

## **SFU Press Releases Collection**

These archival copies have been generated from web press releases maintained and originally written by SFU Communications and Marketing. Where possible, an effort has been made to preserve the public comments left on the website as well as any included photos or other images. All textual content should be faithful to the original press releases; contact numbers have been removed but they have not otherwise been altered in any way. However, this collection of documents spans multiple generations of web authoring software and not all formatting will be exact.

**MEDIA RELEASE**

# World lit student helps empower youth in Sierra Leone

March 15, 2012

[Tweet](#) [Facebook](#) [Pinterest](#) [Email](#) [Print](#)**Contact:**Krissi Bucholtz, [kbucholt@sfu.ca](mailto:kbucholt@sfu.ca)May Doerksen, WL, 778.782.8478; [may\\_doerksen@sfu.ca](mailto:may_doerksen@sfu.ca)Marianne Meadahl, PAMR, 778.782.3210; [Marianne\\_Meadahl@sfu.ca](mailto:Marianne_Meadahl@sfu.ca)[Photos on Flickr](#)

Krissi Bucholtz, a third-year major in World Literature at Simon Fraser University, shares Nelson Mandela's philosophy that "education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Fitting with SFU's new tagline of '[engaging the world](#)', she is taking action and putting her studies to practical use.

When she was in Grade 12, the Surrey student was placed in charge of a fundraising project to build a primary school in Sierra Leone, West Africa. She spent over a month there as a student-teacher, gaining valuable lessons about life, education and social justice.

Determined to be part of social change and to improve the quality of education, Bucholtz has returned to Sierra Leone several times since. She heads back for another six months at the end of the year.

"These experiences enabled me to be a more active student in the classroom in Canada, speaking out about issues that before I might have let pass by silently," says Bucholtz.

She was a driving force behind creating the non-profit organization called [The People's Foundation of Sierra Leone](#) earlier this year, and has successfully helped raise over \$25,000 to date.

Among her contributions, she has assisted with village agricultural initiatives and micro-credit programs, started up new programs that empower and educate youth, trained volunteers, led workshops, fundraised for university scholarships, and more.

“Krisi is a committed and conscientious student leader, working assiduously to make classroom experience relevant to real world problems,” says Ken Seigneurie, director of SFU’s World Literature program.

-30-

---

**No comments yet**

[Comment Guidelines](#) 

[Admission](#)  
[Programs](#)  
[Learning](#)  
[Research](#)  
[Community](#)  
[About](#)

[Maps + directions](#)  
[Library](#)  
[Academic Calendar](#)  
[Road Report](#)  
[Give to SFU](#)  
[Emergency Information](#)

**CONNECT WITH US**

[Facebook](#)  
[Instagram](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[YouTube](#)

**CONTACT US**

Simon Fraser University  
8888 University Drive  
Burnaby, B.C.  
Canada V5A 1S6

[Terms and conditions](#)  
© Simon Fraser University





