

CORO CENTER FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP
FELLOWS PROGRAM IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Matthew Beagle
Oakland, CA
BA, Politics
University of California,
Santa Cruz



Matthew grew up in Oakland, California and studied African American history and urban culture while earning a degree in Politics. After graduating, he began working as a labor organizer with healthcare workers in the Bay Area and performing stand up comedy to share his observations. His experiences and travels have inspired him to pursue a career protecting the rights of the working class and ensuring the stability of American cities.

Erika Carlsen
Liberty, UT
BA, Politics
University of San Francisco



Erika is committed to advocating for traditionally marginalized groups through public policy. As an undergraduate, she participated in student movements that addressed immigration, workers' rights, and sexual violence. Her senior thesis explored the gendered relationship between rape and war in the Democratic Republic of Congo. As a fellow with the Institute for International Public Policy, Erika attended summer policy institutes and studied abroad in Spain. She plans to pursue a Master's degree in public policy with an emphasis on education and women's human rights.

Homaira Hosseini
Fremont, CA
BA, Political Science
University of California, Los
Angeles



Homaira's interest in public policy stems from her experiences empowering disadvantaged communities. After tutoring youth in socio-economically troubled areas and juvenile facilities, she became focused on eliminating educational barriers through policy work. As Student Body President of UCLA, Homaira implemented a deferred payment plan that helped low-income students pay fees. Homaira's humanitarian efforts for Afghanistan and her extensive travels have expanded her interests to international diplomacy. After Coro, Homaira hopes to obtain a joint degree in Law and Public Policy.

Jennifer Kern
San Francisco, CA
BA, Rhetoric
BA, Sociology
University of California,
Berkeley
(*Summa Cum Laude*)



Jennifer is a San Francisco native committed to advancing public policies rooted in equality, social justice, and respect for the dignity of each individual. For four years, she worked in non-profit advocacy focusing on public education and outreach. She authored white papers, op-eds, and letters to the editor and was featured by a wide range of national media, including CNN, *The New York Times* and *Newsweek*. After Coro, Jennifer plans to attend graduate school and continue her work on social policy issues.

Monica Kohles
Huntington Beach, CA
BA, Communication Studies
University of California,
Los Angeles



Monica plans to attend law school in the future to fight for equal rights and freedom of communication. Realizing the severity of the achievement gap present in the current educational system, she hopes to improve educational standards for children. While at UCLA, Monica served on the Undergraduate Students Association Council (USAC) as a General Representative. In this position, she advocated for lower textbook prices, developed an online apartment review, and hosted the first annual entrepreneurial tradeshow.

David Koken
Littleton, CO
BA, Political Economy
Minor in Public Policy
University of California,
Berkeley



David plans to utilize his Coro training and past educational experiences to help develop more cooperative, innovative approaches to global poverty alleviation efforts. In addition to graduating college with honors, he participated in two study abroad programs, served in an AmeriCorps leadership development program, and interned with the U.S. Department of State through a fellowship with the Council of American Ambassadors.

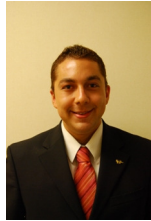


Susan Lieu
Santa Rosa, CA
BA, Social Studies
Harvard College



Susan is passionate about the interconnections of social enterprise and international development. She has served as a USAID humanitarian aid worker in Cuba, HIV/AIDS organizer in a Zambian refugee camp, and a youth organizer in a low-income Boston neighborhood. Most recently, she supplemented her knowledge as a chocolatier by spending a year in Vietnam working on a USAID public-private partnership focused on sustainable cocoa development. Through Coro, she hopes to understand how she can shape foreign policy to alleviate global poverty.

Jason Molina
Inglewood, CA
BA, Economics
BA, International Studies
University of California,
Irvine



Jason is committed to the empowerment of communities through domestic and international economic development. He is a Los Angeles native who graduated college with honors. While at UC Irvine, Jason co-founded the Transfer Student Organization that has been in existence for three years. His experience working on U.S.-Mexico border issues led him to work in Washington D.C. and Mexico City on border policy projects. In the future, Jason plans to work on public-private partnerships that lead to regional economic development.

Renita M. Nesby
Detroit, MI
BA, European History and
Literature
Franklin College Switzerland
JD, New College of California
School of Law



A native of Detroit, Renita obtained her B.A. in European History, Literature and French from Franklin College Switzerland. After graduating, she attended Institute Richelieu in Lausanne, studied French Language, and received the Alliance Francaise Diplome de Langue. She also received the Cambridge Certificate for Teaching English as a Second Language and taught English in Geneva. She then enrolled at New College School of Law where she received her J.D. Renita's goal is to work with an organization focused on the eradication of poverty.

Thomas D. Owens
San Francisco, CA
BA, History
University of California,
Berkeley
(*Magna Cum Laude*)



Thomas is a sixth-generation San Franciscan. He has volunteered for numerous political campaigns, completed an internship in Washington, D.C., and recently ended his term as Senator at his alma mater. He hopes to obtain hands-on experience in both the public and private sectors. Thomas hopes to attend law school and is particularly interested in constitutional law. He plans to work on political campaigns or in the government sector.

Malcolm Penton
Richmond, California
BA, African American Studies
University of California,
Berkeley



Malcolm is committed to a career in public service. He hopes to remove the institutional barriers that prevent people from opportunities that could constructively affect their lives. In his studies abroad in Jamaica, Africa, and Cuba, he has seen first-hand the benefit of collective responsibility. Malcolm spent seven years exploring issues that affect foster youth and the foster care system. During that time, he worked for several non-profits including Casey Family Programs, Pivotal Point Youth Services, and co-created the Speakers Bureau for the Independent Living Skills Program.

Cici Vu
San Francisco, CA
BA, Political Science
University of California,
Davis



Cici hopes to integrate her compassion, activism, and extensive professional and nonprofit experience with her Coro training in public affairs to bring about penetrating change and equality for women, children, and homeless individuals in our local and global communities. After Coro, Cici plans to attain a joint degree in law and public policy, enabling her to advocate for change most effectively at the policy level. She served as an ACLU Civil Liberties Counselor and is an esteemed member of its Board of Directors.

