

Connor Goering Principia College ACI General Scholarship

<u>Principia College</u> was a familiar school to Connor Goering. His sister had attended the college in Elsah, Illinois, and still lives nearby in the St. Louis area with her family. Plus, Goering's family once lived in the Midwest. A soccer player, Goering chose to attend Principia to play the game at the collegiate level. Plus, he enjoys the small classes and likes knowing his professors, which has helped him earn good grades.





Goering, whose hometown is Odessa, Florida, is now a senior, majoring in business administration, with minors in economics and education, and a concentration in entrepreneurship. Goering is also interested in fitness, something he took up a couple of years ago. "It's become something I'm really passionate about -- not just to do, but to help others, and also to just do the research and learn more about it," he says. "So, that is something I'm hoping to do with my future." Goering's interest in business is

something he learned from his father. "My Dad has done a variety of work through business. I just like the idea of owning something, "he says.

Goering says his parents pay the majority of college tuition costs, supplemented by what he can earn through other scholarships and summer jobs. He learned about the ACI General Scholarship he now has through Principia College's financial aid director, Katie Schiele. "It definitely made a difference because with my family, really, anything helps," Goering says. "I probably would have still attended Principia, but it definitely helps so much, in terms of financial stability and everything."

Scholarships, such as the ACI General Scholarship, help students pursue their interests and chosen careers. "It allows them to have opportunities that they might not have been able to have. I have so much gratitude for the gracious people who help with these funds and these donations," he says.

In addition to attending classes, playing soccer and other interests, Goering works with a strength and conditioning coach, and is now an assistant coach working with varsity teams. "It has been really awesome working in the gym and fitness side of Principia, because it's giving me a lot of experience in how to train athletes and work with people who don't even know how to work out," he says. He has also served on his house board in an environmental role and worked in the college kitchen.

Goering has made the most of his college experience and says he can't believe he's leaving in a few months when he graduates. "It's been a blast. It's been a very great experience here," he adds.