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THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CHICAGO  
**INSTITUTE  
OF POLITICS**



**BOARD OF  
ADVISORS  
MEETING**  
JUNE 1, 2018





*“That idea of civil, intelligent, rational discourse in politics is one that young people like you are demanding more than just about anyone else. And that – when we look at all the challenges we’re facing all around the world – is the one thing that gives me more cause for hope than just about anything else. The fact that anywhere I go I have the opportunity to listen to, learn from, and to be inspired by young folks like you, for whom politics isn’t automatically a dirty word and the idea of service and engagement and shaping your community for the better is at the heart of what you hope to be in the coming years, but mostly and, more importantly, what you hope to do in the coming years.” – Justin Trudeau, Feb. 2018*

# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

## Annual Board of Advisors Meeting

2017-2018 Academic Year

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# CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS

## The First Five Years & the Next Ten



IOP Director David Axelrod and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau during the five year anniversary event in February 2018





During Winter Quarter this year we celebrated the fifth anniversary of formally opening our doors in January 2013. Since our launch, the IOP's mission has been to ignite in students a passion for politics and public service and to enrich public discourse on campus and beyond, which we have done with a diverse range of programming. To date, the IOP has:

- › **Brought to campus over 1,000 guests** as part of our Speaker Series, including former Vice President Joe Biden, former Gov. Mitt Romney, author Elie Wiesel, Amb. Nikki Haley, author Ta-Nehisi Coates, Speaker Paul Ryan, Justice Elena Kagan, former Speaker Newt Gingrich, singer and philanthropist Chance the Rapper, former Secretary of State John Kerry, Sen. Tom Cotton, activist Alicia Garza, comedian Jon Stewart, Sen. Bernie Sanders, and Sen. John McCain
- › **Hosted 107 resident and visiting Fellows** who work closely with students each quarter as part of the Pritzker Fellows Program, including former RNC chair Michael Steele, former Gov. Jennifer Granholm, former Gov. Haley Barbour, former Secretary of Health & Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, director Davis Guggenheim, former Deputy Secretary of State Anthony Blinken, former Sen. Bill Bradley, and strategist Steve Schmidt.
- › **Supported over 1,000 fully-funded student internships** around the U.S. and the world, from Sweden to Costa Rica, as well as our annual Summer in Washington Program
- › **Helped over 500 students participate in student-led civic engagement projects**, including Women in Public Service, Leaders of Color, and BallotReady, a voter education initiative
- › Led student trips to **Cuba, Indonesia, China**, the 2012 and 2016 Democratic and Republican conventions, and the 2016 Iowa caucuses
- › Launched the critically acclaimed **"The Axe Files" podcast** hosted by David Axelrod, which has posted 245 episodes featuring guests such as President Obama, Madeleine Albright and James Baker, and inspired a TV show by the same name on CNN
- › Developed one-of-a-kind programs such as the 2018 **Bridging the Divide** program with Eureka College, an effort to break down the silos between urban and rural communities; the **Shriver Program** for Leadership in Public Service, a year-long fellowship program using the example and methods of Sargent Shriver; and the **2016 Iowa Project**, which enabled students to experience the Iowa caucuses first-hand



## THE VALUE OF THE IOP

The IOP stands as a largely unique offering across American universities. Here at the University of Chicago, the IOP complements the academic offerings of the Harris School of Public Policy and the Political Science Department by giving students hands-on opportunities to engage in politics and public service. At a time of disquiet and searching, the IOP meets their hunger to change the world and gives them practical pathways to purpose. As a result, **the IOP has generated intense demand** for its programs and created significant value for the University of Chicago and its students:

- › Each year, **approximately 2,200 unique students participate in IOP programming**, with 600+ of them being highly engaged in one program or another. Approximately two-thirds are undergraduates and a third graduate students. They are a diverse group: while approximately 40 percent are political science or public policy majors, the other 60 percent reflect a wide variety of other majors.
- › The Speaker Series program offers approximately **25 marquee events per quarter**, with attendance ranging from 100-1,500 people at each event and many events selling out. **IOP Pritzker Fellows lead another 107 small student-only discussion seminars** each year, along with frequent office hours.
- › The IOP weekly **newsletter reaches 10,000 people** (4,000 current UChicago affiliated), it reaches over 10,000

followers via Twitter, and typically 150,000 through each Axe Files podcast.

- › The Career Advancement program offers **200+ paid internships each summer** – and receives more than 20 applications for every spot
- › **The number of UChicago applicants intending to major in politics and policy-related fields has doubled in the five years since the IOP opened its doors**, from roughly 2,000 in 2012 to roughly 4,000 in 2018. Admissions leaders have noted that the IOP has become a decisive factor in why students are choosing the University over other colleges.
- › The IOP has helped the University land some of the most sought-after newsmakers and leaders in the world, from U.S. presidential candidates to **Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau**, whose only public event on his first official visit to Chicago was at the University in February 2018 to celebrate the IOP's fifth anniversary. Such speakers not only enrich campus discourse, they generate visibility for the University via wide news coverage.
- › The IOP is proud of President Robert Zimmer's national leadership as a **champion of free speech** on university campuses; the IOP's flagship speaker series is perhaps the strongest vehicle UChicago has for delivering on that commitment, bringing to campus prominent speakers reflecting a diverse array of ideas, perspectives, and ideologies.





- › The ultimate impact the IOP hopes to create is starting to emerge: in two recent surveys of alumni who participated at the IOP, **70% of those who responded are currently in jobs in politics, public service, or journalism.**

### **SUSTAINING & STRENGTHENING THE IOP**

In the past five years, the IOP has demonstrated resounding “proof of concept.” It has established itself as a singularly important part of the university’s offer to students and the broader University and Chicago communities. As we look ahead to the next five years, we will be working toward two overarching goals: modest, creative programming growth and ensuring financial sustainability.

### **PROGRAMMING GROWTH**

Our first ambition is to continue programming excellence while undertaking modest growth. Current student demand outstrips IOP resources. We want to respond to that demand, for example, by offering substantially more internships. We receive 20 applicants for each funded summer internship; we could and should provide more, as these experiences prove life-changing for many of our students. At the same time, we want to innovate with new programming to attract more students and engage different partners. Coordinate a campus-wide drive to increase voter registration and turnout. Send students to Iowa for presidential primary campaign experiences and caucuses. Reprise a successful training for new presidential election reporters. Host a political satire festival. Expand early efforts to counter

political polarization and bridge social and cultural divides.

### **SUSTAINABLE FUNDING**

The IOP has benefitted from university seed support and generous initial donors who took a chance on a good but untested idea. For the IOP’s mission and impact to continue for generations of UChicago students, however, endowment funding is required. In the next several years, IOP leaders will be looking to secure grant and gift support for annual operations, as well as to grow an endowment fund to ensure the IOP will provide transformative experiences for multiple next generations of America’s public leaders.

**As we sharpen our priorities and programs further, we look forward to doing so in collaboration with our most dedicated and invaluable supporters — our stellar Board of Advisors, each of whom is an exemplar of the IOP’s mission. Thank you for all you have contributed to the success of the Institute’s first five years, and in advance for helping us make the most of the next five!**

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## Providing a forum for leaders and other political actors to share their diverse experiences and insights on key issues of the day.

The IOP hosts nearly 100 Speaker Series events per year, ranging from large-scale events with audiences over 1,500 to seminar-style discussions at the IOP house. Since our founding in 2013 we have hosted nearly 600 events and 1,100 speakers. The program provides a platform for direct interaction between the university community and distinguished guests who span a vast spectrum of ideological, professional, and geographical backgrounds. They share crucial insights and opinions on domestic and international issues of today. In line with the University of Chicago's commitment to open inquiry and discourse, Speaker Series events include a Q&A section, in which attendees can ask unfiltered questions to the speaker(s).

### YEAR IN REVIEW

For our fifth anniversary celebration we welcomed Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for his first official trip to Chicago. This was one high point in a full year of programming that covered such diverse topics as national security, political journalism, local government in an era of federal dysfunction, America's opioid crisis, the intersection of religion and politics, and President Trump's first two years in office.

Our guests included former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Sen. Cory Booker, Co-Executive Director of Indivisible Leah Greenberg, Cardinal Blase Cupich, former National Security Advisor Tom Donilon, The Atlantic's David Frum, UN Ambassador Nikki Haley, former White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett, RNC Chair Ronna McDaniel, DNC Chair Tom Perez, former Secretary of Health and Human Services Tom Price, former National Security Advisor Susan Rice, President & CEO of the International Rescue Committee David Miliband, former White House photographer Pete Souza, and former Deputy Attorney General of the United States Sally Yates.

Additionally the Speaker Series partnered with WBEZ Chicago and POLITICO to host a forum featuring the 2018 Illinois Democratic gubernatorial candidates. An invitation was extended to the Republican candidates, but not all accepted.

**4700**  
unique attendees  
(students & public)  
#

### STUDENT PROGRAMMING

Chicago Style, News & Views, and the International Policy Program (IPP) are student-led programming teams which continue to produce quality events that respond quickly to news of the day. Highlights from the programs include a Chicago Style panel on the legacy of Mayor Harold Washington; a News and Views discussion on gun violence as a public health epidemic; and an IPP event on Catalonia's push for independence.



David Miliband greets a student after an October 2017 event



Former HHS Secretary Tom Price at an April 2018 event

## WHAT'S NEW

This year, the events team has increased face time with speakers through informal, off-the-record student sessions—nearly 16 hours of these roundtables this year. For public programs, the team has improved the demographics of Speaker Series guests to move closer to reflecting gender parity. We will continue to brainstorm and implement new structures that ensure racial, gender, and ideological diversity among IOP guests.

## WHAT'S NEXT

Planning for academic year 2018-2019 has already begun. Our focus will be on the midterm elections and the 2020 presidential race. In the fall, we hope to convene a day-long program reflecting on the 10 years since Barack Obama's election. We are developing plans for a two-day political satire fest that would look at how satire both shapes and reflects political discourse across the country. For the spring quarter we are once again planning to hold a Campaign Journalism Conference to help prepare reporters covering their first presidential campaign. We held the inaugural conference in May 2015 and hosted former RNC Chair Reince Priebus, former DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz, former Director of Communications for the RNC Sean Spicer, NBC's Chuck Todd, and IOP Board Members Stephanie Cutter and Amy Walter.



Journalist Carl Bernstein at a November 2017 event



Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ) meets students after a May 2018 event

*“We have to learn to have civil discussions with people that we disagree with. I think that that is a part that is one, essential for democracy, but certainly essential at a university setting and therefore I do believe in the importance of listening to people that I disagree with. When I teach, I say to people, ‘You all know I’m a card-carrying Democrat and I want you to disagree with me.’ I think that part of what has to happen is to encourage civil disagreement and try to figure out what the other person is saying and why. Therefore I do believe that more than any other place that on campuses there needs to be that sense that we welcome discussions that are carried on in a civil way. I’m opposed to violence, but I do think that what we really need is the possibility to have that discussion and that it strengthens democracy in that particular way. I think it helps us all to be pushed and to have our thinking disrupted. I think that is a very important part of democracy.”*

– Madeleine Albright, April 2018



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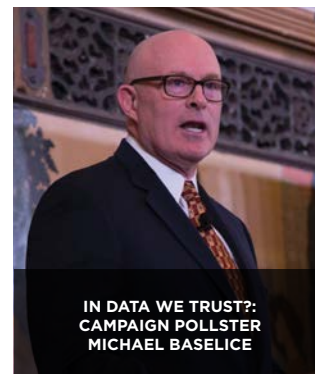
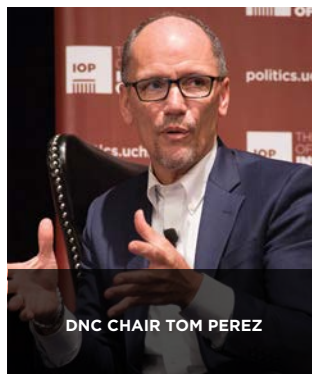
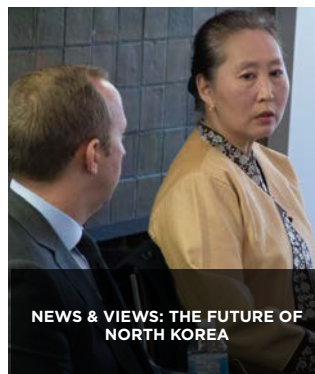
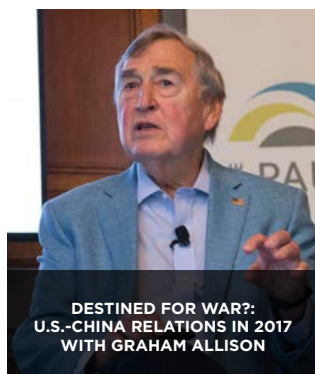
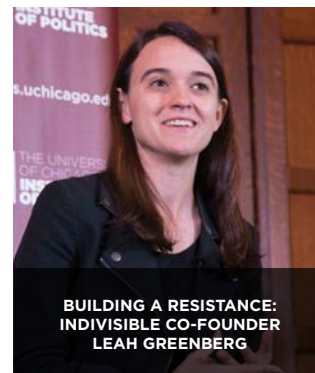
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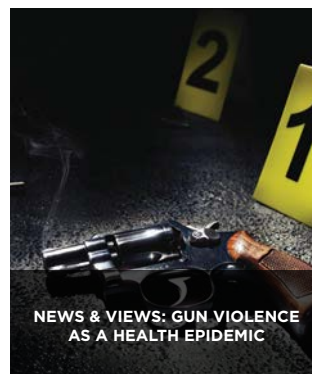
Valerie Jarrett, who served as senior advisor to Barack Obama, at an April 2018 event



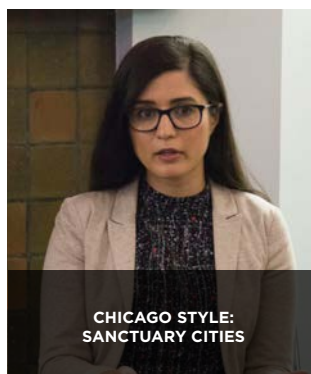
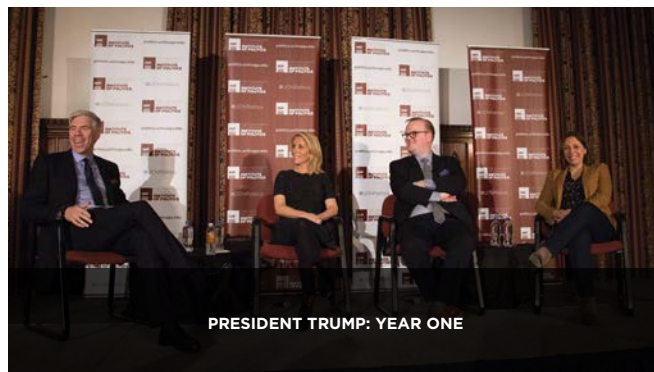
**SPEAKER SERIES**  
**2017-2018 Events Calendar**  
*Fall Quarter*



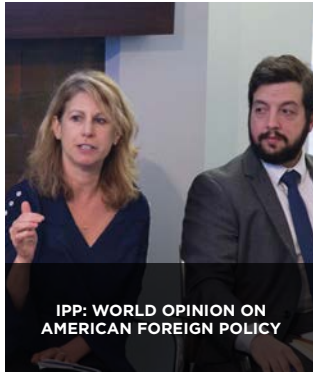




SPEAKER SERIES  
2017-2018 Events Calendar  
Winter Quarter







IPP: WORLD OPINION ON  
AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY



AMERICA'S MAYORS: GETTING STUFF DONE IN 2018



CHICAGO STYLE:  
THE SODA TAX AND  
WHY IT FAILED



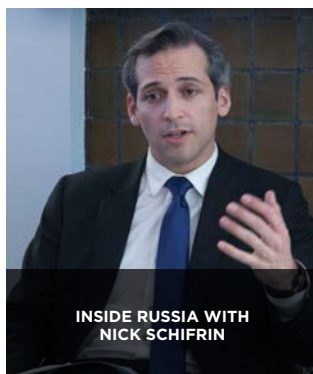
UN AMBASSADOR NIKKI R. HALEY



ILLINOIS ELECTIONS 101 WITH NATASHA KORECKI OF POLITICO  
AND TONY ARNOLD AND DAVE MCKINNEY OF WBEZ



ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC GUBERNATORIAL PRIMARY DEBATE

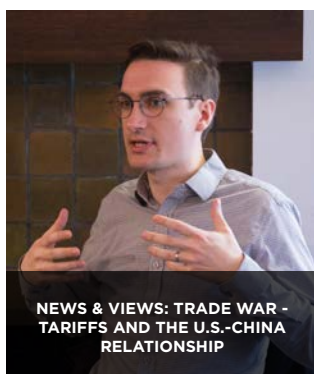
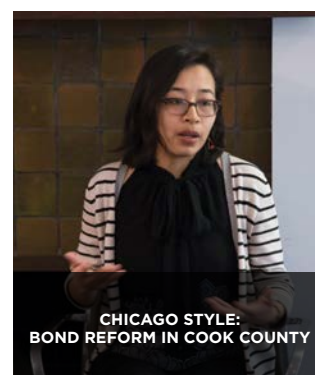
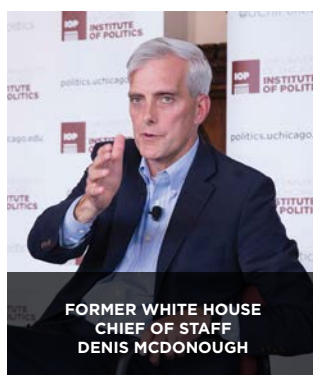
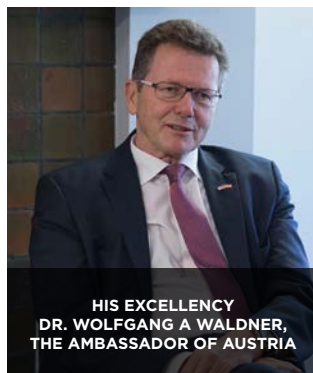


INSIDE RUSSIA WITH  
NICK SCHIFFRIN

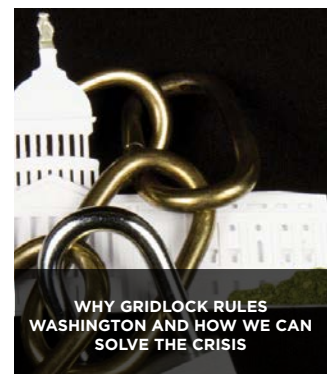


CANDIDATE FOR ILLINOIS  
GOVERNOR JEANNE IVES

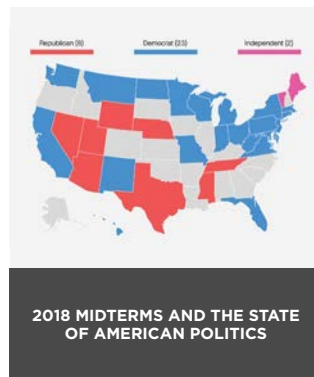
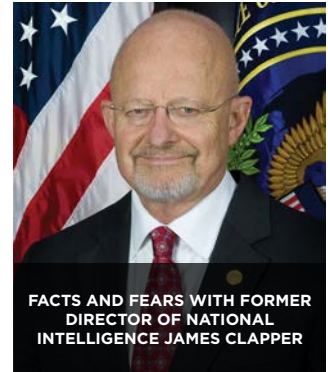
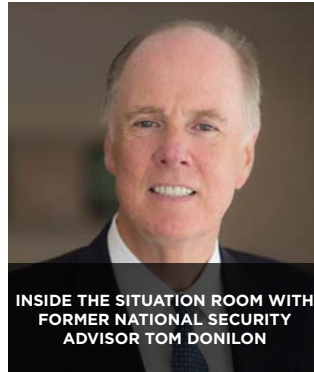
**SPEAKER SERIES**  
**2017-2018 Events Calendar**  
*Spring Quarter*







SPEAKER SERIES  
2017-2018 Events Calendar  
*Spring Quarter*







Former Governor of New Jersey Chris Christie at a May 2018 event



# FELLOWS PROGRAM



Fall 2017 Pritzker Fellows Jason Kander, Karen Tumulty, Fred Hochberg, Laura Haim, and Bakari Sellers



Bringing a diverse cohort of elected political officials, diplomats, policymakers, and journalists to campus each academic quarter to lead weekly seminars, engage with students, and pursue projects of their choosing.

The Pritzker Fellows Program enables students to engage directly with leading political minds and public servants in student-only, off-the-record seminars. Fellows and their guests give experience-based insight and perspective on politics and policy in action. Fellows also hold office hours to meet with students one-on-one and take part in a range of on and off-campus activities and events. As practitioners and as leaders, Fellows illuminate multiple pathways into public service for our students.

#### YEAR IN REVIEW

The IOP hosted 21 Resident and Visiting Fellows during the 2017-18 academic year, a group that included top political journalists, former elected officials, political strategists, former cabinet secretaries, foreign journalists, activists and non-profit leaders. Their topics included a look at the election of Emmanuel Macron and what it means for Europe and America, Putin's Russia, a deep dive into trauma in the criminal justice system and ways to address it, the future of conservatism, the internet's disruption of politics and government for better and for worse, and the challenges facing progressives in politics.

Fellows brought an exciting range of guests to their seminars, including: Pulitzer-prize winning journalist David Farenthold, political operatives Brian Fallon and Alex Conant, Ron Klain, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, former Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Kozyrev, activist Brittany Packnett, journalist Jamelle Bouie, filmmaker Steve James, and Governor Rauner's campaign manager Betsy Ankney. Fellows led provocative discussions, debated issues, workshopped ideas and challenged our students to think deeply and productively about both current events and future challenges in civic and political life.

Each Fellow had a team of student ambassadors who managed seminars and office hours and were their liaisons to campus student life. Fellows

and their ambassadors develop strong mentoring relationships, which often continue well beyond their time on campus. This year we had a first for our ambassadors – journalist Karen Tumulty took her ambassadors with her to report on the Obama Foundation Summit and student Al Shah got a byline in *The Washington Post*.

In addition to their seminar responsibilities, Fellows engaged with multiple student groups and University programs, including the Harris School, the Law School, College Republicans and UC Democrats, Booth School of Business, Maroon Veterans Alliance, IOP Leaders of Color

Initiative, IOP Tech Team, the IOP's Bridging the Divide program, UChicago Urban Labs and the IOP's Women in Public Service Program. Off campus visits included the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Chicago Tonight, and Chicago Ideas Week.

**675**  
students engaged  
#

#### WHAT'S NEW

Due to overwhelmingly positive student response, the change to student-only seminars in the spring of 2017 was made permanent this academic year. Students engaged deeply with the Fellows and with each other in seminars, contributing to lively and provocative discussions. Winter Quarter featured a range of visiting fellows which allowed for creativity and diversity of topics, but did not enable a cohesive cohort. Next year we will go to a hybrid model with a small resident cohort as well as a series of visiting fellows.

#### WHAT'S NEXT

We continue to explore ways to enrich our Fellows engagement with students, both with their student ambassadors and in student programs across the IOP and the greater University. It is our goal to move towards more seamless integration of the Fellows into all the program areas of the IOP as well as broaden their experience across the University campus.

FELLOWS PROGRAM  
2017-2018 Fellows-in-Residence  
Fall Quarter



› **LAURA HAIM**

- › Journalist & former Spokesperson for Emmanuel Macron's presidential campaign
- › *"France and Europe: Made in Macron?"*

The arrival of 39-year-old Emmanuel Macron put France back on the international stage, and his desire to see a new generation participating in politics will be significant for France in the years ahead. Laura's seminars explored how, from out of nowhere, Macron became the symbol of change in France and in Europe and the impact he is having; how he structured his movement and continues to build his party; and what we can expect from the French president on the global stage.



› **FRED P. HOCHBERG**

- › Former chairman & president, U.S. Export-Import Bank
- › *"The Politics of Globalization: How Trade Became a Four-Letter Word."*

Fred's seminar examined the recent history of our trade politics, the roles that business, labor, the political parties, executive branch agencies, and global institutions play in influencing the debate, and dissected the real-world debates mentioned above. The seminars also looked at what lies ahead: NAFTA renegotiation, a UK-US trade agreement, a trade war with China, the 2020 election, and more.



› **JASON KANDER**

- › Former Missouri Secretary Of State; State Representative; Founder, Let America Vote
- › *"Hooah to Harrumph: Stuff I Learned on the Road from Soldier to Politician."*

With the influx of millennials into politics, Jason looked at what defines millennials and what they want out of their leaders and their politics. He also examined his trajectory from the non-partisan military to highly partisan politics, and what the number of veterans entering the political arena might mean for the future of political progress and bipartisan leadership.



› **JEFF ROE**

- › Republican Political Consultant; Senior Strategist & Campaign Manager, Ted Cruz's 2016 Presidential Campaign
- › *"Navigating the Republican Electorate: Tales from a Campaign Warrior."*

Jeff's seminars examined campaigns in the current, but ever-changing political environment, and looked forward to the 2018 election year. From the data and analytics that help shape campaign messages to the business of politics that influence Washington, what does it really mean to be a conservative today?





› **KATHLEEN SEBELIUS**

- › Former Secretary Of Health & Human Services Department; Former Governor Of Kansas
- › *“What the Health? Why It Matters to All of Us.”*

As Americans, we spend more on health care than any other nation on earth, our health outcomes are mediocre at best, and we are the only developed country without some form of universal health care. Kathleen’s seminars explored four unique health topics, and discussed the politics, economics and the personal impact of decisions made about health in the United States.



› **BAKARI SELLERS**

- › Former South Carolina State Representative
- › *“The Progressive Movement within the Democratic Party & the Politics of the South.”*

Bakari’s seminars explored top-line political talking points and dove deeper into their meaning and real world application. The seminars looked at the state of our country in Trump’s America and looked at how Democrats in predominantly red states, particularly in the South, can rebrand, refocus, and remessage to grow and win hearts, minds and votes.



› **KAREN TUMULTY**

- › National Political Correspondent, The Washington Post
- › *“America’s Divided Politics: A Journalist’s Perspective.”*

Red. Blue. Left. Right. Coastal elitism. Heartland values. A vanishing center. Our politics has become more partisan — tribal, even — than at any time in living memory. Karen’s seminars reviewed the news every week in this turbulent time, when each day seemed to bring a strange new development and new declarations that “this is not normal.” The seminars then dove into the why of it. How did we get here, and what does it mean for the country’s ability to solve its problems? Is there any way back? An overview of the forces at work — among them, values, media, and economics.

*“Amongst the practical skills I gained and strengthened as an ambassador and a team leader through the Fellows program, one of the greatest gifts this opportunity gave me was an insight into what I now want my career path to be.”*

—Olivia Shaw, AB’20

*“The students were exceptional, and one of the things that really impressed me was the diversity of disciplines - and not just a variety of undergraduate majors, but graduate students in computer science, from the Booth School of Business and other programs, attended both seminars and office hours – proving out this notion that active citizenship can exist in every arena in our society.”*

—Kirsten Lodal, Winter 2018 Fellow

FELLOWS PROGRAM  
2017-2018 Fellows-in-Residence  
Winter Quarter



› **McKAY COPPINS**

- › Author & Staff Writer At The Atlantic
- › *"The Partisan Media and the Future of Trumpism"*

The Trump Era has given rise to two highly partisan and increasingly influential new-media ecosystems – one on the right, and one on the left. McKay looked at the dangers those media trends pose to America's democratic process, and how we as consumers can combat the weaponization of the press. He also looked at the ideological identity crisis of the Republican party under Trump – what does it mean to be a Republican today? Will Trumpism conquer conservatism in the long term?



› **SHOMIK DUTTA**

- › Co-Founder Of Higher Ground Labs
- › *"The Future of Political Tech"*

Technology has taken over the way we communicate, how we get our news, how we speak out on issues we care about, and it is rapidly changing the way we campaign. Shomik and Betsy surveyed the past and present states of political technology and looked to the future – ideating with students on ways to tackle some of the thorniest challenges in politics.



› **BETSY HOOVER**

- › Co-Founder Of Higher Ground Labs



› **KIRSTEN LODAL**

- › CEO & Co-Founder Of Anti-Poverty Organization LIFT
- › *"The Critical Role of Non-profits in a Divided Society"*

Using her work with LIFT as a case study, Kirsten discussed how to build an effective, sustainable non-profit institution, and the need to adapt a strategic vision to remain relevant as social needs and political realities change. These seminars also looked at the crucial role non-profits play as innovators and laboratories for change and the impact they can have on public policy.





› **EBOO PATEL**

- › Founder & President Of The Interfaith Youth Core
- › *"Identity, Diversity & Democracy"*

America prides itself on being a diverse democracy, but there have long been tensions between identity communities. What kind of identity discourse is required to build a more perfect union? What kinds are unhealthy or counterproductive? Eboo's seminars considered a variety of approaches to identity politics, including a look at why interfaith work matters in public life and the American ummah in the age of Islamophobia.



› **JAY ROACH**

- › Award-Winning Film Director & Producer
- › *"The Art of Political Narrative"*

Jay looked at the intersection of culture and politics in narrative film, and explored how he develops his films to illuminate the greater truths behind political events and our political culture. What makes a story worth telling? How do you maintain authenticity in a dramatic narrative? And what do characters and performances tell us about the humanity of the real-life figures who inhabit our political universe?



Jason Kander during a Fall 2017 seminar



Nneka Jones Tapia during a Spring 2018 seminar

*"It's refreshing to meet the students because they really care about issues involving public policy, they're studying them here, they want to meet people who have real life experience with it, and they ask questions sometimes that you don't even think about, so I think that's really good as you think about important issues facing our country. I've really enjoyed that. And there's a level of energy they bring that reminds you why you got into this."*

—Kelly Ayotte, Spring 2018 Fellow

FELLOWS PROGRAM  
2017-2018 Fellows-in-Residence  
Spring Quarter



› **KELLY AYOTTE**

- › Former Senator From New Hampshire
- › *"American Leadership at Home & Abroad."*

Kelly's seminars looked at the multiple foreign policy challenges facing America today and the interplay of geopolitical forces affecting our leadership in an increasingly precarious world. On the domestic front, she discussed what it takes to run for office and reflected on the institution of the Senate and the challenges and rewards of legislating with a real commitment to bipartisanship.



› **NNEKA JONES TAPIA**

- › Executive Director Of The Cook County Department Of Corrections
- › *"Trauma in the Criminal Justice System: Communities in Need of Healing."*

Nneka's seminars reviewed the prevalence of trauma and its impact throughout (or in parts of) the criminal justice system and the surrounding community. Each seminar examined programs that are making innovative strides towards healing a broken system and community and discussed how they can evolve and be replicated to improve the criminal justice system on a broad scale.



› **VLADIMIR KARA-MURZA**

- › Chairman Of The Boris Nemtsov Foundation For Freedom And Vice Chairman Of Open Russia
- › *"Russia: Putin, the Opposition, and the Prospects of Democracy."*

As controversies surrounding the 2016 U.S. election draw increased attention to Russia, this seminar series by Vladimir explored Russia's domestic scene, focusing both on Mr. Putin's regime and on the opposition to him; the lessons and trends of Russian history; and the interrelationship between the Kremlin's domestic repression and its external aggressiveness; as well as considered whether there is a future for democracy in Russia.



› **GERRIT LANSING**

- › Former Chief Digital Officer For The White House And The Republican National Committee
- › *"The Internet's Disruption of Politics & Government."*

Gerrit's seminars dove into the problems and difficult questions that the tech and digital transformation has brought to democracy and our society, looking at the digital disruption in 2016, the rise of movement politics, and ultimately at the promise of civic and political technology: how tech can help transform democracy and find solutions for our institutions, leaders and technologies.





› **MATT LEWIS**

- › Author And Senior Columnist At The Daily Beast
- › *"Conservatism in Thought & Action."*

Matt's seminars traced the conservative movement's strong roots, from Edmund Burke to William F. Buckley, and from Goldwater's loss to Reagan's landslide victory, examined the turn of events that led to the election of Donald Trump to the presidency, and explored whether there is any way back to thoughtful conservatism for the Republican party.



› **MARK MURRAY**

- › Senior Political Editor At NBC News
- › *"What the Media Missed in 2016 & What Must Change in 2020."*

The 2016 presidential election was a triumph for many journalists and news organizations. Higher ratings. More clicks. Must-see debates and candidate forums. Captivated audiences. More stories and information than ever. And a Pulitzer Prize (by the Washington Post's David Fahrenthold). But it also was a failure. Very few political observers saw Donald Trump's victory coming. The most-covered issue in the election was Hillary Clinton's email server, according to a Harvard study. So what happened? How can we learn from our mistakes? Mark's seminars looked at these questions and more.



› **TOM PERRIELLO**

- › Former Congressman From Virginia
- › *"Domestic and Global Challenges Only the Next Generation Can Solve."*

Tom's seminars reviewed case studies and creative solutions that address some of the complex forces – on the domestic and global fronts – that could determine whether we break down or break through. Tom identified lessons from past experience and investigated how Global Gen Z – the most internationally integrated, diverse and empowered generation in human history – may be in a unique position to create, demand and implement solutions to these challenges.



› **DAWN TURNER**

- › Author And Former Columnist For The Chicago Tribune
- › *"African-American Images in the Media & the Impact on Policies."*

How America sees black people matters because image is everything, and perceptions impact policy as well as life prospects. They affect the quality of education and health care we receive, the careers we are able to pursue and our opportunities for promotions and advancement. In short, they affect where we live, how we live, and whether Black Lives Matter. Dawn's seminars explored the impact the Obama presidency had on perception; the ways stereotypes are perpetuated and dispelled in the media; and the implications for policies that improve black lives.

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

A woman with short, dark, curly hair and glasses is standing in the foreground, wearing a bright red blazer over a black top. She is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. In the background, the large, white, domed structure of the U.S. Capitol building is visible under a clear blue sky. The dome has many windows and is topped with a statue. The building's facade features classical columns. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

Jahne Brown (AB'20) during a Career Development trek to Washington, D.C.



## Providing paid opportunities for UChicago students to pursue substantive, career-oriented internships in politics, policymaking, and other public service fields.

Career Development is an essential pillar of the IOP, one that encourages students to go into public service by providing them with practical experience, skills training, advising, and the robust professional network necessary to succeed. In particular, the IOP's Internship Program distinguishes itself from others by providing students with financial support, enabling all students to pursue these opportunities regardless of economic status. Since January 2013, the IOP has provided close to 1500 paid political and public service internships in the United States and all over the world.

### YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2017-18, University of Chicago students took advantage of hundreds of both academic year and summer internships, skills building workshops, career conversations with politicians, policymakers, and practitioners, and a career trek to D.C.

Around 200 students this summer will intern all over the country and the globe as part of our IOP Summer Internship Program and the IOP Summer Stipend Program. Students interning in Washington, D.C. will again have the chance to participate in the IOP's Charles H. Percy Summer in Washington (SIW) Program, which provides summer-long programming and mentoring. Through the Urban Policy & Research Program (UPReP), 25 students had the opportunity to work in paid policy and research internships in Chicago-area government agencies during the academic year, allowing them to utilize their rigorous UChicago education to tackle complex urban challenges.

Students had the opportunity to engage in various Career Development programming. They heard from Michael Morell, the former Acting Director and Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Mark Lippert, former United States Ambassador to South Korea; and Jake Sullivan, former Deputy Assistant to President Barack Obama and National Security Advisor

to Vice President Joe Biden. Skills-building workshops and one-on-one career advising helped students fine-tune resumes and cover letters, conduct research into career fields and opportunities of interest to them, and prepare for interviews.

Twelve students participated in this year's annual career trek to Washington, D.C. to meet with government officials, policymakers, journalists, and advocates. Site visits and meetings were held with the Urban Institute, 270 Strategies, NPR, the Office of Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth, Republican campaign strategist and former IOP Fellow Liesl Hickey, Human Rights Watch, the Georgetown Institute of Politics, and a group of IOP alumni living and working in Washington.

*"I recently switched to the Political Science major and was wondering what the possibilities were besides law school, so the [DC] trek was very eye opening as I realized the many paths I could take. After almost every office visit, I turned to my friends on the trek and proclaimed 'Okay, I'm working here.'"* —D.C. Trek Participant

### WHAT'S NEW

Career Development saw a significant increase in graduate student participation, especially from the Harris School of Public Policy and the Law School. Several Harris students hosted a panel for undergraduate students to discuss their prior work experience at think tanks and in the public sector, as well as how their graduate education degree will impact their future work.

### WHAT'S NEXT

In addition to increasing and diversifying our internship offerings, we plan to launch a "So, you want to be a [profession]..." series in Fall 2018. These targeted sessions will feature a professional working in a particular field who will conduct a skills workshop for students and share tips and best practices for careers in that field. Next summer, we aim to support at least 250 internships, an increase of 50 over this year.

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT Summer Internship Placements Summer 2018

| GOVERNMENT AGENCIES  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| > City of Chicago: Office of the Inspector General   | > U.S. Department of Homeland Security                          | > Women's Learning Partnership (Rabat, Morocco) | > State Representative Christian Mitchell (D-IL/26) |
| > City of Chicago: Department of Family and Support Services   | > U.S. Department of the Interior                               | > ELECTED & POLITICAL OFFICES                   | > U.S. Congressman Eliot Engel (D-NY/16)            |
| > City of Detroit: Department of Transportation  | > U.S. Department of State - Domestic                           | > Comptroller of Illinois, Susana A. Mendez     | > U.S. Congressman Joseph Kennedy III (D-MA/45)     |
| > City of New York: Office of Chief Technology Officer   | > Sydney, Australia   | > Illinois Republican Party                     | > U.S. Congressman Peter Roskam (R-IL/6)            |
| > Government of Uttar Pradesh, India   | > Bangkok, Thailand   | > Mayor of Los Angeles, Eric Garcetti           | > U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)                 |
| > Women's Power Line 1090 Initiative (Lucknow, India)  | > U.S. Peace Corps  | > Republican Governors Association              | > U.S. Senator Pat Roberts (D-KAN)                  |
| > Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Office of Space Affairs (Luxembourg City, Luxembourg) | > ADO 25 Advanced Leadership                                    | > State Representative Kelly Cassidy (D-IL)     | > U.S. Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL)                   |
| > Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Vienna, Austria)  | > Common Cause Illinois   | > State Senator Heather Stearns (D-IL)          | > U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY)               |
| > State of Paraná, Brazil Public Policy Observatory (Curitiba, Brazil)                               | > Ethiopian Women's Lawyers Association (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) | > Treasurer of Chicago, Kurt Summers (D-IL/77)  | > U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR)                     |
| > The White House  | > Generation All  | > U.S. Congressman Joaquín Castro (D-TX/20)     |   |
| > United Nations   | > Get IN Chicago  | > U.S. Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL/11)        |   |
| > Bangkok, Thailand  | > Human Rights Watch  | > U.S. Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL/8) |   |
| > Tokyo, Japan   | > League of Women Voters of Illinois                            | > U.S. Congressman Daniel Lipinski (D-IL/03)    |   |
| > U.S. Department of Energy  | > Laura and John Arnold Foundation                              | > U.S. Congressman Bobby Rush (D-IL/01)         |   |
| > U.S. Department of Agriculture   | > Muslim Public Affairs Council                                 | > U.S. Congressman Brad Schneider (D-IL/10)     |   |
| > U.S. Department of Commerce  | > National Labor Relations Board                                | > U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)               |   |
| > U.S. Department of Justice   | > Natura Mexicana (Chajul, Mexico)                              | > U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)           |   |
| > U.S. Department of Treasury  | > One Million Degrees   | > Governor of Illinois, Bruce Rauner            |   |
| > U.S. Department of Health and Human Services   | > Organization of American States                               | > U.S. Senator Theresa Mah (D-IL/02)            |   |
|  | > Oxfam International   |   |   |
|  | > Tajikistan  |   |   |
|  | > Tajikistan  |   |   |
|  | > UChicago Office of Federal Relations                          |   |   |
|  | > Washington Office on Latin America                            |   |   |

## Public Policy Observatory of the State of Paraná, Brazil (Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil)

Providing assistance to research teams in education, crime prevention, energy policy, and supporting the research teams in literature review of State government programs and impact measurement

## Emerging Markets Political Risk Analysis (Mexico City)

Covering political and legislative dynamics, public policy design and implementation, and regulatory issues in Mexico

## Ethiopian Women's Lawyer's Association (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

Working with EWLA's outreach and advocacy team on a new initiative to strengthen systems and resources within the country to better serve women who are the victims of human rights abuses specifically in the case of gender-based violence

## U.S. Department of State (Taipei, Taiwan)

Working in the Economics division in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs

2000 applications  
200 placements  
13 countries worldwide



# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ACCELERATOR

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



Angela Fung (AB'20) of TechTeam runs a digital marketing workshop for local small business owners

## Providing pathways for students to activate their interest in politics via civic engagement.

During the 2017-18 academic year, Civic Engagement put in to action its plan to align programming around opportunities for students to lead, serve in, and explore the public sector. From new programs like Bridging the Divide and local treks, to strengthening relationships with our seven student-run programs, this past year has been a chance for University of Chicago students to step into a more active role as civic leaders.

### YEAR IN REVIEW

Civic Engagement's biggest effort this year is Bridging the Divide, a new program at the IOP in partnership with Eureka College, that attempts to address the political chasm growing across Illinois and promote a deeper understanding of and between urban and rural communities. Ten freshmen and sophomores from each campus met three times throughout the academic year – once in Chicago, Eureka and Springfield, IL. With each meeting students met with legislators, stakeholders and community members to examine the different contours of three shared issues: education, employment, and the opioid crisis.

Through the process, students came to understand shared issues that influenced the 2016 Presidential election, and had opportunities for dialogue across divisions. Based on the strong pilot this year, we will be refining and offering Bridging the Divide again in 2018-19 and looking for ways to expand the use of this model elsewhere in the U.S.

Student-run programs continue to actively engage students in leadership opportunities directly impacting the city of Chicago and beyond. This year saw the launch of a new initiative, LegUP, which provides college access support to UChicago's Woodlawn Charter School. The Gate, the IOP independent student magazine, transitioned to the Civic Engagement program area.



### WHAT'S NEW

In addition to Bridging the Divide, Civic Engagement also launched two new programming series – one focused on workshops and training for civic leaders, the other offering political exploration treks within Chicago for students seeking a foothold in politics. Both programs respond to formal and informal feedback from students on ways to initiate and deepen relationships with the University of Chicago campus and beyond.

### WHAT'S NEXT

2018-19 offers an opportunity to engage UChicago students in the midterm election cycle. The IOP will offer programming to inform and engage students in elections through voter registration, informative speakers, and opportunities to get directly involved in the campaign process.

Civic Engagement will also continue to expand new initiatives begun this year, particularly Bridging the Divide, new local treks, workshops supporting the needs of student-run programs, and a process for developing student-run initiatives.

At the start of the new academic year, New Americans UChicago will exit IOP stewardship and become a recognized student organization (RSO).

**700**  
students engaged  
#



## PROGRAM UPDATES

**Chicago Peace Corps** (CPC) is in its third year as an IOP initiative. Focused on restorative justice, CPC believes in the power of young people to make change. Over the past three years, CPC volunteers have traveled to the Back of the Yards neighborhood where they volunteered as tutors at Chavez Elementary School.

### Highlights

- › In partnership with The Gate, Chicago Peace Corps welcomed Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Rick Tulsy for a conversation with students.
- › After two years of testing its program, Chicago Peace Corps is changing course. The team will move away from efforts in local schools, and instead become a volunteer hub for students wanting to get involved in restorative justice. CPC will partner with local organizations such as the Lawndale Christian Legal Center to learn best practices and identify where UChicago students can increase capacity.

**The Gate** is an independent, undergraduate publication covering politics and policy on the local, national and international levels. The Gate's content is developed, written and published by students.

### Highlights

- › Published articles on topics such as empathy in today's political atmosphere, America's relationship with Puerto Rico, and the rise of housing inequality.
- › For the first time The Gate will print a third issue released in the Fall Quarter, thanks to the support of an anonymous donor.
- › The Jail Project relaunched this spring. The project sends student volunteers in to Cook County Jail where they work with detainees on writing skills. Four undergraduate students will work with twelve detainees to write articles and personal essays.

**Leaders of Color (LoC)** is a student-run leadership development program for first and second year students of color. Through cohort-based trainings, workshops, and speakers, this initiative prepares students of color for leadership positions across campus and in the public sector. LoC also includes the Politics and Identity speaker series that raises critical conversations about race, politics, and leadership.

### Highlights

- › LoC accepted more than 30 first and second year students of color into this year's cohort, their largest class yet.
- › This year's programming focused on offering more opportunities for community building within the cohort. This included events with speakers such as noted poet and sociologist Dr. Eve Ewing, as well as a visit to Google's Chicago Headquarters.

**LegUP** is a college readiness and mentorship program at the UChicago Charter School in Woodlawn. Founded and developed by undergraduate fellows of the Shriver Program for Leadership in Public Service, LegUP aims to help high school students navigate the college application process. They are passionate about empowering students to pursue higher-level education through mentorship and academic enrichment. The team is comprised of civic-minded students who understand the importance of education and equity.

### Highlights

- › Established partnership with University of Chicago Charter School - Woodlawn (UC Woodlawn) as part of their college access supports.
- › Volunteers offer one-on-one mentorship to students every day during lunch periods, and work in conjunction with UC Woodlawn College Counselors.

***“CE programs give students the opportunity to reach beyond the IOP to experience politics in action, making an impact in the Hyde Park/Chicago community, while also giving students leadership training and the support of the IOP in carrying out these projects.” – Dylan Wells, AB '18***

**New Americans UChicago (NAUC)** is a student-led tutoring program that partners with Instituto del Progreso Latino, a Pilsen-based non-profit, to prepare permanent residents for their citizenship test. NAUC also hosts events to educate the UChicago community about issues facing the immigrant community through partnerships with other campus organizations.

### Highlights

- › Hosted several well-received campus events, including the I Stand with Immigrants Day of Action and a screening of Home/Land
- › Successfully applied to become a recognized student organization (RSO). In addition to formally becoming a part of the University campus, this new status grants NAUC access to greater resources and funding.



The IOP Leaders of Color at Google Chicago



Mary Blair (AB'19) at St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish during a CE local trek

**TechTeam** provides opportunities for students to develop digital media for local non-profit organizations. TechTeam members are trained in coding and digital strategy and act as technology consultants for public service clients. The TechTeam blog updates its readers on the latest topics in civic tech innovations.

### Highlights

- › This year, TechTeam focused more on the “civic” aspects of civic tech. They hosted several public workshops offering skills training. Most recently they partnered with the University’s Accelerator to offer a crash course on digital advertising.
- › IOP Pritzker Fellows program offered Tech Team a student session with Winter Fellows Shomik Dutta and Betsy Hoover, co-founders of Higher Ground Labs.
- › TechTeam worked with approximately 10 community organization to build vital tech products. Clients included Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC), Northwest Side Housing Center (NWSHC), and Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH).

The **Women in Public Service Program** works to provide training, mentorship, and resources to women interested in public service. WPSP’s work culminates in a Winter Quarter Leadership Institute that engages over 40 undergraduate women to teach them the skills necessary to be effective leaders in the public sector.

### Highlights

- › Held special student sessions with IOP guest speakers Nikki Haley, Jennifer Palmieri, and Valerie Jarrett.
- › Accomplishments included launching a direct service component called WPSP Engage, expanded Winter Institute programming beyond conventional definitions of public service, and developed its alumnae network.



## SPOTLIGHT

### Bridging the Divide

2017-2018 Academic Year

The election of 2016 exposed deep fault lines in our country. Now more than ever, communities nationwide have become islands of red and blue, with little dialogue or interaction between them. Bridging the Divide, a new program at the IOP in partnership with Eureka College, is an attempt to address this growing chasm and promote a deeper understanding of and between urban and rural communities.

Bridging the Divide is an immersive program that brought together 20 freshman and sophomore students to address urban (Chicago, IL) and rural (Eureka, IL) divisions around three issues – education, the opioid crisis, and employment. During visits to each city, students spoke with elected officials and stakeholders about how each issue impacts their community. Below is a summary of each meeting of the program, which took place in January (Chicago), February (Eureka) and April (Springfield).

#### CHICAGO

As the first meeting of the program, the Chicago visit served as an opportunity to build relationships between the students. To gain context on the three focus issues, students met with leaders from employment programs like the Chicago Housing Authority and Year Up; Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart provided insight on the opioid crisis and a visit to Olive-Harvey College (one of seven schools in the City Colleges of Chicago system) showcased trends in education as they relate to job training and employment outcomes. Later, students met participants in the Chicago CRED program, which helps criminally-involved young men get on a more proactive path, which gave the students context on how all three issues can combine to impact the lives of individuals in an urban context. Students also observed a focus group in Chicago of Democratic voters.

#### EUREKA

In Eureka, students learned how the size and type of a community may change perspectives. Compared to Chicago, the Eureka visit focused more on the distribution of state resources. In addition to a focus group with Republican

voters from central Illinois, students attended panel discussions with stakeholders such as the Superintendent of Peoria Public Schools, and a Lead Research Analyst from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. The opioid crisis panel, including Peoria County Coroner Jamie Harwood, left a lasting impression on students. Harwood, in particular, painted a vivid (and disconcerting) picture of just how big the problem is, recounting for students the number of overdose victims he sees. They also had an in-depth conversation with Ray LaHood, former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, who spoke about building bipartisan support.

#### SPRINGFIELD

As the last meeting of the program, Springfield focused on distilling the lessons learned from the Chicago and Eureka visits. Students were challenged to think about how comprehensive statewide decision-making can incorporate the values of these different communities. Students learned from elected officials, lobbyists and each other to develop their skills in articulating personal values, active listening, and incorporating feedback.



Former Transportation Sec. Ray LaHood addresses students in Eureka

Feedback from the students who participated has been extremely positive. They feel more knowledgeable about the three challenges, with a new appreciation for how local context shapes political attitudes. They feel more knowledgeable about politics, and have a better understanding of the role of elected officials. And perhaps most importantly, students have commented that they feel more empowered to speak up in conversations about controversial issues like immigration, gun control and opioid use. The most encouraging feedback is 100% of the students who participated would recommend the program to other students.

We asked the students to look ahead and tell us how they planned to apply what they learned in the program. Here are some of their immediate goals:

- › Apply to the Clinton Global Initiative University with other BTM students
- › Volunteer with a non-profit dedicated to battling opioid addiction
- › Get involved with local campaigns during the 2018 election cycle
- › Organize a political “speed dating” event with the University of Chicago Democracy Initiative inviting students of all political beliefs to sit and chat.
- › Have more intentional conversations with other students who hold different viewpoints



Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs chats with Jessica Vargas (AB'21) in Springfield



Cinque Carson (AB'21) listens during a presentation at Olive-Harvey College

*“Bridging the Divide has completely changed my perspective. Not only has it changed how I perceive politics and community issues in my home state, but it has changed how I perceive the world. It has made me more confident in my abilities to use both the knowledge I’ve learned in this program and what I will learn later in life to affect positive change and make an impact on my local, state, national and international community.”*

— Bridging the Divide participant

*“Being able to hear perspectives and beliefs that were not the same as mine first-hand was the most valuable part of Bridging the Divide. People who are dissimilar are often caricatured in the media and those stereotypes can’t be broken down until we learn and have conversations like the ones we had in this program.”*

— Bridging the Divide participant

*“I feel like I will now be more receptive to people who I don’t completely align with ideologically. Instead of just trying to shut people down or ignore them completely, I will genuinely try to understand their perspectives and have a productive and collaborative conversation.”*

— Bridging the Divide participant



## STUDENT COHORT

### University of Chicago

- › Cinque Carson, First Year, planned Public Policy major, Chicago, IL
- › Joseph Donahue, Second Year, Political Science & Economics major, Brighton, MI
- › Courtney Marsh, Second Year, Public Policy major, Groves, TX
- › Firouz Niazi, First Year, Public Policy & Global Studies major, Evanston, IL
- › Alex Shura, First Year, Political Science and Economics, Naperville, IL
- › Charlotte Soehner, First Year, Human Rights and International Relations, New York, NY
- › Zoe Strong, First Year, Pre-Med, Chicago, IL
- › Jessica Vargas, First Year, Sociology major, Chicago, IL
- › Sam Venkatesh, First Year, undeclared major, Thousand Oaks, CA
- › Emily Williams, First Year, Social Sciences, Fairfax County, VA

### Eureka College

- › Elsie Croasdale, Sophomore, History & Political Science major (pre-law), Hometown: Mapleton, IL
- › Paige Dobbyn, Sophomore, History & Political Science major, Shorewood, IL
- › Alex Furniss, Freshman, History and Middle Grades Education major, Peoria, IL
- › Kayla Green, Sophomore, Political Science major, Alhambra, IL
- › Julie Hemp, Sophomore, History major, Mapleton, IL
- › Klancee Murtagh, Freshman, Secondary Education major, Metamora, IL
- › Gilbert Robison, Sophomore, History major, Chandlerville, IL
- › Hunter Spence, Freshman, Political Science major, Le Roy, IL
- › Travis Vasseur, Sophomore, History & Education major, Spring Grove, IL
- › Jake Winch, Freshman, Political Science major, San Clemente, CA

*“I found the program’s greatest value to be the apprenticeship in state politics it provided. I have long enjoyed the luxury of remaining detached from politics and engaging theoretically in current affairs. In fact, I actively avoided direct political activity, despising partisanship and not desiring commitment to either party. This program’s direct approach taught me what politics, done right, is really about. Find an issue. Find an expert or a dozen. Swing through communities impacted by or succeeding in the face of big challenges. Ask questions, shake hands, think, and prepare to act. More importantly, I went into this program convinced I would never run for office. Now I wouldn’t hesitate to run if I had the chance.”* — Bridging the Divide participant

*“The most valuable part of this experience was developing the ability to speak up in a respectful way and also know when to just listen. I think I came into this program with an expectation that I would learn how to debate and stand up for my issues, but this was not the case – and I am grateful for that. I learned so much about relationship-building and how critical it is to get to know someone, listen to their story, and engage with them on a personal level, before trying to discuss difficult or controversial issues.”*

— Bridging the Divide participant



The Bridging the Divide cohort at the original Illinois statehouse in Springfield



# COMMUNICATIONS



JB Pritzker speaks to the media after the gubernatorial forum produced by the IOP in conjunction with POLITICO and WBEZ

## Helping to tell the story of the IOP to campus, Chicago, and beyond.

The IOP's Communications team helps tell the story of the IOP to campus, the Hyde Park community, the city of Chicago, and beyond. By using social media, our website, press coverage, 'The Axe Files' podcast, and weekly newsletters, the Communications team highlights the work of every program area at the IOP, raising awareness, boosting event attendance, attracting new students, and – via the podcast – generating revenue.

### YEAR IN REVIEW

The IOP's Communications team this year oversaw growth across a variety of areas, from content production to social media to press coverage.

For the IOP's Speaker Series, we now live-stream over 50 events each year, helping to extend the reach of the IOP and generate more press coverage. This year the Fall Quarter event with the 'Pod Save America' hosts was viewed over 15,000 times on YouTube. Other events such as U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley and the Illinois Democratic gubernatorial debate were viewed over 7,000 times. Our YouTube page now has over 12,000 subscribers and is approaching five million total views.

On social media, the IOP's reach continued to grow this year. In part by taking on a more informal, student-friendly tone, the IOP now has 10,300 Twitter followers and 8,300 on Facebook, which is nearly a 20 percent increase from one year ago.

In February, the IOP's fifth anniversary event featuring Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was mentioned in over 75 news outlets, a record for a single IOP event. The Associated Press, Reuters, and Bloomberg were among the news outlets that posted the IOP's live-stream of the event on their sites. Over 250,000 viewers watched the event on Facebook and, during the event, @UChiPolitics was trending in Canada. During the week of the event, the Chicago Sun-Times posted a feature story on the IOP's first five years.

The IOP consistently generates hundreds of news mentions every year. Since the end of the last academic year, the IOP has generated over 260 press mentions across a wide variety of news outlets, including The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, POLITICO, CNN, Huffington Post, and more. Media partnerships have played a key part in increasing the IOP's reach: the IOP has partnered with CNN on the podcast for the past two years and this past winter partnered with POLITICO and WBEZ Chicago on an Illinois Democratic gubernatorial debate.

**260**  
news mentions  
#

### WHAT'S NEW

This year we started live-streaming Speaker Series events on Facebook. Each Facebook event video receives hundreds of views, while some climb as high as 50,000 unique views.

Now in its third year, 'The Axe Files' podcast in February made a long-awaited switch to Midroll, the world's largest podcast advertising network. This move will help the podcast reach a wider audience, benefiting the IOP by increasing brand recognition worldwide. The CNN TV special that is a spin-off of the podcast became a regular show this year, with episodes airing nearly monthly. Guests this past year include Condoleezza Rice, Tom Hanks, Charles Barkley, and Rep. John Lewis. The podcast itself has now produced 245 episodes, with shows posting each Monday and Thursday. During the 2017-18 academic year, the show featured guests such as Ta-Nehisi Coates, George Stephanopoulos, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, and Anthony Scaramucci. Episodes frequently exceeded 200,000 downloads, including ones with Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Jake Tapper, Sen. Jeff Flake, and Bill Daley. In March, a special live taping of 'The Axe Files' featuring Jon Favreau was a key element in CNN's South by Southwest lineup.



## WHAT'S NEXT

Next year the Communications team will take the lead on reprising two major IOP projects: the 2016 Iowa Project and the 2016 Campaign Journalism Conference.

The conference, designed to educate reporters preparing to cover the presidential election, was a joint venture by the IOP and the Nieman Foundation at Harvard. Held in May 2015 in downtown Chicago, the two day event was attended by 115 people, featured 14 sessions, and hosted 47 speakers, including Reince Priebus, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Sean Spicer, Stephanie Cutter, John Dickerson, Peter Hamby, Julianna Goldman, Steve Schmidt, Jonathan Martin, and Amy Walter. Reporters who attended the conference raved about how helpful it was, with one remarking that it was the best conference of its kind that he had attended. The IOP and Nieman have already started planning next year's conference, which will likely take place between February and May and will hopefully be held, once again, at the Google offices downtown.

The Iowa Project was a one-of-a-kind program from January 2015 thru January 2016 that facilitated student opportunities to learn about the structure and operations of a modern presidential campaign, understand the unique political culture and history of Iowa, and acquire tangible skills through workshops, field trips, volunteering, and hands-on career opportunities. Incorporating every program area of the IOP, the crux of the program was 18 students spending 10 weeks in the summer of 2015 interning in Iowa, either in journalism or field work. Students held paid internships at news outlets such as FOX News, CNN, Bloomberg, the Des Moines Register, ABC News, and Radio Iowa, while other students got hands-on experience working for the campaigns of Jeb Bush, Hillary Clinton, Marco Rubio, or Martin O'Malley. The program culminated with a two-day trip to Des Moines that enabled students to observe first-hand the caucus process and the kick-off to the 2016 presidential election. The 24 students who participated on the caucus trip met with Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, ABC News' Jon Karl, the

Washington Post's Dan Balz, Snapchat's Peter Hamby, the Iowa Republican's Craig Robinson, the Paul Simon Institute's David Yepsen, and others. The program earned rave reviews from students, who loved the unique opportunity to engage in the presidential election.

*"The IOP is headquartered in a renovated mansion built in 1909 at 5707 S. Woodlawn, an elegant clubhouse in the heart of the campus accessible to students no matter their majors. I asked Axelrod about the most significant program at the IOP and he highlighted some 1,000 interns to have landed spots at the White House, cabinet agencies, congressional offices, governors' offices, city halls, NGOs, media organizations, and embassies overseas. Said Axelrod, 'These have been life-changing for these kids.'"*

— Lynn Sweet, Chicago Sun-Times, Feb. 6, 2018

*"I am working in a GOP primary in Tennessee, and have spent a large portion of my driving time listening to 'The Axe Files' over this last year. I have very much enjoyed the unique opportunity to eavesdrop on the conversations with these political icons, and I look forward to each new episode. Through listening to hundreds of hours of conversation, I have had my beliefs challenged and strengthened. My hope, and expectation, is that this podcast has impacted many others similarly, and will continue to facilitate civility, and erode the institutional and political apathy, so prevalent in today's culture."*

— Andrew Austin, Tennessee

*"I am a regular listener [to 'The Axe Files'] and thoroughly enjoy listening to the guests. I have really learned a lot about so many subjects by listening to their life stories, their interpretations of situations, and just the in-depth, pleasant conversations."*

— Jane Rytina, California

# SPOTLIGHT

## IOP Student Spotlights

### 2017-2018



- › **MARY BLAIR** is a third year studying political science and comparative race and ethnic studies. Mary got involved with the IOP because “the programs here spoke to me more than other programs that were happening on campus.” Mary is involved with civic engagement at the IOP in four major ways: as Vice Chair of Leaders of Color, External Affairs Coordinator for Chicago Peace Corps, member of the Shriver Program cohort behind LegUP, and as the Civic Engagement Intern.
- › “Leaders of Color is really special. If I didn’t have LOC, I wouldn’t have applied to Shriver and definitely wouldn’t be an intern. So, what I want to see happen this year is I want to see more students applying and want to be able to take more students as well because I think it’s a very important program and, for a lot of people of color, it’s their first time getting involved with the IOP. The primary goal this year is creating a lasting bond within the cohort: we want to foster a strong sense of community so that it’s a formative experience for students involved.”



- › **OWEN ELRIFI** is a third year Public Policy and Political Science double major. Owen is on the board of LegUP and was a participant in the 2017 Shriver Fellows Cohort as well as in the 2015 and 2016 Chicago Bound Cohorts. Owen “got involved in the IOP originally through Chicago Bound. It changed my focus entirely from life sciences to social sciences. It made me realize there was a human-centric lens that I wanted to focus on,” and he then started taking more advantage of what the IOP offered, working as a Fellow’s Ambassador and then joining the Shriver Fellows Cohort.
- › “The LegUP program was founded [through the Shriver Program]. Community stakeholders in Woodlawn identified an education achievement gap. It’s a meaningful project to me because it allows me to make an impact right in our community, and because it’s focused on education equity. I really feel strongly about education: I think it’s a window to opportunity and I think the idea that we don’t have a level playing field in something as basic as education is wrong. I think equal access to education solves so much, whether on a personal level- empowering individuals- or on a social level- allowing for upward mobility.”



- › **RICHARD OMONIYI-SHOYOOLA** is a third year studying political science. Richard is a senior writer for The Gate. He was also a part of Chicago Bound 2015. Finally, he introduced President Obama when he came to campus in 2017 for a conversation on community organizing and civic engagement. “I began my involvement in the IOP through Chicago Bound, which was important because I felt myself transitioning from being just a tourist in Chicago to being an actual community member.”
- › “As for The Gate, I engage in interviews with rising change makers in our society, and I write and publish long form pieces on politics and public figures. Writing enables me to develop my voice and my perspective. I’m also able to communicate my ideas about really pressing challenges, and apply the concepts I learn about in my political science classes to real life. It has allowed me to have a greater respect for the nuance of politics as well as a greater understanding of all the dynamic variables at play on any one issue. ... People have been tangibly affected by what I’m doing, and it’s amazing to me that one interview for The Gate enabled me to be a part of something much greater, that affects people’s lives in a meaningful way.”



## SPOTLIGHT

### IOP Alumni Network

As the IOP celebrates its fifth anniversary, this year we are invested in establishing and cultivating a robust alumni community. Thousands of students have come through the IOP in the last five years and are now active members in government, think tanks, media groups, non-profits, and other organizations across the globe.

Sofia Gross (AB'15) and Eric Wessan (AB'15, JD'19) are serving as liaisons to the IOP alumni community. They have been invaluable in creating an up-to-date database of alumni whereabouts. Across early 2018, over 20% of IOP alumni have responded to outreach and signaled an interest in engaging with the IOP through networking events, mentoring connections, internship opportunities for current students, and more.

In May 2018, the IOP sent its first newsletter specifically for alumni, highlighting recent IOP events, profiling former students, and recruiting alumni mentors for the Charles H. Percy Summer in Washington program. This newsletter will become a monthly fixture for the alumni community, along with dedicated Facebook and LinkedIn pages to allow for consistent communication.

Sofia and Eric are now working with IOP staff to target alumni across the country and empowering them to create communities in their respective cities that will spur engagement amongst fellow students without requiring oversight from Hyde Park. Staff are also planning a reception on-campus during alumni weekend.



› **JONATHAN ACEVEDO**,  
*AB'17/JD'20*

› **Law student and summer associate at Vinson & Elkins LLP**

Jonathan is a member of the Class of 2020 at the University of Chicago Law School and is a recipient of the Law Scholars Award. Jonathan is on the boards of the Latino/a Law Students Association, the American Constitution Society, and the Immigration Law Society. Jonathan will be spending this coming summer as a summer associate at Vinson & Elkins LLP in his hometown of Houston, TX.



› **JANE BARTMAN**, *AB'14*

› **Manager on the Municipal Integrity and Transparency team at Bloomberg Associates**

Jane is a Manager on the Municipal Integrity and Transparency team at Bloomberg Associates, an international pro bono consultancy established by former NYC Mayor Mike Bloomberg that collaborates with city governments. Jane provides analytic and research support for BA's city clients. She has worked on projects such as the City of Detroit's initiative to raise awareness of the Earned Income Tax Credit among working Detroiters. Previously, Jane was a Manager in the San Francisco office of the Concord Group, an international real estate and land use consultancy.



- › **ALYSSA BIVINS, AB'15**
- › **Senior History Curriculum Designer at IXL Learning**

Alyssa currently works as a Senior History Curriculum Designer for an EdTech company called IXL Learning. As the project strategist for all World History content, she works to decide what millions of students around the U.S. will learn in their middle school history classes. Her degree in history and Middle Eastern studies from UChicago has been invaluable to this position and helped catapult her to the next step in her career: a PhD in history at George Washington University starting this fall.



- › **CONSTANCE BOOZER, MPP'15**
- › **Director of Surrogates/Media Affairs for Democratic Senate Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY)**

Constance Boozer is the Director of Surrogates/Media Affairs for Democratic Senate Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senate Democrats. In this role, Constance assists other offices in the caucus to help ensure that Senate Democrats are heard loud and clear on the airwaves. She also provides updates and message guidance to Democrats outside the Senate on key priorities.



- › **ANASTASIA GOLOVASHKINA, AB'15**
- › **Senior Digital Strategist at Trilogy Interactive**

Anastasia is a Senior Digital Strategist at Trilogy Interactive, where she leads the Social Media Department and manages strategy for leading national and state clients across the political, nonprofit, and ballot proposition spaces. Her current and previous clients include Senator Chuck Schumer, the ACLU, Senator Tina Smith, Harvard College, Dean Phillips for Congress, and California's Yes On 55. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering, discovering new music, and exploring San Francisco.



- › **SOFIA GROSS, AB'15**
- › **Leader of Political & Non-Profit Partnerships at Snap, Inc.**

Sofia is a part of Snap, Inc's Public Policy Team where she leads Political & Non-Profit Partnerships. She originally worked at Snapchat as a Political Producer on the News Team in NYC for Campaign 2016, and moved to grow Snap's presence in DC last year. Sofia studied International Studies and Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations while an undergraduate, writing her thesis on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. As a proud alum, Sofia helps lead the Institute of Politics' Alumni Network and serves as the Alumni Schools Committee Chair for the Admissions Office serving the Washington, DC area. She is originally from San Diego, CA.



## SPOTLIGHT

### IOP Alumni Network



› **ANASTASIA KAISER**  
*AB'15 & PAUL ROALES,*  
*MS'13*

› **Google Engineers**

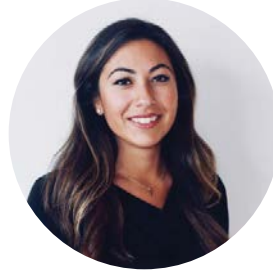
Paul and Anastasia are extremely grateful to the IOP, especially because that's where they met! They happened to sit next to each other at an IOP event on October 15, 2012 at a talk given by journalist David Wasserman. They now live in California and work for Google - Paul works on the self driving car team and Anastasia works in analytics.



› **ANGELA LASCALA-GRUENEWALD, AB'14**

› **Criminal Justice Manager for the Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

Following graduation, Angela worked as a research associate in the New York City Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice where her efforts focused on reforming the city's monetary bail system and coordinating changes to the NYPD's approach to policing low-level offenses. She now serves as the Criminal Justice Manager for the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. In this role, she funds and supports the implementation of research to develop evidence-based practices that reduce arrests and incarceration. Angela will begin a PhD program in sociology at City University of New York this fall.



› **DONYA MANSOUBI,**  
*AB'14*

› **Senior Associate at Invenergy**

Donya has been doing a mix of corporate communications, PR/public affairs, and government relations work in Chicago. She spent about 3.5 years at Kivvit (formerly ASGK Public Strategies) advising a range of clients from the private sector to public and non-profit on communications strategy. In 2017 she transitioned to an in-house role at Invenergy, a clean energy company founded by fellow UChicago alumnus and donor Michael Polsky, where she currently is a Senior Associate on the newly-formed Communications team. Renewable energy is the future, and Donya is really excited to have a role in building that future.



› **AIDAN MILLIFF, AB'15/**  
*AM'15*

› **Political Science Ph.D candidate**

Aidan is a Ph.D. student in Political Science at MIT, where he is also an affiliate of the Security Studies Program, and a MIT Presidential Fellow. His research focuses on decision making and emotions in political violence, and on security politics and state power in South Asia. Before MIT, Aidan was a James C. Gaither Junior Fellow in the South Asia Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, where he worked on projects studying nuclear deterrence in South Asia, the military balance in South Asia, and domestic state capacity and governance in India.



- › **SARAH MORELL, AB'16**
- › **Political Analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency**

Sarah is a political analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency. In this role, she helps support US national security objectives in the Middle East by producing predictive and qualitative written political analysis and routinely briefing senior US policymakers. Since joining the Agency in 2015, she has received five performance awards for analytic tradecraft and leadership. In May, she will begin a six month assignment in Baghdad, Iraq.



- › **OLIVIA MYSZKOWSKI, AB'15**
- › **Account Manager at Morning Consult**

Olivia is an account manager at Morning Consult, a technology and media company in Washington, DC. In her role, Olivia manages the development and execution of public opinion research studies for a wide range of clients and media partners. Her work has appeared in Politico and Vox. Olivia comes to Morning Consult from the Democratic polling firm Lake Research Partners, where she worked as a pollster through the 2016 election cycle.



- › **OSITA NWANEVU, AB'15/MPP'16**
- › **Staff Writer for Slate**

Osita began working as an editorial assistant at Slate in the summer of 2016. He is now a staff writer covering politics and has written three cover stories for the site. He lives in Washington, D.C.



- › **PATRICK QUINN, AB'17**
- › **Analyst at Civic Consulting Alliance**

After graduating last June, Pat joined the Civic Consulting Alliance, a non-profit management consulting organization which does pro-bono work for public sector leaders in Chicago. His work so far has been primarily within the Public Safety practice. He's worked with local foundations on gun violence reduction, the Chicago Police Department on the Police Training Academy, and the State's Attorney's Office on internal leadership development. He's consistently amazed at how often people within the IOP's network pop up in the City's civic space.



## SPOTLIGHT

### IOP Alumni Network



› **JAIME SANCHEZ, JR,**  
*AB'15*  
› **Ph.D candidate**

Jaime is pursuing a PhD in American history at Princeton University with a focus on elections, race, and the presidency. His current research traces the historical development of the Democratic National Committee, and was just awarded the Tobin Project's History of American Democracy graduate fellowship. Prior to Princeton, he worked as a healthcare policy researcher with the Service Employees International Union in Washington, D.C.



› **KEVIN SHI, AB'16**  
› **Project Coordinator for the World Bank's Pakistan@100 Initiative**

After graduating, Kevin went to Washington, DC where he worked at the Center for Civilians in Conflict on a project researching the U.S. arms sales process and possible reforms to mitigate civilian harm. He is now living in Pakistan, where he is a Babar Ali Foundation Fellow at the Lahore University of Management Sciences, a contracted project coordinator for the World Bank's Pakistan@100 Initiative, and a programme associate for King's College London.



› **ANNA STAPLETON,**  
*AB'14*  
› **Law student**

Anna is back in Hyde Park having entered the law school after three years working in health policy and public health. Following her internship in the Obama White House, she joined the Advisory Board Company as a research associate focused on physician management before moving to the Arnhold Institute for Global Health at Mount Sinai Health System in New York. Her work at the Institute emphasized opportunities for the U.S. to learn lessons from global health systems, particularly in the area of community health. She plans to use her law degree to continue pursuing her career in health policy.



› **LIZ STARK, AB'15**  
› **News Associate at CNN**

After graduating, Liz interned with CNN Politics in Washington, DC. She helped cover breaking news and political stories, and regularly contributed to CNN's daily newsletter, "The Point." Stark is currently working as a news associate with CNN's investigative team, where she assists with research and reporting on the Trump-Russia investigation.



- › **KAAN ÜLGEN, AB'17**
- › **Law student**

Kaan is in the JD/LLM program in Comparative and International Law at Duke. At Duke, he is involved with the International Law Society, and has also been involved with the Duke Immigration and Refugee Project. This upcoming summer, he will be working for the Swiss Arbitration Association in Geneva, Switzerland and will also be attending the Duke-Leiden Institute in Global and Transnational Law which take place in The Hague, Netherlands.



- › **KEVIN WEI, AB'15**
- › **Product Manager at LiveRamp**

Kevin has opted to try out a place without the Chicago winters and now lives in San Francisco, CA. Kevin currently works as a product manager at LiveRamp, an ad-tech company. In his free time, he dabbles in the burgeoning civic technology/tech-for-good community in the Bay Area and enjoys catching up with the connections he's made during his involvement at the IOP.



- › **ERIC WESSAN, AB'15/JD'19**
- › **Law student**

Eric is currently a Law Student at the University of Chicago Law School, where he is the president of the student chapters of both the Federalist Society and the Federal Bar Association. In those roles he is working to start new student pro bono projects focusing on economic liberty and religious liberty. Between graduating from the College and starting Law School, Eric served as Vice Consul of Policy & Communication for the British Government in the Midwestern U.S. Last summer, he interned at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois. After graduating, Eric will be a law clerk for the Honorable James C. Ho of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.



- › **WILLIAM WILCOX, AB'14**
- › **Master's student**

William will be starting a Master's in Public Policy at the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California at Berkeley this fall. He has worked for the last three years in homeless services in the Bronx, New York for BronxWorks, a large multi-service non-profit, where he oversees all grant writing and new project planning for homeless services, including securing \$26 million in annual funding, and is working on a City-wide coalition to create a medical respite program to assist medically frail homeless individuals exiting the hospital.



## LEADERSHIP

### Staff Bios



**DAVID AXELROD**  
INSTITUTE DIRECTOR

David is a veteran of American politics and journalism and the former chief strategist and senior advisor to President Barack Obama. He currently serves as director of the University of

Chicago's non-partisan Institute of Politics; senior political commentator for CNN; and host of The Axe Files, a top-rated podcast jointly produced by CNN and his institute. Axelrod, a former political writer for the Chicago Tribune and, later, media strategist for 150 state, local and national political campaigns, is also the author of The New York Times best-selling memoir, *Believer: My Forty Years in Politics*.



**GRETCHEN CROSBY SIMS**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gretchen joined the IOP as Executive Director in January 2018. She has served in a variety of executive and strategy roles in the policy, politics, philanthropy, nonprofit, academic, and impact

investing sectors. Most recently, she was a Director at London-based Social Finance UK, where she led policy efforts and the firm's education practice. Until 2014, Gretchen was chief program executive at The Joyce Foundation, a private foundation in Chicago with assets of \$900 million and \$40 million in annual grants. In that role, she oversaw seven programs: education, environment, employment, gun violence prevention, democracy, culture, and special opportunities. Gretchen has also worked at the Council on Foreign Relations, CNN, Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and as a policy adviser to presidential candidate Bill Bradley. She holds PhD and MA degrees in political science from Stanford University and a BA in government from Harvard University.



**CRYSTAL COATS**  
DIRECTOR,  
CIVIC & CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT

Since January 2017, Crystal has been the IOP's Director of Civic and Campus Engagement. Her work has focused on supporting students interested in getting

actively involved in politics through the IOP's Leadership programs, student-run groups, treks and skill development workshops. Prior to joining the IOP staff, Crystal served as the Senior Manager of Corporate and External Partnerships at the Chicago Housing Authority where she worked with partners to provide resources for CHA residents through special events and programs. Crystal also spent time as the Assistant Director at the University Community Service Center at the University of Chicago, focusing on connecting students to the communities surrounding the University through days of service, volunteerism, community partnerships and advising students interested in community service. Crystal received her Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Missouri - Columbia and her Masters Degree from the University of Chicago Master of Arts Program in the Humanities.



**CHRISTINE HURLEY**  
DIRECTOR, SPEAKER SERIES

Christine joined the IOP in February 2014. Over the past 4 years she worked her way up from Associate Producer to Director of the Speaker Series. In this role she oversees the content development

and logistics execution for the nearly 100 Speaker Series events each year. Prior to joining the Institute, Christine was Associate Producer for "Chicago Tonight" a nightly news magazine on Chicago's PBS. During her time on the show she was nominated for three Midwest Emmy Awards. Christine grew up in the southwest suburbs of Chicago and received her BA from Ohio Wesleyan University and MA from DePaul University.



**KARNIKA IYENGAR, AB'11, MBA '18**  
DIRECTOR,  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Since March 2013, Karnika has worked on the Institute's internship programs and student programming efforts and became Director of Career Development in the fall of 2016. As Director, she oversees all academic year and summer internship programs, the Charles H. Percy Summer in Washington Program, career advising, career workshops and programming, and career-related treks. An Oklahoma native, she graduated from the University of Chicago in 2011 with a BA in Political Science and from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business in 2018 with an MBA, focusing on Managerial and Organizational Behavior, Strategic Management, and Entrepreneurship.



**MATT JAFFE**  
DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS

For the past four years, Matt has been the Institute's Communications Director, managing all video and written content at the IOP, including "The Axe Files" podcast. From August 2017 thru December 2017 he served as the Institute's Interim Executive Director. Prior to joining the IOP, he covered national politics for eight years as a reporter and producer for ABC News, winning an Emmy Award in 2009 and a Peabody Award in 2013. Initially based in the network's Washington, D.C., bureau, he was an embedded reporter with the 2008 campaign of then vice-presidential candidate Joe Biden. After the campaign, he covered finance and the federal response to the nation's economic crisis. In 2010, he was named ABC News' digital reporter covering the U.S. Senate. The following year, Matthew covered the Republican presidential primary for both ABC News and Univision. In 2012, Matthew moved to ABC's Chicago bureau, covering stories such as Hurricane Sandy, the Boston Marathon bombing, and the election of Pope Francis.



**KATRINA MERTENS**  
DIRECTOR,  
OPERATIONS & BUDGET

Katrina joined the IOP in the fall of 2012. As Director of Operations and Budget, Katrina manages the IOP's overall budget, personnel matters, and facilities operations under the guidance of the IOP's Director and Executive Director. Prior to joining the Institute, Katrina worked at the Illinois State Board of Education while she was completing an MA in counseling from Roosevelt University. After earning a BS in criminal justice and urban studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2005, Katrina worked in the narcotics unit of the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office and moved to Chicago in 2008.



**ALICIA SAMs**  
DIRECTOR,  
PRITZKER FELLOWS PROGRAM

Alicia has managed the Pritzker Fellows program since spring quarter 2017, and prior to that was Speaker Series director. Alicia Sams comes to the IOP with over 20 years of experience producing and directing award-winning documentaries and feature films for television and theatrical release. She has worked on films covering politics and public affairs, the arts, and cultural history for distributors including HBO, Amazon, IFC, PBS, AMC, Sony Pictures Classics, Sundance Channel, Koch-Lorber, and BBC. From 2006 to 2008, she chronicled the presidential campaign of then-Senator Barack Obama for HBO, a journey depicted in the Emmy Award-winning film "By the People: The Election of Barack Obama." A frequent panelist and lecturer at festivals, colleges and universities around the country, Alicia is a native of Washington, D.C. and holds a BA in English from Harvard University.



## LEADERSHIP

### Staff Bios



**JONDRA DARDEN**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,  
SPEAKER SERIES & SPECIAL  
EVENTS

Jondra joined the Speaker Series Team as Assistant Director in November of 2017. She manages event logistics for Speaker

Series programs and special events. She also oversees the Event Ambassadors. Prior to joining the Institute of Politics, Jondra Darden served as Event Coordinator for Undergraduate Admissions at The University of Tennessee. In her role, she was responsible for creating events that embodied university traditions and campus pride into recruitment events for prospective students. During her time at UT, she also served as co-advisor of the student group ME4UT, a minority enhancement organization. Jondra's career experience includes conference and event planning, recruitment, and assisting student organizations seeking entertainers and speakers in the college market. Jondra graduated from The University of Tennessee with a Bachelors in English and focus in Creative Writing in 2011.



**ASHLEY JORN**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,  
FELLOWS PROGRAM

Ashley joined the Institute in September 2015 as the Program Coordinator, working on logistics for the Fellows and Speaker Series teams. She now serves as

the Assistant Director of the Fellows Program, a position she's held since September 2017. In this role, Ashley manages all logistics for the program. She graduated from DePaul University with a B.A. in history. Prior to joining the IOP, Ashley worked in education as a teacher, tutor and coach.



**LUCY LITTLE, AB'12**  
PRODUCER,  
DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

Lucy joined the IOP in December 2013, and has worked with the communications team since July 2014. Lucy helps manage the IOP's digital communications portfolio,

including program outreach efforts, newsletters, social media, and website, graphic design, and assisting with the "Axe Files" podcast. Prior to joining the IOP, Lucy served as the 2012-2013 Dr. Aizik Wolf Human Rights Post-Baccalaureate Fellow, which funded her work with Heartland Alliance for Human Rights & Human Needs, where she developed and implemented trauma-sensitive creative arts activities and group curricula for undocumented immigrant youth living in short-term residential programs in Chicago. A New York City native, Lucy graduated from the University of Chicago in 2012 with a BA in musicology.



**ZANE MAXWELL**  
PRODUCER, MULTIMEDIA

Zane has been a member of the communications team at the IOP for the past four years. As the Multimedia Producer his portfolio includes documenting events, producing videos, designing

materials, and engineering the "Axe Files" podcast. Previously Zane worked with the Heartland Alliance Policy and Advocacy team, where he served as the Communications and Policy Intern. He graduated in 2013 with a BA in Politics from Willamette University.



**JAKE HUFF**  
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER,  
SPEAKER SERIES

Since July 2017, Jake has worked with the Speaker Series team to develop the overall content and focus of IOP events, conducting research for potential programs and booking a variety of guests. He also manages off-the-record student sessions, in which many of our guests participate. Before joining the IOP team, Jake graduated with a BA in English from Indiana University, where he served as an event planner for both the Arts and Humanities Council and the Hutton Honors College. He spent three years as a writer and technical director for the University Twits sketch comedy group, overseeing their political satire.



**SCOTT DAVIS**  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR,  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Scott comes to the IOP from Washington, DC where he worked at EAB, a best practice research firm that focuses on generating insights to address top challenges at colleges and universities across the country. Scott assists with the IOP's summer internship program, connecting students and organizations to provide substantive professional experiences for UChicago students. He also supports students' career development through workshops, advising, treks, and alumni mentoring relationships. He graduated from Michigan State University in 2015 with a BA in International Relations and Political Theory within MSU's James Madison College. At Michigan State, Scott worked in the Office of Admissions, overseeing the university's orientation program and prospective student tours.



**JENNIFER HUANG**  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR,  
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Jenny joined the Institute of Politics in October 2017 as the Civic Engagement Program Coordinator. In this role, she advises the IOP's Civic Engagement student leadership, builds relationships with community partners, and works with Crystal Coats on CE program development. Previously, Jenny worked as a policy and research assistant for South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg, an intern for the Indiana University Office of the President, and an NSF Research Fellow at the Santa Fe Institute. She studied mathematics, literature, and anthropology at Indiana University.



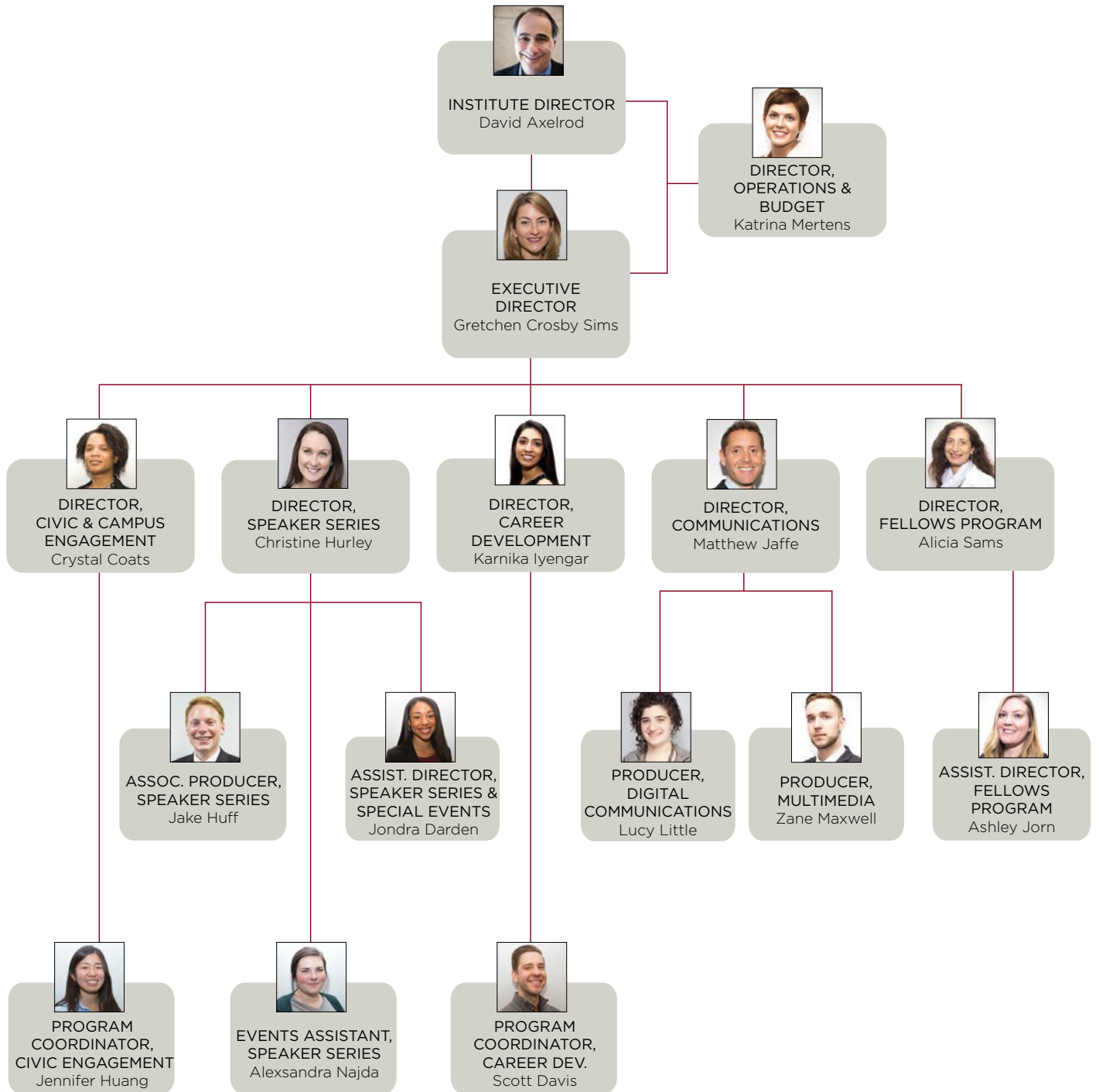
**ALEXSANDRA NAJDA**  
EVENTS ASSISTANT, SPEAKER  
SERIES

A native Chicagoan, Aleksandra hails from the Rogers Park neighborhood. She attended St. Ambrose University in Iowa where she graduated with degrees in History, with a focus on Cold War US-Soviet relations, and Political Science, minoring in International Politics. While attending school, Aleksandra was Student Body president, Model United Nations team captain and served on various other executive boards. She is enthused to be working with the IOP staff and students.



# LEADERSHIP

## Organizational Chart



## LEADERSHIP

### Board of Advisors

The IOP Advisory Board consists of an esteemed and diverse group of political professionals from across the spectrum of public service. Members meet annually to provide critical insight and support the IOP in key areas including 1) recruiting of fellows; 2) outreach to elected and government officials, political operatives, journalists and others to participate in our Speaker Series and other Institute-sponsored events; 3) arrangement of rewarding internship opportunities; and 4) strategic planning advice.

#### **JOAQUÍN CASTRO**

MEMBER, U.S. CONGRESS, D-TX

#### **STEPHANIE CUTTER**

PARTNER, PRECISION STRATEGIES

#### **BOB DOLD**

FORMER MEMBER, U.S. CONGRESS, R-IL

#### **ROBERT GIBBS**

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND GLOBAL CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, MCDONALD'S, INC.

#### **ED GILLESPIE**

FORMER RNC CHAIRMAN

#### **JENNIFER GRANHOLM**

PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY'S GOLDMAN SCHOOL

#### **LARRY GRISOLANO**

PARTNER & CEO, AKPD MESSAGE AND MEDIA

#### **DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN**

BIOGRAPHER, HISTORIAN AND POLITICAL COMMENTATOR

#### **BILL KRISTOL**

FOUNDER AND EDITOR OF *THE WEEKLY STANDARD*

#### **RAY LAHOOD**

FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

#### **ISAAC LEE**

CHIEF CONTENT OFFICER, UNIVISION AND TELEVISA

#### **MICHAEL MORELL**

FORMER ACTING DIRECTOR & DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CIA

#### **MIKE MURPHY**

REPUBLICAN POLITICAL CONSULTANT

#### **SHAILAGH MURRAY**

FORMER WHITE HOUSE SENIOR ADVISOR

#### **BETH MYERS**

CO-FOUNDER, THE SHAWMUT GROUP

#### **PENNY PRITZKER**

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN, PSP PARTNERS

#### **DEVAL PATRICK**

FORMER GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS

#### **KASIM REED**

FORMER MAYOR OF ATLANTA

#### **DARREN REISBERG**

VICE PRESIDENT OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND DEPUTY PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

#### **BRET STEPHENS**

OP-ED COLUMNIST AT *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

#### **NEERA TANDEN**

PRESIDENT, THE CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS

#### **AMY WALTER**

NATIONAL EDITOR OF *THE COOK POLITICAL REPORT*

#### **HOWARD WOLFSON**

EDUCATION PROGRAM LEAD, BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES



## LEADERSHIP

### Student Advisory Board

2017-2018 Academic Year

This year, the Student Advisory Board (SAB) refined its mission to three core areas: advising staff on programming, organizing events for the student association, and serving as liaisons to the broader campus community.

In its advisory capacity, the SAB facilitated weekly in-depth conversations with staff, focusing on one program area each week. This format provided a structured opportunity for staff and students to evaluate past programming and workshop ways to continue the IOP's growth and success. As the leaders of the Student Association, the SAB hosted social events, ranging from a State of the Union speechwriting workshop to a pre-screening of HBO's documentary on the final year of the Obama administration. Hundreds of students attended these open events, engaging with the politics of 2018 and with each other. To promote broader campus engagement, the SAB focused on increasing accessibility of student leadership by hosting weekly office hours to connect students with pathways of engagement and provide an open space for feedback.



Senior Chair Caroline Hutton (AB'18) addresses the IOP Women in Public Service Program



Junior Chair Andrew Mamo (AB'19) speaks to a prospective student



**ASYA AKCA, AB'18**  
COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR



**CAROLINE HUTTON, AB'18**  
SENIOR CHAIR



**JENNIFER JOE, MPP'18**  
GRADUATE STUDENT CHAIR



**ANDREW MAMO, AB'19**  
JUNIOR CHAIR



**DEVSHI MEHROTRA, AB'19**  
CAMPUS COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH CHAIR



**LIAM ROSSMAN, AB'19**  
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT CHAIR



**BAXTER STEIN, AB'18**  
FELLOWS CHAIR



**ZACH STEPP, AB'18**  
EVENTS CHAIR



**KAREN SUNG, AB'18**  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT  
CHAIR

## LEADERSHIP

### Incoming Student Advisory Board

2018-2019 Academic Year



**KRISTEN BUSCH, AB'21**  
CAMPUS COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH CHAIR



**JAKE GOSSELIN, AB'19**  
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT CHAIR



**CHAHAT KAPILA, AB'20**  
EVENTS CHAIR



**DEVSHI MEHROTRA, AB'19**  
SENIOR CHAIR



**MELISSA NAVAS, MPP'19**  
GRADUATE STUDENT CHAIR



**OLIVIA SHAW, AB'20**  
FELLOWS CHAIR



**MICHELLE SHIM, AB'20**  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT  
CHAIR



**DYLAN STAFFORD, AB'20**  
JUNIOR CHAIR



**DYLAN WELLS, AB'19**  
COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

## NOTES







THE UNIVERSITY  
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