

## **CoLA Outstanding Alumna, 2015**

### **Modern Languages**

**Vanessa Walton**

**B.A. French**

**B.A. International Studies**

Vanessa Walton graduated from Wright State University in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts in French and in International Studies. During her time at WSU, she was actively engaged in all things international. She was a member of the Model United Nations team for three years and had the opportunity to travel to China with the team in 2008. She studied abroad in Costa Rica and twice in France. Additionally, she worked with faculty and students as a Peer Advisor in the University Center for International Education for three years.



After graduation, Vanessa was hired at SIT Study Abroad in Brattleboro, Vermont as a program coordinator for college-level study abroad programs in Europe and Latin America. After three years there, she relocated to Minneapolis, Minnesota to the Learning Abroad Center at the University of Minnesota, the largest study abroad office in the country. In her position as an Associate Program Director, she manages programs in Thailand, Senegal, London, and Sydney. Vanessa is involved with making study abroad more accessible to underrepresented students and STEM students while also working with study abroad returnees to help them assess their experiences abroad. Recently, she was selected to co-lead a volunteer program traveling to Senegal in Winter 2015.

Vanessa intends to begin a Masters in Heritage Conservation and Preservation at the University of Minnesota starting in Fall 2016.

**Connect the dots.**  
**Informal Q & A with Vanessa.**  
**Friday, October 2, 2015 from 3:30-5:00 p.m.**  
**Millett Atrium**