



Name: **Joey Clements**

Age: **22**

Level (sophomore, junior, etc): **Senior**

Major: **Public Relations/Communications**

Hometown: **West Palm Beach**

Internship Opportunity: **United Nations-World Food Programme- Rome, Italy**

Interview

How did you learn about the internship and what motivated you to pursue it?

I met Dr. Borg and Dr. Soderberg when I went through the Truman Scholar process. After learning of my interests Dr. Soderberg informed me about the internship possibility with the UN. They both were instrumental in encouraging me to apply and take a risk.

Tell me about the goals and objectives you set to achieve before you started your work.

I really did not have any pre-conceived ideas about the internship. I did some research before I left about the World Food Program, but had no idea what all was in store for me.

Tell me a little bit about the projects your worked on and what your responsibilities consisted of?

I worked specifically with the Special Projects Office to help insure crops in Ethiopia, Switzerland, and China. One of my major roles was to create powerpoint presentations for this project. I also worked on a Carbon Finance Project that involved estimating revenue from carbon credits in different countries as a means of fundraising for The World Food Program.

What was the most surprising or unanticipated thing you learned?

I was surprised to learn that the education you receive in college is vital to the development of your career. I really did have an opportunity to apply my education in a practical way. Another valuable lesson I learned is that personal reference for a position is priceless. The networking possibilities that this internship created will enhance the potential opportunities for myself and my fellow students. Experiences such as this separate UNF from other institutions!

Did the internship change your course of education at all? If so, how?

If I could back and do it all again, I would change my major to International Studies, which is my minor. The internship confirmed that foreign policy is the field for me.

What advice or insight would you offer to other students considering an internship or transformation learning opportunity?

My advice to any student considering an internship is not to wait! Don't think that another time would be better than now. The earlier you start experiencing these types of opportunities, the better. One opportunity often leads to another.

What lies ahead for you now that you have completed the internship?

I am actually working with Dr. Soderberg on another TLO in Washington, DC. I will have the opportunity to work on a team that will present a policy proposal at the Pentagon to House and Senate members.