Genshaft/Greenbaum Scholar to Spend Nine Months in Peru

Janie Koike, a Master’s level student in the Department of Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling will spend 9 months in Peru as part of her Practicum II. Ms. Koike and her husband Kenzo, a 4th year medical student with USF Health, are volunteering at the Belen Clinic in Cuzco, Peru through the Doctors for Global Health organization. Ms. Koike is also volunteering at the Fundacion Cristo Vive which is a foundation that works mainly with families who have experienced domestic violence. Ms. Koike states that she gets to work with a wide range of individuals from the abused to the abuser, women afraid to return to their husbands, husbands who are hurting from their wives departure, and the children adversely affected by their broken families.

Janie was also a Fall 2011 recipient of the new Genshaft/Greenbaum Passport Scholarship. The scholarship, created by a $1 million endowment from USF President Judy Genshaft and her husband, Steven Greenbaum, is designed to help students who want to travel abroad, but who would otherwise be unable to go. The $1,000 award helped the Koike’s defray the cost of traveling to their destination in Peru.

While in Peru, Ms. Koike continues to be active in her education here at USF by Skyping into class once a week. She and her husband have also been maintaining a blog about their experiences in Peru at peruzo.wordpress.com.