

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

CAREERS in PUBLIC POLICY





he best way to answer the question, "What is public policy?" is to visit up close the people who are doing it—in government, in the private business sector, in nonprofit organizations, or in foreign service. We know it when we see it! To listen to recent graduates from the Pepperdine University School of Public Policy who are already carving out exciting and rewarding careers is even better.

At Pepperdine, public policy is much more than an absorbing academic discipline. Here, it literally confronts us with a challenge to accept a leadership role in a changing the world.



James R. Wilburn
Dean, School of Public Policy



NATASA MILASINOVIC

Assistant Analyst United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia The Hague, Netherlands

MPP, Pepperdine University, 1999 Specialization: International Relations

BA, English, Westmar University, 1997 s a member of an investigation team in the Office of the Prosecutor, I work on researching and analyzing video materials and documents relevant for the prosecution of persons suspected of having committed war crimes in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. As the investigation team is made up of trial attorneys, war-crimes investigators, and intelligence analysts, I can honestly say that my education at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy has contributed to the success I now enjoy in my work.

The program's insistence on a well-rounded education has given me a solid foundation not just in international relations, but also law and economics, both of which have frequently been helpful as I pursue justice and reconciliation. The rigorous and demanding program has also equipped me with sharp analytical and problem-solving skills which are crucial for deciphering all the complexities of the breakup of the former Yugoslavia. The School of Public Policy's knowledgeable and passionate professors have taught me impartiality and objectivity. Lastly, Pepperdine's unique and supportive atmosphere from both the professors and staff made me feel like I am part of a big family. \square



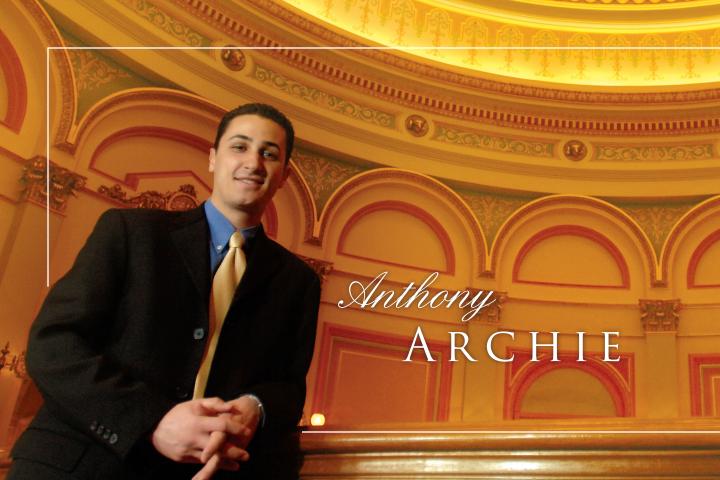
ALMIS UDRYS

Principal Policy Consultant Assembly Republican Caucus Sacramento, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2001 Double Specialization: American Politics and International Relations

BA, International Business Hillsdale College, 1999 hat can you do with a Pepperdine master of public policy degree? Everything you can do without one, with two important exceptions—contacts and credibility. You cannot buy contacts, you must earn their trust—what better way to cultivate relationships than in an intimate scholastic setting where everyone will go on to lead successful lives? The school gives you the invaluable opportunity to both know and be known.

Similarly, you cannot buy credibility. A master of public policy degree gives you a leg up in all fields impacted by the policy spectrum, from international to corporate. Additionally, where else do you actually read the books of which you have only read interpretations or summaries? I speak of the works of Marx, Adam Smith, Madison, Locke, and others. The mix of theoretical and practical disciplines has provided me with the tools to evaluate various statistical and economic arguments related to bills I analyze, while concurrently keeping in mind the philosophical and historical underpinnings of the policies each bill seeks to address or implement. \square



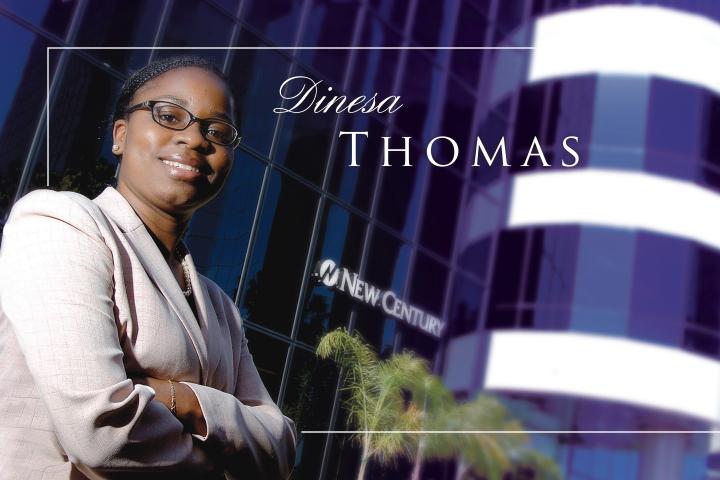
ANTHONY ARCHIE

Policy Fellow Pacific Research Institute Sacramento, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2004 Double Specialization: Economics and State and Local Policy

BA, Economics and Political Science, Pepperdine University, 2002 of state and local policies is often overlooked. But at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy, I was able to double-specialize in economics and state and local policy, a combination that allowed me to examine California's most pressing issues. This was most apparent during the Policy Research Seminar, where I used my training to analyze the state's workers' compensation problem.

Our team produced a proposal that rivaled those of policy think tanks, drawing acclaim from a number of individuals, including some of Governor Schwarzenegger's policy advisors. As a result of my experience, I am now a Sacramento-based policy analyst at the Pacific Research Institute, writing and speaking on issues such as tax policy, property rights, and legal reform. \Box



DINESA THOMAS

Assistant Vice President of Governmental Affairs New Century Financial Corporation Irvine, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2002 Double Specialization: Economics and State and Local Policy

BA, Political Science and African Studies, San Diego State University, 2000 t the Pepperdine School of Public Policy I experienced a great learning environment because of a cohort that consisted of students from various regions of the country and the world, as well as varying political perspectives. I was able to hear and examine alternate views on public policy issues and offer my own.

Working with my cohort on the Policy Research Seminar was a tremendous help to my professional development. During the seminar presentation, we had an opportunity to present our thesis paper to a panel of experts in a given field, which gave me the initial confidence to go into the private and public sectors to deliver information to key stakeholders in my industry. \square



JASON ROSS

PhD Candidate Georgetown University Washington, District of Columbia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2001 Specialization: American Politics

BS, Business Management, Oral Roberts University, 1995 here most public policy programs simply give students analytical tools, Pepperdine demands that students place those analytical tools in service of the wisdom and perspective gained by thinking deeply about the constitutional, historical, and moral dimensions of our pressing public policy problems. In such a complex and rapidly changing world, citizens and policy makers increasingly look to experts for guidance, but even the most sophisticated analytical tools cannot help if they address the wrong questions.

The master of public policy degree program is designed to train students to discern the right questions. Looking back at my own experience and the experiences of my classmates after years away from Pepperdine, I am proud to see the contributions we have made in our chosen fields by asking the right questions, and I know these contributions will only grow greater over time. \Box



KATIA DELRAHIM

Research Associate Center for the Clinical Trials Network National Institute on Drug Abuse National Institutes of Health Rockville, Maryland

MBA, Johns Hopkins University, 2006 Specialization: Management

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2005 Double Specialization: Economics and International Relations

BA, Biological Anthropology University of California, San Diego, 2001

oupled with a strong emphasis on ethical conduct, the practicality of the curriculum at the School of Public Policy not only prepared me for a successful career in public policy, but also afforded me with the unique opportunity to explore my interests in public health. The skills that I gained from my experiences at Pepperdine—whether in the classroom, during my internship at one of the White House policy offices, or on the cobblestone streets of Tbilisi, Georgia—have strengthened my ability to effectively analyze problems, seek solutions, communicate information, and collaborate across disciplines. Not only have these skills been crucial in my professional career, but they have also been at the core of my success in expanding my academic career.

Upon graduating from Pepperdine, I have successfully pursued an MBA and will soon commence on the journey of obtaining a PhD in public health. The education that I received from the Pepperdine School of Public Policy has been invaluable in preparing me to undertake these endeavors. \Box



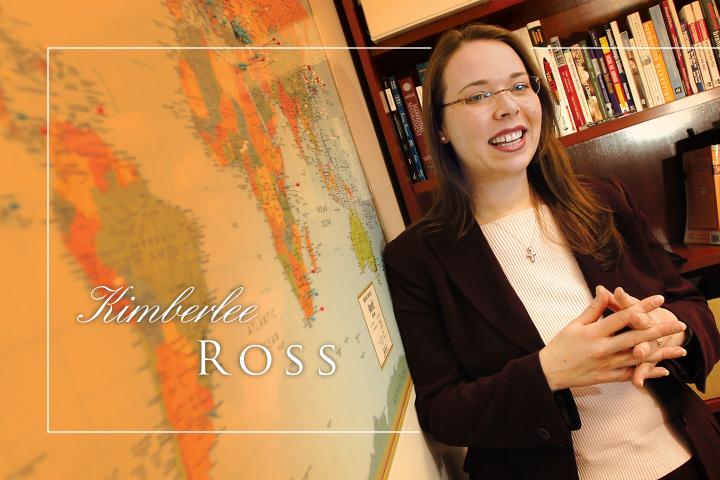
DAVID VELA

Field Deputy Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina Los Angeles, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2001 Double Specialization: Economics and International Relations

BS, Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles, 1999 ach day I am faced with the opportunity to make a decision that affects thousands of lives. The School of Public Policy at Pepperdine prepared me to make these decisions in a sound and thoughtful manner. I like to think of public service as an extension of my formal education. As a student, I learned how to analyze and write policy, which made me a valuable asset to many of the elected officials I have served.

My concentration in economics brought on a passion for economic development which is greatly needed in the urban pockets of Los Angeles County. My concentration in international relations was helpful in creating ties with foreign dignitaries who visit the Southland to learn about our local economy. My degree was instrumental in securing a place of employment, but most of all, it allowed for me to fulfill my dream of serving the public and making a difference in the lives of many. \square



KIMBERLEE ROSS

Senior Contracts/Policy Advisor World Vision Washington, District of Columbia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2001 Specialization: International Relations

BA, Communication Studies, Westmont College, 1997

he Pepperdine School of Public Policy laid the groundwork that has helped me to think deeply about the issues I face every day. The Great Books curriculum enabled me to spend the time necessary to understand how government came about and what it should be about.

Before attending Pepperdine, I had a background in faith-based nonprofit organizations, and I knew how much regulatory policies impact faith-based organizations. I wanted to help shape these policies. I am now the senior contracts/policy advisor for World Vision, and I could not have gotten here if not for the regulatory research and work I began while at Pepperdine. In addition, the school's professors took the time to advise and put me in contact with well-known scholars in this regulatory arena. From these relationships I was able to build a network, procure a fellowship at a think tank, and eventually get the job I have now. \square



MELISA CARROLL

Grant Writer Financial Management InterFaith Community Services Escondido, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2000 Double Specialization: Economics and International Relations

BS, Journalism, Austin Peay State University, 199

n the nonprofit sector, it is becoming increasingly necessary to understand the dynamics of working collaboratively with the government, political leaders, private sector, and community-at-large. The training through Pepperdine's School of Public Policy equipped me to think independently but work cooperatively with others trying to achieve the same mission. The economics specialization prepared me to take on a financial leadership role to develop resources as a government grant writer working with agencies such as Housing and Urban Development, the Veterans Administration, and the Social Security Administration. As I gained more experience, I oversaw the financial management for the agency. Pepperdine taught me not only technical skills but reinforced that integrity is the most valuable skill a leader can possess.



CHARITY AZADIAN

Policy Analyst Department of Homeland Security Office of the Governor State of California Sacramento, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2001 Specialization: International Relations

BA, International Studies (International Management) Pepperdine University, 1999 he most important career opportunities I have had came about because of my alumni connections with the Pepperdine School of Public Policy and because I had completed a master of public policy degree. When interviewing with a senior scientist at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, he said that I was selected from a pool of candidates for a variety of reasons, but more importantly because of my postgraduate education and my fluency in several languages.

When you take on the responsibility of reading, researching, and writing for two years, you not only become proficient in the principles of public policy, but more importantly you become a well-rounded person. I am confident that I can complete any research project or meet tight deadlines because I have been well trained and can always find a solution. \square



MATTHEW SEE

Investigator California Bureau of State Audits Sacramento, California

Guest Lecturer in Political Theory and Philosophy William Jessup University Rocklin, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2003 Double Specialization: American Politics and International Relations

BA, Intercultural Studies, Prairie Bible College, 2001 t Pepperdine I not only learned the "how" of public policy, but also the "why." We grappled with the ideas of justice and virtue and learned how to make good policies and laws. I have taken this experience—kindled with passion to live a life of purpose, service, and leadership—to Sacramento to help state and local governments perform better and at times reevaluate their purpose and way of doing things.

But I went further still: I went to the Middle East, where I worked alongside the Iraqi people as they learned how to participate in their dearly purchased freedom. I helped them as they sought to identify problems in their districts and neighborhoods and subsequently implement solutions to those problems. Now that I am home again, I am looking forward to taking all of these experiences back into the classroom where I might spark the imagination of others who desire to do justice and love mercy. \square



SARA CARMACK

District Director U.S. Representative Ed Royce 40th District (R-CA) Fullerton, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2002 Double Specialization: American Politics and International Relations

BA, History, University of California, Davis, 2000 he professors, curriculum, and internship opportunities at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy provided me with the single most rewarding experience of my educational career. The school provides more than just a quantitative, cold look at policy—it also reminds you that real people are affected by policy changes every day. Too often in society the policy experts are separated from the political experts, and neither side sees the relevance of the other's arguments. Pepperdine provides the type of education that balances the two sometimes-opposing forces and makes successful policy a reality.

In the debate surrounding various pieces of legislation, I have on numerous occasions brought the arguments back down to their most fundamental aspects, frequently questioning members of Congress on how James Madison or Thomas Jefferson would feel about their proposed amendment. By studying those who were willing to risk everything to found this great experiment on democracy, I hope to be able to develop policies one day that will honor the dreams and the legacy of those founders. \square



LEAH PEASE

Foreign Service Officer U.S. Department of State Belfast, Northern Ireland

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2001 Double Specialization: American Politics and International Relations

BA, Spanish and Social Science, Harding University, 1997 he Pepperdine School of Public Policy was ideal training for a career in the Foreign Service. Whether serendipitous or planned into the curriculum, the first-semester core courses were the best study guide available for taking the Foreign Service written exam. The second and more difficult part of the Foreign Service entrance exams is the oral exam. Essentially, successful candidates are those who demonstrate sound decision making and can successfully defend their stance on a given issue under various degrees of pressure. I can think of no better arena in which to prepare for this type of exam than in the classrooms and corridors of the School of Public Policy.

Daily at Pepperdine I was challenged to back up my policy decisions or ideas based not only on careful economic analysis, but also on my belief system and ethical principles. The program challenged and taught me not only to always ask the big questions, but to defend them succinctly and soundly. In my career with the Department of State, I regularly face situations which require quick decision making and articulate defense of my decisions. \Box



JASON PATES

Associate Booz Allen Hamilton McLean, Virginia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 1999 Double Specialization: Economics and International Relations

BA, Economics, Pepperdine University, 1995 had some apprehension heading into a public policy graduate program, fearing that I would be narrowing my future career trajectory to include only public-sector positions. I can now say from experience that earning a master of public policy degree at Pepperdine can lead to terrific career opportunities in all employment sectors. Course work in applied economics and public finance greatly contributed to my success in the Presidential Management Fellowship assessment process and a job with the U.S. Treasury Department.

The degree paid further dividends in my work as a management consultant, where Pepperdine's use of case studies and emphasis on teamwork were great preparation for problem-solving sessions with leadership at Verizon Communications as well as the Department of Defense. Public policy means more than just civil service, and I am pleased to report the versatility of the master of public policy degree extends beyond what I anticipated. \square



JIANHUI HU

PhD Candidate Pardee RAND Graduate School Santa Monica, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2004 Double Specialization: Economics and International Relations

BS, International Accounting, Renmin University of China, 1996 did not fully realize what I obtained from the master's degree program at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy until recently. When I look back, I can see clearly each step where I made progress little by little toward my future, and I now realize the role the School of Public Policy played by opening the first door which led me to where I am today.

The program gave me a set of analytic skills as well as shaped my mind and helped me to realize how I can instigate change in better ways. I especially cherish the latter, and I believe that competency afforded me the opportunity to study at RAND. We can get skills from various institutions, but it is the habit and the way of thinking that truly differentiates people. \square



DAMION TRASADA

Executive Director Uplift Institute Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2006 Double Specialization: American Politics and State and Local Policy

BA, African-American Studies Temple University, 2001 have always considered myself a social entrepreneur. I look for creative ways to reconcile the need to earn money with my personal passion to serve others. Operating a small staffing firm along with a nonprofit organization that works with local agencies to provide career training and educational services allows me to satisfy both interests. We are developing a model for private-public partnership encouraged by the School of Public Policy and reinforced in my strategy and tax classes in the state and local policy specialization.

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The School of Public Policy equips its graduates with knowledge and skills that are valuable across many disciplines. Graduates have chosen careers in all segments of the public sector, including local, state, and federal governments and nonprofit organizations. Other graduates chose the private sector with careers such as consulting, research, and lobbying.

Alumni have received career opportunities from the following list of organizations. Classifications of organizations are determined by the nature of the work executed by alumni.

AMERICAN POLITICS

British Petroleum

Capital Campaigns

CIA

Congressional Research Service,

Library of Congress

FBI

Family Research Council

Federal Election Commission

The Heritage Foundation

Hoover Institution, Stanford University

Jet Propulsion Laboratory

The Livingston-Solomon Group

National Institutes of Health

National Safe Haven Alliance

Naval Criminal Investigative Service

New America Foundation

New Century Financial Corporation

Reason Public Policy Institute

Rosenow Spevacek Group

SAIC

U.S. Attorney's Office

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

U.S. Department of Agriculture,

Natural Resources Conservation Service

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Department of State

Bureau of Public Affairs

Science and Technology Directorate

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Investigations Services

U.S. Navy, Judge Advocate General

ECONOMICS

Booz Allen Hamilton

Department of Treasury

EconOne

IBAR Settlement Company

Institute of Economic Affairs, Kenya

Kraft Foods

LECG LLC

Mercer Consulting

RAND

Reason Public Policy Institute

Smith Barney

SunAmerica Affordable Housing Partners

World Bank

STATE/LOCAL

California Bureau of State Audits

California High School Exit Exam Office

California State Assembly Republican Caucus

California State University, Sacramento

Center for California Studies

Cerrell Associates, Inc.

City of Anaheim, California

City of Culver City, California

City of Ladera Heights, California

City of Lewisville, Texas

City of Malibu, California

City of Oroville, California

City of San Diego, California

City of Santa Ana, California

City of Sarasota, Florida

City of Santa Clarita, California

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Amnesty International

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CIA

IU-Kenya Partnership

Jackson State University

Leonie Industries LLC

National Assembly of the Republic of Korea

City of York, Pennsylvania

County of Los Angeles, California

Department of Mental Health

Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina

County of San Bernardino, California,

Office of the Mayor

eCivis, Inc.

Envicom

Interfaith Community Services

Iowa Democratic Party

Land Solutions, Inc.

League of California Cities

Missouri State Senate

The Olson Company

Pacific Technologies Inc.

Port of Los Angeles

Resource Design Technology

The Robert Group

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Pacific Research Institute

Peace Corps

Raytheon

United Nations, International Criminal Tribunal

for the Former Yugoslavia

U.S. Agency for International Development

U.S. Army International Security Cooperation Policy

Santa Barbara County Association of Governments

Schmitz & Associates, Inc.

State of California

Department of Finance

Department of Homeland Security

Department of Transportation

State of Colorado, Office of the Governor

State of Florida, Department of Education

State of Tennessee

Finance and Administration

Tennessee Center for Policy Research

Uplift Institute

U.S. Representative

Jon Porter, Nevada

Ed Royce, California

Linda Sanchez, California

U.S. Senator, Elizabeth Dole, North Carolina

YMCA

U.S. Department of State

Bureau of Intelligence and Research

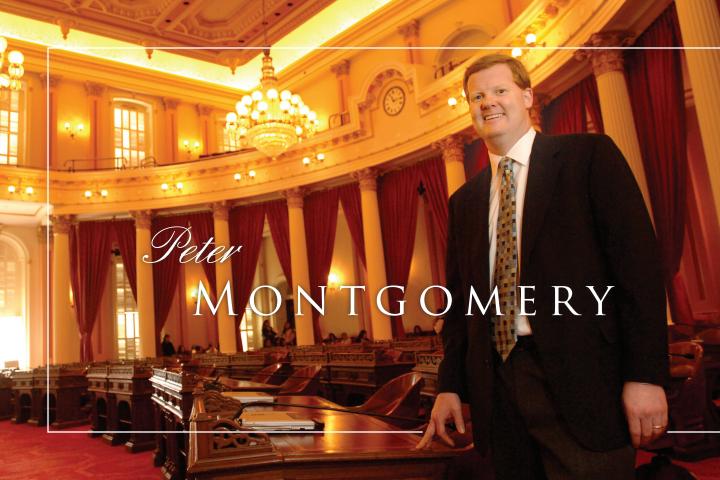
Cameroon

Ireland

Middle East

U.S. Embassy, Romania

World Vision International



PETER MONTGOMERY

Director California Government Relations British Petroleum Sacramento, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 1999 Specialization: Economics

BA, Political Science, University of California, Davis, 1993 y professional and personal horizons were greatly expanded when I made the leap of faith and joined the inaugural class of the Pepperdine School of Public Policy. I received a world-class education, made great friends, and developed a network which has enabled my success post-graduation. I chose the economics specialization in order to add a strong quantitative background to complement my experience in government and politics.

As the director of California government relations for one of the world's largest energy companies, I find myself utilizing, on a daily basis, the tools provided me by the public policy faculty—whether it be statistics, labor economics, or organizational behavior. I would not be where I am today without Pepperdine and the School of Public Policy. \square



KIMBERLY CATES

Analyst U.S. Department of Justice Washington, District of Columbia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2004 Specialization: International Relations

BA, Political Science, Pepperdine University, 2002 master of public policy degree from Pepperdine not only provided me with the necessary skills to be competitive in the public policy marketplace, it also fostered a fundamental understanding of how to be a leader guided by morals and ethics. It is Pepperdine's emphasis on leadership and ethics that sets it apart from so many other schools of public policy.

Another key element unique to the school is faculty members who personally invest in their students. On a daily basis I use the knowledge and wisdom I gained from the faculty both in and outside of the classroom, and I will always be in debt to them for the impact they had on my professional and personal life. \Box

The views put forth by this employee are done so in her personal capacity based on her own personal knowledge and should not be construed as the official views of the Department of Justice or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.



JOHANNA FALZARANO

Environmental Analyst, Associate Project Manager Envicom Corporation Agoura Hills, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2003 Specialization: International Relation

BS, Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, 200 hether you are the employer or employee, one thing you should always demand of yourself is professional integrity. I hold my professors at the School of Public Policy in high esteem in this regard. Through their own integrity they help reinforce the principle that you will not earn, let alone maintain, respect unless you are true to your craft, exhibit sound judgment, and treat others with respect. In the end, it will be meaningless if you increased your company's bottom line, or furthered your cause's end, if you have tarnished your name in order to do so.

Whether you have simply broken appointments or been so drastic as to lie under oath, when you step out of your office for the last time, you should be proud of, and comfortable with, whatever your peers will say about you thereafter.

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JEFFREY M. JONES

Research Fellow Hoover Institution Stanford University Stanford, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2002 Double Specialization: American Politics and Economics

BA, Political Science, Wheaton College, 1993 y experience at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy moved me from a place of interest in the arena of politics to a point of impact through my work as a research fellow at the Hoover Institution. I encountered professors who encouraged a high level of scholarship and continually challenged me to think and write clearly—expectations that prepared me to reach a national audience through journals, newspapers, and the Web.

Courses in economics and political philosophy taught me to formulate solutions that take into account both the rational and normative nature of policy. Over all this, the call to possess a leadership mindset prompts me to look for ways to improve myself, those I work with, and the institution I serve. \square



LISA DUMOUCHEL

Foreign Affairs Officer Regional Security and Arms Transfer U.S. Department of State Washington, District of Columbia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2004 Double Specialization: American Politics and International Relations

BA, Liberal Studies, Business Administration, Northern Arizona University, 2000 he Pepperdine School of Public Policy deepened my understanding of the ideological debate in America. While that may sound like an academic exercise, it has provided great insight into policy making here in Washington, D.C., and at the Pentagon. The school's focus on the U.S. Constitution and the history I learned have been critical to my participation in meaningful policy formation.

In addition to traditional book learning, the curriculum's emphasis on teamwork and interpersonal skills development has been invaluable in my workplace and enabled me to compete successfully as a Presidential Management Fellow against candidates of other top-ranked schools. \square



SAMARA ASHLEY

Account Executive Cerrell Associates, Inc. Los Angeles, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2002 Double Specialization: American Politics and International Relations

BA, Sociology and Black Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2000 arning a master's degree from the Pepperdine School of Public Policy helped prepare me for a successful career in both government and public relations. The practical foundation I received through the school's intense core classes and the skills I learned during my summer internship taught me the importance of applying policy theories to real-world applications. In my current position with one of the state's leading public relations firms, I am responsible for developing public policy strategies as well as conducting public affairs and community outreach programs for various clients.

The degree I earned from Pepperdine, in addition to the experience I gained working for the California State Senate, provided me with the skills needed to develop effective public affairs and public policy strategies. □



RYAN MILLER

Legislative Correspondent Office of U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole (R-NC) Washington, District of Columbia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2004 Double Specialization: American Politics and Economics

BA, Psychology, Baylor University, 200 y Pepperdine master's degree in public policy gave me a solid foundation to succeed in my job in Washington, D.C. The focus on both the quantitative and qualitative sides has provided me with a good framework to examine policy in the position that I am in today. It provided me the necessary background in both American politics and economics which I have relied on over and over again in my position working for the Senate.

I am required to process a vast amount of information and come up with meaningful insight on a given subject set. Thanks to the rigorous academic schedule of the program, I have been prepared for the demands of my profession. \Box



ABIGAIL ETTINGER

Risk Communications Specialist Launch Approval Planning Group NASA-Jet Propulsion Laboratory Pasadena, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2002 Specialization: American Politics

BA, History, University of California, Davis, 2000 s a practicing political operative, I appreciated (and still do) how Pepperdine's rigorous curriculum and open-door policy with professors enriched my understanding of politics, political history, leadership, and what it takes to be a true statesman in today's political ballgame. I was fortunate to work for Los Angeles Mayor Jim Hahn upon completion of my master's degree in public policy. A fellow Pepperdine alumnus, Mayor Hahn embodied our traditions of dignity and leadership in government. Serving Jim Hahn for more than four years as harbor district director, I directed his public relations, events, government relations, and public affairs operations from south Watts to San Pedro and the mayor's seven-mile waterfront redevelopment project.

Using my political education and leadership experience, I ventured into risk communications for controversial deep-space and planetary exploration programs. As one of three risk communications specialists for NASA-JPL, I work to create better understanding of controversial programmatic elements in the world's leading space missions. □



DAVID BLECHERTAS

Department Head of Planning and Zoning West Manchester Township York, Pennsylvannia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2004 Double Specialization: American Politics and International Relations

BA, History, Lock Haven University, 2002 he longer that I am out of school, the more I value the education I received at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy. The intensity and challenge of the course work made the transition into the professional world much easier for me. This in turn helped me to advance my career goals faster than I would have expected. As my career progresses, I find that the importance of the leadership skills and moral components of the school cannot be overestimated.

Working in government is never simple and rarely are issues black and white, but with a strong foundation such as that Pepperdine instills in students, you can be successful regardless of the situation.



JENNIFER LAKE

Analyst in Domestic Security Congressional Research Service Washington, District of Columbia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2001 Double Specialization: Economics and International Relations

BA, Government, University of Texas at Austin, 1998 can unequivocally state that I could not be successful in my work at Congressional Research Service (CRS) without my experiences at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy. At CRS we are expected to respond both to the immediate as well the longer-term research needs of Congress. The most important aspect of the program was the exploration of the idea that all policy questions do not lend themselves to a quantitative or to a strict cost-benefit analysis.

Qualitative analysis plays an important role in policy making. The School of Public Policy taught me that asking the right questions, particularly when framing an issue, is often the most important step. The skills I acquired while at Pepperdine assist my day-to-day work in a fast-paced environment that regularly confronts analysts with different policy challenges.



VICTOR DIAZ DE LEON

Foreign Service Officer U.S. Agency for International Development Mexico City, Mexico

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2002 Specialization: International Relations

BA, International Business, St. Edwards University, 1996 he diverse mix of people and ideas at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy allowed for meaningful discussions and interactions. Whether we were talking about politics, economics, or values, our conversations benefited from an assortment of opinions and beliefs. Addressing current events and reviewing fundamental foundations have been of an immense help in understanding how and why people formulate their perspectives and decisions; critical in my position as a foreign service officer for the U.S. Agency for International Development.

As I deal with a wide range of personalities and ideas, I have relied heavily on my education to rationalize and devise processes and policies specific to managing an overseas governmental office. I mostly utilize the concepts of managing for results and asking the right questions to address difficult situations, as being in an office comprised of American citizens and locally employed staff makes for interesting dilemmas and requires innovative resolutions. \Box



GEOFFREY SEGAL

Director of Government Reform Reason Foundation Arlington, Virginia

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2000 Double Specialization: Economics and State and Local Policy

BA, Political Science, Arizona State University, 1997 s a society we face many challenges in the years ahead. The way it has always been done is no longer acceptable. It will take great leaders to develop and implement innovative public policy solutions. The Pepperdine School of Public Policy is giving students the necessary tools to create those solutions and lead.

Operating in today's policy environment requires a mastery of several unique disciplines—economics, communications, philosophy, strategy development, and implementation. It is also critical to have a deep appreciation and understanding of the founding documents that created this great nation. With a core curriculum that blends these areas, the school trains its students to systematically review policy options, challenge conventional thinking, and innovate. In doing so, it effectively prepares students for the real world of policy analysis, development, and advocacy. \square



SONJA THORINGTON

Auditor California Bureau of State Audits Sacramento, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2006 Double Specialization: Economics and State and Local Policy

BA, Film and Video, Pennsylvania State University, 2003 raveling to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to conduct research and interviews for the Policy Research Seminar proved to be a defining moment in my life. That experience illustrated gaps in policy making in one city, enabling us to see the importance of good policy making elsewhere. It is so easy in policy education to miss the forest for the trees and to forget that what we learn here transcends political affiliation, religious denomination, and cultural and ethnic background.

At its heart, public policy is about community and a dedication to the people within our local, national, and worldwide communities. I will forever love Pepperdine and the opportunity to interact with professors who are each intimidating in the scope of their knowledge and brilliant in the depth of their dedication. My time at Pepperdine presented me with a diverse education that complements the spirit of commitment to others and demands positive changes from us all in the future. \square



RYAN STORM

Principal Program Budget Analyst Department of Finance State of California Sacramento, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 1999 Specialization: Economics and State and Local Policy

BA, International Political Economics, Pepperdine University, 1997 ooking back to my specialization courses in economics and state and local policy, I cannot imagine any better training for my career in state government. In my undergraduate course work, the instruction laid a good academic foundation of economic theory and political science. However, those courses left me wondering, "What is the point? How is this going to help change the world for the better?" During my two-year career at the School of Public Policy, my professors challenged me every day to make a practical impact on my world and my sphere of policy influence. In my capacity today as a principal developer of California's annual budget, I am responsible for analyzing policy ideas presented by legislators, lobbyists, and bureaucrats.

Generally, these three constituents attempt to persuade from either heavily academic or pragmatic vantage points. I am grateful for my education because it equipped me with incredible discernment in my chosen career path—an ability to identify policy rooted in sound economic and political theory, which can have a positive, long-standing impact and withstand the political whims of our day. \square



XIMENA DEL CARPIO

Extended Term Consultant World Bank Washington, District of Columbi

MPP/MBA, Pepperdine University, 2000 Specialization: International Relations

BS, Business Administration Pepperdine University, 1998 he institution I work for envisions "a world free of poverty."
Although this is a simple concept to grasp, the challenges it presents to young economists and policy makers are enormous.

I come to work every day knowing that my efforts make a difference in people's lives and hoping that someday we will fulfill our vision.

The joint MPP/MBA degree from Pepperdine helped me discover the passion I have for economic development through a diverse curriculum and countless interactions with experienced professors. It is empowering to have a broad set of skills that allow you to work in a place that is not only challenging, but also extremely rewarding.



BRIAN DRISCOLL

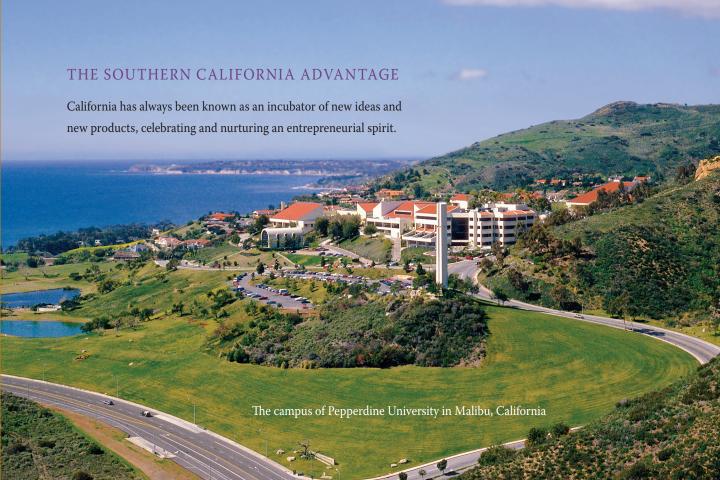
Special Agent Naval Criminal Investigation Service San Diego, California

MPP, Pepperdine University, 2004 Specialization: International Relations

BA, English, Villanova University, 2002 graduated from the School of Public Policy with a specialization in international relations and I now serve as a special agent with the U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) at the Southwest Field Office in San Diego, California. As a federal law enforcement officer, I proudly help to support the NCIS mission to prevent and solve crimes that threaten the warfighters of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps by pursuing three strategic priorities: Prevent Terrorism, Protect Secrets, and Reduce Crime.

The education and experiences that I received at the School of Public Policy have proved invaluable in my developing career. The program provided me with a solid foundation of analytical, leadership, and organizational skills while at the same time placing important emphasis on ethics and a moral fabric necessary to successfully serve our country and its people. \square

The Pepperdine School of Public Policy is built on a distinctive philosophy of nurturing leaders to use the tools of analysis and policy design guided by spiritual and ethical principles to effect successful implementation and real change. It prepares graduates for careers as leaders and seeks also to strengthen the institutions which lie between the federal government and the individual, including the family, religious organizations, volunteer associations, local and regional government, and nonprofit organizations.





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