

IALS Conference in Memphis, TN

From April 19th to 22nd, Mrs. Bird and Mrs. Tomer attended the annual conference of the International Association of Laboratory Schools, where they presented a session on “Encouraging Critical Thinking and Problem Solving in an Early Childhood Make Shop”.



The conference included tours of the University of Memphis Campus Elementary School, the Barbara K. Lipman Early Childhood School and Research Institute, and the Maxine Smith STEAM Middle School, talks about the role of laboratory schools in advancing educational theory, research and practice, and receptions at the Confucius Institute and on a Mississippi River Boat.

Honor for Lisa Murphy

Excerpts from **“Senior Wants to Help Young Children Reach Their Potential”**

By Emily Stimmel

<http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/news/news-stories/2017/april/murphy-lankford-award.html>



Carnegie Mellon University's Lisa Murphy ... is the 2017 recipient of the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences' Gretchen Lankford Prize ... Named for the late Gretchen Goldsmith Lankford, the prize underscores her deep conviction that “devoted teaching makes a difference in the lives of young people, helping them to fulfill their potentials as intellectuals, citizens and as human beings.” Murphy plans to pursue a master's degree in special education and teach children between preschool and first grade. She is particularly interested in understanding how children on the autism spectrum learn and develop. “Each child is a different puzzle and I love the challenge of combining observations, collaboration with others and research to figure out what the most effective intervention may be,” said Murphy, who is majoring in psychology with a concentration in child development ... According to Sharon Carver, Murphy has found her niche teaching in early elementary inclusive classrooms. Murphy has interned in an autism support classroom at The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh and is currently a teacher's assistant in an inclusive first grade class at the Environmental Charter School.

Outside the classroom, Murphy is the vice president of the ... Psi Chi psychology honor society and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She has organized the 3v3 basketball tournament for the Special Olympics at CMU ... and she has established a reputation as the greatest basketball player in CMU history. Carver believes these diverse activities will help Murphy become a better teacher. “As a scholar-athlete, Lisa has also developed her leadership and teamwork skills, so she is poised to combine her personal passion with a proactive and productive approach to improving special education during children's foundational years,” said Carver ... Murphy has been accepted to three ... master's programs in special education. She believes the Lankford Prize will positively impact her future goals. “It serves as validation that my ambitions and goals to enter the field of teaching are meaningful and promising,” said Murphy.

The Children's School educators are honored to have been a part of Lisa's professional journey at CMU, and we eagerly anticipate word of her impact in education.

Undergraduate Spotlight Farewell Seniors!

We are saying good-bye to six of our highly valued student employees.



- **Lilah Buchanan** plans to complete her undergraduate degree in August. *"I am really excited to be getting to join the Children's School June camp this year. After I graduate, I plan to return to Portland, Oregon when I look forward to working to support families facing difficult situations. I plan to pursue graduate school in social work."*

- **Lexi Delarosa** says, *"Following graduation I'll be working at a summer camp in the arts/performance and sports department with ages anywhere between 5 and 14 years old. I'll then be returning to school near home in New York for my Master's degree in either occupational or exercise therapy while simultaneously performing / auditioning whenever and wherever I can and working on getting my yoga teacher training ☺."*



- **Liz Dolinar** plans to return to her home in Cleveland, Ohio to work as a full-time intern architect at the international firm DLR Group / Westlake Reed Leskosky. *"I am excited to rejoin DLR/WRL's healthcare design team after my internship with them last summer, and I will be working on earning my professional license. My summer plans include volunteering, reading, camping, and visiting the beach before I start work in June!"*

- **Rafael McCauley** plans to pursue a career in Computer Security. *"If all goes well, I'll be interning here in Pittsburgh this summer as a junior penetration tester finding computer system vulnerabilities a hacker could exploit. I hope to learn a lot and be able to start helping make "the cyber" safer very soon ☺."*



- **Caroline Santilli** comments, *"My future plans are to work in the box office of an opera house in Stonington, Maine this summer and spend some time with my family. Then, in the fall, I will be attending George Washington University for two years to gain a Master's degree in Art Therapy."*

- **Jaclyn Zois** plans to begin her Master of Science degree in Medical Sciences at Boston University School of Medicine this fall. *"It will definitely be an adjustment from Pittsburgh and all the communities I have here at CMU, but I'm excited to go back home! From there, I plan to attend medical school with the ultimate goal of becoming a pediatric specialist."*



Thanks to all of our seniors for the support of our programs, and best wishes for thriving in your personal and professional lives!