Pay it forward: Alumnus supports students in international affairs

The University gave Adriano Lucatelli ’90 (political science, international affairs) the first opportunity to live abroad on his own. Lucatelli says the experience exposed him to a new culture and way of life and made him a great admirer and strong defender of Nevada and the United States.

“The University of Nevada, Reno gave me the self-confidence to outperform professionally and academically,” says Lucatelli, managing partner and co-founder of Reuss Private Group in Bremgarten, Switzerland, a leading independent broker-dealer for the Swiss and German market. “It prepared me exceptionally well for graduate school in England and Rochester, N.Y. The professors, especially Richard Ganzel and Leah Wilds, believed in me and supported me academically to grow.”

Scholarship assistance helped Lucatelli, a dual citizen of Switzerland and Italy, to study in the United States, an experience that inspired him to establish a scholarship and internship program in international affairs in 2004. This year, eight students received the Adriano B. Lucatelli International Education Scholarship.

“I was supported by the University and the Max C. Fleischmann scholarship,” Lucatelli says. “They made it possible for me to study abroad—at that time still a great privilege and to get my first academic degree. So, it was clear to me that I need to give back to enable other young students to get the same opportunities.”

Lucatelli Scholarship recipient Corrina Buzick says she knows of many other students who count scholarships such as these “an incredible blessing.” Buzick will graduate this spring with degrees in French and international affairs. After graduation, she plans to join the Peace Corps for two years, then attend graduate school to pursue a master’s degree in public administration or international development. “This is my last semester at Nevada, so I decided to take up an internship,” Buzick says. “But adding the internship to school, work and the volunteering I’m involved in really overloaded my plate. Luckily, because of the Lucatelli scholarship, I was able to go down to four days a week at my job for a while,” she adds. “Needless to say, my sanity and probably my grades really appreciate the financial break.”

In 2010, Lucatelli provided major gifts to continue support of these programs, which are open to international affairs majors on campus. Because of his continued generous assistance to Nevada’s students, Lucatelli was listed at the 2009 Honor Court as a Silver Benefactor.

Lucatelli received his master’s in international relations from the London School of Economics and holds a doctorate from the University of Zurich. He also has an MBA from the University of Rochester in New York and is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program at Wharton.

During his career, Lucatelli has published numerous articles in professional magazines and newspapers. In 1997, he published Finance and World Order, a book that looked at the fragility of the globalized financial system and related systemic risks.

—Roseann Keegan

For more information about supporting the College of Liberal Arts, contact Robyn Powers ’70, director of development, (775) 784-6873 or rpowers@unr.