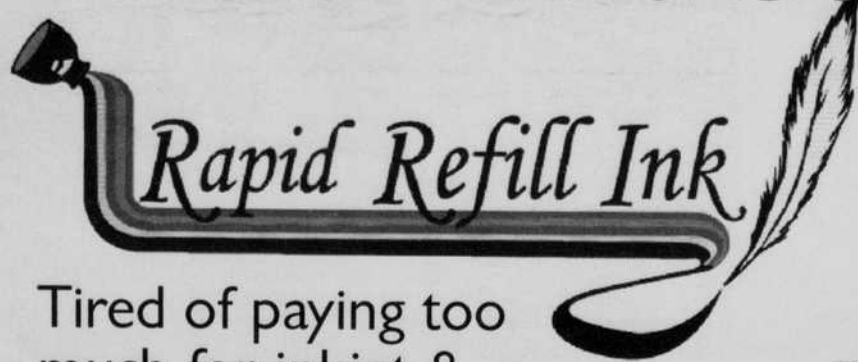


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Where Work meets Travel

Three seniors found the right paths for their post-college careers that lead to California, Germany and Japan

BY EMILY VANDEHEY
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

Graduation — and entry into the real world — is inevitable. One day there will be no more classes, part-time jobs, partying any night of the week and vacations every 10 weeks with summer breaks.

Although "growing up" might sound dreary, there is no reason for the fun to stop. For some, it is only a matter of finding the right path to make the next step in life interesting. Three seniors at the University found the path best suited for them through travel, work or a combination of both.

Christen Moore, who graduated winter term, could not resist the temptation to travel after years of studying.

"I wanted to take time off before grad school," Moore said. "I figure I'll have the rest of my life to work in my career."

For now, Moore committed to a program called Camp Adventure, an internship that sends college students and graduates to volunteer as camp counselors for kids who live on military bases around the world. Camp Adventure provides the counselors with a plane ticket, housing and a living stipend of about \$20 per day.

Summer 2004 was Moore's first time as a Camp Adventure counselor. She traveled to Zama, Japan, an hour-and-a-half train ride from Tokyo, and volunteered on an Army base. Because she has graduated, she will help at one camp this summer and then join the Children's Development Center as a staff member in the fall. Her first stop will be St. Mawgan, England, and then she hopes to live in southern Germany.

Although she is excited about traveling, the job also caters to her

future career plans: She wants to become a therapist who works with children, specifically those who are emotionally disturbed.

Senior Eugene Roberts plans to use his degree in Japanese to go to Japan to teach English. He will soon fly to Los Angeles to interview with AEON, a business that sends native English speakers with bachelor's degrees to Japan to teach English.

If Roberts is accepted, AEON would provide him with housing and pay him about \$30,000 to work an average of 25 hours per week for one year.

"I don't want to have to get a real job out of college, and (living in Japan) will really help me with my Japanese," Roberts said. "Why not live there for a year and get paid for it?"

Roberts wants to use his Japanese language skills in his future career and believes teaching in Japan is the best way for him to become more acquainted with the language.

Senior Steve Johnson, an accounting major, has already secured a job as a staff accountant working in audits for Conrad and Associates in Orange County, Calif.

Starting in mid-July, Johnson will go through about two weeks of training exercises before he starts working with clients. For 40 hours per week and \$39,000 per year, Johnson will be providing clients with audit assurance services, which ensure the clients follow accounting standards and work with good business practices.

"Having a job secured is a big relief off my shoulders right before graduation," he said. "Now I know I can pay off the out-of-state tuition."

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