

Undergrad at Big Four



Undergraduate Charlotte Hoopes pictures herself in business. She would not have seen that image without the help and example of Professor DeTienne (on Charlotte's right) and other mentors who have shaped her future.

Charlotte Hoopes, undergraduate in accounting and in Spanish at BYU, was the quiet one who sat in the back of class and only spoke when spoken to. She never pictured herself doing mentored research. Now she is under the wing of brilliant women in her field who have given her the chance to discover her own potential.

In 2001 Argentina suffered a major economic collapse. Hoopes will be visiting Argentina this summer to research how customer expectations change during turbulent economic periods.

“I took a class from Professor DeTienne two years ago,” says Hoopes, “and I’m still working with her. She has trusted me and is confident enough in my abilities that she is able to hand things over to me.”

Hoopes continues to discover pleasant surprises worth adding to her resume. “I’ve figured out that I like to write and I can do it really well. I’m surprised at myself. We’ve published two articles now.” Co-authoring in two peer-reviewed journals does nothing if not help propel a young person forward.

Ernst and Young, one of the “Big Four” accounting firms in the U.S., has recruited Hoopes to work for them in Boston—a great opportunity for an undergraduate.

But Hoopes won’t stop there. “I’ve been encouraged by Kristen DeTienne and Kristie Seawright to pursue a PhD [in business],” says Hoopes. “It’s appealing to me. I’m interested in that. I would like to teach, I love to do research, and earning a PhD allows more flexibility in both of those areas.”

Doors have opened for Hoopes, and more doors are opening for more students as they engage in advanced research projects. “All they need to do is knock,” says Hoopes.

Spring 2005 ~ Rebecca Fishbein