

## Business Scholar Trip to New York City

Earlier this year, the Business Scholars visited the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX). The trip began at the crack of dawn, as elbow to elbow with other commuters they rode the train into New York. From the start, it was apparent that it would be a long day since the commute itself was approximately two hours long. Strolling along with the other Wall Street elite, they reached the NYMEX – greeted with open arms. Shortly after their arrival, the Scholars went down to the exchange floor to witness the opening bell.

The intensity of the initial trading surprised our Scholars. They were flabbergasted. Another interesting factor that was immediately obvious was that the NYMEX traders were predominately men, with the exception of two women. As the Scholars observed the shouts, hand motions, and throwing of the “cards”, their guide explained that the traders frequently attended voice and card throwing lessons to learn the correct technique for the business.

After watching the brutal pace on the trading floor and touring the museum, the Scholars headed out for a New York business lunch. Over lunch they discussed future plans with recent college graduate and Goldman Sachs employee, Erin Conroy. Her insight showed the Scholars that they were on the right track and should continue to research internships and study-abroad opportunities.

The experience as a whole allowed the Scholars to see possible work opportunities for them. They all agreed life at the NYMEX wasn't for them. It was just a little too hectic! The Scholars did, however, agree that an internship in the local area with a company that trades on the NYMEX would be an exceptional alternative. In addition to that decision, the Scholars decided that New York would be a fascinating place to have an internship though commuting was definitely not an option for them.

The Business Scholars thoroughly enjoyed their experience and would love to go on similar trips. New York was an excellent place to visit, and they would love to go back.

- This NYC trip paper was a collaborative effort of the Class of 2009 from the trip in March, 2006.