Dear Public Policy Recent Graduates, Alumni, Faculty, Family, and Friends,

Needless to say, it has been an interesting time to be involved in the public policy arena. In spite of the noise, the program has stuck to our mission – equipping students with the tools to perform and evaluate analyses of policy issues. With the broad curriculum, graduates can evaluate not only the efficiency of proposals, but also the equity and distributional issues. They can also understand how the political process will use and misuse analysis and how to work within that process to advocate and push forward ideas. We expect that these fundamental core skills will prepare our graduates for careers in policy, business, non-profits, teaching, and research.

The program is vibrant – we awarded 17 bachelor’s degrees and 21 master’s degrees in the 2017-18 academic year. These numbers have remained relatively stable over the past 10 years despite a significant shift in majors at Stanford toward computer science and related fields. I like to believe that our strength is because of the skills and relevance of the subject. As a result, we attract students who want to make a difference in the world.

Public policy alumni serve in all areas of government in the U.S. and around the world. For example, a member of the San Jose City Council, an advisor to the Finance minister of Chile and a founding member of India’s successful upstart political party, Aam Aadmi and current government Advisor in Delhi, are all recent graduates of the program. You can read more about other alumni in the update section of the newsletter and see their roles in state, local and federal government as well as the private sector and academia.

The program’s goals and curriculum fit well with the University’s new long-range plan. We strive to provide practical training to solve real-world problems in an analytical framework. To increase the training across the university, we introduced the masters’ degree program 11 years ago and have awarded 140 graduate degrees in that time.

In 2018-19, we will be introducing a new “Certificate in Policy Analysis” for graduate students across the campus. There are a large number of graduate students, particularly in the sciences who do not have time, flexibility, or funding to pursue a full masters’ degree. However, they have an interest in developing some of the same core skills. In addition, many of them will be in positions where such skills can improve policy. The new certificate program will provide a framework and recognition for acquiring such skills.

In addition, we have begun developing a more comprehensive “Science and Technology Policy” concentration. Adding students with technical backgrounds studying policy aspects of their work should help Stanford develop a strong reputation as not only a key place for the development of advances in science and technology, but also as a thoughtful and analytical hub of policy related to advances in those areas.

Katie DuPlessis has left the program and we will miss her, but we are thrilled that Priscilla Kilili has joined the Public Policy team as our new Program Manager. She has extensive Stanford experience, having worked in the Department of Radiology in the School of Medicine for four years and the Creative Writing program for a year prior to that. Priscilla has a master’s degree in history and attends academic conferences to maintain her knowledge in the field.

We are lucky to have the experience of Kelly Walsh (grad student services) and Kylie De La O-Menard (undergrad student services) continuing to provide exceptional help and guidance to our students and providing helping hands to Priscilla as she adjusts to her new role.

In this newsletter, you can not only read about the graduates in the class of 2018, but also some of the events and projects.
Commencement and Degree Candidates

Class of 2018 – Graduate Degree Candidates

**Luis Bernabe**
Luis graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a self-designed concentration in Law and Education. Last year, he graduated from Stanford with a Bachelor’s degree in Linguistics. Luis has become really interested in how law and regulation can help education policy advance. While at Stanford, Luis worked at the Stanford Law School in the Office of Communications and was very involved with the direction of Stanford’s salsa team. His passion for salsa dancing led him to found a startup that focuses on providing relevant information about classes and socials to other Latin dance lovers. He hopes to continue to develop this project while studying for the LSAT and eventually making the move to NYC in the fall working on more educational issues.

**Grace Choi**
Grace graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy and a Bachelor’s degree in Economics. She is interested in immigration and foreign policy and plans to attend law school after graduation. During her time at Stanford, Grace interned at Bruegel, an economic think-tank in Brussels; the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a development agency in Washington, DC; American Express; and Cornerstone Research, an economic litigation consulting firm. She participated in the Stanford in New York program, for which she is now a Student Ambassador, and studied abroad in Santiago, Chile. She is from the suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia, but was born in South Korea.

**Nafia Chowdhury**
Nafia graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy. Last year, she graduated from Stanford with a Bachelor’s degree in Economics. For her Master’s, Nafia focused on cyber security policy. During her Stanford career she was involved in a diverse range of experiences, from market design research at the Stanford Law School and SIEPR to an internship in digital marketing at a financial technology startup. Highlights of her time at Stanford also include leadership positions as the President of the Stanford South Asian Students Organization and CFO of the Stanford African Students Association, which were critical in shaping her journey of accelerated and meaningful learning at Stanford. Upon graduation, Nafia hopes to apply her rich academic experiences at Stanford to work at a law firm on cyber forensics.

**Matthew Thomas Decker**
Matthew graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Urban and Regional Policy. Matthew has a heart for developing communities and after focusing on international development policy during his undergraduate program, he shifted to U.S. development policy...
during his Master’s degree. He learned from a documentary on the limits of affordable housing that while there are development needs all around the world, we cannot forget about certain areas of our own communities and economies that suffer from poverty traps and institutionalized injustice. After graduation, Matthew will work full-time with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a ministry group centered on high school and college communities. Thank you for a great five years! Stanford is a true blessing!

**Antonio De Moraes**
Antonio graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy, with a concentration in Health Policy. Last year, he graduated with a Master of Science in Management from the Stanford MSx Program at the Graduate School of Business. During his time at Stanford, he won three Biodesign awards for developing innovative medical devices and was a Co-Chief Investment Officer at the GSB Impact Fund. After graduation, he will launch a startup that he expects will revolutionize vision care in the U.S.

**Albert Gehami**
Albert graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Urban Policy. During his time in Public Policy, Albert has been prolonging his childhood by building a start-up. He lost sleep most nights but has somehow graduated! Next year, Albert will be working with the City of San Jose to map out crime in the city, predict where it will happen next, and find ways to mitigate it. He has received some funding to continue building his company, but not nearly enough to quit everything else (yet). In his spare time Albert enjoys rock climbing and avoiding his crippling anxiety through meditation, humor, and solving other people’s problems.

**Marshall Jackson Glover**
Marshall graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Health Care Policy. Last year, he graduated from Stanford with a Bachelor’s degree in Economics. At Stanford Marshall was on the Men’s Soccer Team. Marshall’s hobbies include listening and making music, video games, sports (watching, playing, and analyzing statistics), sleeping, and walking at night. After graduation, Marshall’s ultimate plan is to work full-time in the music industry as an engineer/manager.

**Ben Kaufman**
Ben graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Legal and Regulatory Intervention. His Master’s thesis analyzed the political economy of the recent deregulation of payday lending. At Stanford, Ben served as an editor of the Stanford Flipside, as a head writer for the Robber Barons sketch comedy troupe, and as the student-at-large to the Board of Directors of the Stanford Daily. Ben worked as an intern in the U.S. Senate, at Apple, at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, on two Congressional campaigns, and at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. After graduation, Ben will work as an investment banking analyst at JPMorgan Chase in New York.

**Avner Admati Kreps**
Avner graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy, with a concentration in Legal and Regulatory Intervention, and a Bachelor’s degree in Economics. While at Stanford, Avner worked at the EPA’s National Center for Environmental Economics through the Stanford in Washington program, for Cornerstone Research, and researched institutional economics and political economy. Avner also was the President and Vice President of the Stanford Economics Association and played trombone in multiple on-campus groups, including the Stanford Symphony Orchestra, various chamber groups and theater productions, and the Stanford Band. In October, Avner will continue at Cornerstone Research in Chicago.

**Anunay Kulshrestha**
Anunay graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Legal and Regulatory Intervention. Last year, he graduated from Stanford with...
Class of 2018, continued from page 3

Bachelor’s degrees in Computer Science and Mathematics. While at Stanford, Anunay worked extensively on the political economy, combining insights from his technology toolkit. His work on predictive power of social networks in elections won the best paper award at an international conference, and his Master’s thesis explored signaling effects of voting in sequential elections. Anunay was awarded the Jane Stanford Fellowship for Public Service for his work on civic grievance redressal mechanisms. After graduation, Anunay moved to MIT on a research fellowship.

Sofía MacGregor Oettler
Sofía graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy. Last year, she graduated from Stanford with a Master of Arts degree in International Education Policy Analysis. During her time at Stanford, Sofía was involved in the Mexican Association of Graduate Students. Moreover, Sofía has been doing research at the Poverty, Governance, and Violence Lab (PoVGov) at the Freeman Spogli Institute. Her research has mostly been focused on studying interventions that target at youth in violent communities. After graduating, Sofía will continue to develop her research agenda by collaborating one more year in PoVGov. Later, she plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Public Policy.

Joseph Alan McCarty
Seph (an abridged form of Joseph) graduated with a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Arts in Education, with a concentration in Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies (POLS). During his time in the Public Policy Program, he published two articles and presented his work at three conferences. He supported himself through three part-time jobs—the most enjoyable of which was as a line cook at Kirk’s Steakburgers; the most prestigious of which was as a content creative tech writer at Apple. Although the future is yet uncertain, current options include Director of Marketing for the Bank of Hawaii, Director of Project Rebound in the Cal State University system, and apprentice crab fisher off Kodiak, Alaska. Sofía MacGregor Oettler

Hyang Eun (Helen) Park
Helen graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Education Policy. Last year, she graduated from Stanford with a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology with a minor in Mathematics. At Stanford, she worked as a Research Assistant at the Mind, Culture and Society lab, served as a Teaching Assistant for a Peer Counseling at the Bridge course, designed a web platform to help low-income families trade childcare services within their trusted networks in an Ending Poverty with Technology course, and interned in the United Nations, at the Economic Development Committee. After graduation, she joined Oliver Wyman as a consultant.

Alexander Quincy Lee Robinson
Alex graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Health Care Policy. While at Stanford, Alex completed a Master’s thesis and wrote a paper that is in the process of being published at the Journal of Clinical Oncology. Alex twice served as a Teaching Assistant for the Biosciences and Biotechnology, and Bioterrorism Response course in the Public Policy Program, played football for four years as an undergraduate, and spent two summers in the Hoover Institution in the Office of Condoleezza Rice. After graduation, he hopes to work in the health care policy field and spend some much-needed time with his family.

Konner K. Robison
Konner graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy and a Bachelor’s degree in Management Science and Engineering after four years at Stanford. Having been on Stanford’s Rowing and Basketball teams as well as community service groups on campus, he has enjoyed a wide diversity of organizations and people at Stanford. Konner’s fondest memory came in his second year when he built a contraption to help a physically disabled child walk for the first time during a musical performance. Konner returned to Reno and will be an operations manager for a small chain of casino/resorts and he will continue to grow his investment company before ultimately pursuing a JD/MBA in a couple of years.

Caleb Smith
Caleb graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy, after receiving a Bachelor’s degree in Public Policy last year. Caleb wrote his Master’s thesis on how his hometown of Oakland, CA, could better promote the construction of Accessory Dwelling Units. While at Stanford, Caleb was General Manager of KZSU Stanford and was involved with the Stanford Daily, Stanford Democrats, and SCoPE 2035. After graduation, Caleb intends to work in local government and finally return to his beloved hometown. Caleb is grateful to his family for their incredible love and support while he was at Stanford.

Sofía MacGregor Oettler Joseph McCarty Hyang Eun (Helen) Park Alex Robinson Konner K. Robison Caleb Smith
Emily Alice Chase Stevens
Emily graduated with a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Arts in Education, with a concentration in Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies (POLS). While at Stanford, she researched charter school oversight practices for the California State Board of Education and served as an Education Pioneers Summer Fellow, completing an impact analysis for Leading Educators in Chicago. Before coming to Stanford, she worked for five years as Program Director and Chief of Staff of a social venture, managing college-access programs for low-income students in New York City. Her interest in educational equity began as she earned her B.A. at Yale College, where she studied the history of American school reform. After graduation, Emily plans to work in education policy research or program evaluation.

James Stuebner
James graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy with a concentration in Law and Political Philosophy. He also graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Human Biology and a minor in Economics. In his undergraduate work, he focused on the Economics of Health Care. At Stanford, James enjoyed playing outside hitter and libero for the Men’s Volleyball team. He is grateful for the close bonds he has formed with his teammates. Another highlight of his Stanford career was spending a summer abroad in Santiago, Chile, where he vastly improved his Spanish. After graduating, James hopes to apply his policy knowledge to technology companies.

Eric Beyer Wilburn
Eric graduated with a Master of Arts in Public Policy. At Stanford, supported by an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, Eric completed a three-year dual degree Master’s program in Environmental Engineering and Public Policy. Eric grew up in Olympia, Washington, and came to Stanford after a two-year stint in the Peace Corps in Mozambique. After graduation, Eric plans to continue working on bottom/up strategies for influencing human behavior in the environmental sustainability space, leveraging social psychology, behavioral economics and the growing movement around mindfulness to inspire collective action around environmental sustainability. He hopes to motivate individuals to shed fears and be inspired by hope and opportunity.

Samuel Yi
Samuel graduated with a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Arts in Education, with a concentration in Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies (POLS). As a former math teacher and a recipient of the Quantitative Research in Education Certificate through the Stanford Center for Education Policy Analysis, Samuel is passionate about leveraging data analysis and empirical methodologies to measurably improve the public education system. During his time at Stanford, Samuel has had a chance to exercise his passions through project engagements with the California State Board of Education, Teach for America, Palo Alto Unified School District, and the EdCareers department on campus. After graduation, Samuel will continue to work to improve the public education system as a Data Fellow through the Harvard Strategic Data Project.
Class of 2018 – Bachelor of Arts Degree Candidates

Julia Alison
Julia graduated with Honors and a concentration in the Design of Public Institutions. She also graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science with a concentration in Information. Julia’s Public Policy Honors Thesis examined the impact of the Troubled Asset Relief Program. While at Stanford, Julia worked as a Teaching Assistant and Peer Advisor for the Public Policy Program. Additionally, she was a competitive member of the Stanford Debate Society for all four years and served on its executive board for two years. She was fortunate enough to spend the last two years mentoring a student through East Palo Alto Tennis and Tutoring at Stanford. She spent her summers as an intern in the Stanford Political Science Summer Research College, the U.S. International Trade Commission Office of Economics, and Goldman Sachs Securities Division. After graduation, Julia returned to Goldman Sachs to work as an Analyst in Securities.

Marilynn Margarita Alvarado
Marilynn graduated with a concentration in Discrimination, Crime, and Poverty Policy as well as with the Stanford Certificate in Poverty and Inequality. At Stanford, in pursuit of educational equity, Marilynn was a literacy tutor and Education Partnerships Fellow at the Stanford Haas Center for Public Service, serving as a Ravenswood Reads Tutor Coordinator and later as the Early Childhood Education Administrative Coordinator. Marilynn was also a Citizenship Class Instructor at the International Institute of the Bay Area. She spent her summers working at nonprofit youth centers, the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles as a Stanford Public Interest Law Fellow, and at a think tank at UCLA Law. After graduation, Marilynn returned to Los Angeles where she hoped to pursue a career in law and public policy to help advance equity and equal rights.

Enrique Garduño Cortes
Enrique graduated with a concentration in Educational Policy. While at Stanford, he worked at the Graduate School of Education, the Undergraduate Advising and Research office, and the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. At Stanford, he grew passionate about the intersection between data, social, and economic progress. Enrique spent the summer working for B Lab, a nonprofit organization that serves a global movement of people using business as a force for good, as an intern working on pipeline management, data analysis, and marketing. After graduation, Enrique hopes to build a career at the intersection of business, education, and data.
Alexandra Enrique
Alex graduated with a concentration in Health Care Policy and a minor in Economics. While at Stanford, Alex devoted her time to welcoming several classes of students to Stanford by organizing some of the “Big 5” campus events, including New Student Orientation and three Admit Weekends. She is grateful for her experiences with service organizations such as Ravenswood Reads, Relay for Life, and the Pilipino American Student Union’s youth outreach team. Alex served as a Peer Advisor for the Public Policy Program and also spent a summer working and learning within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a Stanford in Government Fellow. After graduation, Alex will remain in the Bay Area as an analyst on the health care team at Analysis Group.

Henri Jose Fernandez
Henri graduated with a concentration in Advanced Policy Analysis. His passion for Public Policy stemmed from traveling with his father on business trips all around the world since he was five years old. During these trips, he learned about the government and economic systems of many countries. He is interested in the relationship between finance and policy. Henri spent his summer interning for multiple asset managers and an investment bank. After graduation, Henri will work as an Investment Banking Analyst for Credit Suisse in their healthcare coverage group where he will cover a broad range of healthcare companies from all around the world.

Isabelle Foster
Isabelle graduated with a concentration in Development and Growth Policies and a minor in Economics. She is passionate about international development and food security, as well as the intersection of the public and private sectors. On campus, she was a research assistant several times, including at the Food Security and Environment Center and the Stanford Law School. Isabelle also participated in Stanford in Washington, was the chair of the Student Advisory Board with Vice Provost Harry Elam, and served as a Peer Advisor for the Public Policy Program. Isabelle is extremely grateful for all the opportunities and experiences she had while on campus and would like to thank everyone who helped her. After graduation, Isabelle returned to Stanford to complete her coterminal Master’s degree in International Policy Studies.

Kyle Cedric Gainey
Kyle graduated with a concentration in Advanced Policy Analysis. Stanford has provided Kyle with access to some amazing experiences that few colleges can offer. In addition to his academic pursuits, Kyle worked off campus throughout college as a marketing analyst for Avast Software and AnchorFree. Furthermore, Kyle worked as a student manager for the Stanford’s Men’s Basketball team his sophomore year. He has a passion for finance and has been day-trading with his own portfolio since his sophomore year. After graduation, Kyle spent a month traveling with friends and relaxing with family in San Diego. In the fall, he will begin working full-time in San Francisco for a gaming company called PocketGems.

Chelsea Antoinette House
Chelsea graduated with a concentration in Health Care Policy. Chelsea’s passion for health care originates from experience with the healthcare system as a patient. As a minority student from a low-income background with various chronic health issues, she’s come to understand the value of quality healthcare and health insurance.

See Class of 2018, page 8
and wants to work to ensure that more people in the US have adequate access to the services they need to live a comfortable life. During her time at Stanford, Chelsea participated in the Stanford in Washington program where she had the opportunity to work for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She later secured a summer internship with Deloitte in their government services consulting division. After graduation, Chelsea returned to D.C. to work at Deloitte as a Federal Business Analyst where she hopes to work with clients such as Health and Human Services, the Veterans Health Administration, and other departments that are key players in crafting our nation’s health care system.

Ally Joy Howe
Ally graduated with a concentration in Development and Growth Policies. During her time at Stanford, Ally was a member of the Women’s Varsity Swim Team for all four years. In addition to earning 19 All-American and two Scholar All-American honors individually, the team won National Championship titles in both 2017 and 2018. In the summer of 2016, she worked as a finance intern for Intel’s PSG Division in San Jose, California. After graduation, Ally will be working as a FP&A intern at Snowflake Computing, a software company based out of San Mateo. Although Will is not immediately furthering his studies, he aspires to attend business school in the near future. Will would like to thank his family and friends for all of their love and support. He is proud to apply the many lessons learned from his undergraduate career to life beyond Stanford!

Peter Stephen Litzow
Peter graduated with a concentration in Growth and Development Policies. During his time at Stanford, Peter served as a Junior Class President, studied abroad in Berlin, performed with Ram’s Head Theatrical Society, and sang with Everyday People A Cappella. Peter spent his summers interning at 20th Century Fox and Goldman Sachs, exploring the intersection between media, entertainment and finance, interests he has in addition to his studies in policy and economics. After graduation, Peter plans to move to Los Angeles to join the Corporate Strategy and Business Development team at The Walt Disney Company.

Mohit Mookim
Mohit graduated with a concentration in Political and Moral Philosophy, along with a double major in Philosophy and a minor in Mathematics. The New Jersey native looks forward to a career in social change through philosophy, politics, and/or philanthropy. He has conducted and published ethics research, interned at the Brookings Institution, and worked at the Laura Arrillaga-Andreessen Foundation. On campus, he worked as a Research Assistant for the Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society and as a Senior Researcher for Philosophy Talk Radio. After graduation, Mohit will be working as a Legal Assistant at Sanford Heisler Sharp LLP, a public interest law firm in San Francisco. He loves to cook Indian food, play basketball, and listen to hip-hop.

Andrew Ntim
Andrew graduated Phi Beta Kappa with Honors in Ethics in Society and with a concentration in Law and the Legal System. Andrew also completed a minor in Economics. With policy interests that center on reform of the criminal justice system, Andrew wrote his honors thesis on Criminal Record-Based Employment Discrimination. During his time at Stanford, Andrew worked in the California Department of Finance, analyzing the economic impact of California’s public safety reforms, and at the Ghanaian think-tank IMANI through the Stanford Global Studies Program. He also participated in the Stanford in Washington Program as an intern at the U.S. Department of Education, as a Teaching Assistant in the Public Policy and Urban Studies programs, as a Peer Advisor for the Public Policy Program, and volunteered with The Bridge Peer Counseling Center. Next year, Andrew will serve as a Tom Ford Fellow at a criminal justice focused foundation.

Shivani Suvarna Pampati
Shivani graduated with a concentration in Law and the Legal System. Shivani seeks to dedicate her life to advocating for underrepresented communities through systems level change. During her time at Stanford, she was the President of Basmati
Raas, a co-ed competitive Indian dance team that became her family away from home for the past four years. She also co-founded Stanford Women In Politics during her sophomore year, providing her with a community of passionate and empowered women. Shivani worked in Washington, D.C. for two quarters, interning for the Democratic National Committee Research Department and then for the Immigrant and Employee Rights Section of the Department of Justice. She is currently working as the Policy and Research Director for the U.S. House Candidate Amy McGrath — the first woman to fly in an F/A-18 on a combat mission — and will continue this work after graduation.

**Spencer Booth Rogers**

Spencer graduated with Honors with a concentration in Science, Technology and Energy. His thesis examined California’s Renewables Portfolio Standard, one of California’s major energy policies, and proposed a policy recommendation that would promote greater greenhouse gas emission reductions at lower costs. Outside of the Public Policy Program, the Pasadena, California native spent his first three years on the Farm as a member of the Men’s Varsity Water Polo team and studied abroad in Florence, Italy during his junior year. Spencer will be returning to Stanford next year to pursue a Master’s of Science in Management Science and Engineering. In the interim, he returned to Los Angeles to work in management consulting.

**Jacqueline Wibowo**

Jacqueline graduated with a concentration in Technology and Social Entrepreneurship. She also graduated with a coterminal Master’s degree in Management Science and Engineering. Her concentration in Public Policy led her to want to strengthen her technical background by focusing in Technology Engineering Management in her Master’s program. She has worked across several different fields including nonprofit, technology, and finance at organizations like the San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center, TradeGecko, Andreessen Horowitz, and Goldman Sachs. After graduation, Jacqueline will be starting her career on the Investment Team at Insight Venture Partners with the ultimate goal of becoming a social entrepreneur in the field of education.

**Jimmy Zhou**

Jimmy graduated with a concentration in Law and Moral Philosophy. In addition, he also completed a double major in Economics and is working on completing his coterminal Master’s degree in Public Policy within the next year. During his time at Stanford, Jimmy found his passion in public service. He has lived and been a Resident Assistant in Branner Hall, the public service themed dorm, for three years. He was a Peer Advisor for the Public Policy Program. He also served as a part-time AmeriCorps member in the Bay Area and is currently a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer. Jimmy looks forward to traveling to Japan, Washington, D.C., and hopefully New York and Oxford in the next year.
2017-18
Practicum Projects

Undergraduate Practicum Projects

AUTUMN QUARTER
Paying for Climate Change Adaptation in San Mateo County
Team Members: Chelsea House, Daniel Marx, Peter Litzow, Justin Roberto, and Jacqueline Wibowo
Client: County of San Mateo Office of Sustainability

SPRING QUARTER
Team Members: Marilynn Alvarado, Henri Fernandez, Kyle Gainey, Enrique Cortes, Ally Howe, and Shivani Pampati
Client: Irvine Ranch Water District

WINTER QUARTER
Adaptation Planning for Sea Level Rise in San Mateo County: An Examination of 11 Bayside Cities
Team Members: Alex Enrique, Isabelle Foster, and Will La Dow
Client: San Mateo County’s Office of Sustainability

Graduate Practicum Project
Improving Charter School Monitoring and Support: A Report for the California State Board of Education
Team Members: Matthew Decker, Seph McCarty, Emily Stevens, Sam Yi
Client: California State Board of Education

The practicum project summaries and reports can be viewed on the Publications page on the Public Policy web site: https://publicpolicy.stanford.edu/publications

2018 PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM AWARDS

University Distinction
Julia Alison
Isabelle Foster
Peter Stephen Litzow
Mohit Mookim
Andrew Ntim
Jacqueline Wibowo

Class of 2018 Stanford Award of Excellence
Julia Alison
Alexandra Enrique
Isabelle Foster
Peter Stephen Litzow
Andrew Ntim
Jimmy Zhou

Class of 2018 Outstanding Achievement Award
Alexandra Enrique

Roger G. Noll Award for Outstanding Public Policy Senior
Isabelle Foster

Bruce M. Owen Award for Outstanding Public Policy Graduate Student
Caleb Smith

Julia Alison and Spencer Rogers with Faculty after their honors thesis presentations

Caleb Smith and Ben Kaufman - MA thesis presentations
A Reflection by Isabelle Foster

Meeting Joe Kennedy III

By Isabelle Foster

During the fall of 2017, I participated in the Stanford in Washington program in Washington, D.C. During my quarter on the East Coast, I had the opportunity to attend the Clinton Global Initiative University conference held in October at Northeastern University.

The conference featured several distinguished speakers including President Clinton, Chelsea Clinton ('01), Paul Farmer, and Madeline Albright. One of the panels featured Stanford alumnus Joe Kennedy III ('03), the current representative for Massachusetts’ fourth congressional district. Sharing the stage with the president and former classmate Chelsea Clinton, Kennedy spoke about the opioid crisis and the need for young leaders to take action. Inspired by his talk and call to action, I reached out to the Congressman directly and was fortunate to have a one-on-one with Kennedy III to learn more about his background and path to Congress.

Walking through the grand hallways of the Cannon building in the House of Representatives filled me with an overwhelming sense of awe and appreciation for the representative system we have in the United States. Having the opportunity to speak with a representative was a unique experience that made me feel more engaged with our democratic governance system.

The conversation I had with Kennedy was equally as inspiring as his talk at the Clinton Global Initiative Conference. While our time was short due to his busy schedule, we discussed an array of topics, first starting with his background and path into politics. He clearly emphasized the importance of his time as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic after graduating Stanford. As he said, he draws upon the skills that he learned during this time every day. Living in another country and meeting people from other nationalities offers you a broader awareness and appreciation that is necessary for understanding the global community. He described fondly playing soccer with children in his local community and coming to the realization that humanity is present everywhere you look.

During this reflection, he mentioned how the Peace Corps was a valuable experience because it took him out of his comfort zone. This not only allowed him to grow, but it also broadened his perspectives. Inspired by his observations of the legal system, he became passionate about law and decided to apply for law school. This was his beginning into a political career, and a career designed towards helping others live a better life in the United States.

As a senior considering what my future might hold, having the chance to speak with someone as accomplished as this congressman was inspiring. His lesson to take advantage of the opportunities that you can only do as a recent graduate—such as the Peace Corps—is something that I will keep in mind when considering future plans, for it is these types of experiences which broaden your perspective. Having the chance to meet with Congressman Kennedy was a highlight of my time in DC, and I am grateful for his time and advice.
Public Policy Events

2018 Zale Lecture Honoring Kevin Warsh
By Ben Kaufman

The Stanford Public Policy Program hosted former Federal Reserve Governor and current Hoover Institute Visiting Fellow Kevin Warsh (B.A. ’92, Public Policy) on Tuesday, May 29th for the 2018 Zale Lecture. Since 1980, the Morris B and Edna Zale Lectureship, initially made possible by a gift from the Morris B. and Edna Zale Foundation, has sought to bring leading figures from a broad spectrum of public and private life for a lecture open to the Stanford Public Policy community. The Lectureship has hosted such distinguished speakers as George Shultz, Willie L. Brown, Mark McClellan, Robert Reischauer, and Christina Romer.

Mr. Warsh offered impressions, advice, and— as he called them— “war stories” from a career spent as an investment banker at Morgan Stanley, as the Executive Secretary of the White House National Economic Council, and as a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System at the height of the Financial Crisis. Warsh noted the frustration he has sensed among students at Stanford and beyond with public institutions, but encouraged those assembled to channel their feelings toward a redoubled commitment to public service. Passion, he noted, affects change, while anger does not.

Warsh went on to offer several “intuitions” he has developed regarding careers and life. This included that students should seek to be open to serendipity as they look to the future instead of committing themselves steadfastly to a linear path, that they should seek to gain meaningful subject matter expertise in an area (as he put it, to “know something about something”), that following the path of those around them without consideration of their own passions would be a surefire road to disappointment, and that they should take active steps to learn about what it means both to lead and be a member of a group before doing either.

In a wide-ranging subsequent question and answer session, Warsh encouraged humility in the realm of economic forecasting and beyond, challenged the view that the financial sector has been meaningfully reformed since 2008, and offered that time spent in the “real world” may be doubly valuable for those planning to work in the public sector.

Kevin Warsh’s deep commitment to public service and his thought leadership in the regulatory space make him a model recipient of the Zale Award for Public Service. He serves as a potent example of the potential for private sector expertise to sharpen policymakers’ abilities to act when they are most critically needed, and his tireless efforts to right the path of the American economy during his tenure as a Fed Governor are something for which the entire nation owes a huge debt.

Ted Koppel Urges Students to be Humble in Colloquium Talk
By Albert Gehami

For the first session of this Spring’s colloquium, American Broadcast Journalist Ted Koppel joined Public Policy graduate students for a discussion about the future of media. He shared his experiences in journalism as it shifted from a small group of networks that didn’t turn a profit to a million competing news outlets with varying degrees of profitability. We discussed the benefits and drawbacks of giving everyone the ability to create a news outlet online. Koppel asked us how do we find objective news today, and people shared their personal ways of navigating the modern media landscape.

Koppel came in with a message to spread about the ideological divide in this country. In his words, we, students at Stanford, may have specific knowledge that allows us to be here, but how many of us know how to fix a car engine? How many of us could put tile on a roof, or handle farming equipment? He reminded us that the knowledge we came here to learn is only one type of knowledge, and an impractical kind when living in the middle of America. Koppel expressed
his desire for a country-wide service requirement for young adult Americans. It would allow recent high school graduates the opportunity to meet people from completely different backgrounds before they go off to the rest of their lives. He wants the country to bridge across the cultural gaps we have built, and the way to do that would be through exposure.

As the discussion closed, the class thanked Koppel for his time and thoughts. The discussion exposed our group to ideas and stories that most of us had never come across before.

GUP Colloquium
By Caleb Smith

Our Public Policy graduate students were glad to welcome a special selection of guests to their final colloquium meeting on March 13th to discuss Stanford’s future development. Stanford is currently in the process of applying to Santa Clara County for a General Use Permit (GUP) that will outline future campus development from now until 2035. Considering the high stakes for housing, transportation, and academic opportunities these development choices represent, the GUP already excited great interest from Public Policy students.

Public Policy was therefore delighted that Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, Supervisorial aide Kristina Loquist, Stanford Associate Vice President for Government and Community Relations Jean McCown, and Stanford Associate Vice President for Land Use and Environmental Planning, Catherine Palter could join us. Supervisor Simitian enthralled the class with his description of how the County’s government sometimes acts like a legislature but at other times like a court when it came to land use. Supervisor Simitian also heartened many students by declaring that he intended to push for a full mitigation of Stanford’s impacts on nearby communities. Loquist described her career as a local government aide, a calling which several Public Policy students are potentially interested in following. Stanford’s representatives described the process of securing County approval for the GUP, and also the different factors they accounted for in preparing the application.

Following their respective presentations, a lively Q&A and student conversation took place. While all of Public Policy’s students were glad that our guests took the time to visit, some of Public Policy’s students have concerns about Stanford’s development plans and brought these concerns into the dialogue. While the class session sadly did not quite finish hashing out Stanford’s best possible development plans for the next 17 years before time expired, a good and highly educational time was had by all. No doubt, Stanford Public Policy will be making valuable contributions to the GUP process as the permit awaits final consideration in fall 2018.

See Events, page 14
Sacramento Trip
By Rebecca Smalbach

Students in Public Policy 154, Politics and Policy in California, get a special treat each winter. We travel to Sacramento for a full day of experiencing in real life what we have been learning in the classroom. Our amazing professors, Joe Nation and David Crane, were instrumental in allowing us to meet the people crafting and impacting policy in the capitol — the decades of combined experience they have in the legislative and executive branches of state government, as well as in lobbying groups, means that we get an inside look at how California state government operates. We began our day by meeting Assemblywomen Anna Caballeros and then taking a private tour of the Assembly floor with Assemblymembers Marc Berman and Kevin Kiley. They discussed the intricacies of what occurs on the floor when bills are being discussed and voted on, and what it means to be a Republican (or a Democrat) during a time when Democrats hold a strong majority in the Assembly. Several other legislators came to talk to us, including Senator Henry Stern, Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, Senator Ben Allen, and Assemblywoman Laura Friedman. However, we also met several other people who have careers in the capitol that don’t involve voting on legislation. State Controller Betty Yee spoke to us about her responsibilities as chief fiscal officer of California. Jeff Le, Assistant Cabinet Secretary for the Governor, told us about the busy, never-boring schedule of an employee in the Governor’s office. Sarah Kleinberg from the Legislative Analyst’s Office talked about how to put together detailed, essential bill and topic analysis for legislators. We even got to talk to people in the media about how they covered important happenings in Sacramento politics. At the end of the day, we climbed onto the bus back to Stanford, physically exhausted but mentally refreshed, heads spinning with new ideas for the future of our state.
Faculty Profiles

Preeti Hehmeyer
Preeti Hehmeyer is the Associate Director of Stanford’s Bill Lane Center for the American West, an interdisciplinary research center. She leads the Lane Center’s partnerships, programs, finances and administration, and serves as a Lecturer for the Public Policy Undergraduate Practicum during winter quarter. In her work at the Lane Center and Public Policy, Preeti convenes faculty, researchers, students, and alumni with the broader community to advance the Lane Center’s work on a wide range of topics related to the American West. Preeti specializes in local government policy and is responsible for the Center’s work with city managers in the Bay Area.

Through the practicum, Preeti designs projects to help students explore public policy issues that challenge traditional jurisdictional boundaries. By thinking about the incentives and barriers for collaboration across levels of government, Preeti seeks to develop students who can apply their analytical skills to real-world problems. Her students have worked in partnership with the Sustainable Urban Systems program to explore the challenges of designing policies to address sea level rise in the Bay Area and with Joint Venture Silicon Valley to identify innovative financing mechanisms for a multi-jurisdictional bike path.

A Bay Area native, Preeti’s passion for local government and public service is derived from her early experiences volunteering with the City of Mountain View. Prior to joining Stanford, Preeti worked as a management consultant for public agencies throughout California. She has worked with numerous cities, counties, joint powers authorities, and special districts to improve operational efficiency, create strategic plans, and develop performance measures to track the efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery. Preeti holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California where she was a City/County Management Fellow. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and City/Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley. She currently serves as Chair for the City of Mountain View’s Environmental Planning Commission.

Patrick Windham
Lecturer, Public Policy Program

Patrick Windham is a Lecturer in the Public Policy Program and currently teaches a graduate course on science and technology policy, with a focus on helping science and engineering students to understand and participate in the policy world. He is also a Partner with the consulting firm Technology Policy International (TPI).

His background includes 17 years as a staff member in the United States Senate, where he worked on issues regarding science, technology, innovation, and U.S. industrial competitiveness. He taught in the Public Policy Program from 1999 to 2012 and began teaching again the Program in 2017. From 2013 to 2015, while back in the Washington, DC, area, he taught at the University of California’s Washington Center and at the University of Maryland. In addition to his teaching and consulting work, he has served on five committees and roundtables of the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. He received an undergraduate degree from Stanford University and a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

WAYS TO GIVE TO PUBLIC POLICY

Funds are focused on activities that impact the broadest range of faculty and students, and on activities that offer high leverage by encouraging communication and collaboration. Such activities include summer internships and fellowships for students; curriculum development; seminars, symposia, and conferences; development of research networks linking internal and external faculty and students; research initiatives on key topics; and financial support for our students - the next generation of outstanding leaders, scholars and policy makers.

For more information about working with us to enhance public policy initiatives at Stanford, please contact Priscilla Kilili via email at pkilili@stanford.edu or by calling 650-736-2319.

DONORS

The Stanford Public Policy Program extends sincere appreciation to our contributing alumni, parents, students, and friends for their generous support. Financial support provides core funding to strengthen our existing programs, helps create new ones where needed, enhances interaction among faculty and students, and facilitates collaboration with other university programs.
Daniel Raymond Wong Fellowship
Rebecca Smalbach: 2018 Daniel Raymond Wong Memorial Fellowship Recipient

Rebecca Smalbach is a rising sophomore in the Public Policy program who served as an intern at the Office of Congressman Jared Huffman in Washington D.C. this summer. On campus she is the Professional Development Coordinator for Stanford Women in Politics, a copy editor for the Stanford Daily, and Interviews Editor for Stanford Politics, a non-partisan political journal. She is also a Research Assistant for history professor Rowan Dorin, working on archiving medieval manuscripts. Her main interests lie in the realm of education policy, and she has previously worked for the Office of Community Education in the Tamalpais School District, State Assemblyman Marc Levine, and the Corte Madera Town Council.

If you’d like to make a donation to Public Policy, please consider giving to this fund in order to support a student's valuable summer work in an otherwise unpaid summer internship. Please see the page on our website for detailed directions as to how you can donate to the Daniel Raymond Wong Memorial Fund or see below for step-by-step instructions (https://publicpolicy.stanford.edu/about/make-gift/daniel-raymond-wong-memorial-fellowship).

Donations can be made in two ways:

1. **By check**, made out to: Stanford University — Daniel Raymond Wong Memorial Fellowship Fund. Please mail to Public Policy Program, 579 Serra Mall, Landau Economics Building Stanford, CA 94305-6050.

2. **Online** at http://giving.stanford.edu
   - Click on the upper right button at ‘Make a Gift.’
   - Use the following drop down choices: ‘Centers, Institutes, and More’ in the first box and ‘Other Designation (specify below)’ in the second.
   - Type ‘Daniel Raymond Wong Memorial Fellowship Fund’ in the ‘Special Instructions/Other Designation’ box.
   - Under Gift Type, choose ‘One-Time Gift’ and enter the amount you wish to donate.
   - Do not check any boxes under ‘Options.’
   - Sign in as a guest (or with your Stanford Development account if you have one) and enter the information requested on the following page. Please do check if your employer will match your gift.

Letter from the Director, continued from page 1

that happened during the year. Public policy projects included helping San Mateo County think about and plan for sea level rise, Charter school monitoring, and understanding mechanisms for water use in Southern California.

As usual, the program will host a reception for alumni in conjunction with reunion on October 26 in the Landau Economics building. Please come and visit. (I would say “join us,” but I will be the faculty member for Stanford-in-Paris for the fall so will not be there to see you). Even if you can’t come, we hope you will continue to provide advice and help to our students – if you haven’t been involved, but would like to help out and connect with our current crop of outstanding students, please let us know.

Gregory L. Rosston
Director
Berkeley C. Burbank  
Class of 1995

Berkeley, a transfer student and previously declared Economics major, discovered the Public Policy program was a perfect fit. Public Policy offered the flexibility to combine economics, political science, sociology and directed reading to explore social inequity, income distribution and the many public and private attempts to address both. Berkeley focused on housing and homelessness policies. A Stanford In Government summer fellowship in Washington, DC working on health care reform, during the Clinton administration, provided an “inside the beltway” perspective on social change. It proved influential in the decision to seek a career as a housing developer instead of a policy analyst or housing advocate.

After graduation Berkeley worked for Peninsula Habitat for Humanity building a Habitat condominium development in East Palo Alto. Working with partner families to fulfill their homebuyer commitments and preparation was a great introduction to real families facing serious housing issues. After marrying Ginny Robinson ’97, Berkeley worked with Catholic Charities Housing in San Jose assisting in the development of special needs housing for developmentally disabled, homeless and survivors of domestic violence.

Now almost 25 years later Berkeley has worked in various capacities leading the development, financing and construction of thousands of affordable housing units for low income families. He is currently Vice President of Development for Alco Management in Memphis, TN working on renovating and preserving deeply assisted affordable housing across the southeast. Ginny and Berkeley have four children and he enjoys cycling and tennis.

Clarke Camper  
Class of 1993

Clarke Camper is executive vice president and head of government relations at Capital Group, a leading global asset manager. Prior to joining Capital, he was head of government affairs at NYSE Euronext, a global exchange operator. Before that, he was vice president of external affairs at GE Capital and head of federal government relations at Freddie Mac, and worked for then-Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY).

He holds a juris doctor from Harvard Law School, a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School, and a bachelor’s degree in public policy from Stanford University. Clarke is based in Washington, D.C. and lives with his wife (also a Harvard Law/Kennedy School grad) and three teenagers in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Jonathan Elkin  
Class of 2006

At Stanford, I developed an interest in education policy as a way to improve equity for low-income and minority students. Meanwhile, I caught the political bug while working on the Kerry 04 campaign and with a Stanford in Washington fellowship.

After college, I taught middle school math in the South Bronx, NYC with Teach for America. The seventh and eighth graders taught me a lot about resilience and how living in poverty is playing with a deck stacked against them.

Next, I moved to DC and worked on Capitol Hill for eight years, first for my hometown Rep. Howard Berman (D-Los Angeles). Then I worked for Rep. Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), supporting her work on the House Education Committee, and then for her U. S. Senate campaign and four years in the Senate. We achieved some victories, including a $14 million Preschool Development Grant for Hawaii, and including many of her priorities for early learning, Native, and military-connected students in the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, the major federal k-12 law to replace No Child Left Behind. As the only immigrant in the Senate and a first-generation college student, she also staked out a strong position as a Democratic leader to preserve and protect Pell Grants for low-income students, and to allow DREAMers to earn federal financial aid.

After ESSA passed, I wanted to learn more about policy implementation at a more local level, so I went to work at my current position with DC’s Office of the State Superintendent of Education, which acts as the state education agency and distributes federal funding to DC schools. I’ve gotten the chance to work on the state’s ESSA plan we submitted to the U. S. Department of Education, develop and manage two new local special education grants, and help implement Senator Hirono’s provision to coordinate between Head Start programs and K-12.

I met my wife while organizing volunteer canvassers for the Obama campaign in 2008. She’s an environmental lawyer who works on the Hill. We have two awesome kids age 2 (and a half!) and two months.

Thanks Stanford Public Policy! Thanks to my advisor, Professor Mike Kirst (president of California’s state board of education under Jerry Brown both times — with a long break in between), who opened my eyes to the complex and often hilarious politics of education. Thanks to my PubPol 101 for teaching me to break the flowery
Alumni Updates, continued from page 17

essay writing style and put concise bullet points on one page for decision makers... and then thanks to campaign work that taught me to break it again and cut it even shorter for a lay audience. Come say hi if you’re in DC sometime.

**Amanda Lu**  
Class of 2017

Amanda is currently a PhD Student in Education Policy at the Stanford Graduate School of Education. She is a recipient of the Institute of Education Sciences Predoctoral Training Fellowship and the Stanford Graduate Fellowship in Science and Engineering. She earned a joint Masters in Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies from the Stanford GSE and MPP from the Stanford Public Policy Program in 2015. She continues to stay involved with the Public Policy program by TA-ing the masters level Applied Econometrics course. This summer, she will return to New Orleans, LA, her place of residence prior to Stanford, to study the politics of charter school authorization in the local school district. Amanda’s research interests include school privatization and market-based reform, the politics of education, and private interventions in public education systems.

**Lucas Botello**  
Class of 2007

Lucas decided to major in Public Policy in 2004 to understand the political and public policy barriers to improving the U.S. health care system. During his studies and throughout his early career, he has learned about many other societal and public policy challenges, how politics plays a role in our understanding of those issues, and how his own assumptions had shaped his views on politics and public policy. After graduation, he participated in the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs that further challenged his own assumptions about different sectors while gaining leadership training and experience in political campaigns, local government, corporate business, broadcast media, and organized labor. After the Coro Fellowship, Lucas went to New Mexico to work on the 2008 Obama campaign where he recruited and trained volunteers to contact voters and turn out the vote for the Presidential election.

After the Obama campaign, Lucas worked on a 2009 special election Congressional campaign in East Los Angeles for Emanuel Pleitez (Class of 2005) gaining more experience in both field organizing as well as political campaign fundraising. In 2010, Lucas joined the Obama administration as a political appointee to the U.S. Justice Department’s Office of Legislative Affairs, which is responsible for communicating to Congress the DOJ’s positions on various pieces of legislation and preparing nominees and political appointees for Congressional hearings and meetings.

Lucas left the DOJ to work with Emanuel Pleitez again to start a political and nonprofit consulting firm before attending The George Washington School of Law. In 2013, Lucas transferred to the University of Southern California’s Gould School of Law. During law school, he participated in the Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics as a student scholar, competed in the Jessup Moot Court competition, and interned with District Attorney’s Office Hardcore Gang Division, the ACLU of Southern California, the Vera Institute of Justice, and California’s Office of Legislative Counsel (OLC).

After earning his J.D. in 2015, he worked at the OLC as a Deputy Legislative Counsel from 2015 until 2017, drafting legislation and providing legal advice to California’s state legislature. In 2017, he took a hiatus from the OLC to work on the Sam Jammal for Congress campaign in California’s 39th district. He is happy to be working again at the OLC and living in Sacramento. He is looking forward to marrying his fiancé Katie Kleinhen in March of 2019.

**Raffi Mardirosian**  
Class of 2010

Raffi is VP, Corporate Development at Ouster, a leading autonomous vehicle technology company that has developed the world’s most performant and affordable LIDAR. He joined Ouster from Flagship Ventures, where he was a Principal focused on founding and investing in companies in sustainability. Previously he was President at Midori, a biotech startup with a carbohydrate chemistry and microbiome control technology that is being applied in human and animal health. Prior to Midori, Raffi co-developed the first utility-scale solar photovoltaic power plant in East Africa which currently contributes >6% of Rwanda’s power capacity & broke the record for fastest African energy project finance deal to achieve commercial operations. He also was a consultant at McKinsey & Company, where he specialized in competitiveness, advanced industries, healthcare, and sustainability and resource productivity. Raffi was the Curator of the World Economic Forum’s Global Shapers Community in Boston, and spoke at the Forum’s Annual Meeting in Davos. Raffi holds bachelor’s degrees from Stanford University in Economics and Public Policy with Honors.

**Jelani Munroe**  
Class of 2016

Jelani majored in Economics, and in Public Policy — concentrating in Development and Growth Policies. He also graduated with interdisciplinary honors in
Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law. His research focused on political economy: specifically, the implications of macroeconomic austerity policy on incumbent political strategy in Jamaican elections.

While at Stanford, Jelani was involved in various aspects of campus life. He was a 2015 Haas Center for Public Service Fellow at the Embassy of Jamaica in Washington, D.C. and also served as financial officer for his community service group, Circle K. He was also the director of Stanford Talisman a cappella, and performed the lead role in Ragtime! The Musical.

For the past two years since graduating, Jelani served as Financial Manager and CEO for the ASSU, Stanford's representative student government and independent non-profit which offers student life & advocacy grants and entrepreneurship education opportunities.

As he reflects on his two-year term helping lead ASSU's shift in mission, he found the Public Policy toolkit extremely useful. To reframe ASSU's mission: it determines a level of public contribution and redistributes those funds in a suite grant offerings; these grants should optimize public benefit amidst diverse, diffuse, and often opposing private interests (student organizations and projects). In this context, public policy skills like organizational theory, policy writing, and cost-benefit analysis were all necessary for success.

Recently, Jelani was selected as the 2018 Jamaica Rhodes Scholar. This Fall, he begins graduate study at Oxford in international development, in order to explore pathways for nation building within Jamaica and the broader Caribbean. Outside the classroom, he hopes to continue pursuing vocal music and musical theater performance. As a bonus, he's wishing for cheap (or rather, student-friendly) tickets to London theater, and sports: maybe an Arsenal soccer game and a victorious Serena Williams in the Wimbledon final.

Zach Sorenson
Class of 2017

Zach graduated last June with an MA in Public Policy and a BS in Computer Science, and currently works for Adam Schiff in the House of Representatives. After having spent two quarters in DC as an undergraduate in the Stanford in Washington program, he moved back last August to work part-time at Palantir while interning for Representative Swalwell, and started working full-time as a Staff Assistant for Mr. Schiff in November.

Zach’s current responsibilities include opening and sorting mail, answering phones, coordinating tours, and greeting office visitors — usually constituents or interest groups, but sometimes higher-profile guests as well, including (on a particularly interesting day) Stephen Colbert. He has particularly enjoyed working as the office’s intern coordinator, which involves recruiting, training, and supervising the office’s unpaid student labor force. After having completed a variety of policy-related internships as a student and been a teaching assistant for several Stanford courses, working with interns has been a rewarding chance to share some of those opportunities and skills with students currently pursuing policy studies.

Zach has also enjoyed being back in Washington and having the chance to explore the East Coast, as well as DC’s wide variety of free museums and events.

Stephanie Riegg Cellini
Class of 1999

Stephanie was lucky enough to discover the public policy major after reading the bulletin cover-to-cover in search of a major. She enjoyed taking classes across a range of fields and appreciated the interdisciplinary approach to solving policy problems. But she could never have imagined just how useful those classes would be: she is now a professor in a policy school teaching courses similar to those she took at Stanford!

After graduation, Stephanie moved to Washington, DC (where she had enjoyed living during Stanford in Washington) to take a job as a research assistant at the Urban Institute. There, she developed an interest in higher education policy and overcame her fear of economics enough to apply to economics PhD programs. She attended UCLA for graduate school (receiving her MA and PhD in economics) and moved back to DC to become an assistant professor in the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration at George Washington University (GWU) in 2006. Now a tenured associate professor and director of the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at GWU, Stephanie teaches Benefit-Cost Analysis and Economics for Public Decision-Making for MPA, MPP, and public policy PhD students.

Her research focuses primarily on for-profit college education. Enrollment in for-profit colleges has expanded dramatically in recent decades and her work generates new insights into the behavior of these institutions and the outcomes of their students. Her goal is to inform current policy debates on the regulation of for-profit institutions, the design of federal student aid programs, and public investments in postsecondary education. Stephanie’s research has been published in top economics and policy journals such as the Quarterly Journal of Economics and the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, and has been featured in the Washington Post, New York Times, Wall Street Journal and other national media. Stephanie is also a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. She enjoys running around DC (literally and figuratively) with her husband, Lorenzo, and her two very energetic children.
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