Minnesota State Mankato Senior Reaches Fulbright Semi-Finals

Minnesota State senior Megan Sandberg (Environmental Sciences, ‘17) has recently been named a semi-finalist in the 2017-2018 Fulbright Scholarship competition. Megan applied for an English Teaching Assistantship in Ecuador, and will receive a final selection notification later this semester.

The English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Programs place Fulbrighters in classrooms abroad to provide assistance to the local English teachers. ETA’s help teach English language while serving as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. The age and academic level of the students varies by country, ranging from kindergarten to university level. The Fulbright Program also offers study/research grants for students in any discipline.

Megan decided to apply for the ETA because of her positive experience volunteering in the English as a Second Language (ESL) classroom at Mankato West. She says she loves to travel and wanted a little time before beginning graduate school. She selected Ecuador because she enjoyed past experiences traveling there and wanted to continue learning about the culture and language.

Megan minors in Chemistry and Spanish. She has volunteered in the Mankato community, including West High School, CADA, and the Mayo Clinic. If awarded the Fulbright, Megan will spend the next year volunteering and traveling, and then begin medical school the following year. Her long term goals include getting a graduate degree in public health and improving public health policy. She believes the Fulbright ETA will take her out of her comfort zone, help her to improve her understanding of another culture, improve her Spanish skills, and make her a more compassionate and understanding physician.

Megan utilized resources in the Office of University Fellowships in her pursuit of this award.

For more information on the Office of University Fellowships at Minnesota State Mankato, see www.mnsu.edu/fellowships.

For more information on Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships, see https://us.fulbrightonline.org/about/types-of-awards/english-teaching-assistant-awards.