

In the field

Rigorous classroom training is only half the equation. The relevant application of skills is equally important. Students put their critical thinking skills to work in the real world through a variety of programs and opportunities the Harris School offers.



“Through the interns’ work, we have strengthened our research capabilities and developed relevant educational and training resources to be used by YMCAs across the country and around the world, with more than 120 YMCAs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, and North America.”

SELMA ZAIDI
DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL GROUP
YMCA OF THE USA

Practical experience

Hands-on experience is a critical element of training at the Harris School. Internships, practica, and the mentor program provide multiple opportunities to practice policy principles in the real world.

Internships are agency-supervised projects conducted over the summer. Students apply either directly to the organization or through the Harris School to be part of a team organized for a client agency. Students may earn a stipend.

Practica are faculty-supervised team projects completed for a client organization during the school year. Students are selected through a competitive application process and earn course credit.

Mentor program, the only one of its kind at a major public policy school, matches eligible Harris School students one-on-one with top policy practitioners from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

DANA AGMON MCCARRICK, MPP'07 ON HER WAY
TO A SUMMER INTERNSHIP IN NEW YORK CITY



Internships

Internships offer opportunities to put analytical tools to work during the summer in a variety of organizational settings, both domestic and international.

Group internships created by the Harris School in affiliation with a range of sponsoring organizations offer the opportunity to tackle a specific project. Individual internships provide the flexibility to pursue a particular agency or setting of interest.

INTERNS MARY ANN DYAR, MPP'05 AND TOM MCKONE, MPP'05 WITH SHOREBANK CORPORATION VICE PRESIDENT TODD BROWN

Internships in the United States

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|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Central Intelligence Agency | Government Accountability Office | State Farm Insurance |
| Chicago Community Trust | Great Lakes and St. Lawrence | Trust for America's Health |
| Chicago Rehab Network | Cities Initiative | Urban Institute |
| City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management & Communications | Illinois Department of Public Aid | Voices for Illinois Children |
| Congressional Budget Office | Lehman Brothers | YMCA of the USA |
| Educational Pioneers | LMI | |
| Federal Reserve Bank | Shorebank Corporation | |
| | Standard & Poor's | |

Internships around the world

Internships in a variety of subject areas are also available to students interested in international issues. Harris School students have recently completed internships with:

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| Instituto Criança é Vida (ICV), São Paulo, Brazil | King Abdullah II Center for Excellence (KACE), Amman, Jordan | Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE), Mexico City, Mexico |
| Instituto Federal de Acceso a la Información Pública (IFAI), Mexico City, Mexico | Ministero de Educación, Santiago, Chile | Subsecretaría de Desarrollo Social y Humano (SEDESOL), Mexico City, Mexico |
| Instituto Nacional de Ecología (INE), Mexico City, Mexico | Ministero de Hacienda, Comisión Especial Mixta de Presupuestos, Santiago, Chile | United Nations Development Programme |
| Jordan Investment Board, Amman, Jordan | | The World Bank |

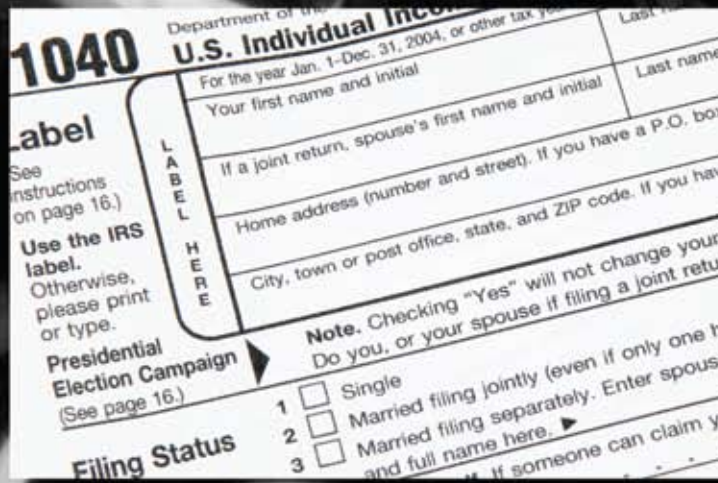


Jordan Investment Board

Students from the Harris School worked closely with consultants to the Jordan Investment Board (JIB), an independent government agency charged with strengthening jobs, exports, and foreign investment in Jordan. Project work included rebranding the JIB, developing an "investment map," and creating a plan for investment intelligence and promotion.

Practica

Recent practica have partnered qualified Harris School students with various agencies and organizations during the academic year, giving students a firsthand opportunity to apply their policy skills to help address complex problems.



Practica have included projects with:

CeaseFire Chicago
Chicago Rehab Network
Cook County Assessor's Office
Friends of the Park

Greater Chicago Food Depository
Illinois Action for Children
Illinois Department of Healthcare
Illinois Department of Revenue and Family Services

Superintendent of Schools for Wilmette Schools

Affordable housing: how do cities rate?

Students recently scrutinized the details of affordable housing in a practicum with the Chicago Rehab Network, an organization working to improve safe and affordable housing in Chicago and Illinois. They looked at three characteristics—the city's financial commitment, specific affordable housing set-asides, and

the range of programs used and/or populations targeted for housing initiatives—and they compared them across five different U.S. cities. The ten-week program forced the students to immerse themselves, analyze city budgets that may not be consistent, and produce results that are conclusive

and defensible—skills they will need for their professional careers. The result: a document that, in this case, helped the Chicago Rehab Network understand its own strengths and weaknesses and create a framework for remaining at the forefront of affordable housing.

Revamping the tax code

The tax code was the target for a student practicum with the Illinois Department of Revenue. During the ten-week project, students were asked to compare the business tax expenditures of Illinois with those of

surrounding and comparable states. The students' final report recommended five specific steps the state should consider if it is to retain its position as an economic development leader, including:

reinstating certain tax expenditures, monitoring the repeal of an R&D credit, and adding performance agreements or clawback clauses to existing tax expenditures.

Mentor program

Harris School mentors are leaders in their fields. From CEOs to foundation directors to top government officials, more than 100 practicing policy professionals are affiliated with the Harris School as mentors, sharing with students their time and their experience. Many of these mentoring matches evolve into lasting professional relationships. Current mentors are:



MARSHALL M. BOUTON
PRESIDENT
THE CHICAGO COUNCIL
ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS



FRANCES GROSSMAN
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
SHOREBANK CORPORATION



MARYSUE BARRETT
PRESIDENT
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL



KEVIN CONLON
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
CONLON PUBLIC STRATEGIES



CAROLINE P. CRACRAFT
FORMER VICE CONSUL, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL, CHICAGO



PHYLLIS LOCKETT
PRESIDENT & CEO
RENAISSANCE SCHOOLS FUND



HOWARD LEARNER
PRESIDENT
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
& POLICY CENTER



DANIEL E. LEVIN
CHAIRMAN
THE HABITAT COMPANY



DAN SULLIVAN
VICE PRESIDENT
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CHICAGO



LINDA DIAMOND SHAPIRO
VICE PRESIDENT FOR PLANNING,
STRATEGY & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
ACCESS COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK



MARIA WHELAN
PRESIDENT & CEO
ILLINOIS ACTION FOR CHILDREN



JOHN W. MCCARTER, JR.
PRESIDENT & CEO
THE FIELD MUSEUM



JOHN WILLIS
MANAGING PARTNER
WILLIS STEIN & PARTNERS



JAMES STIRLING
CHAIRMAN
MIDWEST INVESTMENT BANK
ADVISORY BOARD



SELMA ZAIDI
DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL GROUP
YMCA OF THE USA

Student-led organizations

Student-led organizations based in the Harris School and throughout the University of Chicago campus provide additional opportunities to develop and refine leadership, project management, and teamwork skills while putting policy principles into practice.

For example, the *Chicago Policy Review*, a recognized and respected forum for current public policy debate, is published annually by Harris School students, establishing a clear connection between theory and practice. Numerous other special interest policy groups—Chicago Environmental Policy Group, Women in Public Policy, the Committee on International Affairs and Public Policy, and the Education Policy Interest Coalition, to name a few—offer students additional leadership opportunities and the chance to further develop an individual area of interest. And each year, students organize the annual Irving B. Harris Memorial Book Drive to collect hundreds of children’s books for donation to low-income educational centers in the city.

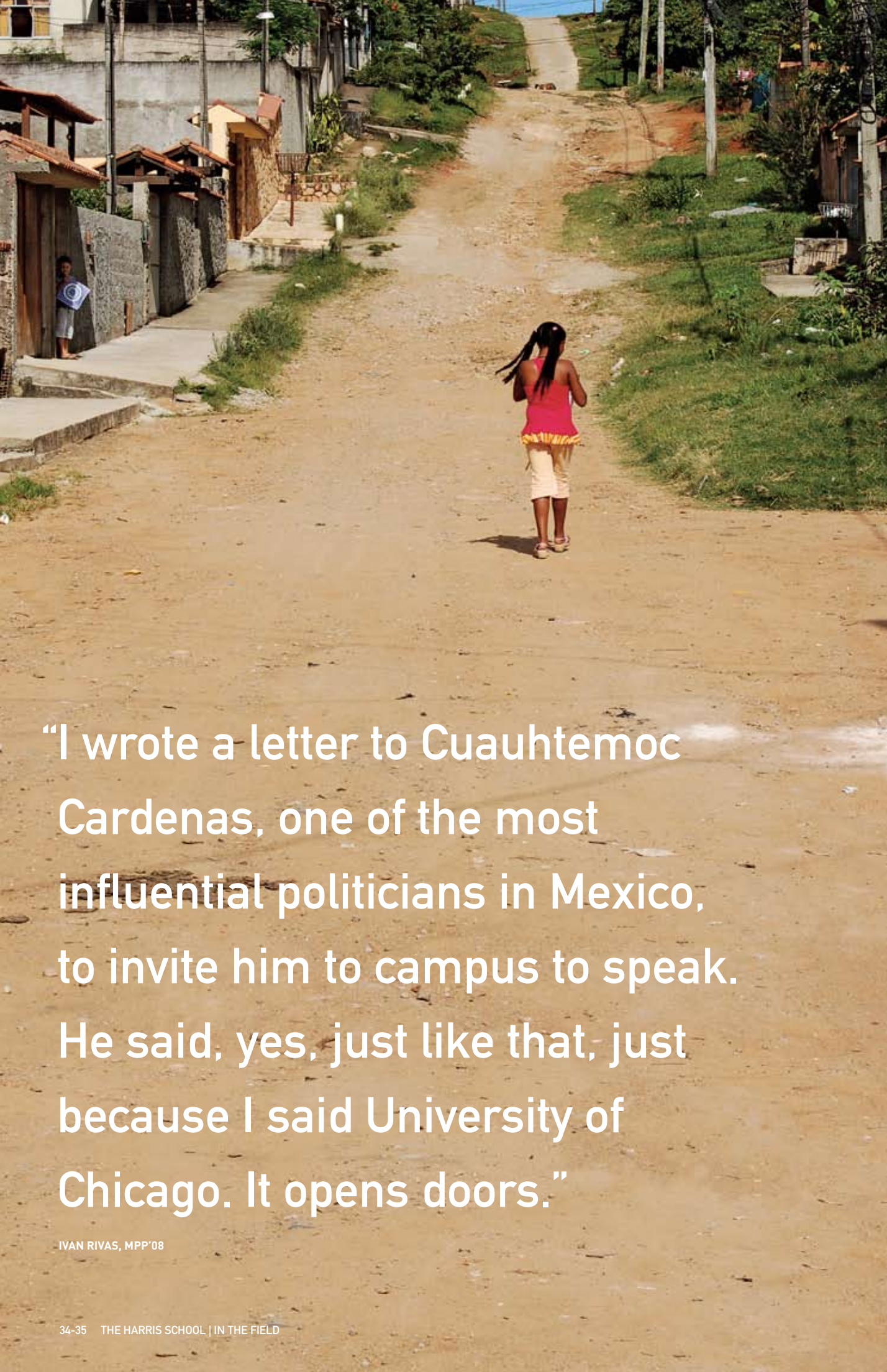
The University-at-large has many more student organizations—nearly 500—offering Harris School students a wide range of activity, from the serious—such as Amnesty International, Graduate Council, and the Model United Nations—to the not-so-serious, including the Rockebellers carillon group, the Scrabble Club, and the Chicago Swing Dance Society.

Public Policy Students Association

Dubbed “The Social Event of the Harris Year,” the annual PPSA (Public Policy Students Association) public service auction is a must-attend event. Proceeds from the gala fundraiser help support Harris School students who receive unpaid, public service summer internships between their first and second years. Recent fellows have:

- Participated in the United Nations Development Program in the Maldives, one of the areas hardest hit by the tsunami in the Indian Ocean

- Worked with children and families in New Orleans to provide therapy and counsel to victims of Hurricane Katrina
- Worked with the Center for Democratic Development in Ghana as part of its “Ghana at 50” project
- Developed a two-year fundraising strategy for Operation ASHA, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing healthcare in the slums of New Delhi, India



“I wrote a letter to Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, one of the most influential politicians in Mexico, to invite him to campus to speak. He said, yes, just like that, just because I said University of Chicago. It opens doors.”

IVAN RIVAS, MPP'08



Latin America(n) Matters

With student members from Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Chile, Peru, and the United States, LAM has an international perspective on economic, social, and political issues. Students in this active organization have developed and hosted major presentations and informal talks on topics ranging from justice and

security to state governance, human rights, privatization, and rural credit for agriculture, including:

- Financiera Rural: Making Rural Credit in Mexico Viable
- Privatization in Latin America: Fixing What Went Wrong
- Civil War and Democratic Governance in Colombia

- An Overview of Public Policies on Crime and Security in Latin America
- State of the Human Rights Situation in Latin America
- State, Democracy, and Culture in Latin America: An Overview of Political Culture in Latin America