



The Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies
at Rhode Island College presents

MEET OUR STUDENT

Nélida Silva

Service Learning in Portugal 2017 and 2018



RIC student, Nélida Silva is a member of Phi Lambda Beta National Portuguese Honor Society; the School of Business Dean's List; the 3.5 Society; and she has been an intern at the Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone Studies since 2016.

On both years I received the Lema-Fernandes Study Abroad Scholarship of the Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies and the John A.

In the Summer of 2017 and 2018 I enrolled in service learning courses in Portugal led by Dr. Leslie DiManna (RIC Assistant Professor of Management, School of Business) and Study in Portugal Network, and those experiences had a great impact in my life!

*I am very grateful for the opportunity I had to do **business consulting** for two nonprofit organizations in Portugal and **transfer nine credits in total to my major at Rhode Island College.***

In the summer of 2017 I worked with APAV, Associação Portuguesa de Apoio à Vítima, (Portuguese Association for the Support of Victims) in Lisbon, which is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inform, protect and support citizens who have been victims of crime. My team's assignment was to design three fundraising events that would help APAV expand their fundraising outcomes and strengthen both their communication and volunteering efforts, while bringing awareness about their mission to the Portuguese community.

In the Summer of 2018 I worked with the National Museum of Natural History and Science (MUHNAC) in Lisbon, with a mission to promote public understanding and curiosity about nature and science and support research, development and education in the natural sciences and the history of science. The museum's president and staff members presented us two problems: how could the museum improve its fluidity and attract more visitors; and how could they respond more effectively to the needs and interests of international visitors? To help MUHNAC address those challenges, my team and I developed a market plan and a strategic plan to set directions and to prioritize issues the museum needed to work on.

The two service learning projects in Lisbon gave me a real world opportunity to apply and test the management skills and knowledge learned in classes at RIC, while allowing me to directly act in the global community.

I will graduate soon in December of 2018 and my plan is to continue my education and obtain a master's

and Mary V. Lima scholarship in Portuguese Studies of the IPLWS. I am very thankful for the Institute's continued support of my education. Muito obrigada!

degree in business consulting and to serve the Lusophone community in the United States and abroad.

Nélida Silva is a senior undergraduate student at Rhode Island College majoring in Business Management with a minor in Portuguese. She has been an intern at the IPLWS since 2016.
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Read more about **Dr. Leslie DiManna's MGT 350 Service Learning in Portugal** here: <http://www.ric.edu/news/Pages/14-Days-to-Boost-Two-Businesses-in-Portugal.aspx>

The Lema-Fernandes Study Abroad Endowment Fund of the IPLWS was established in 2011 with a grant from the JB Fernandes Memorial Trust and a generous donation from John A. Lema, Jr. (late friend and benefactor from Newport, RI) for the express purpose of providing scholarship assistance for Rhode Island College students wishing to pursue Portuguese Studies abroad in a Portuguese-speaking nation.

For information on how to apply to this scholarship, visit the [IPLWS](#). You too can sponsor a deserving RIC student through a [Named Sponsorship](#) or by contributing to this [Fund](#)! Please contact Dr. Sílvia Oliveira for more information.

Thank you for your kind attention,
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