

Class of 2022

Eagleton Fellows

Rutgers University – New Brunswick

Wood Lawn, Douglass Campus
New Brunswick, NJ
eagleton.rutgers.edu

Eagleton Graduate Fellowship Program in Politics and Government

The Eagleton Graduate Fellowship Program, a core education program of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University—New Brunswick, was one of the first activities undertaken by the Institute after it was established in 1956 with a bequest from Florence Peshine Eagleton. The program offers select Rutgers graduate students the opportunity to further their understanding of government, public affairs, and the practice of politics, and connect the fellowship experience to their chosen fields of study.

Over the years, the Fellowship Program has developed and changed, but its vision, mission and values have remained constant. Between 1957 and 1994, the program was conducted in partnership with the Department of Political Science in New Brunswick, and graduates earned an master's degree in political science. From 1995 to 2000 the program was administered in collaboration with the Department of Public Policy at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, where graduates earned an master's of science degree in public policy. Since the fall of 2000, the Eagleton Fellowship Program has been interdisciplinary, open to all Rutgers graduate students interested in politics and government. Recent Fellows have come from the New Brunswick, Camden and Newark campus locations, representing more than 45 departments in the social sciences, humanities and natural sciences and nineteen different graduate and professional schools that reflect a wide variety of interests and perspectives.

Eagleton Fellows work toward their graduate degrees without interruption; the one-year fellowships are designed to complement academic study. Throughout the year, Eagleton gives students access to practitioners in state and national politics and government who serve to bridge the gap between the academic training of a graduate student and the everyday challenges of a life in politics and public affairs. All Fellows take a unique seminar classes in the fall that provides a foundation of knowledge in politics, policy, and government in preparation for a spring placement. Fellows participate in advanced internships in the New Jersey Legislature, Office of the Governor, state executive agencies or departments, and government offices at the local, county, state, regional, and federal levels.

Over 1,100 alumni have graduated from the program since the first class in 1958. Many choose careers in public service, while others apply their sophisticated knowledge of politics and government as leaders, advocates and change agents through public, corporate and non-profit sectors in a wide variety of fields in New Jersey, New York, Washington D.C. and across the country.

Twenty-eight fellowships were granted this year through four related awards: Harold and Reba Martin, Henry J. Raimondo Legislative, Governor's Executive, and Eagleton Alumni. More information on the program can be found at eagleton.rutgers.edu/grad-fellowships

THE CLASS OF 2022 EAGLETON FELLOWS

JADA ABDULLAH



A proud resident of Franklin Township in Central Jersey, Jada Abdullah is a first-year student, pursuing her master's degree in political science focusing on United Nations and global policy studies. She is also a recent graduate of Rutgers- New Brunswick, where she graduated magna cum laude with degrees in political science and history and was an Eagleton Undergraduate Associate. Prior to graduating, Jada interned with Assemblyman Joe Danielson, Betsy Sweet in the Democratic Primary for U.S Senate in Maine, and Mercury Public Affairs, an international political strategy firm. Jada is co-founder of a youth empowerment program, The Success Forum Experience, and she also serves as a youth liaison for the Somerset County Democratic Committee Black Caucus Youth Development

Program, whose mission is to facilitate student participation in the political process. Jada's future plans include becoming a public servant and advocating in the areas of health care and human rights.

RYAN BRINKERHOFF



Ryan Brinkerhoff is a third-year student at Rutgers Law School – Newark. Ryan joined the law school following several years of public service. While earning his bachelor's degree in public policy from Syracuse University in 2016, he co-founded a non-profit that provided vocational training as a means of relief and reconstruction for disaster-stricken communities in Nepal and Haiti. After three years on the project, he returned home to work with special education students at the same middle school that he attended growing up in New Jersey. Now an active member of the Rutgers Law community, Ryan has hosted numerous events to raise funds for student scholarships as the vice-chair of the Public Interest Law Students Association and spent two years conducting research as part of the Civil Justice

Clinic's Anti-Eviction Project. He has also spent the past two summers working on issues from civil rights and discrimination to data privacy at the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General. In his spare time, Ryan volunteers as an election worker and sits on the Board of Points for Patriots, a non-profit that bridges the military-civilian divide through a veteran-youth mentorship program, among other community groups and projects.

GARIN BULGER

Garin Bulger is a second-year master's of public policy candidate with a concentration in international relations at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. He graduated in 2010 from Ithaca College with a bachelor's degree in integrated marketing communications and a minor in political science. Following his graduation from Ithaca, Garin worked as a product designer, leading product teams across the



world in implementing complex technical projects. In 2020, Garin’s interest in public service influenced his decision to pursue an alternate career. Since beginning his graduate studies, he has interned in the policy office of New Jersey Senator Vin Gopal and Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman. He also interned on a technology project with the Bipartisan Policy Center, a center-left think tank in Washington D.C., writing about broadband deployment and the intersection of technology and antitrust. He currently lives in Atlantic Highlands, Monmouth County, but was born and raised in New Hampshire. Upon graduating, Garin hopes to use his policy skills to assist those who need it most at the state, federal, and international levels.

SHANNON COHALL



Shannon K. Cohall is currently a third year student at Rutgers Law School - Newark. Cohall is a research fellow for The Inclusion Project and an advanced clinical student in the Rutgers Community and Transactional Lawyering Clinic. She recently concluded her summer internship at Day Pitney LLP focusing on health law issues. In 2020-2021, Shannon was a research fellow for the Center for Law, Inequality, and Metropolitan Equity and president for the Association of Black Law Students at Rutgers Law School. Shannon is a proud member of the Rutgers Minority Student Program. Currently she is the northeast director of programming and events for the National Black Law Student Association. Prior to law school, she received her master’s degree in public health from Washington

University in St. Louis in 2019, where she studied the intersection of urban design, public policy and health equity. Shannon completed her undergraduate studies at Cornell University in 2014, with a double major in public health and Africana studies. She was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York and now resides in New Jersey. Shannon plans to merge her passions of public health, the law, and public policy as a health law attorney. In the future, she would like to become a congresswoman to best serve and advocate for her community with a deep knowledge and understanding of the law and health care. When she is not studying or conducting research, you can find her at a brunch spot in Newark or Brooklyn!

ALISON FETTEN



Alison Fetten is currently pursuing a master’s of public affairs and politics degree at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers -New Brunswick. She received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of South Carolina as an English major with an Italian minor. Her love for travel led to studies abroad and in the U.S., where she enjoyed the opportunity to live in several regions of the country. She began her career in medical publishing and eventually partnered with her colleagues at 3M to create an advertising agency. As project manager, she developed long term client relationships through management of marketing initiatives for leading brands in various divisions of 3M, including 3M Health Care,

3M Commercial Solutions, and 3M Personal Safety. Alison discovered her deep passion for government and public service in 2018 when she was elected to Municipal Borough Council. She is currently completing her term in office where she was appointed to Chairperson of the Finance Committee as well as Chairperson to Police and Public Safety. Her primary focus in elected office has been to reform and promote policies that increase government transparency and public engagement. The experience to lead during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic combined with large-scale political and racial upheaval in the country have further instilled her drive to improve government policies. Alison is honored to be the recipient of the Henry J. Raimondo Legislative Fellowship and looks forward to utilizing her municipal experience in the state legislature.

CHELSEA FRANCOMARTIN



Chelsea FrancoMartin is a second-year graduate student at the Rutgers Camden Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, pursuing a master of public administration degree with a concentration in community development. She completed her bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice with a minor in political science at Temple University after attending Mercer County Community College working toward an associate of science in criminal justice degree. During her time as an undergraduate student, Chelsea worked as a page at the Trenton Free Public Library, volunteered with the Petey Green Program as a peer tutor, and participated in the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. During that time, Chelsea served as an intern for the Defender Association of Philadelphia’s Adult Social Service

Unit and Special Defense/Homicide Unit. She began her professional career as a legal assistant in the Major Trial Unit at the Association and continued her affiliation as a case manager from 2018 to 2021 with Turning Points for Children. She is currently a community scholar with the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey where she is working on piloting a project collaboration with public libraries across the state. Chelsea is a Trenton resident, proud Latina, and daughter of an immigrant. Her passion lies in the field of social justice and policy writing to create positive change for underserved minority and immigrant communities. She hopes to create a non-profit organization that will directly serve and provide significant change and opportunities for these communities. As the daughter of an immigrant who did not have the opportunity to complete law school, pursuing a legal degree is a definitive goal.

TRISTAN GIBSON



Tristan Gibson is entering his second year at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers—New Brunswick where he seeks to obtain his master’s of public policy degree, concentrating on the intersection of healthcare and community development. He is also a member of the Bloustein Social Justice Committee. Tristan holds a bachelor’s of science degree in public health and communication studies from the College of New Jersey where he was a member of the Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Studies Honors Society. He is currently interning at the Reinvestment Fund as a part of the Building Healthier, More Equitable Communities initiative. The initiative seeks to advance change to systems

and policies to improve health and well-being as well as advance community-driven development in Asbury Park, Camden, Newark, and Paterson. Tristan’s journey into community development began because of his experience as a community scholar with the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey. Prior to attending Rutgers University, Tristan spent two years at the New Jersey Primary Care Association. He assisted the policy team advocate for policies and programs with state and federal officials on behalf of New Jersey’s Federally Qualified Health Centers. Upon completion of the master of public policy program, Tristan seeks to use his knowledge to create sustainable and meaningful solutions that ensure all populations have access to high-quality, equitable healthcare and the ability to live in affordable, vibrant neighborhoods.

KAYLA GREENAWALT



Kayla Greenawalt is a third-year juris doctor candidate at Rutgers Law School–Camden. Prior to law school, Kayla attended the University of Maine where she was a double degree student studying environmental science and business management. While at the University of Maine, she threw javelin for the school’s NCAA Division I track and field team and studied sediment records from the Falkland Islands through the University of Maine Climate Change Institute. Her research was presented at multiple undergraduate symposia and is published in *Science Advances*. Her activities at Rutgers include Environmental Law Society President (2020–2021) and 3L Representative (2021–Present), executive editor for the Rutgers University Law Review, and representative to the Rutgers’ Climate Task Force Student Advisory Board. She previously interned for Judge William E. Baldwin of the Schuylkill County Court of Common Pleas and served as a research assistant to Rutgers Professors Daniel Van Abs and Cymie Payne. Outside of law school, she is a volunteer assistant coach to the North Schuylkill High School Girls’ Soccer Team in Ashland, Pennsylvania and enjoys hiking. She hopes to combine her passions of environmental advocacy and social justice by serving the New Jersey communities most impacted by climate change after completing her degree at Rutgers. She looks forward to joining the Office of Legislative Services in the spring as a Henry J. Raimondo Legislative Award recipient.

KERMINA HANNA



Kermina Hanna is currently completing her final year in the Bloustein School’s 3-1-1 accelerated bachelor of science/master of public policy program, with a graduate concentration on the intersection between education, economics, and labor. In May 2021, she completed the undergraduate portion of her degree, graduating magna cum laude and as an Honors College Scholar. Kermina, an Egyptian immigrant and resident of Jersey City since the age of 7, is the first in her family to attend college. At the age of 12, Kermina, inspired by her observations of poverty’s effect on her school, began developing a passion for understanding the nuances of the education system and its interdisciplinary nature, aspiring to one day contribute to its improvement. Now, at the age of 22, she is beginning to live this dream, working as a management and program intern analyst with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department

of Education. In the future, she hopes to be appointed as the U.S. Secretary of Education to advocate for teachers, students, and parents where's she is eager to closely collaborate with all education stakeholders to develop more proactive, targeted, and adaptable policy solutions. Her previous professional experiences include internships with several state and federal offices, such as the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, the New York State Assembly, and the U.S. Government Accountability Office. She has also worked with nonprofits in New Jersey and New York that address holistic growth of children and youth, such as the Boys & Girls Club of Hudson County, North Hudson Community Action Corporation, and All Star Code.

ANDREW HERRERA



Andrew Herrera is a second-year graduate student pursuing a master's degree in city and regional planning with a concentration in environmental planning at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers—New Brunswick. His studies focus on how land use, transportation, and other systems can make communities healthier, more sustainable, and more resilient to climate change. Andrew became interested in environmental planning during his undergraduate education at Ramapo College, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in environmental studies. He studied concepts related to sustainability, as well as the effects of urban sprawl on politics, poverty, and the environment through coursework and an independent research project. At Ramapo, Andrew also volunteered with the college environmental club, and initiated conversations with the college's board of trustees to consider divesting the endowment fund from fossil fuels. After graduating, Andrew worked as a substitute teacher and an associate at a consulting firm that supported national nonprofit organizations. While at the Bloustein School, Andrew has worked as a research assistant for the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center, supporting the center's project to update Together North Jersey, northern New Jersey's regional master plan, and initiatives helping a community plan how to recover its economy after the coronavirus pandemic. He was also a summer intern at the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, where he assisted with the implementation of a new program incenting brownfield redevelopment. After graduating, Andrew hopes to work in a role where he can promote changes that reduce communities' carbon footprints, especially through policies that achieve other health benefits, such as conserving land and improving people's ability walk and bike places safely.

JORDAN HIRSCHHORN



Montclair native Jordan Hirschhorn is pursuing a master's degree in public administration from the School of Public Affairs and Administration at Rutgers-Newark. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in political science and went on to work for several political campaigns in New Jersey. He is proud to have served on the campaigns of Mayor Andre Sayegh, Mayor Marty Small, Representative Bill Pascrell, Jr., Congressman Josh Gottheimer, Senator Cory Booker, Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill, and Governor Phil Murphy. Jordan currently works at a public affairs consulting firm headed by political operative and Essex County Commissioner Brendan Gill. Jordan designs government relations strategies and

coordinates successful public affairs campaigns for a diverse roster of clients. He is honored to be the recipient of the Governor’s Executive Award and looks forward to serving in New Jersey state government this spring.

NAOMI HOGAN



Naomi Hogan is currently pursuing a master’s in public policy degree with a concentration in K-12 education. She received her bachelor’s degree in economics at Montclair State University with a minor in African American studies as a first generation college student. Over the years she has served as a mentor to teens in Carteret, Paterson, and Linden where she also assisted the Law Explorer Post 629 at the Law Offices of Lucia E. Perpina, to encourage teens interested in a career in law. Upon graduation, she served as an AmeriCorps Member and VISTA at the New Jersey Community Development Corporation in Paterson providing academic support to over 120 students, evaluating program effectiveness and coordinating community events that served over 1,000 families. In 2019, she continued her advocacy for youth

by successfully implementing a “GRL PWR” program for Paterson’s Great Fall’s Teen Youth Center that promoted self-esteem and empowerment amongst teens. Naomi’s passion for community outreach and youth services granted her the opportunity to write the grant and implement Asbury Park School District’s first AmeriCorps program. In addition to being the AmeriCorps program manager, Naomi continues to serve Asbury Park as vice president of the city’s Quality of Life Committee next to Asbury Park’s Council Woman Yvonne Clayton. She also is currently the volunteer coordinator for Newark’s B.R.I.D.G.E Movement Community Organization and frequently serves as a guest speaker for Carteret School District to assist the anti-bullying coordinator in educating students about state harassment, intimidation and bullying laws and substance use policies.

HELEN KIOUKIS



Helen Kioukis is in her second year of the Rutgers-Camden master of public administration degree program, with a focus on community development. She graduated with a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Boston University. Prior to enrolling in the master’s program full-time, Helen served as the lead organizer for New Jersey’s redistricting reform campaign, Fair Districts NJ, and also worked to advance the other state-level legislative priorities of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey, such as campaign finance reform, ending the practice of prison gerrymandering, and restoring voting rights to people on probation and parole. Helen worked as a labor union organizer for six years representing healthcare workers in hospitals across New York City, New Jersey and Philadelphia and

employees within the New Jersey Department of Health. Her responsibilities included developing issue-based campaigns, guiding worksite leadership teams, and negotiating collective bargaining agreements. Through her graduate studies and the Eagleton Fellowship, Helen hopes to tie together her organizing and advocacy experience with policymaking and policy implementation in order to address the issues that continue to prevent people from fully participating in our social, economic, and democratic systems. Helen currently resides in her hometown of Atlantic City and serves as a board member of her neighborhood civic association and as co-chair of the Atlantic City NAACP’s Political Action Committee.

BRITTANY LIBBY



Brittany Libby is a second-year graduate student at the School of Social Work, pursuing a master’s degree with a concentration in management and policy. While completing a bachelor of arts degree from Houghton College in intercultural studies, international development, and gender studies, she was the lead student facilitator of an organization providing post-resettlement services to refugee families in Buffalo, New York. While studying abroad in Ecuador, Brittany engaged with public health professionals, United Nations representatives, farmer cooperatives, and indigenous communities. She also studied abroad in Rwanda, where she worked with subsistence farmers; community educators in Kiziba Refugee Camp; and health professionals at the border of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The experience led to her supervise American undergraduate students in Northern Thailand and Rwanda. Through her travels, studies, and professional pursuits in Ecuador, Rwanda, and Thailand, Brittany cultivated a passion for advocating with indigenous populations and forcibly displaced persons. Upon her return to the U.S. in 2016, she served as an Americorps VISTA at an advocacy organization supporting immigrant, refugee, and asylee populations in South Philadelphia where she continued on as the director of outreach. Through this work she organized community education programs in five different languages; built strategic partnerships with statewide immigrant rights coalitions; led community members to lobby the state capitol for undocumented farm and factory workers rights; supported organized efforts to protect families facing deportation; accompanied asylees navigating court appearances and Immigration and Customs Enforcement check-ins; advocated for drivers licenses for all; and supported the Campaign to Shut Down Berks County Detention Center. Upon completing a certificate in The Foundations of Immigration Law with the Immigration Legal Resource Center, she launched a community-based immigration legal services clinic for low-income residents. Brittany currently works as a research assistant for Lenna Nepomnyaschy at the Social Work Policy Network. She is determined to address the systemic consequences of exclusionary and harmful policies within low-income immigrant communities and was drawn to social work to address trauma and mental health in social policy change to invest in preventative health and social equity.

JOSEPH LIN



Joseph F. Lin is a third-year student at Rutgers Law School – Newark, where he serves as business and symposium editor for Rutgers Race & the Law Review, as well as serve in fellow positions for the Rutgers Immigrant Rights Clinic and Center for Immigration, Law, Policy and Justice. Joseph’s work focuses on participatory democracy and research, equitable community development, and state and local immigrant integration. In 2021, Joseph served as a legal intern for the Equitable Neighborhoods Practice at TakeRoot Justice, where he produced research for local advocates on community land trusts, public housing policies, and municipal/state debt collection practices. He has also interned with American Friends Service Committee – Newark, providing legal assistance to indigent immigrants in detention and/or facing deportation.

Prior to law school, Joseph worked in the New York City Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs, where he was part of the team that launched several citywide

initiatives, including free immigration legal services and the municipal identification program. Joseph has also worked at the non-profit Asian Americans for Equality, where he met with legislators and advocates to bolster social service delivery and community organizing in historically-marginalized communities. Joseph holds a master's in urban planning degree from CUNY-Hunter College and a bachelor's of arts degree from New York University. Joseph is a proud member of the Asian American Impact Fund, Gòngmíng Collective for Language Justice, and has served on the steering committee of GAPIMNY: Empowering Queer & Trans Asian Pacific Islanders. Joseph grew up in Queens, New York, and currently lives in Jersey City.

DINA MANSOUR



Dina Mansour is a third year evening student pursuing her juris doctor degree at Rutgers Law School - Newark. She holds dual bachelor's degrees in political science and women and gender studies with a minor in social justice from Rutgers University - New Brunswick and a master's of law degree in human rights from University College London. Dina currently works as a part-time political organizer, law fellow at the Center for Security Race and Rights, and as a student attorney at the Civil Justice Clinic. This past summer she interned with the Presiding Judge of the Criminal Court at the Essex County Veteran's Courthouse. Dina's identity as a first-generation American-Egyptian Muslim woman has profoundly shaped her life experience and passionate commitment to the work of social justice. She

has engaged in a plethora of human rights work both domestically and abroad and is committed to a lifelong career in the field of civil rights. It is Dina's goal to continue her work in challenging and dismantling the systems that continue to perpetuate inequality in our country as a dedicated civil rights attorney.

OLEH MATVIYISHYN



Oleh Matviyishyn is a third-year student at Rutgers Law School – Newark. He earned his undergraduate degree in biological sciences and political science from Rutgers - New Brunswick in 2018. He was a founding member of the Rutgers University chapter of Pi Lambda Phi fraternity and was the founding philanthropy chair. Before law school, Oleh worked at the New Jersey Legislature where he was an outreach director and served in constituent services for various representatives in the New Jersey Assembly and Senate. Oleh is currently the senior notes editor for the International Law and Human Rights Journal and the parliamentarian of the Student Bar Association. In 2021, Oleh was a summer associate at Sills Cummis & Gross and was the recipient of the firm's

Charles J. Walsh Scholar award. In the summer of 2020, Oleh was a Slocum Social Justice Scholar at the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice where he worked on a number of research and policy matters in a rapidly changing social justice landscape. Oleh is honored to receive the Governor's Executive Award. He hopes this experience will provide him the tools to pursue a career in policymaking and diplomacy.

SHAUN MORAN



From Little Egg Harbor in Ocean County, Shaun Moran is a second-year master of public policy student at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. A 2020 alumnus of the Rutgers political science department, Moran earned his bachelor's degree with the dual honorifics of Edward McNall Burns Scholar, for his high-ranking GPA and Paul Robeson Scholar, for successfully defending an undergraduate honors thesis that analyzed the benefits and drawbacks of ranked-choice voting. Shaun serves as president of the municipal Great Bay Democratic Club and as an elected member of the Ocean County Democratic Committee. He also has sought local elected office as a two-time candidate for a seat on the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee. Previously, Sean worked as a paid legislative intern for the Third Legislative District Office of Senate President Steve Sweeney. Currently, he assists in policy advocacy as a paid intern at the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey, a community-based nonprofit network of over two hundred member organizations statewide.

JACOB NIEMAN



Jacob Nieman is in his second year pursuing his master's in public administration degree from the Rutgers-Newark School of Public Affairs and Administration. He works as the tax assessor in Ocean Township (Monmouth County) and hopes to serve as a municipal manager in the future. A New Jersey native, he graduated from Rutgers University-New Brunswick's Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy with a bachelor's degree in planning and public policy in 2015. Jacob remains an involved alumnus serving as the vice-chair of the Cap and Skull Senior Honor Society. In his spare time, he serves on the board of The Dream Project, a New Jersey nonprofit that seeks to prepare college students for a lifetime of prioritizing civic engagement, volunteerism, and philanthropy.

CAILEE OLIVER



Cailee Oliver is currently pursuing a graduate degree at the Rutgers School of Social Work, where she is a participant in the Violence Against Women and Children Certificate program. Her primary interests focus on policy making and eliminating human trafficking. In 2020, she graduated from Rutgers with a bachelor's degree in social work and a concentration in psychology and political science. Prior to coming to Eagleton, Cailee worked as an intern for Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. in New Brunswick, where she assisted caseworkers on constituent issues. She has volunteered and worked for various political campaigns, including her position as a deputy field organizer for Gayle Brill Mittler for Mayor campaign in Highland Park. As an undergraduate, Cailee dedicated her time as a secretary for the Middlesex County Young Republicans. In the past, she worked as a research assistant at the Huamin Research Center, where

she assisted researchers in Guangzhou, China with public policy and adolescent mental health issues. This position prompted her to pursue an interest in international policy and issues with human trafficking. Cailee participated in two AmeriCorp programs since the pandemic, volunteering in Houston, Texas and Newark. Upon graduation, Cailee hopes to use her experience and knowledge to become a U.S. diplomat in the future.

SHETAL OZA



Shetal Oza, of East Brunswick, is pursuing her master's degree in political science – United Nations and global policy studies. She graduated magna cum laude from Rutgers-New Brunswick in 2021 with a bachelor's degree in political science, with Phi Beta Kappa and Pi Sigma Alpha honors. Shetal currently works as the policy assistant to Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler of Highland Park and works on campus as a graduate hall director within the Office of Residence Life. She is also a member of Delta Gamma Fraternity's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Commission. During her undergraduate years, Shetal worked for the Rutgers Office of Federal Relations, Common Cause, and Congressman Tom Malinowski while maintaining a high GPA and participating in a variety of on-campus activities.

Her professional and academic interests are focused on progressive policymaking that is used to uplift and support vulnerable communities. She is proud to be a member of the Eagleton 2022 fellowship cohort. Upon graduation, Shetal hopes to enter public service full-time and help give back to her local communities and advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging practices throughout government.

JULIAN PULVERENTI



Jillian Pulverenti is a third-year law student at Rutgers Law School–Camden. After graduating magna cum laude from the University of South Carolina Honors College with a degree in hotel, restaurant, and tourism management, Jillian worked as a marketing executive in the casino industry for Caesars Entertainment at Harrah's Resort and Hard Rock International. While working full-time, Jillian earned a master's of business administration degree from Stockton University. Through her experiences in Atlantic City, Jillian became passionate about the thoughtful application of law and policy in building better communities and entered Rutgers as a part-time evening student where she won the 2021 Hunter Moot Court Appellate Advocacy Oral Competition. Jillian now pursues law

studies full-time and volunteers with the Street Law program to encourage students to connect with the government and community in which they live. Last year, she was a teaching assistant for Constitutional Law. Jillian spent the summer working at the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn on international narcotics and money laundering and general crimes. After interning with the Honorable Michael J. Haas of the New Jersey Superior Court Appellate Division, she accepted a judicial clerk position in his chambers for 2022-2023. This year, Jillian will also be interning with the Honorable Cathy L. Waldor, District of New Jersey Magistrate Judge. She hopes to bring her skills to the Office of Legislative Services as a Henry J. Raimondo award recipient and build a career in public policy.

HOURIE TAFECH



Hourie Tafech is a third-generation Palestinian refugee from Lebanon. In 2017 she was awarded a fellowship to pursue a doctoral degree in global affairs at Rutgers University-Newark. Her dissertation examines the factors that impact the entrepreneurial activities of refugees in U.S. cities. Before arriving in the United States, Hourie lived in Malta for few years, where she co-founded Spark15, the first refugee-led organization recognized by the United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). As a president of Spark15, she advocated for the needs of refugee youth in Malta before the Office of the President of Malta, The Minister for European Affairs and Inclusion, The Ministry of Education, and UNHCR-Malta. Hourie was selected as one of forty young leaders to represent young refugees in the annual meeting of the United Nations Higher Refugee Commissioner in 2016 in Geneva. In 2020, Hourie was one of six women from the U.S. and Canada awarded a prestigious Margaret McNamara Education Grant. Recently, she was also awarded an international fellowship from AAUW. Since arriving in the U.S., she has assisted in developing and implementing the University Alliance for Refugees and At-Risk Migrants Initiative and the Students Division Student Voices for refugees. Hourie is eager to represent the voice of refugees and underrepresented groups and hopes to create a non-profit to support refugees, particularly women, access to higher education and entrepreneurial activities.

JAMES TERHUNE



James Weldon Terhune is a third-year doctoral student in clinical psychology at the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology at Rutgers – New Brunswick. He is also enrolled in the graduate certificate program in public policy at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. During his time at Rutgers, James has sought to integrate a policy lens into his clinical training, through serving as secretary for the Health Policy Council at the American Psychological Association and conducting research on state responses to telehealth and interstate licensure regulation during the COVID-19 pandemic. James received a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship to attend University College London, where he completed a master’s degree in clinical mental health sciences. While in London, he completed research on involuntary commitment for psychiatric conditions, as part of a review of the U.K.’s Mental Health Act commissioned by the Prime Minister. James published a dissertation on the topic, focused on elevated rates of involuntary commitment for refugee and ethnic minority populations in Sweden. Clinically, James has worked across several psychiatric inpatient and community mental health settings leading to a deepened understanding of mental health as a societal level issue that requires harnessing public policy to effectively address its social determinants. He looks forward to the interdisciplinary and applied learning components of the Eagleton experience and the unique opportunity this presents in developing the translational skillset needed to work across a professional discipline and the policy world.

JONATHAN (NED) TERRACE



Ned Terrace is a third-year student at Rutgers Law School - Newark, where he is a Marsha Wenk fellow and executive editor for the Rutgers University Law Review. This summer, he was a summer associate at Debevoise & Plimpton, where he worked on commercial and white-collar litigation. While at Debevoise, Ned participated in the firm's pro bono project to use the First Step Act to reduce federal prison sentences that were previously subject to mandatory minimums. During his second year of law school, he served as a Marsha Wenk fellow with the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey (ACLU-NJ). At the ACLU-NJ, Ned advanced judicial and policy strategies to reform the qualified immunity doctrine in New Jersey. He was also a teaching fellow for Professor Chen's Contracts class. After his first year

of law school, Ned served as a summer legal intern for the New York chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-NY), where he worked on federal and state civil rights claims on employment discrimination, police transparency, and religious discrimination in public schools. Before law school, Ned served as the legislative director for New York City Council Member Helen Rosenthal and helped pass legislation that reformed housing, gender equity, small business, and transportation. He also worked on electoral campaigns at the federal, state, and local levels before law school. Ned looks forward to serving as a teaching assistant for Administrative Law and Legal Analysis Writing and Research Skills this upcoming year.

KEDAR VENKATARAMANI



Kedar Venkataramani is a third-year student at Rutgers Law School-Newark. He earned his undergraduate degree in genetics and political science from Rutgers-New Brunswick in 2017. In that time, he founded the Rutgers University chapter of Pi Lambda Phi fraternity and was involved with Wolf-PAC, where he advocated for New Jersey to pass a resolution in 2015 calling for an Article V Convention of the States to discuss the corrupting influence of money in politics. Prior to law school, he worked at the Rutgers University Cell and DNA Repository as a senior lab technician making cancer cell lines. He also worked for Manavi, a New Jersey-based domestic violence agency specifically addressing the needs of the South Asian community. Kedar is a Morris Pashman scholar and served as president of the

Intellectual Property Law Society and vice president of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association. He currently serves as the law student liaison for the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey, senior operations editor of the Rutgers Law Record, and as a member of the Intellectual Property Law Clinic. Kedar worked as a law clerk at McCarter & English in 2020 and as a summer associate at Paul Hastings in 2021. He will return to Paul Hastings in 2022, where he will focus on life sciences litigation. Kedar is honored to receive the Henry J. Raimondo Legislative Fellowship and will be serving in the Office of Legislative Services. He hopes to ultimately focus his advocacy efforts on science education and research policy.

ALYVIA WALTERS



Alyvia Walters is a fourth-year doctoral candidate in the media studies department of the Rutgers School of Communication and Information. Her research focuses on the intersections of media, policy, and emotion as related to children and childhood in the United States, with a particular focus on the discrepancies between mediated political discourse and lived experience for marginalized children. A current resident of Philadelphia, Alyvia grew up in central Pennsylvania and attended Penn State University, where she double-majored in English, secondary English and communications education. Upon graduation, she began her first high school teaching job, but soon found that she missed research. She moved to Washington D.C. and attended Georgetown University's master's program in

English, where she worked with the school's program for low-income first-generation college students: The Community Scholars Program (CSP). A first-generation college student herself, Walters connected with the mission of CSP and served as teaching assistant, program assistant, and eventual adjunct professor for the program. Developing a research trajectory that was deeply informed by all that she had learned from her CSP students and their encounters with racist and classist systems, she transitioned to doctoral coursework at Rutgers, where she works as a teaching assistant, research assistant, and adjunct professor. She is honored to accept the Eagleton Fellowship Program's Governor's Executive Award, and is sure that this experience will provide her with tools to combat the systems that affect marginalized young people every day.

HEIDI YEH



Heidi Yeh holds a bachelor's of arts degree in environmental science from Barnard College and a master's degree in oceanography from the University of Connecticut. She is currently in her fourth year doctoral degree in oceanography at Rutgers University studying the oyster microbiome. Her research takes place in a diversity of environments, including aquaria, oyster farms, wild reefs, and the New York City harbor. She recently published a policy memo in the Journal of Science Policy and Governance on how oysters can be used to curb the impacts of climate change, in addition to the many other environmental benefits that they provide. Since coming to Rutgers, Heidi has become active in the National Science Policy Network, and is stepping up this year as the co-president of Science Policy Advocacy at Rutgers. She

is passionate about helping scientists to become better communicators and hopes to craft a career advising policymakers on environmental issues. This summer she is serving as a member of the Rutgers Advocacy Corps, working with Rutgers lobbyists to advocate for funding of higher education. Heidi is a Vermont native who has since made New Jersey home with her husband, one-year-old daughter, and sourdough starter. She is honored to receive the Henry J. Raimondo Award and intern with the Office of Legislative Services.

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