Yale Class of 1960 • 55th Reunion

SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS
A Legacy to Our University
The Class of 1960 fellowship programs represent a unique collective accomplishment and one that forms an important part of our legacy to Yale. Over the past quarter century our three Class-based summer fellowship programs have supported nearly 200 Yale undergraduates with awards totaling some $580,000. Many of these awardees later recall their fellowship experience as formative not only of their education at Yale but also of their later careers. We can be justifiably proud of this enduring gift to Yale, and of our growing community of Branford, Heinz and Aspin awardees.

This is the second report to the Class on the status of these fellowships. Five years ago, at our 50th reunion, our first report, ably edited by Bill Weber, helped to raise awareness and appreciation of this legacy. Since then these programs have continued to thrive and to develop in ways that have made them even more meaningful both to our student awardees and to our Class, and more valuable to Yale. In 2010 the Yale Alumni Association honored them with its Outstanding Student Engagement Award. Recent initiatives, such as our all fellowships program on campus in 2012 and the periodic Aspin fellowship awardee gatherings and newsletter have added value to the fellowship experience and have contributed to its continued vitality.

Looking to the future, we have begun a partnership with the Class of 1986 that we hope will extend this legacy beyond the life of our Class. Our aim is to transfer responsibility for these fellowships to ’86 by the time of our 60th reunion. As part of this arrangement, members of the Class of 1986 already have begun to participate in all three fellowship committees.
These fellowships honor our classmates Les Aspin, Jack Heinz and Al Pergam who, along with Carol and Barry Schaller, worked with Yale to establish the Branford College summer fellowship program in 1988. They also were instrumental in establishing the John Heinz Government Service Fellowship (1992) and the Les Aspin ’60 International Public Service Fellowship (1999) several years later. Carol and Barry went on to oversee these programs during their formative years, a role that later was assumed by Peter Knudsen, who continued to guide them up to our 50th reunion. I have had the privilege of following in their footsteps since then. Over the past five years I have especially enjoyed working with our current fellowship selection committee chairs, Mike Griffin (Branford), Peter Knudsen (Heinz) and Chuck Schmitz (Aspin), and with Tom Yamin, whose skill and hard work are responsible for this publication.

These fellowships, then, are a tribute to the foresight and dedicated effort of many of our classmates, including those who, over the years, have taken the opportunity to help select our awardees by serving on one or another of the fellowship committees. Their names are listed on page 9. Despite our best efforts, there may be some whose names we have missed, and to them we extend our apologies. To all we extend our thanks for a job well done.

Arvin Murch
Director, Yale Class of 1960 Summer Fellowship Programs
Outstanding Student Engagement Award

FOR 2010 IS PRESENTED TO

Yale College Class of 1960

FOR THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PROGRAM
OR EVENT THAT BEST INTEGRATES
AND ENGAGES CURRENT YALE STUDENTS

CHAIR, AYA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

AYA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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II. Note from Editor

It is our hope that this booklet will provide you with insight into what our class has accomplished with these three fellowship programs, as well as acknowledge the contributions and effort that so many of our classmates have made. At the heart of this booklet are sections devoted to the three programs and I trust you will recognize the life and vitality of the programs.

Sections III and IV focus on the 2015 Fellowship Committee Members and the 2015 Fellowship Recipients. Section V is a roster of the Historical 1960 Committee Membership List. Sections VI-VIII contain a brief description of each program, followed by personal statements of one or more fellowship committee members describing what their involvement has meant to them and testimonials by past recipients commenting on the role their fellowship has played in shaping their education and career. In Section X you will find a complete listing of all past award winners.

It has been my personal pleasure and truthfully honor, to assist in the preparation of this booklet and to learn so much about the recipients, their focus, accomplishments and goals; their visions are thought provoking and inspiring. Finally, it has been a privilege to have worked closely with Arvin Murch, the overseer of these programs. His leadership, insight and commitment to these fellowships and this booklet are remarkable. In addition, I am so appreciative of the three chairs, Mike Griffin, Peter Knudsen and Chuck Schmitz and their committees who have worked so diligently on this booklet and creatively in leading each fellowship. Their dedication is impressive.

Thomas M. Yamin
Editor, 55th Reunion Summer Fellowship Booklet
III. 2015 Fellowship Committee Members

**BRANFORD FELLOWSHIP**
Michael D. Griffin, *Chair*
Clinton C. Brooks
Peter K. Dickinson
James H. Ottaway Jr.
Carrie C. Reynolds ’86
Richard T. Roberts ’86

**HEINZ FELLOWSHIP**
Peter S. Knudsen, *Chair*
Allison B. Durfee
G.F. Robert Hanke
Alvin N. Puryear
Thomas M. Yamin
Susan Berenson ’86
John A. Coleman, Jr. ’86

**ASPIN FELLOWSHIP**
Charles A. Schmitz, *Chair*
Owen Cylke
Douglas C. Guiler
Harry N. Mazadoorian
Fred I. Steele
James W. Trowbridge
Gary Eisenberg ’86
William Monohan ’86
IV. 2015 Fellowship Award Winners

The Branford College Class of 1960 Summer Fellowship

**Dante Archangeli ’17** will continue his studies in robotics by working with a group at the University of British Columbia to improve the way physicians are trained to use the da Vinci Robot System. Da Vinci allows surgeons to make small incisions and perform small precise surgeries that are less traumatic for the patient.

**Rachel Arnesen ’17**, a Global Affairs major, has done substantial research on contraceptive access and usage in Haiti and currently in France. She will expand her knowledge this summer by interning with WE-ACTx, a community based HIV/AIDS initiative in Kigali, Rwanda.

**Mariona Badenas ’16**, a Barcelona native and Astrophysics major, will work at UC Berkley as part of an international team of scientist cataloging the exoplanets outside our own Solar System. Thanks to the Keppler telescope, almost 2000 confirmed exoplanets have been discovered in the last few years.

**Rebecca Brudner ’16** has been a fan of the Bronte sisters since she read Wuthering Heights in seventh grade. She will research their lives this summer through documents in their English hometown. As a Theater major, she then plans to create a dance-theater piece about them next year.

**Jillian Kravatz ’17**, an English major fascinated by poetry, will intern with the Poetry Society of New York this summer. She will work on The Typewriter Project, which encourages anyone in the City to write poetry by using the typewriter-equipped kiosks the Society will set up at various street corners. Jillian also plans to develop her own skills as a poet.

**Hourilyah Tegally ’16**, a native of Mauritius with a double major in Neurobiology and Cognitive Science, will intern at the Kenya Institute of Bioinformatics. She expects to be assigned to a project focused on drug-discovery of herbal-based alternative medicine, or developing treatments for Ebola.
The Class of 1960 John Heinz Government Service Fellowship

Amy Chang ’16 is majoring in Biomedical Engineering, has worked previously in South Africa and Morocco, and will be spending this summer at the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C., working directly for the Secretary, Sylvia Matthews Burrell. Her role will be to assist in preparing materials for hearings in defense of critical health policies and interfacing with USAID, the Dept. of State and NGOs.

Ellie Dupler-McClintock’s ’16 major is Global Affairs and has committed to work at the State Department, Washington, D.C. in the Office of Global Health Diplomacy. She would like to encourage ambassadors to integrate global health concerns into their diplomatic agendas.

Emmet Hedin ’17 is an American Studies major and will be working as a public service intern in St. Paul in the office of Minnesota Governor, Mark Dayton as part of the Legislative and Cabinet Affairs department. His work will focus on energy policy in Minnesota and the Midwest and he will pursue research and analysis in this and other areas, tracking different legislation and the merits thereof, provide memos and briefs for Policy Advisors and the Governor.

Mason Ji ’16 is majoring in Global Affairs and will be working this summer in Seattle, Wash. as an intern for the White House Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs. Mason has developed a multi-media, multi-platform community dialogue method that he has used at both Bellevue, Washington and at the United Nations.
The Les Aspin ’60 International Public Service Fellowship

Aaron Berman ’16 is a Global Affairs major concentrating on economic development and is enrolled in the Five-Year B.A./M.P.H. Program at the Yale School of Public Health. He has studied Chinese for three years at Yale and one summer in Beijing. Aaron writes that the recent Ebola epidemic has awoken international consciousness of the importance of quelling disease outbreaks not only from a humanitarian standpoint, but also in the interest of ensuring domestic and international stability. His internship in Guangzhou will focus on China’s infectious disease control policies and the interplay between U.S. interests and disease containment.

Andrew Glass ’16, from Nokomis, Florida, majors in Economics and Global Affairs and has studied Chinese at Yale and one summer in Beijing. He will intern in the Economic Strategy and Investment section of the American Embassy in Beijing, which handles bilateral investment issues between China and the U.S., but also analyzes China’s economic diplomacy. Andrew anticipates that his work during the summer will help him understand how U.S. foreign policy actually works on the ground, thus providing him a better base for his long-term interest in working in the foreign policy world.

Zoe Rubin ’16, of New York City, majoring in History and Global Affairs (International Security) at Yale, will build upon her internship last summer in the State Department’s Office of International Labor Affairs, where she intensified her interest in human rights, particularly those of migrant workers and refugees. In Geneva, Switzerland, she will work with the intergovernmental Organization for Migration, which promotes orderly and humane migration and assists victims of forced migration and labor abuse. Zoe plans to spend part of her time in Geneva studying Switzerland’s own domestic workers issues.
### V. Historical 1960 Classmates Fellowship Committee Members List

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<td>Michael Griffin</td>
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<td>Tom Amenta</td>
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<td>Peter Dickinson</td>
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<td>David Elliot</td>
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<td>Bob Feldman</td>
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<td>Vic Fingerhut</td>
<td>Guy Robinson</td>
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<td>Matt Freeman</td>
<td>Barry Schaller</td>
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<td>Matt Gardner</td>
<td>Carol Schaller</td>
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<td>Larry Gibbs</td>
<td>Chuck Schmitz</td>
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VI. Class of 1960 Fellowship Program • Yale University
October 17, 2012

Arvin Murch introducing program.

Student panelists.

Panel audience.
Erinma Kalu, Branford fellowship panelist.

Nataliya Langburd, Aspin awardee and panel moderator.

Mike Griffin commenting.

Chuck Schmitz addressing panel.
VII. The Branford College Class of 1960 Summer Fellowship

The Branford College Class of 1960 Summer Fellowship was organized in 1988 by Albert C. Pergam and others, including Carol and Barry Schaller. This fellowship program is dedicated to Al Pergam, who delivered our Class History on Class Day. Each year, fellowships are awarded to Branford College sophomores or juniors to pursue a summer project that may, and often does, take them abroad. These projects typically relate to a long-standing personal or academic interest and often they form the basis for senior honors work. Branford Fellowship awards are not limited by discipline or purpose. Past awards have supported projects ranging from scholarly research to humanitarian service to the development of artistic talent. These fellowships are supported each year by allocations from the Class treasury, and occasionally supplemented by gifts from individual classmates.
Branford Summer Fellowship Program

It has been my distinct pleasure to have been asked to join the group of classmates who read the proposals submitted by the undergraduates applying for our fellowships, interview the applicants, and make the decisions as to whom we fund and to what degree.

The students who apply for our Summer Fellowships are rising Juniors and Seniors in Branford College. If you ever doubted the caliber of undergraduate students at Yale, the process of reading the proposals and interviewing the applicants erases any doubts. These are remarkably bright, interested, articulate young people with a strong commitment to making the world a better place. And getting to know some of them has been personally rewarding and a great pleasure. Let us reassure the Class that our investment in providing our summer fellowships is an exceptionally worthwhile endeavor.

The project proposals are as varied as the students who create them, ranging from designing safe drinking water systems in rural Africa to studying governmental systems in Asia to conducting original research in the archives of eastern Europe. Interestingly, many of the projects are in the area of public health in less developed parts of the world. Some of the proposals seem naively ambitious, and others may seem like a bit of a lark, but the earnestness of the students makes it very hard to turn down any of them. We learn from feedback from the awardees that some of the projects fail utterly for all sorts of reasons, but the students invariably come away from these experiences stronger and smarter for the disappointments.

It is tempting to go on at much greater length extolling the virtues of our summer fellowships and the wonderful students and ambitions projects that the fellowships support. It is enough to say that our objectives in establishing the Branford Summer Fellowships have been exceeded. And getting to know a group of Yale undergraduates each year is both a great pleasure and gives one great hope for the future.

Peter Dickinson
Member, Branford College Fellowship Committee
Branford Summer Fellowship Program

It is with great delight that I recognize the enormous contribution that the Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship has made to our close community of students, fellows, and staff at Branford College. When I first became the master of Branford College, I was besieged with requests for funding for students who wanted to do something in their summer that just did not fit nicely into the boxes of other Yale College fellowships. They were inventive, risky, and new projects that students dreamed up and felt very committed to completing. When I heard about the availability of this unique source of support for students, I was thrilled and comforted to know not only would we have funding but also we would have a college culture that supported the novel idea and the project that stretched the imagination. Over my four years of tenure, the Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship has supported 17 students and these have ranged from majors in humanities to social sciences to natural sciences across sophomore to senior year. The experiences have been transfixing to me – some have discovered new mountain tarns not previously fully explored by human eyes; others have ventured to far-flung places like Tunisia the summer of its uprising for new perspectives on the Arab Spring. Still others have walked the long road that the great poet Yeats walked once upon a time to gain appreciation and inspiration for path-breaking creativity in writing and poetry. These students are without a doubt gifted, but it is only with the support from alumni such as the Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship that their dreams can move closer to reality, that they can learn who they are and what is meaningful to them, and that the can reflect back to their residential college as a place of great growth, love, and inspiration during their formative years at Yale. I remain in great debt to the many dedicated donors to this fund and look forward to the next years of exciting student-led projects ahead!

Elizabeth Bradley, Master, Branford
Professor of Public Health, Yale University
Faculty Director, Yale Global Health Leadership Institute
Director, Yale Global Health Initiative
Responses from Branford Fellowship Awardees

JASON ANDREWS ’02
I’m delighted to update you on how my life has been impacted by the support of the Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship. I was recipient of that fellowship between my junior and senior years, and with that support spent a summer in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, studying tuberculosis and HIV with the Medical Research Council. I went on to medical school at Yale the following year and continued to work in KwaZulu Natal, where I did my thesis project on extensively drug-resistant (XDR) tuberculosis, which our research team was the first to describe in Africa. Our work was published in the The Lancet and has been one of the most cited tuberculosis papers of the past decade. Importantly, it raised awareness of the World Health Organization and various countries about the threat of this disease. I went on to train as an infectious diseases specialist at Harvard, continuing to work on tuberculosis in South Africa. This year I became an Assistant Professor at Stanford where I’m leading a research group on tuberculosis and tropical diseases, still working in South Africa, as well as three other countries. I also founded a nonprofit organization that has provided free medical care to over 150,000 people in Nepal, where I’ve been working in parallel over the past decade. The fellowship and that initial experience that it afforded me to work in South Africa has shaped my entire life’s trajectory, so I’m deeply grateful to the Class of 1960.

CLAUDIA BRITTENHAM ’99
The Branford Class of 1960 Summer Fellowship literally changed my life. I spent the summer traveling and looking at Mesoamerican art in Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras, as research for my senior essay: I’m now an Associate Professor of Mesoamerican art history at the University of Chicago. I came back to Yale and wrote a prize-winning senior essay on the palace compound at Tikal, Guatemala, which only whetted my appetite to do more research, using art and archaeological evidence to piece together ideas about ancient civilization. It seems like a direct trajectory, but of course it wasn’t – I spent several years as a curator at
the Textile Museum in Washington, D.C., trying to decide which part of the world to study, before returning to Yale to complete my Ph.D. with Mary Miller, who’d set me on this path by directing me to the summer fellowship so many years before. I’ve written books on ancient Maya color (with Stephen Houston and colleagues), on the murals of the Maya city of Bonampak (with Mary Miller), and my book on the murals of Cacaxtla in Central Mexico came out in January 2015. The opportunity to travel and do original research in preparation for the senior essay is such a treasure, no matter what one’s future holds, and I’m so very grateful to the Branford Class of 1960 Summer Fellowship for the doors it opened.

**JAMES A. CHYZ ’00**

Being awarded a Class of 1960 fellowship was one of my prouder moments at Yale. I remember the process and trip that it funded quite fondly. The fellowship has been a line item on my Vita ever since I received it. There is no doubt that the fellowship positively impacted my Yale experience. It was both thrilling and gratifying to have alumni generously support travel for an undergraduate student. I certainly felt that I was part of a larger Yale community because of the fellowship. After graduating with a B.A. in Anthropology in 2000 (I used my fellowship to research my senior thesis), I moved to Dijon, France to play professional hockey (I was a varsity hockey player at Yale). After spending one year overseas, I moved back to the U.S. to begin plans for graduate study. In the summer of 2002 I enrolled in a Master’s of Accounting degree program at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, which I completed in the spring of 2003. I followed my wife (Somer Khanlarian Chyz, SY ’99), who had just graduated from law school to Albuquerque, New Mexico. I took a job with Grant Thornton, a public accounting firm. After three years with Grant Thornton, I moved to Tucson, AZ in 2006 to begin my studies towards a Ph.D. in accounting at the University of Arizona. After graduating from U of A’s Ph.D. program in 2010, I took a job with the University of Tennessee – Knoxville as an Assistant Professor, which is where I have been ever since. Whenever I do alumni admission interviews I encourage students to seek out funding oppor-
tunities like the Class of 1960 Summer Fellowship, and often relate my own experience. In an increasing global world, an understanding of the variation in cultural and business norms and customs that exist outside the U.S. is critical. In addition, developing the skill set that comes with managing foreign travel is invaluable. The Class of 1960 Fellowship helps Yale undergraduates fill these needs and develop these skills. But perhaps most importantly, it lets us have fun and gives us plenty of stories to carry with us for many years past our graduation from Yale.

**Lea Hamner ’15**

Thank you for making much of my Yale career possible. Your fellowship funded my 4 month internship with Partners In Health in rural Guatemala. Over the summer and the fall semester, I helped establish a supplemental feeding program to prevent chronic malnutrition – a condition that affects up to 90% of Guatemalans in the area I was working in. Chronic malnutrition causes physical and cognitive stunting and perpetuates the cycle of poverty. Working in this position was mentally, physically, and emotionally challenging but I would not be the person I am today without that experience.

I since switched majors to Environmental Studies so that I could study agriculture and nutrition more in depth. I have been admitted, and now am in my first year, of the BA/MPH joint program with the School of Public Health. At YSPH I’m pursuing the Epidemiology of Microbial Disease track and focusing on infectious disease exacerbated by poor nutrition. I’m planning my thesis research as I write to you – I’m looking to study nutrition affects on HIV/AIDS in Guatemala! I’m going back!

I cannot stress enough how my Class of 1960 Fellowship funded research has changed my academic and professional life. Nutrition is my passion now and I am only able to understand and contextualize it so well because of my time in Guatemala. Thank you all!

**Kristina L. Jones ’05**

Back in 2004 I was awarded one of your Class of 1960 fellowships in order to do some research on the history of land reform in Egypt. I was looking for a topic for my senior essay in history and it seemed a great
way to combine my interest in economic development in rural areas with my Arabic studies. It also would be my first trip to the Middle East and would come after a summer of full immersion Arabic study at Middlebury College so I would really get to “test drive” my improved language skills.

The research part of the trip was a flop – it turns out the archives were closed that week in August and my contact at a local NGO I had been speaking with decided to go out of town the week I was there – but the trip was more memorable for the non-academic experiences that I had. I remember reading way too many accounts of harassment of solo female travelers on a Lonely Planet forum, to the point that I asked my mother, a seamstress, to make me some oversized “modest woman” garments for my trip and started formulate stories about an equally oversized fiance in the U.S. armed forces that would be meeting me imminently on the trip. Maybe it was those garments, or my dark hair, or my modest command of Arabic, but the only “incident” that occurred while I was there was when the cook making my omelet at the breakfast bar in a hotel where I was staying in started flirting with me. After a couple of minutes, he suddenly glanced right and left nervously and asked me where my father was!

After that first direct encounter with the Middle East, I spent the year following my 2005 graduation living in Lebanon as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. I took classes at the masters program in Middle Eastern Studies at the American University in Beirut, continued my Arabic studies and taught English classes. During that year I also traveled extensively in Syria, an experience that I cherish considering the horrible violence occurring there now.

Though my original plan for my life following that year in Lebanon was to start applying to Ph.D. programs in history, I was tired of school and also somewhat weary of how the political upheaval in the region impacted the lives of the Lebanese and Syrian friends I had made. I decided to postpone grad school and take a standing job offer I had as an oil analyst at JPMorgan in New York. Thankfully this decision came well my departure from Lebanon two days before the 2006 war with Israel broke out – I think my family would have died of worry had I gone back!
Ultimately I got wrapped up in my job at JPM and never went back to graduate school. The commodities markets offered me what I always wanted in a career – to never get bored and to travel frequently! I worked at JPM in New York and then London doing sell side oil research from 2006 to 2010, then moved back to the U.S. to work as a strategist at a commodities trading house called Noble Group in Stamford, CT. I focused on the sugar and ethanol markets there and managed a large team in China, India, Brazil and the U.S. I left that role and am now working at a commodities focused hedge fund called Sierentz here in Connecticut.

While my research and the life plans that I had that summer that I went to Egypt didn’t quite turn out as expected, I am very thankful for the award that your class gave me. I grew up in a small farm in the Midwest with not a lot of money but a huge appetite to see the world. Your support gave me the opportunity to do just that!

ERINMA KALU ’14

I am deeply grateful for the support of the 1960 Summer Fellowship I received through Branford College in spring of 2012 – it gave me the opportunity to travel to rural Ecuador to understand public health from an up-close perspective, specifically health inequities in HIV/AIDS and reproductive health; this experience was the spark that led me to where I am today in terms of career goals. Since my fellowship trip, I have committed myself to advancing global health justice. I graduated from Yale College in May 2014 and I am currently in my final year of the 5-year BA/MPH (masters of public health) program studying health policy. I am specializing in sexual and reproductive health in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the U.S. and I plan on spending 1-2 years after my masters to work to promote and advocate on behalf of populations that do not have a full realization of reproductive rights. After working, I will attend law school and study health law. My long-term goal is to become a human rights lawyer that works at the intersection of public health and policy to litigate and advocate for reproductive rights for women (and men!). All my plans and visions are directly tied to my experience in Ecuador which
was funded by the Branford College 1960 Summer Fellowship. I am indebted to the fellowship for the tremendous support it provided and I am very thankful for such a wonderful opportunity that has allowed me to grow as a thinker and doer.

JONATHAN KREISS-TOMKINS
The Class of 1960 Fellowship has profoundly altered the trajectory of my life. I am grateful!

I write you from a coffee shop in Anchorage, Alaska. I am in the midst of heated campaign for my re-election to the Alaska House of Representatives. I was first elected in 2012 – and the decision to leave Yale early (I haven’t graduated, alas!) and run for public office was largely inspired by the experiences enabled by the Class of 1960 Fellowship.

I received the fellowship in order to explore, research, and write about the cultural geography of Alaska. It was all to be the groundwork for a book I still plan to write and publish – something (I hope) of the ambition of McPhee’s *Coming into the Country* and McGuinniss’s *Going to Extremes*. I collected hundreds of thousands of words worth of notes; and wrote tens of thousands words of prose; and broadcast a number of stories relating to my research on Alaska Public Radio. I “learned” Alaska. It was a wonderful, life-changing, coming-of-age experience, traveling across Alaska, interviewing and listening and learning from Alaska pioneers, business people, statespersons, scientists, academics, historians, dog mushers, hermits and recluses, eccentrics, and many more.

I’ve always been fond of Alaska, but this experience affirmed my relationship with the place I now know will always be my home. It also provided the courage – in the spring of 2012, upon receiving two recruitment calls to run for the Alaska Legislature – to leave Yale without a degree (and to the great chagrin of my dear mother) and challenge an eight-term incumbent in what became the most expensive and dramatic legislative race in Alaska in the 2012 election cycle. I won by the hair on my chinny-chin-chin – which, let me tell you, is not a whole lot of hair! (It was a 32-vote margin of victory.) The campaign, and serving in office, has been the ultimate liberal arts education: studying and advocat-
ing every issue from tobacco cessation to forest management practices to ocean acidification to telecom regulation. I am more committed than ever to Alaska.

I am hugely grateful for the propitious series of events catalyzed by the Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship.

**ADINA LOPATIN ’05**

I am a doctoral student in education leadership at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Previously, as Deputy Chief Academic Officer for the New York City Department of Education, I worked to strengthen school quality measures and performance management tools, leading the Department’s work in assessment, accountability, academic policy, and research. I introduced annual parent, teacher, and student satisfaction surveys, strengthened the process for replacing low-performing schools with strong new schools, introduced Common Core state tests to elementary and middle schools, and added measures of college outcomes to high schools’ accountability. Before I came to the Department of Education in 2007, I worked for the Architectural League of New York, mapping criminal justice data to illustrate prison expenditures by administrative district in five American cities.

The Class of 1960 Fellowship funded my trip to Vienna in 2004 to study socialist community housing built there during the interwar period. That experience inspired my work in city government. Experiencing the architecture of community housing, the concrete evidence of a time when a city government took responsibility for citizens social and economic experience, I came to believe in the responsibility and power of city governments. This experience energized my work in New York City government and in the field of education.

**SILAS MERIDITH ’04**

Conducting music research in Rio de Janeiro in the summer between my sophomore and junior years at Yale remains one of my most formative experiences. It would not have been possible without the Branford Class
of 1960 Fellowship. A hearty thank you from me, and a hearty round of applause for making these kinds of experiences available to young people.

I learned a lot that summer (winter, there) in Brazil. In my 10 years since college, I have often looked back and realized that I was drawing on lessons driven home to me then. I’ve worked as a math and statistics instructor in New Haven Public Schools, Hopkins School, and Horace Mann School. I work now managing analytics projects for the book publisher Penguin Random House. I’ve also had the opportunity to lead student delegations to Nicaragua, and to see from the outside how eye-opening a meaningful international experience can be for young people. The things I learned during those 3 months in Brazil made me better at all of those things, in ways whimsical and serious.

*Be systematic, even for a passion project.*

I took my duty as a music researcher very seriously. Though the research topic was undeniably fun (Brazil! Music!), I approached it with focus and gravitas. Having been given this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, I felt a great responsibility to use the time wisely. So I got a calendar and a phone book, and set about creating a routine. Step 1: go to a music venue. Step 2: record the music, meet the musicians, tell them about my project, and finagle myself an invitation to another event. I am not a late night person, but step 2 often involved staying up until dawn. Step 3: wake up (late, most likely), and call the contacts from the previous night. Step 4: go to the rehearsal and/or lesson with the musicians I met. Then I’d repeat, always taking time to ask questions about the music and assimilate what I’d learned.

And it worked. By the end of my time there, I had the materials I needed to write great research papers, and form a Yale samba band. I also had a fantastic network of contacts. A prominent local guitar player said to me, “Silas, you know more people in this town than I do.” I took it as the highest compliment.

*It doesn’t matter if you look like a fool. Keep pursuing your goal.*

There was a musician I really wanted to study with named Itibere. I
went to his show and managed an invitation backstage to meet him. My Portuguese was terrible, and as mightily as he tried not to laugh at me, my communication skills were so bad that he really had no choice. I remember walking away feeling disappointed in a way that’s hard to imagine if you’ve never tried and failed to communicate something that matters to you.

But I got home, I busted out my Portuguese books, and I practiced. I learned important musical phrases. I realized that what mattered was the goal, not whether I looked cool. I went back, and my Portuguese was still pretty terrible, and my voice still waivered, but I got my point across, and he welcomed me into his musical world with open arms. I never did look cool, but I got to learn the music that I wanted.

*Cultural differences are real.*

While I was there, Brazil won the World Cup. The festivities were roughly equivalent to what Americans would do if they, say, won World War II, or put a man on the moon. I remember stepping into the street to see a massive traffic jam, with everyone honking. But instead of honking angrily, they were playing horn music together. Something in the ballpark of a samba. Each person played their note in a collective musical act of celebration, and it was surprisingly precise. Months later, in the middle of New Haven winter, I listened to the recorded sounds of those honking horns, and thought about how people really do see the world differently, in ways great and small.

*Talk to strangers.*

I learned a new song on my first day in Brazil. I overheard a guy humming a song to himself in a bodega, and I asked him what it was. He sat down with me for an hour to teach me the words, the melody, the chords, and the story of the song. If I hadn’t asked, I would never have known he was a musician also, and as passionate as I was about music. In the years since, in my personal and professional life, I’ve often sought to maintain the level of openness to new experience that I felt that first day in Brazil.
Every student of Portuguese confuses the word “coco” with “cocô” (with a circumflex accent on the second ‘o’). But the attentive students make the mistake only once, because the former means “coconut” while the latter is a minor expletive for feces. I will always remember the bemused look in the coconut vendor’s eyes when I ordered the wrong one.

JACQUELYN NAKAMURA ’15
Because of the Branford Class of 1960 Fellowship, I had the opportunity to conduct research in Berlin for five weeks during the summer of 2014. The goal of my project was to learn how and why classical music succeeds in Berlin, as it is home to seven renowned orchestras, and three internationally acclaimed operas. In order to accomplish this, I conducted interviews with musicians, arts administrators and politicians. I planned to use this research for my senior thesis, which would analyze the current state of classical music in America.

Two rewarding interviews I had were with the education representative of the Berlin Philharmonic, Annegret Rehse, and with the former German Secretary of Culture, Michael Naumann. Speaking with Ms. Rehse gave me insight into how an orchestral organization functions within a city, and how this organization creates an audience, through marketing, partnerships with corporations, and outreach. Mr. Naumann also gave me perspective on the social role of a classical music organization, as he currently runs the Daniel Barenboim-Said Akademie, which brings Middle Eastern students to study in Berlin on full scholarship, with the aim of facilitating peaceful international relations. We also spoke of the philosophical and historical approaches to classical music, the German identity, the funding structure of the arts in Germany, and his opinions on the future for the arts.

Through my project in Berlin, I found the interaction between music, cultural institutions and political participation to be particularly fascinating. Consequently, my senior thesis with Professor Cynthia Horan deals with the question: how does funding for cultural institutions lead to political participation in the lower socioeconomic demographic of
the American population. Thank you to the Branford Class of 1960 for this fellowship! This project allowed me to synthesize my scholarship in political science and my knowledge as an orchestral musician. It was inspiring to live in a city so rich in classical music. My time in Berlin was an incredible opportunity that I will never forget.

KATHLEEN A. POWERS ’12

I graduated from Yale in 2012 with a B.A. in Sociology. I received the Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship for a project completed during the summer of 2011 in Tunis, Tunisia. The purpose of the project was to gather original material on the protest events of the Arab Spring to be used in the writing of my senior essay within the Sociology major at Yale.

After conducting fieldwork in Tunis in June of 2011, in the wake of the Tunisian Revolution, I wrote on the amateur photographic and televisional documentation of trauma and on the relationship of these images to the protest events of the Revolution. One of the chapters of the essay concentrates on a video clip of a hospital during the Revolution, after a massacre in the south of the country.

In 2013, I received a Masters (M.Phil.) in Sociology from the University of Cambridge, and at the present, I am a Ph.D. Candidate at Berkeley in the Rhetoric program. Concentrating on Continental Philosophy and Critical Theory, I work on how protest, suffering and Aesthetics relate to one another. Specifically, I hope to research how corporeal trauma is documented and narrated, and I intend to write on the ways in which human suffering, the afflicted body, and pestilence interact with the Western Philosophical Canon.

The summer I spent in Tunisia interviewing students, revolutionaries, bloggers, and government officials – in the attempt to come to terms with what it is to protest in the digital age – has made what I’m doing now possible. It remains my opinion that to study the protest act is to explore what makes us human, what makes us moderns. We find ourselves, the human condition, in such acts of resistance, evinced by why and how we speak truth to power.
The Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship gave me the opportunity to go to Tunisia during such a historic period, and today, my thoughts are occupied by what was discovered there.

AGNIESZKA REC ’08

My Ph.D. dissertation in History at Yale focused on the hitherto unrecognized community of alchemists in Cracow at the end of the Middle Ages and into the early modern era. Next semester, I will be co-teaching a course with a colleague on the history of magic in the Middle Ages; we’ll be meeting in the Beinecke Library so that our students have a chance to work with the amazing manuscripts in that collection.

I honestly don’t think I would be where I am now were it not for the Class of 1960 Fellowship that I received as an undergrad. In 2007 in the summer between my junior and senior years of college I flew to Poland to work with the primary sources that formed the basis of my senior essay. I was interested in the cult of St. Isidore the Laborer, an 11th century Spanish peasant whose saint cult found particular success in Poland beginning in the 17th century. My essay explored how Isidore was presented in this foreign context; he even became a centering point for Polish nationalism at a time when the country didn’t exist. The essay was awarded a history department prize when I graduated and became the writing sample for my graduate school applications.

On a less academic note, I got one of my closest friends out of the fellowship. I stayed with a family while in Cracow, and the daughter and I became fast friends. Since that first introduction, her house has become my home whenever I’m in town. Our friendship is an unexpected and wonderful bonus to all the academic benefits that the fellowship gave me.

JENNIFER ROSE STOUT ’03

Many thanks for the opportunity to share my experiences with the Branford Fellowship – and to express my gratitude to your class once again for the opportunity it gave me.

I received the fellowship for the summer of 2001 (hard to believe it’s been 14 years!) to spend a month in China studying Chinese sign...
language and deaf education. I traveled with a group of students and professors from Gallaudet University. Our study-tour took us to Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, Guilin, and Hong Kong. We spent the majority of our time visiting schools and meeting with students, teachers and policy makers to understand the approach and philosophy behind how the Chinese educate deaf students and to share with them what deaf education is like in the U.S. This trip was a phenomenal experience for me for many reasons – it was my first trip to China, a country I became fascinated with and continue to learn about and work in; it exposed me to the study of international comparative education, which became my major and the focus of my graduate work; and it provided an immersion experience in sign language (something I had studied since I was young) while also exposing me to Chinese sign language and a different culture around deafness. (I am not deaf, nor is anyone in my family, but sign language is something I’ve had a longstanding interest in).

As I mentioned, following this fellowship, I decided to focus on international comparative education. I had planned to join the Yale-China Teaching Fellowship program to spend my first two years after graduation learning Chinese and teaching English in China – and so the fellowship might have been even more influential in my life if it weren’t for the SARS virus in 2003, which led to the cancellation of my year’s Yale-China Fellowship class. I did go on to get a master’s degree in international comparative education at Harvard’s Graduate School of Education, intending to go into education policy – but have ended up going in the direction of philanthropy. I now work at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation focused on efforts to encourage giving, with a particular focus on China and India.

That trip to China would not have been possible for me without the fellowship provided by the Branford Class of 1960. Your generosity enabled me to explore my early passions and to be exposed to new cultures and ideas that shaped the direction of my career. And I know I’m only one of many stories like this. Thank you again for choosing to give back to the Branford students who came after you. It’s a fantastic gift.
While I’m not sure I can summarize my “accomplishments” (mostly because of the accomplishments part – not the summary part), I want to share with you some brief highlights of my career since Yale and a brief reflection on the Class of 1960 Branford Fellowship.

After graduation, I went to work for McKinsey in New York, getting a front-row seat to the financial crisis and working with some of the largest banks during a pretty incredible time (some of them, as you can imagine, are no longer in existence). I left McKinsey to join a late-stage venture capital firm in the West Coast, before joining a few MIT Ph.D.s in building an artificial intelligence startup backed by Founders Fund. For the last three and a half years, I’ve worked in Strategy at JPMorgan in New York and London, working on some of the thorniest issues we faced during that time. I moved back to New York to help found our innovation group (called the New Product Development group). I lead all product development and business operations, and I also manage some of our relationships with startups and companies doing interesting work in our industry.

The fellowship allowed me to travel at a pivotal point in my college career and massively broadened my horizons. Prior to my travel that summer, I had spent time only in the U.S. (mostly at Yale) and in my native Colombia, well, with one week in the Caribbean being the sole exception. Having the opportunity to go out of my comfort zone, explore new cultures, and spend months living in different countries was an amazing experience. I credit that summer with my resulting willingness (to this day) to pick up a suitcase and go where the opportunities are. As importantly, I was and remain very grateful to the Class of 1960 for their generous support. I always tell people that one of the most remarkable things about Yale is the generosity of its community, allowing folks like me not only to attend in the first place, but to take advantage of all the university had to offer.
I was the very fortunate recipient of a Branford Class of 1960 Fellowship in 2011, to study the works of Debussy (specifically, his Preludes Book II) in France with the renowned pianist Pascal Rogé. Studying with Mr. Rogé, one of the foremost interpreters of French piano music, was a dream come true. The Académie Internationale d’Été de Nice was an idyllic setting for both working hard and (of course) enjoying the lovely beaches of the Côte d’Azur. The Debussy Preludes and French music in general continue to be cruxes of my repertoire. I am currently learning the complete works of Maurice Ravel, largely inspired by my studies with Mr. Rogé, and have since recorded the Debussy Preludes (streaming on my website at www.naomiwoo.com/listen).

Immediately after graduation from Yale College, I undertook a Master’s at the Yale School of Music. As part of their selective 5-year B.A./M.M. programme, I completed the Master’s in one year. Following that, I traveled across the pond to Cambridge, where I did an M.Phil. in musicology as a Gates Cambridge Scholar. I intend to continue at Cambridge to pursue a Ph.D. in the field of Performance Studies, working at the intersection of performance and musicology. I will begin the Ph.D. in April 2015. In the meantime, I have returned to my home country of Canada to study and perform in Montreal, with the generous support of a grant from the Canada Arts Council.

I have had a lot of formal education in music, but my summer studies abroad stand out as the highlights. Summer music academies such as the Académie Internationale d’Été de Nice offer students the opportunity to make connections with professors and peers in an environment that is totally separate from the stress and business of the academic year. Not only does Pascal Rogé’s teaching continue to have a significant influence on my playing, I also keep in touch with many of the fellow students I met that summer. These friends and colleagues continue to be important connections in my career.
VIII. The Class of 1960 John Heinz Government Service Fellowship

To honor the achievements of the late Senator John Heinz and to foster the spirit of public service he exemplified, his classmates in the Class of 1960 established the John Heinz Government Service Fellowship in 1992. It is open to all sophomores and juniors in Yale College who demonstrate that their intellectual or personal development would be significantly enhanced by an American government service internship in Federal, State or local government (but not service with a private entity funded by government). These awards are supported by an endowed fund created by members of our Class.

THE CLASSES OF 1960 AND 1986
YALE UNIVERSITY

John Heinz Government Service Fellowship

Certificate of Achievement

For

Joshua Feinzig

This certificate recognizes the achievement of Joshua Feinzig in competing for, being awarded, and then successfully completing the John Heinz Government Service Fellowship at the President’s Council of Economic Advisers, Washington, D.C. during the summer of 2014.

The Heinz Fellowship is for Yale College students who demonstrate that their intellectual or personal development would be significantly enhanced by an American Government service internship in Federal, State or local government.

Representing the Class of 1960

Peter S. Knudsen, Jr., Chairman
Allison B. Durfee G. F. Robert Hanke Alvin N. Puryear Thomas M. Yamin

Representing the Class of 1986
Susan W. Berenson John A. Coleman, Jr.

February 26, 2015
Heinz Government Service Fellowship Program

The experience of serving on the Heinz Fellowship selection committee has been rewarding in many ways:

• First, we financially support outstanding students who have worthwhile plans for summer internships with a local, state, or U.S. government entity.

• Second, we get to meet outstanding, highly motivated students who want to improve the world.

• Third, we provide a worthwhile interviewing experience for the applicants.

• Fourth, we come away from the selection process every year with an appreciation of just how good the students that we interview are.

• Finally, when surveying the achievements of the awardees over the past twenty-one years, our class can take pride in the accomplishments of those whom we have supported and who uniformly have been very grateful to us for enabling them to pursue a government service role during the summer. Their comments in this booklet indicate how profoundly their lives have been affected ever after.

The Heinz fellowships have been awarded from 1992 through 2015 to a total of eighty-one students. Demonstrating the wise judgment of earlier members of the committee, the first two awards were made to Sarah Harrington and John Fabian Witt of the Class of 1994. Sarah, the daughter of our classmate Kevin who was a grammar school classmate of Jack Heinz, has pursued a career in government service, is currently on the staff of U.S. Solicitor General, and has argued twelve cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. She provided us with a picture taken of her and Kevin outside the Court at the time of her first such trial. John Witt has also pursued a law career and, after teaching at the Law School at Columbia, now teaches here at the Yale Law School. Two years ago, John published the book LINCOLN’S CODE: The Laws of War In America, which won the Bancroft Prize in American History, the Silver Gavel Award from the American Bar Association, and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. The
speaker that we have chosen to represent all of the awardees at the 55th Reunion Panel is Bailey Hand, the daughter of classmate Ed and a member of the Class of 2000. Bailey has worked for the Department of Defense in Iraq, Afghanistan, and at the Pentagon. I suggest you read the booklet for other awardees’ stories.

The government related roles of the awardees has varied widely; some examples of their government service follow: Department of State, including the Foreign Service; U.S. Embassies and Consulates around the world; Department of Defense; Public Health agencies; Legislatures assisting Senators and Representatives, on both state and national levels; Police Departments; and District Attorneys’ and Public Defenders’ offices. Recent awardees are improving sanitation in rural Laos, consulting on energy issues in Africa, studying at Oxford on a Marshall Scholarship, and being the sole researcher for Zbigniew Brzezinski. It was recently announced that two of Yale’s six Marshall Scholarship current year winners are Heinz Fellowship awardees.

Each spring we have lunch with the prior year’s awardees and have learned from them that we are unique in offering government related fellowships in the U.S. There are many other fellowships that support international experiences, but there are not ones focused on government in our own country. In addition, we have found that our support occurs at a critical time for most students, a time when they are thinking seriously about life after their undergraduate years at Yale, and a time for them to gain real experience in a government related career.

I too am grateful to the Class of 1960 for allowing me to participate on the Heinz Committee. Each of the past five years I have come away from the experience inspired and confident that our support of and the commitment to our awardees is improving the lot of all of us who live on this planet.

Peter Knudsen
Chair, Heinz Government Service Fellowship Committee
Responses from Heinz Government Service Fellowship Awardees

MICHELLE BAYEFSKY ’14
In May 2014 I graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in Ethics, Politics and Economics. I spent the summer interning in UNESCO’s Bioethics Programme in Paris, France, where I learned about the intersection of bioethics and human rights, wrote speeches for UNESCO representatives, and helped organize and run a conference of UNESCO’s International Bioethics Committee. In September, I moved to Washington, D.C. and began a two-year post-baccalaureate fellowship in the Bioethics Department of the National Institutes of Health. At the NIH, I conduct conceptual and empirical bioethics research, participate in the NIH Clinical Center’s ethics consultation service, and have the chance to meet, talk with, and learn from experts in the field. The Heinz fellowship, which supported my internship at the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee’s majority health policy office during the summer of 2013, helped introduce me to health policy work at the national level, and greatly contributed to my understanding of the structure and function of government in the areas of health and bioethics. I continue to be grateful for the opportunity to spend a summer on the Hill, and the experience has had a lasting impact on my interests and future goals. I plan to attend medical school at the culmination of my fellowship at the NIH, and to continue to engage in bioethics and health policy research.

ERIN BIEL ’13
My geographic location has changed slightly since I graduated from Yale College in 2013. However, many of my interests — academically and otherwise — remain the same. I was a recipient of the Heinz Fellowship for the summer of 2011. The fellowship supported my internship with the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) in Washington, D.C. Having been a Global Affairs and Ethnicity, Race & Migration double-major while at Yale, the internship with PRM perfectly aligned with my studies and only heightened my
interest in forced migration and refugee issues. During the school year following that internship, I started to shift my geographic focus, which had previously been on the Middle East, to Southeast Asia, particularly Burma/Myanmar, a country not lacking in the way of forced migration issues. It was during that subsequent summer that I traveled to both Thailand and Myanmar, as I conducted a series of interviews in preparation for a senior thesis I would later write on the Shan ethnic group of Myanmar, which also has a large migrant population in Thailand.

It is a bit strange to think back to the days when I was working on that thesis, because now it is the case that many of my colleagues and friends are Shan. The “subjects” of my research, whom I was once looking at through an academic lens, are now just part of my everyday reality and quotidian interactions. However, that shift did not just happen overnight. I was so enthralled by the people I met while I was doing the initial thesis research that I was determined to return to the region after graduation from Yale. Through a Yale post-graduate fellowship, I was able to spend around a year working with Migrant Assistance Programme (MAP Foundation), which works with Myanmar migrant workers on the Thai side of the border. Splitting my time between the organization’s two offices in Chiang Mai and the small border-town of Mae Sot, I engaged with people who were Shan, Karen, Mon, Kachin, Rakhine, Burmese—just some of the myriad ethnicities of Myanmar.

In Mae Sot I largely focused on social protection concerns vis-à-vis garment factory workers. Mae Sot is a major garment factory hub in Thailand, benefiting from the inexpensive Myanmar labor that comes in via a bridge that connects the two countries. I also focused extensively on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), particularly for Myanmar migrant women. This pulled upon the earlier work that I had done through my Heinz Fellowship-supported PRM internship and other work during college, when I had focused significantly on refugee cases involving sexual orientation and gender identity issues. During my year with MAP Foundation in Thailand, I had the opportunity to travel to five different countries in the Asia-Pacific to attend conferences and share about the SRHR of Myanmar migrant women.
Once my fellowship in Thailand was over, I was rather unenthused about the idea of heading back to the United States for work. Meanwhile, opportunities seemed to be abounding in Myanmar, as the international gaze shifted to this country that had finally decided to “open up.” By this time, I could read and write in the Myanmar language and had a much stronger understanding of the intricacies of the country’s history and present challenges. The stars aligned, and I secured a position with Partnership for Change, a Norwegian organization that operates a social innovation fund in Myanmar. I now oversee the organization’s programs in Yangon. The programs are diverse, and thus on a given morning I may be meeting with a group of former political prisoners, followed by an afternoon meeting about the country’s eco-tourism strategy, followed by a meeting on education reform (unless if the unbearable Yangon traffic gets in the way, which happens all too often). All in all, our programs largely focus on social entrepreneurship with additional emphasis placed on sustainable tourism, environmental preservation, and education/vocational training initiatives.

As just one example, Partnership for Change funds the first start-up incubator program for women in Myanmar and will soon be launching an accelerator program for a select group of more established women entrepreneurs who are looking to scale their businesses. I am also organizing a conference in Yangon in honor of Women’s Entrepreneurship Day in mid-November. Over 150 Myanmar women entrepreneurs will be in attendance. (In fact, we had to cap the event, since well over 200 women registered.)

I truly cannot imagine working in an environment as dynamic and riveting as Myanmar is right now. And while my current work is substantially different from the work that I completed through my internship with the State Department a few short years ago, everything in between seems to have come about through a natural and logical progression. I unfortunately have not been back to Yale since I graduated in May 2013, but I often yearn for the day when I get to return. In the meantime, what helps to satiate that desire are the fond memories I carry of the many opportunities that Yale has afforded me, not the least of which came through the Heinz Fellowship.
BEN DAUS-HABERLE ’12

My name is Ben Daus-Haberle and I was a ’60 Heinz Summer Fellowship recipient in 2011. The Fellowship allowed me to travel to Australia where I interned for the Foreign Service at the U.S. Embassy. Being in Australia also allowed me to conduct research on the impact of U.S.-China competition in the Asia Pacific. This research in turn formed the basis of a paper for Yale’s Grand Strategies program (co-taught by John Negroponte – another ’60 graduate).

The fellowship had a deep impact of my career and interests – interning in the U.S. Embassy allowed me to see first hand the dedication and integrity of those serving abroad in all branches of government, while the experience of working in the Asia Pacific opened my eyes to the importance of the region to U.S. interests in the years to come. I graduated in 2012, and subsequently I went to work in Washington as Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski’s sole research assistant and office coordinator. I now plan on a career serving our country in the field of foreign policy. Thank you Class of 1960!

AMILA GOLIC ’10

I received a Heinz Fellowship in 2009 for an internship at the U.S. Embassy in Montenegro. The internship was an excellent opportunity for me to explore my interests in international affairs, government, and the Balkans. Since I am originally from Bosnia, which neighbors Montenegro, it was also a chance to study the region from a perspective I wasn’t used to. I was the Embassy’s first intern and was able to complete rotations in the Political, Economic, and Management sections. It was a rich, hands-on internship – and without a doubt one of the experiences that had the most impact on me in college.

After graduating in 2010, I returned home to Chicago and tried something different, working in marketing at Grant Thornton LLP. I decided to go back to school for a Master’s in Eastern European history in 2012. Because I also wanted to live abroad and brush up my German skills, I enrolled at the University of Munich. After taking a semester off to do an internship at the OECD in Paris, I am now writing my M.A. thesis.
and looking forward to returning home to the U.S. in the spring (and to my 5-year reunion at Yale in May!).

I would like to express my gratitude to the Class of 1960. The Heinz Fellowship allowed me to explore my interest in the Balkans and that, in turn, has shaped my path in the nearly five years since my graduation.

SARAH HARRINGTON ’94
For the last 5 years, I have worked as an Assistant to the Solicitor General at the United States Department of Justice. In this capacity, I have argued 12 cases in the United States Supreme Court on behalf of the United States. For the 9 years before I took this job, I worked in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, where I argued more than 30 cases in federal courts of appeals on behalf of the United States. I have devoted my entire career to government service and have loved every minute of it. Standing at the podium before the 9 Justices of the Supreme Court is a thrill for anyone fortunate enough to have the opportunity to do so. But for me the thrill is greatly enhanced because I have the honor of representing my country when doing so. It is not an exaggeration to say that the Heinz Fellowship started it all. I spent my Heinz summer drafting proposals for civil rights legislation while working for a United States Senator. It was that experience that sparked my interest in the law, in public service generally, and in government service specifically. I have always been grateful for the opportunity that the Class of 1960 provided to me.

I would like to note that my father, Kevin Harrington, was a member of the Class of 1960 (and an elementary-school classmate of Senator Heinz at San Francisco’s Town School). My dad passed away in January 2013. But he was able to attend my first argument at the Supreme Court (photo attached) and I know he was very proud to see me up there. So both of us Harrington Yalies derived great joy from the path that the Heinz Fellowship set me on. Thank you for that.
DAWN LIPPERT ’06

I moved to Hawaii 5 years ago, after working in Washington D.C. on alternative energy projects and analysis for Booz Allen Hamilton. My work at Booz Allen took me to Hawaii for a number of years to design and implement the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative, a pioneering public-private partnership to transform Hawaii from oil dependence to renewable energy by 2030. After years of flying between D.C. and Honolulu, I made the move to Hawaii and left Booz Allen to help start an innovation program in the state.

Over the last 5 years, I’ve been growing the Energy Excelerator. It’s a startup program dedicated to solving the world’s energy challenges, starting in Hawaii. The Energy Excelerator helps innovative energy companies succeed in Hawaii and the Asia Pacific with funding up to $1M per company, strategic relationships, and a vibrant ecosystem. We were started with seed funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, and in 2013 we raised $30 M from the U.S. Navy. These funds are mostly provided to startups and innovation companies who are commercializing groundbreaking energy technologies in smart grid, transportation, finance, data analytics, efficiency, smart buildings, energy storage, water, and agriculture.

In 2011 I started a non-profit called WiRE, Women in Renewable Energy, a not-for-profit organization with over 200 members. The mission of WiRE is to help build technical expertise and trust to advance clean energy transformation in Hawaii and beyond. I never imagined myself living in Hawaii, but it’s been an amazing place to work on cutting edge clean energy issues, fund some of the nation’s best startups, and also build a community of people who are committed to energy transformation. And I can’t complain about the sun & surf either! The Heinz Fellowship was monumental in setting me on my path to impact energy and entrepreneurship, and take a leap into unknown areas with the confidence that – along with a great team and supportive community – I can build something worthwhile. If anyone comes to Hawaii for vacation, I encourage them to look me up and come visit our brand-new innovation center in downtown Honolulu.
RICHARD LUDLOW ’07

For individuals like me attending Yale on full financial aid, programs like the Heinz Fellowship open up a new world of opportunities that can have ripple effects for years to come.

Since graduating, in addition to earning an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, I have co-founded two entrepreneurial ventures focused on improving educational opportunities and outcomes. The first, Academic Earth, was acquired, while the second, AltSchool, is rapidly growing with over $30 million in funding from leading venture capitalists including Andreessen Horowitz, Peter Thiel’s Founders Fund, and John Doerr.

Many of the opportunities I’ve had have followed directly from my work as a social entrepreneur at Yale, where I founded the nonprofit organization Students for Organ Donation, which built a network of 150 college chapters and registered over 200,000 organ donors. By funding an unpaid internship with the Division of Transplantation within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Heinz Fellowship had a large multiplier effect on the success of the organization. In addition to increasing my knowledge and credibility in the field, the internship led to an HHS grant of $100,000, a major boon for this all-volunteer organization.

I am very grateful to the Class of 1960 Heinz Fellowship donors for making this opportunity possible.

JEANIA REE MOORE ’12

After graduating from Yale, I entered into the Master of Divinity program as a Woodruff Fellow at Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, GA. I am currently in my third and final year of the program, and am also completing a Certificate in Women’s Studies in Theology and Ministry. As a seminary student, I have continued my education through both academic graduate coursework and through practical ministry experience. In addition to being actively involved in student life at Candler, I have over the past three years worked as a chaplain and teacher in Georgia’s largest maximum security prison for women, as a staff counselor with a high school summer theology
and social justice program, as a seminarian intern in a local church, and as a research assistant. The importance of balancing the academic and intellectual with the practical and experiential is a lesson I learned during my summer as a Heinz Fellow, and is one that has stayed with me. The Heinz Fellowship enabled me to translate academic knowledge into practical work in a professional environment in supporting me during my summer 2011 internship at the State Department in the Office of International Religious Freedom (Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor) in Washington, D.C. The impression this internship left on me continues to shape my vocational goals to do work engaging both the academy and the broader public sphere.

MOLLY OSCHATZ ’95

After graduating from Yale in ’95, I headed to California to earn my Ph.D. in American history from U.C. Berkeley. After receiving my doctorate in 2007, I was an assistant professor at Florida State University and then at San Francisco State University, where I taught courses in American intellectual and religious history. In 2011, Oxford University Press published my book, Slavery and Sin: The Fight Against Slavery and the Rise of Liberal Protestantism. Around that time, I resigned from S.F. State to raise my three kids and to start a freelance writing career. My husband and I live in Mountain View, CA, and have three children, ages 9, 6, and 16 months.

Being a Heinz Fellow was a valuable experience for me, although not in the way I expected. At the time, I was preparing for a career in law, but my experience that summer working in the D.A.’s office as part of my project researching anti-poverty approaches to crime reduction, along with my concurrent experience working part-time at a law firm, helped me to decide to pursue other interests instead. The fellowship gave me renewed confidence after a particularly trying and discouraging year at Yale, and I remember it as a kind of turning point in my life. I returned to Yale the following year more confident and certain of myself and hopeful about my new plans for my future. I remain grateful for my Heinz fellowship.
LARA STABINSKI ’07
I received the John Heinz Government Service Fellowship in 1995. This experience was one of the early influences in my life that led me to my decision to pursue a career in public service. The experience itself was humbling and in a way, in my younger eyes, a failure, but taught me some important lessons that I’ve kept with me throughout my career. As a fellow, I spent the summer writing grants and participating in efforts to help replace my high school library, which was destroyed (along with the high school) in a fire. (Although my efforts were unsuccessful the school was eventually rebuilt and has subsequently merged with a larger, more affluent school district in upstate NY).

What I learned is that I knew nothing about grant writing and fundraising, and did not have the skill set to accomplish something of this magnitude in a few weeks between semesters (surprise, surprise I know). What did stay with me was the determination to do better, to be more prepared and to grow my skill-set in order to achieve my goals in public service. My path in public service has lead me to become an infectious disease physician and public health practitioner. I am lucky enough to work both clinically (at the Washington, D.C. Veterans Hospital) and as a Senior Medical Advisor one of the “physicians to millions” for PEPFAR (The United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) at the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator in (Department of State) Washington, D.C. I am not sure what is next – but I enjoy working at the nexus of medicine, epidemiology, public health and politics- and hope to continue to be able to work in this type of environment. I am grateful to the Fellowship Committee for choosing me that summer of 1995 and helping me to learn important lessons in public service.

MELIA UNGSON ’14
With the generous support of the Heinz Fellowship last summer, I was able to serve as an intern at the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane, Laos. The experience was a valuable opportunity to learn more about life and work in the Foreign Service, a career that I am now strongly considering. During my internship, I also became very passionate about a
number of issues in Laos and elsewhere in Southeast Asia. After graduating in May, I returned to Laos, where I am now on a Fulbright Grant conducting research on waste management and recycling in urban areas of Laos. I am very grateful for the support of the Heinz Fellowship for not only exposing me to government service abroad, but also inspiring me to return to Laos through a different type of public service.

**Usha Chilukuri Vance ’07**

I had a Heinz Fellowship to fund my work at the State Department in the summer of 2005 (ages ago!), and my career has taken several twists and turns since then. After graduating in 2007, I moved to China on a Yale-China Teaching Fellowship and taught history at a university. That was an eye-opening experience and awoke an interest in law (specifically intellectual property). I moved back to New York and worked briefly as a legal analyst for a boutique litigation firm, went off to the University of Cambridge to study early modern English legal history, and finally attended Yale Law School. Now I am in my second year of clerking for federal judges – first for a district court judge in Kentucky, and now for an appellate judge in D.C.

My Heinz Fellowship experience was significant in two respects. First, it funded my first sustained exposure to D.C., which heavily influenced my decision to move here after law school. Second, it gave me much greater insight into the federal government – which felt very remote to me growing up in San Diego – and encouraged me to look for public service opportunities after law school. I am still very grateful for the chance the Heinz Fellowship gave me and hope that many generations of Yale students to come will benefit in the same way.

**John Vrolyk ’10**

My Heinz Fellowship – supporting a summer spent in the political section of the American Consulate in Saigon, Vietnam – has had dramatic and continuing effects on my academic and professional career. My work in Vietnam sparked a fascination with counter-insurgency, which subsequently became my academic focus. I focused my Ethics, Politics and Economics major on studying foreign interventions in intrastate conflicts,
and wrote my senior essay on American Special Forces recruitment of the mountain peoples of Vietnam, for which I drew on my State Department work as well as first-hand interviews with Special Forces veterans.

After college, I went to New York to work for a boutique M&A firm (Centerview Partners), but stayed in touch with Robert Hanke, who had chaired my Heinz selection board. While I enjoyed New York, I continued to feel the pull of service – for a greater purpose and a cause larger than myself. As I explored options to reorient my career toward public service, Colonel Hanke’s counsel was invaluable, especially when I began to think about the Marine Corps. While leaving investment banking for the Marines seemed crazy initially, the idea of a career in which I could simultaneously make a positive difference while working on the problems I find most intellectually fascinating (counter-insurgency) was ultimately irresistible.

In fall of 2013, I left Centerview for Officer Candidate School, where, two long months later, I commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps. After a year of training, I am now the Charlie Company Weapons Platoon commander with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, stationed aboard Camp Pendleton and scheduled to deploy to Darwin, Australia. I absolutely love my job – I find myself constantly wondering how I possibly get to do this for a living – and am daily thankful for the lasting impact the Heinz Fellowship continues to have on my life.
IX. The Les Aspin ’60 International Public Service Fellowship

The Les Aspin ’60 International Public Service Fellowships were established in 1999 by the Yale College Class of 1960 to honor the memory of their classmate, Les Aspin, a former member of Congress and United States Secretary of Defense. The Fellowship supports Yale College undergraduates in summer internships related to the study of national security and international affairs, in the public or nonprofit private sector. The internships may be with a U.S. government agency, or a nonprofit corporation or non-governmental organization. Grants are awarded to sophomores and juniors with preference given to students in the International Studies Major. These awards are supported by an endowed fund created by members of our Class.
The Les Aspin ’60 International Public Service Fellowship

In academic terms, the Les Aspin Fellowship awards are summer research grants, useful for rising Yale juniors and seniors to sip at the cup of public service to see whether they might like it or not. That is a good function, maybe good enough to justify the time, costs and energies required to make it work.

However, the Aspin Fellowship is broader and more important than that: it is a kind of bond between and among Yale generations. The Class of 1960, Les Aspin’s class, thinks that experiencing making a living while in some form of public service is a valuable and estimable thing to do, and offers a bit of support for current students. Class of 1960 alumni are therefore investing in the future of current Yale students, so an intergenerational bond is established. Among Aspin laureates themselves, particularly among those who continue in some from of public service, a sense a common bond develops from being fellow Aspinites and having benefited from Yale’s encouragement towards public service.

The Aspin Committee is experimenting with various modes of keeping contact with our laureates and encouraging their contact with each other. Together with Aspine alums still on campus, we sponsor send-off dinners and back-to-campus lunches for current-year Aspinites; we invite Aspinites on campus to join us for our annual evaluation of the workings of the Fellowship; we meet with each laureate at least once during the summer; we host an end-of-summer gathering for those working in Washington (usually a plurality of Aspinites); we periodically survey Aspinites to see what they are doing and if they think that the Fellowship helped them; and our Newsletter is in its second year of publication. Our goal is to develop our simple summer research grants into a basis for enduring Fellowship of those lucky and plucky enough to have been selected for The Aspin.

All three of our Class Fellowships are intergenerational bridges. They give Classmates a way to engage, and be engaged by, current Yale undergraduates and to maintain active interests in what Yale is doing.
Our flesh and blood interviews of applicants are more personal than the processes sometimes run by busy Yale faculty members, and our fellowships are the only ones that we know of in which alumni are responsible for the core of fellowship administration.

We are showing that our brand of fellowships is a highly effective way of mining the energies, resources, and even wisdom of alumni in service of Yale and its students. I personally hope that our alumni-run fellowships will be noticed as precedents and be followed by other classes at Yale and possibly even by engaged alumni of other first-rate schools and universities.

Charles Schmitz  
Chairman, Class of 1960 Les Aspin Fellowship Committee
The Les Aspin ’60 International Public Service Fellowship

The Yale Class of 1960 Alumni Magazine class notes generally end with the admonition “stay young” – an admirable goal, although not always within reach. One secret that several members of our Class have found to occasionally drink from that elusive fountain is our eager and active participation in the work of the Les Aspin International Public Service Fellowship selection process.

The impressive intellect, creativity and determination of the applicants we encounter as well as the ambitious and taxing internships for which they apply, make us realize how fortunate and proud we all are to be part of the Yale family. Despite the awe in which we receive these richly crafted applications and the disparity in years between us and those to whom Fellowships are awarded, a powerful intergenerational bond is quickly created. Indeed, our past recipients continue their participation in our Committee’s activities in myriad ways and the baton between our generations is gracefully shared, never dropped.

Our annual gathering at the Jackson Center for Global Affairs becomes an event we eagerly anticipate, first meeting among ourselves, then with past recipients and Yale staff and finally with the talented new crop of applicants. Each year we become convinced that we cannot be dazzled beyond the levels experienced that year and the next year proves us wrong again. We have been at this long enough now to regularly witness the dramatic positive results of the internship experience and the career and personal development levels to which the recipients rise. Indeed, one of our past fellows was recruited to serve as special assistant to the President of Yale. Others have distinguished themselves in the fields of public service, national security and international affairs in many ways, including both governmental and non-governmental service as well as academia.

This Class-funded and administered fellowship program has proven immensely successful by a broad number of standards. But no measure of success is more important than the willingness of the recipients to form a close society of shared common interests and continue to share,
among each other and our Class, their activities and accomplishments all in the proud Les Aspin tradition of public service. This issue of the *Aspin Fellowship Newsletter* contains information about several new Aspin Fellows. We look forward to continued reports from other Fellows as to their whereabouts and activities and particularly how their Fellowships have influenced the paths they followed.

Harry N. Mazadoorian

*Member, Class of 1960 Les Aspin Fellowship Committee*
Responses from Les Aspin ’60 Fellowship Awardees

ROB LALKA ’05

When I arrived in New Haven, only a few months after my 18th birthday, I had rarely left Southwestern Virginia, had hardly ever been outside the South, and had only dreamed of adventures overseas. By the time I left Yale, I had fallen in love with all that international affairs has to offer, whether it means grappling with the opportunities and challenges of our increasingly interconnected world, or just those simple, timeless pleasures like the first time you taste a new food, make a new friend, or hear a good story from other cultures and customs.

When every Yale student walks through those gates for the first time, doors open. For me, they opened to entire worlds and led to experiences that I could never have possibly imagined. The Les Aspin Fellowship played an invaluable role in making that happen, because it provided me with the funding necessary to intern at the U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, between my sophomore and junior years. The professional experiences and personal exploration I discovered in Frankfurt stimulated my curiosity, fueled my enthusiasm, and shaped my character; and to this day I still feel deeply indebted – to both Mother Yale and Uncle Sam – for the life-shaping experiences made possible by the Les Aspin Fellowship.

After Yale, I spent a brief stint in international investment banking before moving to New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina to help with the recovery effort and then to graduate school. Now as I sit at my desk at the State Department, thanks to the Les Aspin Fellowship, I know without Yale and State and their combined influences, I could never have learned the life lessons, honed the talents or developed the attitude of mind I have now. These attributes have served me well over the years. They allow me to serve my country, as well as I can, where I am now.

And so with deep gratitude, I would like to thank every member of the Yale College Class of 1960 for helping to make world-widening experiences like mine possible through the Les Aspin Fellowship.
With support from the Les Aspin ’60 Summer Fellowship Program, I served as an intern with the U.S. State Department at the U.S. Consulate General in Belfast, Northern Ireland for eleven weeks during the summer of 2006. As I reflect back, my experiences during those extraordinary three months in Northern Ireland undoubtedly constitute one of the highlights of my college career.

Although I initially hoped my work would involve the visa process, Northern Ireland’s constantly evolving political landscape captivated my interest and motivated me to seek work in the consulate’s political bureau. While Northern Ireland has been relatively quiet since the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, for the preceding thirty years, a low-level civil war engulfed the country with frequent murders and violence perpetrated by competing paramilitary organizations. My work with the political bureau brought me a variety of experiences including assisting in organizing a series of reconciliation meetings between widows’ groups, as well as preparing an economic report detailing strategies for increasing American corporate investment in Northern Ireland.

While my work in the consulate was a unique experience, I also learned a tremendous amount by being immersed in the Northern Irish culture. I found that while many neighborhoods—particularly those of South Belfast—have made great progress, other neighborhoods in North and West Belfast remain largely segregated. Protestant and Catholic children still attend separate schools and, even in the few schools that Her Majesty’s Government has integrated, Protestant and Catholic children refuse to play with each other during their free hour. Violent and sectarian murals dominate the cityscape while graffiti displaying violent messages can be seen along any main road.

Being present in Belfast for the Orangemen Festivities of July 12 further exposed the deep divisions that plague the environment. Every July, in commemoration of the 1690 Battle of the Boyne when Protestant King William of Orange defeated Catholic King James II, the Protestant neighborhoods amass wood, old furniture, and even caravans to burn in massive bonfires throughout the city. The Pope, Sinn Fein leader Gerry
Adams, and the Irish tricolor are all burned in effigy and Catholics are encouraged to remain at home. The Consulate closed down for July 12 and July 13 and many of my co-workers planned to be out of town during those days.

I feel privileged to have lived in Belfast at this moment in its history. My eleven weeks in Belfast were an experience I will never forget. I wish to thank the Les Aspin ’60 Summer Fellowship committee with my utmost gratitude for its support, without which my summer experience would not have been possible. With members such as Congressman Les Aspin, Senator John Heinz, and Ambassador John Negroponte, the Class of 1960 has set an example for all of us who aspire to careers in government service. I can only hope that one day my class, the Class of 2007, might make a similar mark. I truly appreciate all the help you’ve given me.

**Pascal Noel ’06**

With the generous help of the Les Aspin ’60 Summer Fellowship, I was able to undertake an internship with the Economic Strategy Institute (ESI) in Washington, D.C. during the summer of 2004 after my sophomore year at Yale. ESI is a non-profit public policy research organization dedicated to assuring that globalization works with market forces to achieve maximum benefits. My goal was to broaden my understanding of international affairs and national security, focusing on the political impact of international economic policy. While at ESI, I completed research on global financial markets and U.S. macroeconomic imbalances.

This experience made a large impact on my career development. It solidified my interest in economic policy and exposed me for the first time to the policy world in Washington, D.C. After the internship, I began to focus more on policy-relevant economic and political studies at Yale and went on to pursue a Master’s degree in economics at the London School of Economics. After some time researching and writing at the Brookings Institution, I was able to fulfill my goal of public service and policymaking by joining the White House National Economic Council, where I am a senior policy advisor. Many of the topics I worked on with
my summer fellowship remain relevant to the work I’m doing today, in particular as it relates to financial regulation and macroeconomic stability. I am truly grateful to the generosity of the Les Aspin Fellowship Committee for making my first D.C. internship possible and exposing me to a career I find challenging and rewarding.

**DANIEL PITCAIRN ’13**

The Les Aspin International Affairs Fellowship played an integral role in the fantastic experience I had at the Department of State. For ten weeks, from June to August, I interned in the Office of Regional Political and Military Affairs in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs (EUR/RPM), which is responsible for managing the U.S. relationships with NATO and the Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe (OSCE). My objectives were to gain real foreign policy experience, obtain an understanding of how the State Department works, and to decide if the Foreign Service is right for me. My experience with respect to all three was extremely positive.

I worked with the NATO team in EUR/RPM on NATO operations and policy planning, and was exposed to a broad range of issues concerning the Atlantic alliance. I worked on timely and exciting issues including force generation for the NATO mission in Afghanistan, the incorporation of civilian crisis management capabilities within NATO military structures, and NATO policies towards partner and aspirant nations. I authored cables, briefs, papers, and talking points for principals, analyzed relevant cables for the office, and helped plan official events. In doing so, I was afforded the opportunity to learn first hand how U.S. foreign policy is conducted, particularly in a multilateral setting. The fact that EUR/RPM is a regional office and is responsible for managing political affairs within a military alliance meant that I was exposed to many different offices within the State Department and the Defense Department. I now feel that I have a reasonable grasp on the inter-agency process and on how the State Department fits into the U.S. national security apparatus. Finally, with respect to my final objective, determining whether the Foreign Service would be a good fit for me, I was particularly heartened by my summer experience. The Foreign Ser-
vice Officers I worked with are incredibly motivated and capable people and encouraged me to join. Working with the FSOs in EUR/RPM was a privilege and I am now determined to join the Foreign Service.

My experience at State was better than I could have hoped and I have come away from it a much more knowledgeable, connected, and determined student of international affairs. The Les Aspin Fellowship played a crucial role in my experience because it allowed me to not let financial worries keep me from doing my dream internship. I used the fellowship to pay for all my living and transportation costs. The fellowship permitted me to be able to take an unpaid summer internship with the State Department and to take full advantage of my summer in Washington. I am honored to be a 2012 Les Aspin International Affairs Fellow and deeply grateful for the assistance the fellowship provided me over the summer. I very much look forward to keeping in touch with the Les Aspin Fellowship community.

NOAH SHEINBAUM ’13

With the help of the Class of 1960 Les Aspin Fellowship, I was fortunate enough to undertake a summer of learning and reflection in Washington D.C. I spent ten weeks interning at the U.S. Department of State, working in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs in the Office of Plans, Policy and Analysis. My specific assignment was with the Afghanistan and Pakistan Security Assistance Team, which manages military support programs for arguably the most volatile region in the world today. In my time at State, I was able to get an inside look at the inner working of a vast bureaucracy, and came away with an acute appreciate for the individuals and processes that make America’s foreign policy execution apparatus tick.

One of the most startling realizations was the degree to which bureaucracy, despite often times being viewed as a “dirty word” in academia, can be an effective (if a bit slow) method of executing foreign policy. In my role on the Af/Pak Security Assistance Team, I often helped obtained interdepartmental coordination and concurrence on funding decisions. Thus, every time the Department of Defense wanted to allocate
funding for a new purpose in Afghanistan, or the Pakistani government requested a new piece of equipment or technology, my office got the first look at the request, to determine whether or not it was in line with American interests in the region. Once we were satisfied, we would circulate the request around other offices that had equities in the transaction; for example, the India desk and South Central Asian bureau, the Counter-terrorism Bureau, and the Bureau of Democracy, Rights, and Labor. Each of these bureaus would have the opportunity to raise their own concerns or questions, and examine the proposal in light of their own unique equities. While the process can be frustrating and time consuming, ultimately the structure is designed so that nothing slips through the cracks, as each bureau is looking out for its own interests (which, when amalgamated, represent the whole U.S. interest). By and large, it was reassuring to see that this process works.

What’s more, my office’s close relationship with the Office of the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan meant that I was able to gain exposure to work being done on issues of far-reaching import. One of the biggest dramas of the summer was the unfolding of the negotiations between the United States and Pakistan that led to the re-opening of the crucial NATO supply lines from Pakistan to Afghanistan. I was excited by the fast-paced, tense atmosphere that I encountered as the developments unfolded, and it was truly a privilege to watch some of the most capable, experienced diplomats in the Department discuss strategies, tactics, and deliver guidance to the U.S. embassies abroad. Getting to coordinate a briefing for all major NATO and ISAF allies to explain the resolution of the dispute and terms of agreement with Pakistan was a clear high point of my summer, and an opportunity for me to see both sides of the diplomatic coin (that is, negotiating with our adversaries, and maneuvering even with our allies).

Another highlight of my summer was having the opportunity to attend a conference held by the State Department’s Bureau of Intelligence and Research that focused on the state of Pakistan and its civilian-military relations. At this full day event, I had the opportunity to meet a number
of academic experts in the field, in addition to the State Department practitioners. This event especially furthered my own intellectual curiosity in the region. I wrote a senior thesis for my second major (Ethics, Politics & Economics) that focuses on the Pakistani military and the factors driving the current leadership to resist retaking power from a civilian government that is widely viewed as corrupt and inept. I anticipate that there may be some significant lessons to be drawn from Pakistan’s experience for countries emerging from military dictatorship, such as Burma.

In addition to the regional-specific exposure and knowledge I attained, the unique character of my assignment allowed me to interact with a fascinating range of individuals all of whom contributed to my understanding of government, international affairs, and potential future career opportunities. I was able to meet with individuals working on countries and topics of great interest, such as Burma, Iran and nuclear nonproliferation, and public diplomacy. Furthermore, seeing as my office was in a functional bureau that worked closely with the military, I was able to learn a bit about the military’s take on international relations and the inter-agency process. My office included a Marines representative from the Office of the Defense Representative – Pakistan, as well as a Lieutenant Colonel who is a Foreign Area Officer in the United States Army. These individuals were always willing to talk to me about their own personal experiences (one particularly memorable story was of the Lt. Colonel’s time at Army Ranger school) and share a military perspective on the State Department culture and processes. On the flip side, my supervisor was a former Peace Corps volunteer, and he explained a lot about the program, its mission, and detailed his years with the Corps. These opinions helped me contextualize the experience, and gave me a better understanding of the many potential different working environments available even in the same government, working on the same topical areas and regions. It is clear that the Foreign Service is just one way to have real influence and interact meaningfully with international relations issues.
Beyond work, this fellowship and my internship gave me the chance to spend a summer in Washington D.C., a place that I quickly fell in love with. Regardless of my final career path, I know that Washington is a place I want to be. The capital city offers limitless opportunities to engage with government, the private sector, and nonprofits, all in close proximity to the policymakers and leaders who make the decisions that drive our nation, and I believe the kinetic nature of the city would make it a great place for a college graduate who knows he is interested in public policy and international relations, but unsure of exactly the way to go about engaging with that space.

In conclusion, I am incredibly grateful to the Les Aspin Fellowship committee and the Class of 1960 for making this all possible. The financial assistance allowed me to live in D.C. while pursuing this unpaid opportunity, and to experience all that the city has to offer. The dinner at Mr. Schmitz’ house was also a highlight, and gaining the perspectives of the committee members themselves was extremely valuable for me as I consider what the future may hold. I know that my experiences largely define how I view my future, and so I thank you again for allowing me to participate, and for facilitating such an enormously positive experience.

DENNIS WANG ’14

I was involved in an eight-week research project on the effects of environmental factors on human health in Jinchuan, Gansu Province, China. Professor Tongzhang Zheng, the chair of the division of Environmental Health Sciences, offered me the opportunity to work on the data management and analysis in a cohort of 50,000 nickel workers in Gansu, one of the poorest and least densely populated provinces in China, and rated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2011 as the province with the worst air pollution.

The project involved 50,000 nickel workers from the Jinchuan Group, the largest producer of nickel in China. Every two years, they are offered an examination including blood tests, biochemical tests, a physical, sample collection, and an epidemiological survey. I worked with graduate students from Lanzhou University on the epidemiological
interviews, as well as the first round of analysis using SAS (statistical software) in preparation for grant proposals and possibly publications.

In terms of data collection, in addition to being part of a team that did epidemiological surveys for about 100 people (three hours) every morning, I was part of the group that did surveys on people at high risk for cancer. They were also given a second physical examination and more testing. I really appreciated the time I spent with the group, because I had more time with each individual worker (I think they appreciated that; doctors in China can be impatient and impersonal), and because I think it gave me a better sense of the medical profession. It was interesting to see the decision-making that led patients to accept or to decline the free testing, because they didn’t understand the benefits of early diagnosis, because they were scared of the pain associated with an endoscopy or a colonoscopy, or because they would rather not know. From a public health perspective and from talking to the workers and connecting with them, I wanted those who were chosen for free testing to agree to the testing, but in the end we could only do our best to consent the workers, and leave the final decision to them.

There is still a lot I want to see (the poppy plants, the nickel mines, and the plants where the workers work), and a lot I want to do (learn Chinese, start more research, start a volunteer program for students in the hospital). Luckily, Dr. Bai and Professor Zheng both agreed to support a Fulbright application for me to spend a year here before my MPH 5th year to learn more about China and about public health, and also help me to make my decision about going to medical school. Time flies, but I hope to have the opportunity to return to Jinchuan (for a longer time) to continue the research and my personal development there.

I really believe that it was a priceless opportunity to get my foot in the door in public health in China, and in global health. I can’t say enough how much I appreciate the opportunities made possible by the Les Aspin Fellowship. I have always appreciated the support of Yale’s financial resources, but I never could have imagined that my summer project in public health would be funded by the Les Aspin Fellowship and another
Fellowship in Environmental Studies. I will continue to share my positive experiences and love for public health with other students, and I know that I will not be the last Yale student to work with Lanzhou University in Jinchuan.

EDWARD WITTENSTEIN ’04

The city of Stepnogorsk in northern Kazakhstan is not located on any map, nor is it mentioned on the Russian road signs dotting the Central Asian steppe. It is the largest biological weapons facility ever created, once capable of producing enough antibiotic-resistant anthrax to annihilate the entire population of the United States.

I surveyed the Stepnogorsk complex in the summer of 2003 as a Les Aspin ’60 Fellow. Stepnogorsk’s poorly guarded manufacturing infrastructure and hundreds of missing scientists pose a grave threat to our current prosperity and future existence, as do many other similar sites in Kazakhstan. In touring the facility, sweating inside my biological protective gear, I confronted my greatest fear: that the technological advancements our society cherishes most can also destroy us.

My independent research project in Kazakhstan that summer, under the auspices of the Monterey Institute’s Center for Nonproliferation Studies, could not have been possible without the Les Aspin Fellowship. The exposure to Central Asian cultures and first-hand experience with weapons proliferation issues equipped me with invaluable skills that could not be gleaned from lectures and books. My research in Kazakhstan was a truly transformative experience that compelled me to pursue a career in national security and foreign policy.

Upon graduating from Yale College in 2004, I became an intelligence policy analyst on the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). This bipartisan presidential commission is charged with examining the Iraq WMD intelligence failures in the run-up to the war, as well as the intelligence community’s ability to identify and respond to other WMD threats. The knowledge I gained as a Les Aspin Fellow the prior
summer was instrumental in helping me get this job and excel at the commission. Since then I have pursued a series of jobs in the intelligence community and at the State Department. I currently am back in New Haven attending Yale Law School and working as an assistant to Yale President Richard Levin.

I am extraordinarily grateful to the Les Aspin Fellowship for providing me the resources necessary to undertake this outstanding and unforgettable experience abroad.
Members of the Fellowship Candidate Selection Committee and Aspinites still at Yale. Front row from left: Nataliya Langburt (Recipient ’12), Harry Mazadoorian (Member ’60), Charles Schmitz (Chairman ’60), Douglas Guiler (Member ’60), Owen Cykle (Member ’60), Erin Schutte (Recipient ’11/Editor). Back row from left: Daniel First (Recipient ’13), Fritz Steele (Member ’60), Gary Eisenburg (Member ’86), Jim Troubridge (Member ’60), Josh Rubin (Recipient ’13). Photo taken March 2014.

Aspin Laureate get together.
The Les Aspin ’60 Fellowship Alumni Network Newsletters online at http://alumninet.yale.edu/classes yc1960/projects.html

The Les Aspin ’60 Fellowship Alumni Network Newsletter
Fall 2014 || Volume 2, Issue 1

A Note from an Aspin Committee Member

Les Aspin ’60 Fellowship Alumni Network Newsletter
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A Note from the Chairman

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Note from the Aspin Committee Member

CLASS OF 1960 FELLOWSHIPS 61
### X. The Branford College Class of 1960 Fellowship Recipients

(1990–2015 by Year of Award)

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<td>1994</td>
<td>Benjamin Binder ’95</td>
<td>Michele Cordray ’95</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Sarah Kelly ’95</td>
<td>Thomas Murphy ’96</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>James Chyz ’00</td>
<td>Jada Yuan ’00</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Sabrina Baronberg ’01</td>
<td>Maceo Montoya ’02</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Jennifer Christenson ’03</td>
<td>Jason Andrews ’02 10</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Silas Meridith ’04</td>
<td>Rachel Berger ’03</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Nancy Huynh ’04</td>
<td>David Wei ’04</td>
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<td>Thomas Crowley ’07</td>
<td>Kristina Jones ’05</td>
<td>Adina Lopatin ’05</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Laura Warren ’06</td>
<td>Santiago Suarez ’07</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Katherine Rostkowski ’07</td>
<td>Rachelle Orozco ’07</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Agnieszka Rec ’08</td>
<td>Susannah Kemple ’08</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Yingrui Wang ’10</td>
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The Class of 1960 John Heinz Government Service Fellowship Recipients

(1993-2015, by Year of Award)

1993 Sarah Harrington ’94
    John Fabian Witt ’94
1994 Molly Oshatz ’95
    Garth Harries ’95
    John Kim ’95
1995 Vanita Gupta ’96
    Thomas Perriello ’96
    Lara Stabinski ’97
1996 Sari Bashi ’97
    Winston Chan ’97
    Sherrie Selwyn ’98
1997 Maria Siedman ’99
    Jonathan Rye ’98
1998 Rebecca Pace ’00
    Saema Somalya ’99
1999 Bailey Hand ’00
    Mishaela Duran ’00
2000 Penny Herscovitch ’03
    Peter Johnson ’02
    Alexander Liebman ’01
    Sara Greene ’02
2001 Megan Forelle ’02
    Francis Brown ’03
    Irene Gutierrez ’02
2002 Megan Dean ’03
    Adam Fee ’03
    Christopher Michel ’03
    Emily Katkar ’03
2003 Rebecca Hunter ’04
    Jonah Schulhofer-Wohl ’04
2004 Brian Goldman ’05
    Noah Heymann ’06
    Dawn Lippert ’06
2005 Usha Chilukuri ’07
    Alissa Stollwerk ’06
2006 Bryce Kaufman ’07
    Jonathan Menitove ’07
    Yassmin Sadeghi ’07
2007 Jessica Bialecki ’08
    David DeCarlo ’08
    Ekise Pfeiffer ’08
2008 Catharine Axley ’10
    Carl Kubler ’10
    John Vrolyk ’10
2009 Anna Smith ’10
    Amila Golic ’10
2010 Rhiannon Bronstein ’11
    Rose Malloy ’12
    Sam Miles ’11
    Reid Magdaniz ’12
2011 Erin Biel ’13
    Benjamin Daus-Haberle ’12
    Katie Carmody ’12
    Noah Bokat-Lindell ’12
    Jeania Ree Moore ’12
2012 Natalia Emanuel ’13
    Joshua Revesz ’13
    Bridget Hatton ’13
    Rory Marsh ’13
2013  Michelle Bayefsky ’14
     Marios Falaris ’14
     Clare Kane ’14
     Katharine Konietzko ’14
     Melia Ungson ’14
     Emma Akrawi ’14
2014  Rahul Singh ’15
     Joshua Feinzig ’16
     Emily Harris ’15
     Joyce Xi ’15
     Jessica Garland ’15
2015  Amy Chang ’16
     Ellie Dupler-McClintock ’16
     Emmet Hedin ’17
     Mason Ji ’16
The Les Aspin ’60 International Public Service Fellowship Recipients

(1999-2015, by Year of Award)

1999  Seth Bown ’00
2000  Swaroop Samant ’02
        Joanne Sum-Ping ’01
2001  Patrick Gaughen ’02
        Ruma Rajbhandari ’02
        Swaroop Samant ’02
        Prateek Tandon ’03
2002  Yeri Kim ’03
        Katherine Ling ’03
        Lauren Gold ’03
2003  Vibhuti Jain ’04
        Robert Lalka ’05
        Edward Wittenstein ’04
2004  Tiffany Clay ’06
        Matthew Harsha-Strong ’06
        Pascal Noel ’06
2005  Alexander Dadok ’06
        Whitney Haring-Smith ’07
        Jacob Leibenluft ’06
        Daniel Weisfield ’07
2006  Avi Feller ’06
        Danielle Gilbert ’08
        Jonathan Menitove ’07
2007  Samantha Amodeo ’08
        Sean Jackowitz ’07
        David Kasten ’09
        James McSpadden ’08
2008  Catherine Cheney ’10
        Katharine Kendrick ’09
        Haley Nix ’09
        Aniket Shah ’09
        Mary Swartz ’10
        George Bodgen ’11
        Cristina Costantini ’11
        Dina Grossman ’10
        Levent Tuzun ’11
        Andrew Kurzrok ’11
        Mari Oye ’11
        Jeffrey Kaiser ’12
        Shahla Naimi ’12
        Erin Schutte ’12
        Allison Hugi ’13
        Nataliya Langburd ’14
        Vinicius Lindosa ’13
        Daniel Pitcairn ’13
        Noah Sheinbaum ’13
        Daniel First ’14
        Josh Rubin ’14
        Dennis Wang ’14
        Allison Mandeville ’15
        Lindsay Pearlman ’15
        Talya Lockman-Fine ’15
        Aaron Berman ’16
        Andrew Grass ’16
        Zoe Rubin ’16
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