



Congratulations!

2011 Ferguson Scholar

SHANNON H. DAVIES

Northern Lehigh High School
Slatington, Pennsylvania, Class of 2009

Current Sophomore University of Pittsburgh
Chemistry Major, Italian Minor

The third time was the charm for Shannon Davies, showing that her hard work and persistence paid off! Shannon first applied as a senior in 2009 and again in 2010. Both years she was a semi-finalist. Undeterred by the disappointment of not being selected, she submitted another terrific application this year and made it to the top ten.

In high school, Shannon took a rigorous course load and graduated with a 5.60 weighted GPA and 3.93 unweighted. She was active in Field Hockey as Captain, Track, Cheerleading, V.P. of National Honor Society, and Student Council, as well as doing volunteer work at Lehigh Valley Hospital. Shannon received many awards in high school, including an award for Altruism.

At Pittsburgh, Shannon continues to stay involved in the community and at school. She has performed over 300 hours of community service with a program called "Jumpstart Pittsburgh." Jumpstart is a national early literacy organization that provides one-to-one relationships between young children and adults. She is also a member of their Esprit de Corp, a leadership team responsible for maintaining high team morale in the Jumpstart program. She volunteered additional community service as part of the Pitt "Project Oakland."

While maintaining a strong 3.2 GPA and working part-time, Shannon is a member and Senator of the Residential Student Association, continues to play Field Hockey, is a member of the Student Alumni Association, and member of the Italian Club. She has volunteered at the Pitt "Make a Difference" program, "Arrival Survival" for incoming freshmen, and a Family Resource Camp volunteer. Shannon also participated in the Panther Leadership Summit.

Shannon's personal essay compared her life to a novel in progress, deftly using people and situations in her life that have influenced the content of the pages to-date. She acknowledges her mother as "the glue that holds the book binding together," and her grandfather as her "publisher" in always being there to support her and give her honest opinions.

One of her reference letters describes Shannon as, "... strong, caring and compassionate ..." and "always very energetic and positive both inside and outside of the classroom." Another teacher called her "... very mature and dedicated." He went on to state that Shannon was one of the few students selected to participate in a six-week summer program in Sicily based on her strong academic record, dedication to her studies, and her overall maturity."

Donna Davies, proud mom of Shannon, works at location #774 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, at the counter and doing administrative work.

Best of luck in your Junior Year at the University of Pittsburgh

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