Whitney was hired at the National Bison Range in Montana to run the visitor center as a Visitor Service Technician. She also worked alongside the Biologists and assisted in surveys of bison and bluebirds, a necropsy of a bison corpse and had a special project that challenged her to restore an interpretive sign as well as implement a children’s program for backpacks to use at the nature trail. Whitney conducted monthly kid’s science and nature days and drove the range every evening after close to ensure that no visitors were left on the roads and that everyone was in a safe condition (humans and animals alike).

Whitney enjoyed the beauty of Montana as seen in one of many extraordinary photos she took on the right. She had the opportunity to visit Glacier National Park during her internship where she hiked 10.5 miles and got to stand on an iceberg in a lake.

While during the internship, she deemed it important to ask each employee about there job to gain a grasp of what kind responsibilities are expected in various positions. She also had perfect opportunity to learn more about opportunities with the Fish and Wildlife Service while she was there. Whitney really enjoyed what she did and encourages other students to branch out and find internships outside of the state if possible.

Is it Bison or Buffalo?

We don’t really have buffalo in North America. The true buffalo are the Cape buffalo of Africa and the water buffalo of Asia. However, the American bison has been called “buffalo” for so long that we use the names interchangeably. Technically, these North American animals are bison. All are related in the cow family but they have some physical differences, including horn shape and type of fur.
Taylor Potter: From Mountains to Waves

This summer Taylor completed the RA 401 internship with an Outdoor Adventure Company, Bold Earth Teen Adventures. He really enjoyed the opportunity working for such a fantastic company.

He traveled to places like Hawaii and Colorado working with his partner to offer adventure programming for teens. He also met many inspiring people who are passionate about the outdoors and recreation. That, combined with the awesome job of hanging out with teenagers for 14-21 days (with pay) and no bills made this summer one of the best experiences Taylor had ever had.

Taylor highly recommends this Company to anyone else who is interested in either internships or work in the Outdoor Recreation field. Taylor plans to go back next summer and add to his experience working for Bold Earth Teen Adventures.

Check out Taylor’s professional portfolio on the Bold Earth homepage. We urge development of a similar page as soon as possible to market YOU to prospective internship companies/organizations and employers! Portfolios are required of all students completing the RA 391/392/400 courses.

Melissa Guirola: Rockin’ the Rockies

Melissa was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to work in Colorado for her internship with the organization Leave No Trace in Boulder, Colorado. As part of her internship Melissa had a unique opportunity to visit the Great Sand Dunes National Park where she helped build a bridge and conducted a thirty minute awareness workshop. She thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of her time spent there, but mostly enjoyed the spectacular views and beautiful weather.

Leave no Trace refers to a set of outdoor ethics that promote conservation in the outdoors. It is built on seven principles: Plan ahead and prepare, travel and camp on durable surfaces, dispose of waste properly, leave what you find, minimize campfire impacts, respect wildlife, and be considerate of others visitors. Melissa spent her entire time promoting those principles and teaching others to follow them as well.

Why Should I Go To MRPA/NRPA?

The Mississippi and National Recreation & Park Associations are important for not only professionals in the field, but to students as well. These conferences provide the opportunity to interact, learn, and network with one another. Past graduates from the University of Mississippi have made professional connections, found internships, and jobs while attending these conferences.

Attending is highly beneficial and begins your professional career through networking with the practitioners. Attending these conferences can be a bit expensive for a student; limited scholarships are offered through the MRPA and NRPA websites that give students the opportunity to attend at a discounted rate or for free. The requirements for the MRPA scholarship are not extensive and time spent completing the scholarship application is worth the experiences you will gain from attending. So what are you waiting for? Register for the conferences, apply for scholarship, and start networking!
We Welcome
Dr. KoFan Lee to the Recreation Administration Family

**MRPA INFO**

- Located in Biloxi, MS @ the Golden Nugget Casino
- Cost per Student is: $120 Non-member, $105 MRPA Member
- Non-Member registration comes with a complimentary one-year membership for first-time attendees. Golf registration and CEU credit fees are included in professional registration.
- Call the Golden Nugget at 228-435-5400 with the group code S146011 to make lodging reservations.
- REGISTER AT:
  http://www.aboutmrpa.org/DelegateRegistration.htm

**NRPA INFO**

- Located at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina
- Cost per Student is: $100 Non-member, $0 NRPA Member
- Non-member registration fees automatically include individual membership to NRPA for one-year.
- Call: 888.385.8010 for questions in regards to Registration
- REGISTER AT:
  http://www.nrpa.org/Congress2014/registration/

**PROFESSORS CORNER**

- Degree audits are a must. If you are graduating in May make sure to complete a degree audit this fall. Visit the School of Applied Science for more information
- The 2014 OPC/RAMMA Haunted Trail is scheduled October 29&30. The Annual Haunted Trail Pilgrimage Touring haunted trails, houses and shops is Friday October 24. See Dr. Beason
- Spring and Summer Advising will be the third week in October. Make sure to schedule a time to be advised!