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BC Law Student Receives Schweitzer Fellowship

Boston College Law School

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BC Law Student Receives Schweitzer Fellowship

7/26/07--GEOFFREY PICKERING OF BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL HAS JOINED THE RANKS OF NEW SCHWEITZER FELLOWS.

7/26/07--Geoffrey Pickering of Boston College Law School has joined the ranks of new Schweitzer Fellows. Honoring the legacy of Dr. Albert Schweitzer by committing to a year of service with a community agency, Pickering and thirty-three other 2007-2008 Schweitzer Fellows will each devote more than 200 hours of service to local communities lacking access to adequate health services.

"I see the Schweitzer Fellowship as a way for me to be able to put into action a plan to benefit the AIDS/HIV community in a much more structured and concrete way than I could do without the aid of the program," said Pickering. "I will hopefully have access to a greater network of support that will help me make a difference towards improving the health of the community."

This year, Pickering is the only law student to be named a Boston Schweitzer Fellow. Pickering's appointment also means that for the fourth consecutive year, BC maintains its lead among area law schools in the annual and total number of fellowships awarded.

During his year of service, Pickering will be working with the AIDS Action Committee to address the CORI requirement as a hurdle for people living with HIV/AIDS to find housing and obtain employment. Other Schweitzer Fellows' areas of focus include organizing programs for HIV/AIDS prevention; working with women in recovery from drug and alcohol dependency; helping individuals cope with diabetes; educating children about oral health; promoting childhood literacy at pediatric health centers; and developing strategies to combat childhood obesity.

Schweitzer Fellows are chosen through a competitive selection process from the nation's top health and human service schools, including Boston College. Fellows serve for one year, working with local community agencies in Baltimore, Bay Area, Boston, Chicago, Delaware Valley, New Hampshire/Vermont, North Carolina, and Pittsburgh.

Once Fellows have completed their year of service, they join a network of over 1,500 Schweitzer "Fellows for Life," across the United States and abroad. Virtually all continue their commitment to lives of service in many cities and towns around the country and around the world. Because the work of the Fellows is donated without charge to the communities served, each city's program is supported through charitable gifts.

Since its inception in 1991, the Schweitzer Fellowship has provided more than 278,000 hours of service to the communities it serves.

For more information please visit the website at <http://www.schweitzerfellowship.org>.

