

Dear Class of 1955,

I am so grateful for the generosity you have shown me through your sponsorship of the Class of '55 Scholarship program. Traveling to Spain this spring was an incredible opportunity for me. As a future medical professional, having a fluent knowledge of the Spanish language is as important for success as a thorough understanding of human anatomy. Communication barriers represent a huge challenge for medical professionals and leave many patients without quality care. With the education in Spanish that I have received at Cornell I will be able to compassionately minister to my future patients' medical needs.

This was my very first opportunity to travel abroad and the experience was life-changing. I am eager to travel to Europe again. Not only was I able to study in Spain for the block, but I had the opportunity to continue my travels over spring break. My traveling companions and I visited Germany and had the remarkable opportunity to compare the cultures and history of both countries. Both countries have had turbulent recent-pasts and I learned a great deal from my travels that I had never known before.

It is remarkable that your class understands the value of off-campus study and continues to support such valuable academic endeavors. Every student should have a learning experience abroad. Living in a foreign country challenged me to reach beyond my comfort zone and taught me a new way to view the world. Without your contributions, I would have never been able to afford this life-changing experience.

Thank you again for your generous donation.

Sincerely,

Elise Mead
Class of 2013

