REQUIRED FIRST REPORT DOCUMENT
Due to your scholarship coordinator no later than two months after your arrival in your study country

FIRST REPORT COVER PAGE
Your Name: Jamie Smidt
Your Current Mailing Address: Avenida Pedro de Valdivia 072, Departamento 501
Providencia, Santiago de Chile
Your Current Telephone and Fax Numbers: 77024900
Your Current E-mail Address: jlsmidt@gmail.com
Name and Address of the Person Supervising Your Study or Training Program at Your Assigned Institution:
Patricia Uribe, Avda. Lib. Bernardo O’Higgins 340, Santiago de Chile

Please answer the questions below in your First Report. Send copies of this cover page and your First Report to your scholarship coordinator at The Rotary Foundation and host and sponsor district governors and counselors. Write the report in your native language for your sponsor Rotarians and in your host country language for your host Rotarians and scholarship coordinator.

Please keep in mind that your First Report should be a substantial discussion of your scholarship, at least two pages long, and typed single-spaced.

1. Provide information about your study program, including your adaptation and progress with your studies.
2. Describe what steps you and your sponsor Rotarians took to prepare for your experience abroad. How did this preparation help you to meet the challenges of living and studying in your host country?
3. How have you been involved in Rotary since you arrived in your host country? Please describe the ambassadorial activities in which you have participated.
4. What are your first impressions of your host country and the people in your community? Please describe culturally significant locations you have visited and opportunities you have had to share your culture.
5. Please submit quality photographs portraying your experiences in ambassadorial or academic situations, if available.

Along with the First Report, submit to the Foundation the following:
A. Copies of tuition receipts
B. Confirmation of Costs Form
C. Required Presentations Form
Jamie Smidt
First Report
Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship
June 15, 2011

I am studying agricultural economics at La Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile in Santiago. Prior to classes, I took an intensive language course at La Escuela Bellavista, also in Santiago. It had been several years since I was in formal language courses, so the intensive course was very helpful to jump-start my speaking skills. In addition, the school provided housing until I was able to locate my own apartment. The school also had weekly excursions to introduce students to the city of Santiago. We visited museums, historical sites and parks. Learning Chilean slang and vocabulary from native Chileans was also a great advantage of the language course.

My classes at the university have been interesting, challenging and rewarding. One of my courses happened to be taught by an American, who lectured in English. Most of the readings and homework, however, were in Spanish. My other classes were completely in Spanish. Chilean courses include a great number of group projects. As an international student, I appreciated group projects as they provided an opportunity to work in small groups with native Chileans. I’ve made a number of friends from my courses and look forward to taking classes with them next semester.

As part of my “economics of rural development” class, I completed an extensive research paper on the production of organic and biodynamic Chilean wine for export to niche markets in the United States and Europe. I hope to continue this research next semester, expanding it into a study of consumer responses to wine labels.

By far, the most disappointing and frustrating part of this experience has been the utter lack of assistance or attention from Rotarians in Santiago. I sent a series of emails to my “host counselor” several months before my scholarship period began, all of which went unanswered. I was not met at the airport, nor given any type of assistance with finding housing, enrolling in courses, opening a bank account or filing for a Chilean identification card. In fact, I didn’t even MEET a Rotarian until I had been in Santiago for seven weeks.

Rotary districts Chile do not sponsor Ambassadorial Scholars, so most Rotarians aren’t aware of the program, nor do they understand why we’re here. To fulfill the presentation requirements of the scholarship, the other scholars and I have had to BEG Rotarians (most of whom we found online and have never met) to attend meetings and conferences. My “host counselor” is seldom available by phone or email.

On a positive note, my life in Santiago has been a true ex-pat experience. Having to literally do everything myself, without support, has proven that I can
Indeed live and survive abroad. Unfortunately, this has been far less a Rotary experience and far more a study abroad experience. Thankfully the staff members at my university have been incredibly helpful. They are supportive and responsive, providing a wonderful environment to study abroad and learn about Chilean culture. I’ve studied abroad twice before, and this has been the most organized, positive experience I’ve ever had. La Pontificia Universidad Catolica has a well-developed office of international programs, which includes student staff members who plan trips, organize conversation exchanges and put themselves at our disposal. I’ve already been in touch with the study abroad office at Kansas State University, my alma mater, to encourage them to send more students to this university.

My living situation is very comfortable. I live in Providencia, a safe neighborhood full of amenities such as restaurants, parks and gyms. Grocery stores are nearby, as is the metro and many bus routes. I have a small bedroom and private bathroom, in an apartment with a Chilean and a Mexican. My building is safe, completely gated with a doorman 24 hours a day.

Because I have little to no contact with Rotary Clubs in Santiago (which appear to do very little community service), all of my volunteer work is through the university. Some students in the college of agriculture started an organic farm, called “Biohuerto,” which is used to teach lessons in urban composting and small-scale kitchen gardens. The Biohuerto was neglected over the summer vacation, so this past fall we worked hours upon hours to clear existing vegetation, build raised beds and a new composting facility. We’ve already planted an abundance of organic food and herbs, all of which will be donated to soup kitchens around the city. I work in the Biohuerto 5-10 hours each week, including planning meetings and manual labor. Having lived on a farm most of my life, I’m quit unaccustomed to life in a big city. The Biohuerto provides a welcome relief from the hustle and bustle of Santiago. Next semester I hope to expand my volunteer work to include building homes in impoverished communities.

My first impression of Santiago was not good. It’s a large, intimidating city, and the “Chilean” dialect of Castellano is difficult to understand and learn. The people, at first, appear to be very private and standoffish. Five months later, however, I’ve certainly adjusted to life in Santiago and I am very comfortable there. I have a small, but reliable group of friends, a mixture of Chileans, Americans and other nationalities. With friends, I’ve traveled to Argentina, Easter Island, the Atacama Desert and Bolivia.

The first semester of my year abroad was all about survival. I had to find a place to live, learn my way around the city and practice speaking “Chilean Spanish.” This next semester I hope to participate in more volunteer work, learn to dance the Salsa, advance my speaking skills and travel to more parts of the country. It is my hope that Rotarians in rural areas are a bit more accommodating than Rotarians in Santiago.

Despite the lack of contact with Rotary Clubs, this has already been one of the best years of my life, and I have very high hopes for the second half!
3 cursos @ $1000 USD cada uno = $3.000 USD
Costo de administración y servicios = $250 USD

Precio total = $3.250 USD
REQUIRED FIRST REPORT DOCUMENT

(PLEASE SUBMIT WITH YOUR FIRST REPORT)
DUE TO YOUR SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATOR NO LATER THAN TWO MONTHS
AFTER YOUR ARRIVAL IN YOUR STUDY COUNTRY.

REQUIRED PRESENTATIONS FORM

As a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, part of your dual role is to serve as an ambassador of goodwill. You are required to complete presentations, as noted in “Preparing for Your Rotary Presentations” in this appendix, to Rotary and non-Rotary audiences (such as schools, community groups, peer groups, classmates, etc.) in your host district. If you have not done so already, discuss with your host counselor your plan for fulfilling this responsibility. Use this space to list the dates and places of your completed presentations and as many upcoming presentations as you have planned thus far.

**All Ambassadorial Scholars:** 10 to 15 presentations to Rotary and non-Rotary audiences. *Note:* A minimum of three presentations must be completed and three future presentations arranged before submission of the First Report.

**COMPLETED PRESENTATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Escuela Bellavista</td>
<td>February 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. La Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile - Agricultura Sustentable</td>
<td>March 2011</td>
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<td>3. Rotary Club of Vitacura, Sheraton Hotel, Providencia</td>
<td>4-Apr-2011</td>
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<td>4. Rotary Club Reina Alta</td>
<td>13-Apr-2011</td>
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<td>5. Santiago Rotary District Conference</td>
<td>15, 16-Apr-2011</td>
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<td>6. Rotary Club Huelen</td>
<td>26-Apr-2011</td>
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<td>7. Santiago District Rotary Meeting, San Bernardo</td>
<td>14-May-2011</td>
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<td>8. Manhattan, KS Rotary Club Meeting</td>
<td>14-July-2011</td>
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**FUTURE PRESENTATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Rotary Club of Nunoa, Santiago</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Rotary Club of Valparaiso</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>3. Other clubs in Providencia/Las Condes</td>
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Scholar’s Signature: [Signature] Date: 20-July-2011
Host Counselor’s Signature: [Signature] Date: June 2011
CONFIRMATION OF COSTS FORM

To assist the Rotary Scholarships program in maintaining an accurate record of costs, please complete the following as accurately as possible after arrival in your host country. Please submit this form with your First Report, along with tuition receipts, to your scholarship coordinator at The Rotary Foundation two months after your studies begin.

Name: Jamie Smidt

Study Institution: La Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Santiago

Field/Department of Study: College of Agriculture

Your Current Address: Avenida Pedro de Valdivia 072, Departamento 501 Providencia, Santiago de Chile

TUITION AND FEE INFORMATION (in local currency; specify per year or per semester)

Tuition amount charged by study institution: $1000 USD per class

Receipt of tuition fee payment must be attached to this form.

Amount of other non-tuition university fees charged per year (not including fees for insurance): $250 in semester fees

Please Note: To receive scholarship funds for approved non-tuition fees, fees must appear on receipt or invoice.

ROOM AND BOARD INFORMATION (list costs in local currency)

Living arrangement — please check box(es)

☐ University Housing ☐ Homestay
☐ Non-University Housing ☐ Other (please explain)

Monthly amount I pay for housing: 185,000 Chilean Pesos

Monthly amount I spend for food: ~$300 USD

Monthly amount I spend for local transportation: ~$150 USD

Monthly amount for utilities (gas and electric), not included with housing payment: N/A

Please complete the Scholarship Disbursement Information on the next page.
CONFIRMATION OF COSTS FORM (CONTINUED)

SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION

To assist the Rotary Scholarships program in determining the most efficient method to disburse scholarship funds to scholars, please complete the following as accurately as possible.

(Please check one)

☐ I received my scholarship funds in my host country and opened a bank account at a local bank in my study country with my scholarship funds.

— Name of your local bank and branch location where you opened your account: ______________________________________

— Did your Rotarian host counselor go with you when you opened your bank account? ☐ Yes ☐ No

— How long did you have to wait after depositing your scholarship funds before the bank allowed you access to your funds? ________ days

— Did your local bank provide you with an ATM* or debit card? ☐ Yes ☐ No

— How often do you use the ATM*? ______________________________________

— Approximately how much cash do you withdraw each week? (Please indicate currency.) _____________

☑ I received my scholarship funds in my home country and deposited them in my bank located in my home country.

This option is only approved for scholars assigned to study in certain countries where constant banking problems exist.

— Please describe how you accessed your scholarship funds while in your study country: Pay tuition via cashiers check, use cash

— How often do you use the ATM*? Twice a month

— Approximately how much cash do you withdraw each week? (Please indicate currency.) ~$200 USD

* An ATM is an automated teller machine or other bank machine or cash disbursement machine.

I paid my tuition fees using the following method:

Please check box(es)

☐ Cash
☐ Personal check
☐ Debit card
☐ Credit card
☑ Bank draft/Money order
☐ Automatic withdrawal from my checking account
☐ Other (please explain) __________________________

I paid my housing fees/rent using the following method:

Please check box(es)

☐ Cash
☐ Personal check
☐ Debit card
☐ Credit card
☐ Bank draft/Money order
☐ Automatic withdrawal from my checking account
☐ Other (please explain) __________________________