

**CLASS OF 2023**  
**UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATES**



**Eagleton Institute <sup>OF</sup> Politics**

Study politics. Inspire engagement, Improve democracy.

[eagleton.rutgers.edu](http://eagleton.rutgers.edu)

## EAGLETON UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATES PROGRAM

The Eagleton Undergraduate Associates Program, established in 1974, is a core education program of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University – New Brunswick. Open to students in all Rutgers schools, departments and campus locations with an interest in politics, government, policy and advocacy, students are selected the fall semester of their junior year to complete the one and one-half year interdisciplinary certificate program during their last three semesters as a Rutgers undergraduate. Associates learn about real-world American politics and government from experienced faculty and practitioners. The program is a partnership between the Eagleton Institute of Politics and the Department of Political Science in the School of Arts and Sciences.

The Undergraduate Associates' journey begins with the Practice of Politics course, where they examine the role of power, with a primary focus on American institutions and political behavior. What is power? How does it work in our political system – and what makes it an at once critical, but also troubling aspect of governance within a democratic system? These questions are explored with an emphasis on theories of power and its function throughout American history. Associates incorporate critical works in American politics and political science – while culling visions of power from the literary and artistic world that inform the practical sphere of government in unique ways.

Over the summer or fall, Associates complete internships in a variety of offices focused on American politics, government, policy or advocacy in New Jersey or other states. Placements include legislative and executive offices and agencies at the state, county and local levels, Congressional and federal offices, public affairs, public interest and non-profit groups, political campaigns (local, state and national), lobbying firms, think tanks, and other interest groups. The accompanying Internship Seminar course in the fall fosters a deeper understanding of both the institutions and the individuals that shape public policymaking. In addition to learning about a variety of careers in the political realm, the course examines organizational dynamics and the elements of leadership that impact the workplace. Associates have many opportunities to hone their strategic thinking, communications, and career development skills during the course.

The final course, Processes of Politics, during the spring semester of senior year, helps students expand and apply their knowledge and experience by focusing on processes and issues. Building upon the exploration of political power from previous semesters, this course centers around the notion of “politics as a choice”. The examples chosen provide windows into how political and governmental systems work more generally and how change occurs or doesn't. Underlying these conversations are reflections on the national political conversation and New Jersey politics.

The Class of 2023 is the 49th class of Eagleton Undergraduate Associates. There are more than 1,100 alumni of the program from across Rutgers University. Most have chosen careers in politics and public service, while others have applied their advanced knowledge of government, politics and policy to a broad range of careers in the private, corporate and non-profit sectors. More information about the Eagleton Undergraduate Associates program can be found at [go.rutgers.edu/EagletonUA](https://go.rutgers.edu/EagletonUA)

Learn More



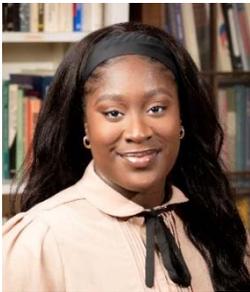
## CLASS OF 2023 EAGLETON UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATES

### SAMEER ALI



Hailing from Piscataway, New Jersey, Sameer Ali is a senior in the Rutgers Business School double majoring in business analytics and information technology (BAIT) and political science. He is also pursuing a minor in philosophy with additional certificates in data science and quantitative political science. These areas of study combine his passions for technology, the social sciences, and the law - an intersection which he believes to be incredibly important. On campus, he has served on the Executive Boards of the Muslim Public Relations Council (as Treasurer), the Pre-Law Society (as Vice-President), and the Rutgers University Student Assembly (RUSA, as Academic Affairs Chair), while also working at the Office of Information Technology labs on Livingston Campus as a Supervisor. Sameer has also interned at law firms, the Center for Security, Race and Rights (CSRR) at the Rutgers Law School, and Bluebonnet Data, a nonprofit organization which recruits individuals with tech skills to work with progressive campaigns or other organizations. This fall he is interning at the Bipartisan Policy Center on their business and technology team. Sameer hopes to synthesize these backgrounds by pursuing a career in the intersection between technology/data regulation and the Law. In his free time, he enjoys reading, traveling, exploring different towns and foods, and learning new (and niche) things- varying from different investing and trading methodologies, to the philosophy of time and space.

### CHANTEL AMISSAH



Chantel Amisah, a School of Arts and Sciences senior, is a political science major with a minor in theater. She is an active member of the Douglass Residential College and an Educational Opportunity Fund scholar. Presently, she is a fellow of the American Needs You Program, selected as one of 75 first-generation college students in New Jersey to serve in a 2-year career development and leadership training program. As a member of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative she completed a policy and advocacy internship at Woodside on the Move in Queens, New York. Her passion lies within an advocacy for global women's rights. During her undergraduate career, she has interned at the Rutgers Institute for Women's Leadership's Center for Women's Global Leadership, an organization that aids and brings awareness to women's issues globally through hands-on activism and diplomacy. In addition to her internships, she was accepted amongst hundreds of applicants for an exclusive presentation and publication of research at the Rutgers Undergraduate Research Writing Conference, an annual event that showcases outstanding work completed by students across Rutgers University. Her research examines the post-colonial Ghanaian identity as it relates to religious syncretism and modernity. Upon graduation, Chantel seeks to pursue a dual degree in political science and global policy studies.

## **MARIA CASTRO**



Maria Castro is a fourth-year student from Manville, New Jersey, double majoring in political science and women's, gender, and sexuality studies, with a minor in psychology at Rutgers-New Brunswick. She is a student at the School of Arts and Sciences and Douglass Residential College. Her academic and research interests are in American politics, gender, identity, and political representation, and immigration policy and reform. Maria is also a member of the 2022-2023 Rutgers Advocacy Corps, lobbying for increased financial aid with the Rutgers Office of Federal Relations. On campus, Maria most recently served as the Artistic Director of Cabaret Theatre, and is also an active member of the Livingston Theatre Company. Maria has been a deeply passionate advocate for women's equity and LGBTQ+ rights ever since she was in high school, going as far as to found the first gender-sexualities alliance in her high school's history. Throughout college, she has continued to advocate for others in any way she can. Through her involvement in student theatre, she has worked to diversify theatre spaces, and make theatre spaces safer for queer artists and artists of color. Upon graduation, Maria seeks to pursue a master's degree in women's, gender, and sexuality studies with focuses in feminist practices for social change. In the future Maria hopes to conduct ethnographic research regarding women in Latin America and the global south, and continue to advocate for others using what she's learned through her higher education.

## **AMANDA CHEN**



Born and raised in Parsippany, New Jersey, Amanda Chen is a senior in the School of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, majoring in political science and women's and gender studies. Amanda co-authored a paper with Professor McCabe about political discussion in online spaces. Last October, she traveled to Seattle to present this paper at the 2021 American Political Science Association's Annual Meeting. She recently completed a government relations internship at the National Organization of Women as part of the Rutgers-Eagleton Washington D.C. Internship award. Amanda is an active leader in the Honors Program and serves on the Student Advisory Board and as a Peer Leader. As the president of the Douglass Residential College Rainbow Pines and a member of the Dean's Diversity Board, she is also currently advocating for the safe inclusion of gender minority students within the Douglass community. Amanda is a Lloyd C. Gardner Fellow, and is working with Professor Miller on a research project concerning federalism's impact on federal social policies in the United States and Brazil. As a second-year scholar in the Institute for Women's Leadership Scholars Certificate Program, Amanda organized a social action project that focused on revising current Title IX regulations. Previously, Amanda completed an internship at the Center for Violence Against Women and Children and will co-author a paper about campus sexual violence climate tools and surveys. Last summer, Amanda pursued her interests in public policy and higher education through an internship at the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education. Outside of academia, Amanda enjoys baking for her friends and family, sewing her own clothes, and listening to music. Amanda is delighted to join the Eagleton Undergraduate Associates Program and continue working towards her aspirations of becoming a researcher and professor whose work will one-day influence public policy.

## CONNOR CULLINANE



Connor Cullinane is a School of Arts and Sciences student at Rutgers-New Brunswick from Flemington, New Jersey. As a member of the Honors Program, he is a double major in history and political science and a minor in critical intelligence studies (CIS). He is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the Political Science Honors Society. He currently serves as the News Director for *88.7 WRSU Rutgers Radio* and has been active as a reporter at *WRSU* since freshman year. Through his platform, Connor has been able to cover Rutgers and local events, addresses of the Governor, the Republican and Democratic National Committees, and election night. He completed a legislative internship in the office of Assemblyman Karabinchak as part of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative. He has developed an interest in studying, analyzing, and addressing right-wing extremism and political partisanship, both historically and in the modern-day. For his future career goals, Connor aims to pursue a career in government and use his skills acquired through CIS and Eagleton to work for the intelligence community. In his free time, Connor is an avid fan of Rutgers Basketball and a devoted movie buff.

## ANA DORVIL



Ana Dorvil is an Honors College student at Rutgers - Camden pursuing a bachelor's degree in political science and urban studies with a minor in criminal justice. Originally from Paterson, New Jersey, she moved to south jersey in 2016 where she became a proud alum of Cherry Hill High School West. She is a member of the Rutgers Student Governing Association Legislative Committee. Ana is also the secretary of Political Science Society and is running for President this year. During her free time, she enjoys watching horror movies and true crime documentaries. As a first - generation student, Ana enjoys helping high school students apply to college and give advice regarding costs and the application process. Her interests include on law and public policy with the focus in affordable housing and other aspects to alleviate poverty. Ana also works for Senator Fred Madden, Assemblyman Paul Moriarty, and Assemblywoman Gabriela Mosquera of the Fourth Legislative District office in New Jersey on social media, outreach and constituent services after completing an internship there.

## FIONA DOYLE



Fiona Doyle is a senior from Dover, Delaware, double majoring in political science and cognitive science and minoring in economics at Rutgers-New Brunswick. She is a student in the Honors College and School of Arts and Sciences. Fiona is completing an internship at the Securities and Exchange Commission, New York regional office. She previously interned with U.S. Senator Chris Coons which helped to highlight her interest in government and law. On-campus, Fiona is an executive member of the Honors College Professional Development Council, as well as the Director of Rutgers Women in Business Mentorship Committee. She also conducts independent research through the Aresty Research program centered around the equity of access to preschool programs around the country. Fiona currently writes for *The Daily Targum* and is an Editor for the newly established Eagleton Political Journal. After graduation, Fiona plans on going to law school and pursuing a career as a lawyer for a critical intelligence agency. In her free time, she loves to work out, snowboard, and read murder mysteries.

### **GABRIEL (GABE) GARCIA**



Gabriel Garcia is a senior from North Bergen, New Jersey studying political science and economics at Rutgers-New Brunswick in the School of Arts and Science. He is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society, and is a current member of the Lloyd C. Gardner Fellowship Program where he is conducting research on the effects of extended pandemic unemployment insurance on the unemployment rate in the United States. On campus, Gabriel is a member of both the Rutgers Democrats and the Rutgers Progressives clubs. He has interned with State Senator Vin Gopal's reelection campaign, participated in the Rutgers Advocacy Corps where he advocated for higher education funding, and participated in the Rutgers Consulting Group's Consulting Analyst program. Gabriel wants to use his affinity in both political science and economics to advocate for and protect the economic rights of the less fortunate. He aspires to work in government where he hopes to play a vital role in implementing fiscal policy that would bring about real material improvements for those who need it most. Outside of school, Gabriel enjoys musicals, riding bike, playing chess, working out, and meeting new people.

### **MADELENA (MADDY) GOFFREDO**



Madelena Goffredo, a resident of Long Hill, New Jersey, is a student in the School of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers-New Brunswick. She is pursuing a major in Political Science and a minor in American Studies. Maddy has worked as a Researcher-Writer on the 2022 edition of the Almanac of American Politics and more recently conducted research for a project at Princeton University. She interned and was subsequently hired as a Deputy Field Organizer on Congressman Tom Malinowski's first re-election campaign in 2020, tasked with training and mobilizing volunteers and campaign interns. Maddy gained experience in government advocacy as a member of the second cohort of the Rutgers Advocacy Corps, where she learned about higher education policy and met with members of Congress to lobby for funding increases. Maddy is deeply passionate about public service and proudly worked in the office of Senator Andrew Zwicker. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. Maddy has returned to Congressman Malinowski's campaign in 2022 as the Outreach Coordinator, planning and executing voter-facing events, liaising with community leaders, and staffing/supporting the Congressman at events. In the future, Maddy hopes to pursue a career in government and politics with the goals of making the criminal justice system more equitable, reforming the campaign finance system, and defending civil rights and liberties.

### **NINA GOHEL**



Nina GoHEL is a senior at Rutgers-New Brunswick in the School of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, and Douglass Residential College. She is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Planning and Public Policy, with minors in Economics, Philosophy, and PPE (Philosophy, Politics, and Economics). At Rutgers, Nina has served in a multitude of positions where she has actively worked to advocate for and address problems concerning the Rutgers' student body and surrounding local communities. During her college career, Nina has served as the Student Body Vice President, Executive Member to the Association of Big 10 Students (ABTS), Sole Undergraduate Representative to Rutgers Board of Trustees, and member of Douglass Dean's Diversity Board and the

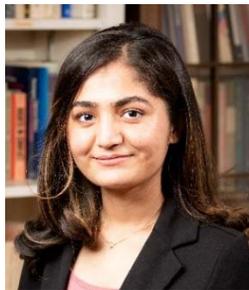
President's Student Advisory Committee. Concerning her academics, Nina is also a Ralph W. Voorhees Fellow in Public Service, where she conducts research addressing local community issues. In addition to these positions, Nina has been a strong advocate for AAPI issues, and has worked to create and ensure that all spaces are equitable and inclusive for this community. Outside of Rutgers, and to advance the aforementioned mission, Nina has spent time interning with the International Leadership Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Interior, Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership, and Act to Change. On top of her professional service, Nina is passionate about the study and practice of democracy, and has dedicated this past summer working with the Brookings Institute, Legislative Office of Greenwald & Lampitt, and Center for the Study of Democracy. This fall, Nina works as an intern for Holland & Knight LLC., one of the nation's top lobbying firms, where she effectively helps to consult clients concerning legislative issues, while advancing initiatives for positive change. Overall, Nina is fascinated by the world of policy and government relations, and their intersection with the law. It is her desire to incorporate these passions into her professional career, while being able to give back and serve those most in need. In her free time, Nina enjoys hiking to waterfalls, baking blueberry muffins, and exploring new places.

### **ANDREAS HUEY**



Andreas Huey is a senior from Oakhurst, New Jersey in the School of Arts and Sciences majoring in economics and political science at the Honors College. He is currently conducting research as part of the Lloyd C. Gardner Fellowship on the criminalization of immigrants in the United States with Professor Rosado of the Africana Department and completing an advocacy internship at the Middlesex County Bar Association. At Rutgers, Andreas competes as part of the Rutgers Mock Trial Association, serves as the vice-president of RU Progressive, and has worked on the Rutgers University Student Assembly's Academic Affairs committee. He also interned on the congressional campaign of Zina Spezakis during the COVID-19 pandemic, assisting in the writing of press releases and learning about the development of COVID-19 economic solutions. Andreas spent many summers in Panama and Costa Rica throughout his childhood, fostering an early and continued interest in comparative studies and international relations. After graduating from Rutgers, Andreas is interested in attending law school and pursuing a career in international law and foreign policy.

### **GARIMA KC**



Garima KC is a senior in the School of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers University-New Brunswick. She is pursuing a degree in political science, with a minor in women's, gender, and sexuality studies. Her academic interests center on U.S. domestic policy, the judiciary, and gender & politics. Garima is currently an intern in the Office of the President at the Brennan Center for Justice. In addition, she serves as a legislative aide to Hudson County Commissioner Yraida Aponte-Lipski in Jersey City, New Jersey. She has been involved in several local and congressional campaigns and nonprofits, including IGNITE National & International Rescue Committee, championing voting rights for politically underrepresented communities. This past summer, she pursued a Hill internship at the Office of Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman; as a legislative intern, Garima undertook an independent policy project on "Medical Care for Pregnant and Postpartum Inmates" and presented a bill proposal. Likewise, at Rutgers, Garima has worked as a member of the Darien Civic Engagement Project and as a research assistant under the direction of Dr. Elizabeth Matto, where she conducted a statistical analysis of the descriptive representation of legislators under the age of 35 at the

state and local levels. Garima is a 2021 Harvard Public Policy and Leadership Conference fellow, a 2022 Rutgers-Eagleton Washington Internship and Katherine K. Neuberger Legacy awardee, and a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. After graduation, Garima plans to attend law school and eventually pursue a career in public service—whether in a city hall, on the bench, or elsewhere. Outside of academia, she enjoys gardening, getting lost in bookstores, and watching stand-up comedies—all while sipping coffee.

### **KATHRYN LEE**



Kathryn Lee (she/her) is an Honors College senior from Gloucester County majoring in women's, gender, and sexuality studies and political science and minoring in law and history with a certificate in women's leadership. Kathryn is a Lloyd C. Gardner Fellow conducting independent research on the politics of birth control within Indian Health Services and Indigenous women's struggle for informed consent. She is also an Aresty Research Assistant for constitutional law expert Dr. Lisa Miller, performing historical legal research for her upcoming book about power, accountability, and constitutional myths. Kathryn serves as the Vice President of Operations for the Rutgers University Mock Trial Association and competes as an attorney, earning an All-Region Outstanding Attorney Award from the American Mock Trial Association. She recently completed a legal internship at Esperanza Immigration Legal Services as part of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative. She is a founding E-board member of the Rutgers Women's Pre-Law Society, where she works to create an environment that supports and empowers women and non-binary pre-law students. Kathryn enjoys volunteering with Rutgers Alzheimer's Buddies, where she uses the skills she developed as a caregiver for her grandmother to uplift the spirits of nearby nursing home residents. She is the recipient of the Disney International Company Foundation Scholarship, where she was recognized as one of 50 most promising applicants internationally and awarded an annual scholarship. She is also a member of RU Progressive and Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honors society. She hopes to further her passion for consumer safety, elder and disability rights, and reproductive justice through law. In her free time, Kathryn enjoys scream-singing, making (hilarious) puns, and exploring New Brunswick's underground music scene.

### **JAMES MATTHEWS**



James Matthews is a New Jersey native who attended high school in Sayreville. He is now a senior pursuing a bachelor's degree at Rutgers-New Brunswick, majoring in political science with a minor in history. His outlook has been shaped by an upbringing in a poverty-stricken family, inspiring a dedication to government and public service to ensure others have access to the same opportunities afforded to him by the social safety net. James has volunteered to canvas in both the 2019 New Jersey General Assembly election and the most recent 2021 gubernatorial election, as well as serving as a volunteer EMT with the Sayreville Emergency Squad. In addition, James is a policy intern at the New Jersey State Senate Majority Office in Trenton through the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative. Outside of academics, James enjoys challenging hikes in nature, discovering new music, and reading. After graduation, he hopes to gain more experience in the field by working for a few years before attending graduate school in either public policy or international relations.

### **ARDITA MIRZA**



Ardita Mirza is an Honors Program student in the School of Arts and Sciences Honors Program (SASHP) at Rutgers-New Brunswick, double-majoring in criminal justice and political science and minoring in critical intelligence studies. She is currently the vice-president of philanthropy for the Rutgers University Alumni Association Scarlet Council and is involved with the Health Outreach, Promotion, and Education (HOPE) office as an Alcohol and Other Drugs Peer Educator and the SASHP Peer Mentorship Program as a peer mentor. She is also the lead editor of the Eagleton Political Journal and recently completed an adult education internship at the International Rescue Committee as part of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative. Her academics are aimed towards international crimes against women and children, and she aspires to work in opposition to human trafficking. She hopes to someday combine her interests and experiences in politics, criminal justice, and intelligence analysis to aid in policymaking. Ardita has been awarded an Intelligence Community Centers for Academic Excellence Certification in Intelligence and National Security and is distinguished as an Intelligence Community Scholar. Her experiences as a Research Fellow for the Data Science Intelligence Center of the National Intelligence University, a Research Intern for the Rutgers Center on Policing, a Policy Advocate for the Rutgers Advocacy Corps with the Office of Federal Relations, and a Fundraising Intern for a major gubernatorial campaign have given her the drive to pursue a career in policymaking.

### **EDWIN NAVA**



Edwin Nava, a native of Passaic, New Jersey, is majoring in sociology with a minor in social justice at the School of Arts and Science at Rutgers - Newark. He is an Honors Living Learning Community Scholar program focusing on social justice. Coming from an immigrant family, living in a city full of immigrants, and being an immigrant himself, has made Edwin passionate about social and political issues. This experience drove him to pursue leadership and advocacy roles in community college such as Student Government Association Speaker, LGBTQ+ Allies Club Public Relations Officer, Men of Color Success Initiative Ambassador, and more. He is a member and

recent Rutgers Summer Service intern of Make the Road New Jersey, and the New Jersey is Home Committee that fights for immigrant rights and a pathway to citizenship for all undocumented immigrants. Alongside other members of Make the Road, he's helped facilitate calls and meetings with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for making occupational licenses for undocumented immigrants to be more accessible and campaigned for New Jersey Excluded Workers Fund which provided aid for thousands of immigrant workers in New Jersey. In September 2021, he marched alongside 10,000 immigrants in Washington D.C. to advocate for a pathway to citizenship. In the future, Edwin plans to become an immigration lawyer, work in government, and advocate for political and social issues.

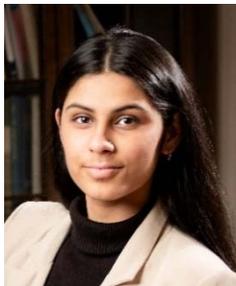
### **ADEN SAVETT**



Aden Savett, from Cherry Hill, New Jersey, is a senior in the School of Arts and Sciences Honors Program at Rutgers—New Brunswick, a political science major and a history minor. On campus, he is proud to serve as the President of the Rutgers University Democrats. He has previously interned with the Camden County Democratic Committee, State Senator James Beach, Congressman Andy Kim's 2018 campaign, Congressman Donald Norcross, Capital Impact Group, Governor Phil Murphy, and the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education for New Jersey. He also

serves as a member of the New Brunswick Rent Control Board and works full-time as a legislative aide for Assemblyman Herb Conaway (LD-7). After graduation, he plans on continuing his work with the Assemblyman and pursuing a master's degree in public policy. In his free time, Aden enjoys lifting weights, playing golf, and trying new coffees.

#### **HENNA SHAH**



Henna Shah (she/hers) is a School of Arts and Sciences student on the pre-law track, double majoring in political science and criminal justice with a minor in psychology. Through her upbringing in West Milford, New Jersey, she became curious about civil rights and racial/cultural politics. The start of this curiosity was sparked by a research project about the landmark Supreme Court case *Tinker v. Des Moines*. Currently, Henna works part time at The Law Offices of Nilaja S. Ford, and is an intern in the New Jersey Attorney General Office, Division of Criminal Justice. She also serves as the President of the Rutgers University Criminal Justice Organization where she works to inform and inspire rising Criminal Justice professionals. Previously, Henna was an RU Voting intern engaging in non-partisan voter-mobilization efforts to encourage civic responsibility. Additionally, she has worked in various other settings including *The Daily Targum*, Aresty Research Center, and Legislative District One of New Jersey. Henna aspires to create progress through each of her interactions. In her free time, she enjoys spending quality time with family and friends, volunteering, and cooking (specifically, traditional Indian cuisines).

#### **ADEBOWALE (DEDE) SMITH**



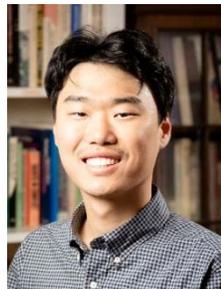
Adebowale "Dede" Smith, hailing from Plainsboro, New Jersey, is a senior double majoring in political science and economics, as well as being an Honors Thesis candidate in Economics. His main academic interests lie in law and public policy, financial economics, and criminal justice research. He has previously interned with New Jersey's Attorney General's Office, as well as law firms focused on criminal and family law. A member of the Rutgers Track and Field team, former Learning Assistant for economics courses, and an Inducted Pre-Law club member, he stays as involved as he can in Rutgers activities outside of the classroom. His involvement in these activities have helped reward him with the Edward L. Shustak Memorial Scholarship for two outstanding Economics students, four Big-Ten Awards for athletic and academic excellence, and the SAS Excellence Award. He was a recent Venture Capital intern with the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, focused on diversity improvement and entrepreneurship as part of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative. With goals of attending law school, he aims to use his law degree to shape and influence policy that impacts the financial and social wellbeing of minorities and low-income communities via public service, motivated by his work for New Jersey and time as a poll clerk. He will fight for easier class mobility for lower-income and minority communities as well as criminal justice reform for a fairer and less costly justice system. In his free time, Dede enjoys all things soccer-related, playing ping-pong, and trying new board games.

### **ALLISON (ALLY) SMITH**



Allison Smith is a senior from South Brunswick, New Jersey at Rutgers University-New Brunswick, majoring in criminal justice with minors in public policy, political science, and psychology. Allison is a second-generation Douglass woman and a third-generation Rutgers student. She is also a member and peer advisor for the Criminal Justice Honors Society, Alpha Phi Sigma, and a two-time School of Arts and Sciences Academic Excellence Scholarship Recipient. Allison had the incredible opportunity to teach her own accredited college course on Community Activism and Civic Engagement as a First Year Interest Group Seminar instructor. As part of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative, she completed an internship at the Office of Congressman Frank Pallone. She has also worked within other Eagleton programs as a Darien Civic Engagement Intern and RUVoting volunteer through the Center for Youth Political Participation. Allison is currently serving as the Student Body President for Rutgers University-New Brunswick. She is also a Co-President for the Rutgers Voorhees Choir and a Student Office Manager for the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership. Allison has served as a member of President Holloway's Student Advisory Committee for the past two years and has become a member of Vice Chancellor Salvador Mena's Student Advisory Committee this year. Some of her previous leadership roles include serving as the Sexual Violence Education Committee Chair for the Rutgers University Student Assembly and working as an Orientation Leader for the Rutgers University-New Brunswick campus. Upon graduation, Allison hopes to work within the judicial system or social services to put her passion for advocacy to use on her mission for lasting, systemic change.

### **PATRICK SONG**



Patrick Song is a student in the School of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, majoring in political science and minoring in philosophy, politics, and economics, from Fort Lee, New Jersey. Patrick participates as an E-board member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honors society. He has canvassed for the New Jersey Covid-19 Community Corps, helping people in disadvantaged communities to access social programs and vaccinations, and worked as a Research Assistant in the "Borders and Boundaries" Project under Professor Kenwick. He presented in the 2020 Undergraduate Research Writing Conference and worked in the office of Jersey City Councilman Michael Yun as an intern. Patrick has been a member of the Darien Civic Engagement and Gardner Fellowship cohorts and the inaugural Rutgers Summer Service Internship initiative cohort where he served as sustainability intern and community outreach organizer for Newark Science and Sustainability. After college, Patrick hopes to be involved in state politics and go to law school. In his free time, he enjoys listening to podcasts, spending time with friends, and attending the Rutgers Board Game club.

### **MALACHI SUTTON**



Malachi Sutton is a New Jersey native, born and raised in Lakewood, who is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in political science and philosophy at the Rutgers New Brunswick School of Arts and Sciences. Throughout Malachi's undergraduate career, they have made the effort of pushing forth initiatives focused on ensuring equality and justice for students of color on campus. Malachi has pursued these initiatives through entrepreneurship, student advocacy, and political engagement. Along with being an Eagleton Undergraduate Associate, Malachi is a Paul Robeson Scholar and is actively involved with the Rutgers University Student Assembly and the Rutgers

Black Business Association. This past summer, Malachi interned as a financial analyst at J.P. Morgan & Co, in their Central Investment Banking Division. In the near future, Malachi's goal is to utilize their finance career to work on various initiatives that help to address the importance of state politics, community outreach, and financial education for low-income communities and communities of color in New Jersey. More importantly, Malachi hopes to one day create a Political Action Committee that helps to support progressive candidates running for office.

#### **AYANA TAPPER**



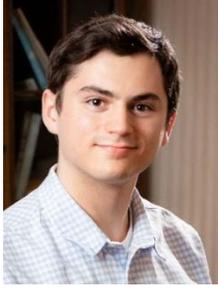
Ayana Tapper is a senior at the Rutgers-New Brunswick School of Arts and Sciences and is native to West Orange, New Jersey. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in political science and history with a minor in creative writing. Her passion for public service has allowed her to work for a nonprofit organization that provides academic assistance for at-risk teens from her hometown. She was a recent Rutgers Summer Service Internship recipient where she was a communications intern at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Greater Newark. When at school, Ayana's academic and research interests are in American politics and military history. She is an Aresty Research Assistant conducting a study on gubernatorial incumbents who face strong opposition for reelection in November. Her research also focuses on the thirty-six gubernatorial elections for the Eagleton Center on the American Governor. When she isn't conducting research, Ayana enjoys writing and most recently has a published work in the Rutgers Writer's House Review. After graduation, Ayana plans to pursue a degree in law and hopes to help marginalized individuals with a career in public service.

#### **SEAN TONRA**



Sean Tiripat Tonra is a senior attending the School of Arts and Science at Rutgers University-New Brunswick, where he majors in political science with a minor in international and global studies. Born and raised in Edison, New Jersey, he has served as a Campaign Intern for the 2018 Tom Malinowski campaign in NJ Congressional District 7, a Political Intern at the Middlesex County Democratic Organization, a Progressive Turnout PAC Fellow for the 2021 state assembly campaign in NJ Legislative District 23, a Legislative Intern for Assemblyman Robert Karabinchak, and as a Research Assistant under Dr. Eric Davis studying the rise of global populism and youth democratic movements across the world. A member of the inaugural Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative cohort, he served as a community court clinic intern for the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Greater Newark. Currently, he is also an Intelligence Community Centers for Academic Excellence Research Fellow at the National Intelligence University, working specifically under the Data Science Intelligence Center to help leverage datasets across the U.S Government to support national security and intelligence community efforts. Furthermore, he serves in multiple capacities within the Rutgers community, this includes positions as President of the Scarlet Honor Council, Legislative Affairs Chair for the Rutgers University Student Assembly, Vice President of the Rutgers University Moot Court Association, Executive Editor for the Rutgers Undergraduate Law Review, and the Communications Director for Rutgers Democrats. Upon graduation, he plans to attend law school and pursue a career in international affairs and human rights.

## **JAKE TOPOLOSKY**



Jake Topolosky is a senior at Rutgers University-New Brunswick, majoring in political science with a minor in digital communications at the School of Arts and Sciences. Although he calls Bergen County, New Jersey home, he has canvassed for various political candidates in and out of state, including State Senator Ghazala Hashmi of Virginia, Dr. Arati Kreibich, candidate for New Jersey's 5th Congressional district, and Bernie Sanders for President in 2020. Outside of politics, he has had diverse experiences as an upstream marketing intern for the Stryker Corporation and an equipment transport volunteer at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, New Jersey. He was

a project planning and coordination intern at the Community Chest of Englewood as part of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship Initiative. As a member of the Pre-Law Society, Jake aspires to go to law school after graduation. In his spare time, he likes to write short stories, watch sports with friends, and read about international politics.