



AILEEN M. MONKS

FULBRIGHT - NEHRU ENGLISH TEACHING
ASSISTANTSHIP TO INDIA



The Fulbright program is perfect for Aileen Monks.

“I agree with the Fulbright’s mission of cultural exchange. Also, being an education major, it allows me to spend this time doing what I love most – teaching,” said Monks, who earned her bachelor’s degree from The University of Scranton, magna cum laude, in 2010 in elementary education and special education, and her master’s degree in English as a second language in 2011.

As a Fulbright scholar to New Delhi, India, Monks will teach English to 10- to 14-year-old students at the Navyug School. She also plans to develop a cross-country or track team at the school and to volunteer for the Kiwanis Club there.

Monks spent a semester circumnavigating the globe through the University of Virginia’s Semester at Sea program in 2008, through which she visited Puerto Rico, Brazil, South Africa, Mauritius, India, Vietnam, Hong Kong, China, Japan and Costa Rica. This program gave her a taste of many different cultures, but left her with the desire to “experience one culture on a deeper level,” said Monks.

“I wanted to teach in India because I fell in love with the Indian culture and people while there during my semester abroad with Semester at Sea,” said Monks. “Everyone I encountered was kind and caring and I immediately felt at home. “

A dean’s list student, Monks was a member of Kappa Delta Pi (national honor society for education).

At Scranton, Monks served as a tutor for an afterschool program and was active in the Environmental Club and as a fall move-in volunteer. She was a member of the varsity cross-country team in 2006. She was also among the students who participated in a service trip to Katrina Construction Relief and Soup Kitchen in Biloxi, Miss.

Off campus, Monks served as coordinator for the recycle club for Pocono Elementary Center and volunteered for the Bellmore Kiwanis Strawberry Festival.

Monk’s future plans are to work as a special education life skills teacher in a progressive school district that serves students in need.

A graduate of Mephram High School, Bellmore, N.Y., she is the daughter of Diane and John Monks of Bellmore. She has an older sister, Jessica, and a younger brother, Brian.