Dear Class of 1955,

I am extremely grateful for the generosity you have shown me through your sponsorship of the Class of '55 Scholarship program. Traveling to Belize was an incredible learning opportunity for me. I held an octopus, swam with several schools of fish, and had the opportunity to explore some of the most beautiful coral reefs in the world. As a future medical professional, having experience with scientific research is invaluable as I leave Cornell College to go on to medical school. Without research and critical thinking, it would be impossible to improve treatments and methods to better meet patients' medical needs.

It is remarkable that your class understands the value of off-campus study and continues to support such valuable academic endeavors. Having paid for my own education and worked full-time throughout my years at Cornell, I understand the cost that accompanies such a vibrant educational experience. Every student should have a learning experience abroad and your scholarship helps to make these experiences a reality. Studying at a field station combined with a laboratory setting has challenged me to utilize the knowledge I have gained in my classes here at Cornell and has taught me a new way to analyze and solve problems. Without your contributions, I would have never been able to afford this life-changing experience.

Thank you again for your generous donation.

Sincerely,

Kyle Durgin, Class of 2014



I'm the one on the far left.