNS FUTURE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATOR AWARD

Shelly Jackson feels most in her element when she's completely out of her element — whether she's swabbing decks on a 50-foot sailing vessel in the Netherlands Antilles, corralling hens at an organic farm in New Zealand or building adobe huts in New Mexico.

She's curious about people and places, loves to explore, reveres history and culture, and wants to share her knowledge with others.

She's also the 2008 winner of the Future International Educator/Alumni of the Year award, presented annually to an outstanding alum of the AustraLearn/AsiaLearn/EuroLearn study abroad programs. The recipient must have a desire to work in the field of international education.

Jackson, a 2006 Furman graduate and 2005 veteran of the AustraLearn program, was recognized in May at the National Association for Foreign Student Affairs conference, a gathering of international education professionals held in Washington, D.C. Not long after the conference, she accepted a position as assistant director of the American Institute for Foreign Study, working out of the organization's San Francisco office. Her primary role is to promote study abroad and cultural exchange programs to AIFS partner institutions and students.

Bill Lavery, former director of international education and professor emeritus of history at Furman, helped Jackson arrange to participate in the AustraLearn program. He says he isn't surprised she was chosen for the honor: "If we could plug wires into her, we'd have a renewable energy source."

In an essay about her study abroad experience, which was part of her application for the award, Jackson wrote, "I don't look at traveling as a holiday or a trip. I look at it as a learning experience and a way to understand the world better. I don't think that's something you can get out of your system. It's a part of me."

During her five months in New Zealand, where she studied at Victoria University of Wellington, Jackson says she was determined to live as a resident, not as a visitor. "You can learn a lot from anyone who comes across your path," she says. "It was the first time I actually lived in another country. The other times, I traveled."

One of her most intense experiences came on the Bay of Islands, where she worked on an organic farm. In exchange for room and board, she was able to learn about the environmental challenges facing the country's agricultural economy.

"They are one of the most green, organically concerned environments in the world," she says. "I wanted to see that firsthand rather than just read about it in my tourist book."

After returning to Furman and completing her degree in history, Jackson, a native of Fort Worth, Fla., taught English in rural schools in France and worked in Washington, D.C., for a national youth leadership conference. She eventually hopes to pursue a master's degree in international education.

Adapted from an article by Stacey Hartmann, a writer for AustraLearn/AsiaLearn/EuroLearn (Educational Programs of GlobalLinks). Photo courtesy AustraLearn.

