

Dear Class Members of 1955,

My name is Dan Carney and I am a sophomore at Cornell. I am studying history and education. Cornell has a saying: One extraordinary opportunity after another.

Due to your support, I was able to study in Guatemala for two months. I went to a school called Juan Sisay, where I studied Spanish for five days a week over an eight and half week span. This experience was my first time out of the United States. Moving from Mount Vernon, Iowa to Guatemala was an eye-opening experience. There are many things that people in the United States take for granted.

I cannot even begin to describe all of the many wonderful things I learned. I was able to learn about Guatemala's rich culture and many traditions; this is something that I would have not been able to do in the classroom. I was able experience this all in person.

While in Guatemala, I lived with a host family and learned about their many traditions. I tried many new foods. I was also able to travel around Guatemala and visit many places over my two month stay.

This experience will be one that I will never forget. I want to thank the members of the Class of '55 for their commitment to the students; without your help, I would have not been able to study abroad. After I graduate, I hope to be able to return to Guatemala and volunteer with the local population; this third-world country is in desperate need of help from the rest of the world. This experience has helped me really appreciate all that I have in life.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Dan Carney

