

JONES INTERNSHIP WELCOMES TWO FROM TULANE LAW

The Scott S. Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives at Tulane named four Tulane graduate students to its spring internship program. Two honorees were third-year law students Justin Van Alstyne and David Durand.

The program, supported by a gift from the Eugenie and Joseph Jones Family Foundation, pairs the students with public schools in New Orleans to work on high-level academic and strategic projects for an entire semester. The program was created to provide valuable intellectual and human capital to the work of the K-12 public education community in New Orleans.

Van Alstyne, a former Teach for America corps member who taught English in LaPlace, La., sought to continue playing a positive role in students' lives during his internship with the Samuel Green School Library Project. Van Alstyne worked with teachers to develop a resource library to help raise student achievement and encourage students to develop lifelong reading habits.

Outreach Program at O. Perry Walker Senior High and John McDonogh No. 32 elementary school. The project aims to create a community outreach and resource center in which the schools serve as centralized facilities in their communities where parents, students, and community members receive needed services on an ongoing basis.

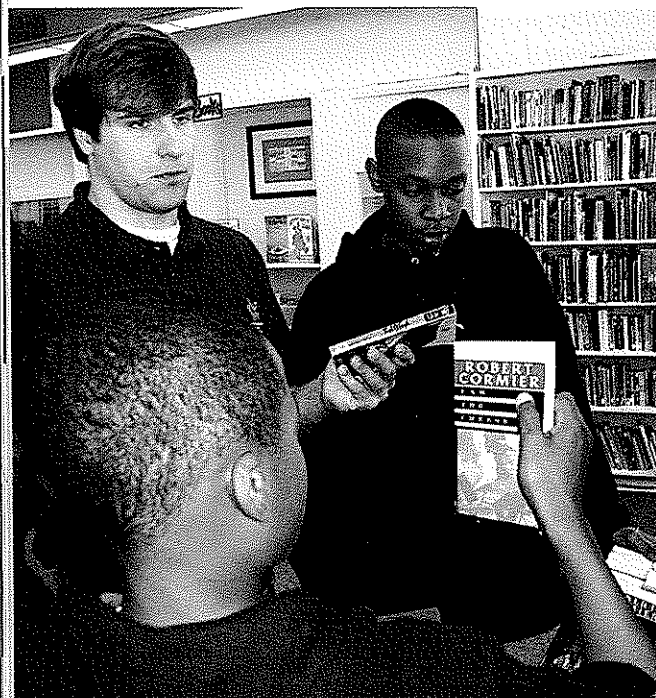
Ian Furman, an upcoming third-year law student pursuing a joint JD and MBA degree, recently completed work with the Children's Bureau of New Orleans as a fall 2008 Jones Scholar. Furman worked with the bureau in an evaluation of its Grief & Trauma Group Intervention Project.

In addition to the honor, the Cowen Institute provides a \$6,000 stipend to each Jones Scholar for his or her work on the assigned project during the course of the semester. A minimum of 20 hours per week is expected of each scholar.

Felicia Brown (L '87) serves as the institute's program manager. "Before we find the student to match with a school, we solicit program proposals from several organizations," says Brown. "We talk with the school community and they express what their needs are for that school. We then help them shape and identify projects that address pressing and challenging needs where they might be able to use a graduate student as a resource."

Brown says that students interested in applying to the program do not necessarily need a background in education.

"Part of our goal," she says, "is to provide our resources broadly so that a number of schools can take advantage of our program and the diverse skill set of our graduate students."



Left: Tulane law student Justin Van Alstyne introduces to students from Samuel J. Green Charter School a book by the late author Robert Edmund Cormier, I am the Cheese. Below: David Durand presents his community outreach project to members from the Algiers business and civic community.

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—FELICIA BROWN



Dedicated to enhancing public education, Durand was eager to work with the Algiers community to enhance community school relations. His internship involved working with the Parents Energizing Parents Community