

For the first year I worked locally in Boise. Working at DirecTV in the call center and then helping Plexus with engineering and planning. At Plexus I helped plan better procedures that would help production rates. This wasn't my cup of tea. I decided to join AmeriCorps NCCC FEMA. This is a service member program that requires 10 months of service with the Department of Homeland Security. They have four separate campuses. I am stationed in the Atlantic Region in Baltimore, Maryland. I have been with this program for two months now. In this program I work in Congressional External Affairs for FEMA. My job is to be the liaison between FEMA and congressional members. Every week we have a volunteer service day that gives back to the community I am located in. I am currently on my way to New York City to work in the new World Trade Center for disaster mitigation. My major is helping me a lot in Congressional affairs. I understand how politics work and how congressional members act. I have already applied to be a Team Leader next year for AmeriCorps NCCC FEMA. I would love to see some College of Idaho students next year. My ultimate goal is to join FEMA and be assigned to headquarters in Washington D.C.

On another note. I would love to see about recruitment from College of Idaho. I wish I knew about this right after I graduated college. If possible I would like to send information to you for AmeriCorps. It's a great program and a great way to network!

Sarah Crain, 2015

The Political Economy department at the College of Idaho is completely what you make of it. There are incredible professors who will guide you, encourage you, and cheer for you but you have to be willing to invest your time and efforts to make it worth it for you.

There is not a clear cut path and I am an example of that. While at C of I, I was able to do two different study abroads as well as two internships that changed where I saw my future going. One with the United States Department of Agriculture working with their Office of Country and Regional Affairs as part of the Foreign Agricultural Service. Senior year was spent interning at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture in the International Marketing Division. From those two experiences I was super interested in working with agricultural and maybe studying agricultural economics after C of I. Instead I am spending my first fall out of C of I as an intern for Senator Crapo in Washington DC and then heading to Ecuador in February to spend a year in Quito teaching English to teachers at one of the biggest universities in Ecuador.

Trust your gut, your instincts, the education the department gives you and your heart to find where you belong. Trust me though POE is the way to go! Not only will you learn to write and read more effectively the professors will constantly push you as well as make you laugh!

Morgan Thornberry, 2015

Upon graduation, I first worked in McCall at Shore Lodge as a room attendant :) Then I worked for a month in Canyon Country Public Prosecutor's Office in Caldwell for one month and I left the States to the Maldives.

Since then I did some odd jobs like working as a Senior Admin Officer in the Maldives National University and helping with the Political Science Department.

Since August 2014 till July 2015, I was working for the Tourism Adaptation Project *(TAP) a Global Environment Fund project in partnership with UNDP and the Ministry of Tourism to increase the climate resilience of the country by strengthening the tourism sector. I was also awarded a Lund University Global Scholarship to study Environmental Management and Policy at the International Institute of Industrial Environmental Economics, and I have now successfully completed the first year, which is via distance. Tomorrow I am actually flying to Sweden to finish the second year on site, and will be in Sweden until October 2016.

I am tremendously grateful for the academic experience I had at the College of Idaho, especially to the Political Economy department. I believe that I received top-notch education from my dear Professors, and believe that the extreme support and counsel available at C of I, is quite frankly, hard to get in other places.

Hawwa Nashfa, 2013

After graduation, I gained some valuable practical experience through industry internships, one in Italy, one in Germany and one in China. These were all private sector internships, mainly in business development and sales.

After my internship year, I started attending the University of St. Gallen, pursuing an M.A. in International Affairs and Governance. Further, I was selected in a competitive process to enroll in a dual-degree at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, where I received an M.A. in Law and Diplomacy.

Throughout my studies, I have worked part-time in business development in the solar pv sector in Germany, as an assistant at the Institute of International Economics (SIAW-HSG) in St. Gallen, and joined two student consulting firms. I am currently writing my thesis and interviewing with major Strategy Consulting companies for a full-time position, in the long-run I am hoping to attain a PhD and possibly join the diplomatic service in Germany.

Daniel Wenz, 2011

Since I graduated I worked as a Regional Political Director for Montana GOP, I have also run voter ID and GOTV phone banks for legislative campaigns. I spent some time working as an ER technician and an EMT, and now I am going through Pilot training for the USAF.

Matthew Malek,

The great thing about pursuing a major in POE/IPE is that it's truly a well-rounded course of study. The major offers an opportunity to develop a wide-range of skills that find application in a variety of fields. Writing, research, and argumentation are perhaps the most transferable skills into any other field including media, communication, and advocacy among others. The trick is to build a track for yourself that will lead you to where you want to be, and C of I's PEAK offers just that. In my case, well before PEAK was introduced, I coupled my IPE major with a minor in Interactive Journalism. These formed the cornerstone of my passion in political communication

through the mediums of the media, diplomacy, and the news. After I graduated, I worked at the Palestinian diplomatic mission to the U.S. at the Office of Media Affairs where my classroom education about politics and media came to life. Shortly thereafter I began my graduate studies in International Affairs in Geneva, Switzerland, which I completed recently. Such opportunities could not have happened without the interdisciplinary approach the Department of Political Economy offers its students.

Dorgham Abusalim, 2012

Before I enrolled at the College of Idaho, I participated in American Legion Boys State, which started me thinking about education and employment in the public sector. Then, during my Junior year at the College of Idaho, my Poli Sci professor at the time brought a visiting faculty member to campus. This individual was then on the faculty at the University of Southern California, which at the time had a 'top 5' school of public administration. His enthusiasm for public service expanded my interest.

Following graduation, I was accepted at USC into the School of Public Administration, with assistance from the professor I had previously met. Connections, again. At SC my emphasis was in state and local government, and during that time in Los Angeles I was employed twice as an intern by the L.A. City Administrative Office, kind of like a City Manager on steroids.

After one year of employment in a consulting firm, I returned to Idaho, and was employed as a budget and policy analyst with the state Division of Financial Management, part of the Office of the Governor. During that time I met Jasper LiCalzi because I was responsible for interviewing and hiring interns for the Governor's Office and DFM during the legislative session. Jasper is pretty good with the public policy/administration segments of your coursework!

Then I was the Chief Fiscal Officer for the State Board of Education. A bit later I retired from state government, but within a month I was hired as the first budget director for the new community college in Ada and Canyon counties, the College of Western Idaho. After five + years, I retired again.

Working in the public arena, whether at the local, state or federal level, or in a non-governmental organization, can be highly rewarding. You may not have the exact path mapped out in advance, but your education at the College of Idaho, will help you immensely.

Jeff Shin, 1973

I grew up on a very small potato farm in Idaho. Very small. So I needed an interesting life. Political Science gave that to me. I was introduced to political thought, history, sociology, economics, art. I've never stopped expanding my knowledge in all those fields. After college I accepted a position with the CIA and worked in Washington DC, a terrific foundation for getting a sense of how our government works. I've spent much of my career working in the field of communication, with nonprofit and for profit organizations. I lived in Paris and London for six years doing freelance work; on my return to San Francisco I managed a large marketing communications group at Bechtel, Inc. My civic activity has included creating a nationally

recognized farmers market and sustainable agriculture center in the San Francisco Ferry Building and serving as the president of the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Institute. I also served as a San Francisco Planning Commissioner for five years. I have traveled the world and am now working full time as an artist and have been included in exhibits throughout the Bay Area and in Los Angeles and New York. Political Science was a big world; it inspired me to have life of challenge and variety. And it gave me the tools to dig deep for a more profound understanding of the world; how it ticks.

Beverly Mills, 1966

I took advantage of my senior year to take on an internship with US Senator Mike Crapo of Idaho. Since then I have served as the campaign manager for both sitting US Senators of Idaho, worked all over Idaho for US Senator Crapo and Risch, and was the Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor (now US Senator) Risch. As with the vast majority of those with careers in politics, it began with a simple volunteer internship that over the course of my career grew into a senior staff and advisor role. I am currently the Government Affairs Director of a nationwide trade association. Outside of politics, my CofI education and experience has led me to serve on the Idaho Board of Medicine, industry Boards of Directors around the Pacific Northwest and community leadership groups.

Matthew Ellsworth, 1999

The answer to Dr. LiCalzi's question is deceptively simple: you get the ability to critically analyze a large amount of data rapidly and to focus your analysis on a particular issue(s). I spent the first 23 years after graduation from the C of I as a Naval Intelligence Officer. I completed the post graduate cirrocumuli in National Intelligence at the Defense Intelligence University and Defense Language School (Mandarin Chinese) and was designated as a Space Systems sub-specialist. After I retired from the Navy, I spent twelve years as a contract employee of the Central Intelligence Agency (Deputy Directorate for Science and Technology) working as an Applications Engineer for overhead systems employment against competing target sets. Although a career in Space Systems Operational Management may seem a far cry from a degree in International Political Economics. The *sine qua non* is the ability for critical thinking and the ability to distill large data sets down to their constituent elements and present those finding in a clear, concise, briefings or point papers. My Political Science / Economics degree from the C of I gave me the background skills need for that type work.

Peter B. Decker, 1966

Since graduation I have had many opportunities in Washington DC to help further my professional and personal interests. Below are the major items:

Internship:

Intern at United States Trade Representatives Office in the Executive Office of the President: During the summer immediately following graduation I interned at the U.S. Trade Representatives Office in their South and Central Asia office. Of the intern cohort I was the only individual that did not possess a law or graduate degree (or a combination of the two). Though I

found the subjects interesting, I quickly realized that fiscal policy was not an area I would want to pursue long term.

Jobs:

Major Gifts Associate at People For the American Way: As a major gifts fundraiser and special events planner at a progressive 501 c(3) and c(4) organization I had the opportunity to quickly expand my national network in progressive politics and get to know the major players within Democratic political fundraising. I worked with individuals and philanthropic organizations to raise funds for program efforts.

Policy Analyst at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (hired as a contract employee through a consulting firm): As a Policy Analyst at HHS in the Administration for Children and Families in the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation I have the opportunity to conduct and assist in the evaluation of federal programs that serve low-income and at-risk populations, including youth and LGBT populations. In this role I assist with contract oversight, development of survey instruments, design of final deliverables, and other tasks.

Tyler Hatch, 2013

I graduated with a Political Economy major and History minor with the Class of 2007. Shortly after graduating, I started as a Field Coordinator with the Dino Rossi for Governor campaign in Washington State, building on several campaign internships and volunteer opportunities he partook in as a College of Idaho student. I then moved on to work as a Field Director in the 2009 Virginia gubernatorial race and a 2010 congressional campaign for then-candidate Jaime Herrera Beutler (WA-03). In 2011, I became a Legislative Correspondent for Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05), where I worked for two and a half years before joining the Government Relations team for the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA). In February 2015, I then returned to Capitol Hill as a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Dan Newhouse (WA-04).

Kyle Kunkler, 2007

I became a US Ambassador. Really. To Laos from 2007 to 2010. Of course, that was near the end of my career. Long before I graduated in 74, I had made up my mind to pursue a career in international development or international relations. To reach that goal, I knew I would need an MA and relevant experience working overseas, not necessarily in that order. With the support of my C of I mentors, I was accepted by top international relations schools and chose Virginia. With MA in hand, I joined the Peace Corps and was sent to Senegal to serve as a community development volunteer in a remote village. For two years, I lived the life of a Senegalese rice farming family and helped the villagers undertake several successful self-help projects. At the end of my service, USAID hired me as a project manager to run a couple of multi-million dollar development projects. It didn't take long, though, before I learned that the truly important decisions on who got what share of the US development pie were not made by USAID or by its mission staffs. Foreign policy authority was and is tightly guarded by the White House and the State Department. I wanted in on that so I took and passed the Foreign Service exams. In 1980, I was sworn in and embarked on what turned out to be a 33 year career. I served in Embassies (where the most interesting action is) in Africa and Southeast Asia and did less exciting but important tours in Washington - highlighted by a stint at the National Security Council. Since

9/11, State and Defense have been drawn ever more closely together and I have had the honor to be selected as senior diplomatic/political adviser to US and NATO military strategic commanders. I and my wife are now happily retired in Hawaii.

Professor Rob Dayley knows me well. He has brought or sent students to meet with me when I was serving both in Thailand and Laos. He also was instrumental in bringing me back to the College as the 2010 commencement speaker. I would be delighted to talk to students about a range of international career options, not just the foreign service but also international organizations and nongovernmental organizations for example. Anyone interested can contact me initially at this email address.

Ravic Huso, 1974

(The Department of Political Economy will provide Mr. Huso's email address upon request.)

I received my MS from Portland State in 2010 and then went into federal government work as an analyst at the Congressional Research Service.(I was able to receive a position there without a PhD through the Presidential Management Fellowship.) My area of specialization is the congressional budget process generally, and the authorization-appropriations process specifically. (This was the focus of my Master's thesis.) My work as an analyst is quite varied from day-to-day, but essentially involves three different congressional support functions: --confidential work for specific congressional offices, including written analyses of particular proposals or policy options, as well as informal consultations;--work that serves all congressional offices, including authoring CRS reports for general distribution to those offices and teaching classes on topics in my subject area (the appropriations or budget process generally, congressional procedure, or specialized topics such as government shutdowns); and --work on my own research agenda.

While my liberal arts education at the College of Idaho did not give me the specific subject matter expertise necessary for this position, it helped me develop a number of traits that have been equally important for this work. These traits include the ability to identify and independently pursue my own intellectual interests, and the ability to identify and evaluate various options to solve complex problems.

Jessica Tollestrup, 2006