

2003:

Luong Le
Arizona State University

Update on Luong Le -- From the letter he wrote:

"I am very grateful for what Desert Extrusion has contributed to my educational experience. Even as I am starting my second year at ASU, your company has supported me. I hope you will accept this letter of gratitude for what the Bill Nelson Scholarship Endowment has done for me my first year.

I am planning to keep on working extremely hard for the benefit of keeping my parents' and Desert Extrusion and its employees' good name. As of now, I am taking summer courses and working after school and weekends to show the world and myself that I am capable of self-efficient. Because my education path is long, I know what is expected of me, and that expectation is to be responsible, hard working, and reliable. Hopefully the next time I write you another letter is when I have fulfilled my expectation for my second year at ASU.

Once again I would like to thank everyone for their support."

Luong Le

2002:

Adam Woodcock
University of Georgia

Update on Adam Woodcock -- From the letter he wrote October 5, 2005:

"I actually graduated this past May 2005 from the University of Georgia and Terry College of Business with a B.B.A. degree in Management Information Systems. Though I miss the experiences I had and the friends that I made while in college, I do realize the impact that all of it had on me as a person. College is one of those stepping-stones or pre-cursors that involves a large growth period in a young person's life which helps to craft him/her into the adult they are becoming. I am very grateful for all of the opportunities that came along while I was in school, as they have better prepared me for my career and life. In fact, I am considering going on to Graduate school in order to get my Masters to further those opportunities.

I want to say thank you to the Bill Nelson family and all of the trustees for being a part of that experience with me because you also aided in providing those opportunities through the scholarship endowment that I received.

Currently, I have decided to take the year off from school and work instead, in order to gain some working experience to complement my college degree. I am currently employed by Rotary Corporation in my hometown of Glennville, GA. The best part is that I am close to my family, and they are very important to me. I am also doing what I love to do, and that is working with technology. As yet another transition into the next phase of my life begins, I look forward to the next direction that my life, family, and career will take me.

Thanks again for continuing the memory of Mr. Bill Nelson through this scholarship as well. I hope his family knows the impact that they have on each young person's life by providing and giving back through this endowment fund."

Sincerely, Adam Woodcock

2001:

Patrick Wahl
Amherst, New York

2000:

Matthew A. Scott
Kansas State University

Update on Matt Scott -- From the letter he wrote September 29, 2005:

"Hello, my name is Matt Scott and I am a past recipient of the Bill Nelson Scholarship. I am writing to provide you with an update of my academic progress.

I graduated from Kansas State University in May of 2005 with a BS degree in Honors Mechanical Engineering, a Secondary Major in International Studies and a Minor in Spanish (overall GPA: 3.90). I have since moved on to the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign (Go Illini!!) to pursue a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

I am in the first semester of a Master's program here in Champaign. I am here on a full Research Assistantship working on a project involving the quantitative visualization of CO₂-Oil flows. I have only been in Champaign for a few months, but I have instantly fallen in love with this school. I am a member of the Ultimate Frisbee team (called "Fist") here (with what spare time I have) and I travel with the team to tournaments around the United States.

I do not believe I ever got a chance to thank you for the financial support this endowment provided me. With your help, and with a few other scholarships, I was able to graduate from Kansas State with very little debt to follow me around. I realize that this is very rare today, and I just wanted to sincerely thank your organization for their support. So, thank you again and I will keep you all updated on any future endeavors."

Sincerely, Matt Scott