2012

2012 Research at Andrews

Andrews University

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For: Kristina, you described your research as “non-traditional.” In what way is this non-traditional?

KP: My research is non-traditional in the sense that traditional research is going into the field, getting something, and bringing it back for study. My field is journalism, and that is research—uncovering a story, finding a source for an interview, conducting interviews, that sort of thing. Journalism is research and reporting. So my project isn’t traditional research, but it’s supporting the effort of research—more creative scholarship, in a sense. We’re saying, “this is what people have been finding: no one knows about it and we need to figure out a way to make that happen.”

For: So now you’ve both got what sounds like extensive real experience and experience doing research. How has this affected your professional development?

SG: I’m actually not going into this area, but I have a permanent obsession with identity. The topic comes up a lot in systematic theology [her area of interest], in relation to the “other.” A lot of theologians are beginning to dialogue with anthropologists, and I realize that my research can be applied to many areas of interest.

Doing the research itself has given me a chance to learn a lot more about my areas of research, and see what it is like to do fieldwork. When you’re the one doing research and not just learning about someone doing research, it’s very enlightening. You begin to recognize the sense and the logic behind the methodologies.

KP: The chance that research provided for me to go to another country is really big, and I wouldn’t have had it if not for the undergraduate research program and my teachers. I didn’t know there were research avenues for me to explore and communicate with others, gain sources and do research. The chance that research provided for me to go to another country is really big, and I wouldn’t have had it if not for the undergraduate research program and my teachers. I didn’t know there were research avenues for me to explore and communicate with others, gain sources and do research.

Research writer Samantha Snively learned she became the third recipient of the Earhart Emerging Scholar award.

Focus on Editor’s note: Following the MASAL Conference, for example—always help professionally.

In Southeast Asia, for example—always help professionally.

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