Greetings to you, and welcome to Marist College!

I am the Graduate School and Fellowship Advisor at Marist College. If you think it is just too early for me to talk to you about the following, nationally competitive scholarship opportunities—those on which I routinely advise students—please think again!

The students with whom I work at Marist are those who do more than check off course requirements; they are not the ones who count the days to the weekend, and think doing the minimum is enough. I work with students who want more; students who are hungry. They tend to travel abroad, start new ventures, and question their assumptions and those of others. These students recognize challenges in this world that they would like to take on—including those presented by competitive scholarship opportunities.

Allow me to summarize briefly just a few of these possibilities:

- You might consider applying for a scholarship that supports: budding scientific researchers (Goldwater), those keen to be involved in environmental issues (Udall), future teachers of secondary school American history or government (Madison), or of secondary school mathematics (Math for America);
- Perhaps you would like to take on a less-commonly taught language such as Arabic, Chinese, or Farsi and spend six months or a year in a country where that language is the native tongue (NSEP Boren);
- You could be interested in spending nine to eleven months after you graduate from Marist researching a specific issue or teaching English in another country (Fulbright);
- There may be public policy issues that you are eager to tackle and resolve, whether this be through work for the government or through a nonprofit organization (Truman);
- Or you might take on possibly the most competitive scholarship opportunities, and apply to study for your masters degree in the United Kingdom (Rhodes/Marshall/Gates).

As I suggested, this is just a very brief listing. You and I could discuss other options that may dovetail even more closely with your particular interests. The main thing is that you be aware of these things now—and start taking the steps which will place these opportunities closer on your horizon.

What does a student do to make these scholarships more attainable? First off, you must identify and be true to your own passions. If you devote your energies to not just demanding the most of yourself and of your studies at Marist, but also to pursuing the things that matter most to you, you will—without question—come to acquire those qualities demanded by these opportunities. Commitment; leadership; investment in community and service to others; academic excellence; self-knowledge: these are characteristics you should nurture.

It's never too early to discuss with me the kinds of scholarships that will help you to realize your dreams. Find me in the Center for Career Services (Library 332). Let's discuss the path ahead.

Enjoy the opening days of the semester. I look forward to meeting you.

Best regards,

Patricia Taylor
Graduate School and Fellowship Advisor
Pat.Taylor@marist.edu

http://www.marist.edu/academics/scholarships/