

# Meet Some of Our Interns

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"The most fulfilling aspect of my Capitol Hill internship was experiencing firsthand how diverse the responsibilities of a Congressional office are. When most people think of politics, it is natural to think only of the big ticket legislation and the House of Cards style politicking. The reality is much less dramatic but far more important. In this internship, I had an opportunity to view or engage in constituent correspondence, policy research, Congressional briefings and hearings, and press communications. I think it is critically important for anyone interested in a career in public policy or public service to participate in this internship because it really provided me with a broader understanding of how the government operates on a day-to-day basis. I am currently a student at Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia."

- Ryan Ansloan

"Three years after this wonderful experience, I am now in my third year of law school at UNM law, I will be graduating in May of 2018. I credit the Fred Harris internship with helping get to this point in life. I believe the internship assisted in me gaining in confidence, which is an invaluable asset in the legal profession."

- Jaclyn Page (third from the left)



“The most memorable experience in this internship was the opportunity to be a part of some real change, to be at the forefront of the will of the people culminating into actual decisions. Every day you go into work, with absolutely no idea what you’ll be tasked with doing, one day you’re helping put together a memorandum on the economic benefits of DACA, while the next you’re attending a briefing on stem cell research. The breadth of knowledge you’re exposed to is unprecedented, the talent of the people you surround yourself with is beyond exceptional, and the rigor of the work you’ll be confronted with will be one of your greatest academic challenges.”

- Mark Bridwell (left) with Senator Martin Heinrich (right)



“I am currently pursuing a J.D. from The Howard University School of Law. I am humbled and honored that I may study the law at a Historically Black University such as Howard. My fields of interest include litigation, criminal law, IP law, and sports law.”

- Malik Baker





“I completed the Fred Harris program in the fall of 2016 and it has remained one of the most monumental experiences I've encountered, both personally and professionally. The program is challenging, rigorous, and life-changing; all designed to prepare you for the realities of government and public service. Some days, Congress is at a stand-still, sometimes even shut down. Other days, Congress moves at whirlwind speeds and you'll forget you have a life outside of it. All days, however, you are quite literally witnessing history and playing a role in it.”

- Adan Serna

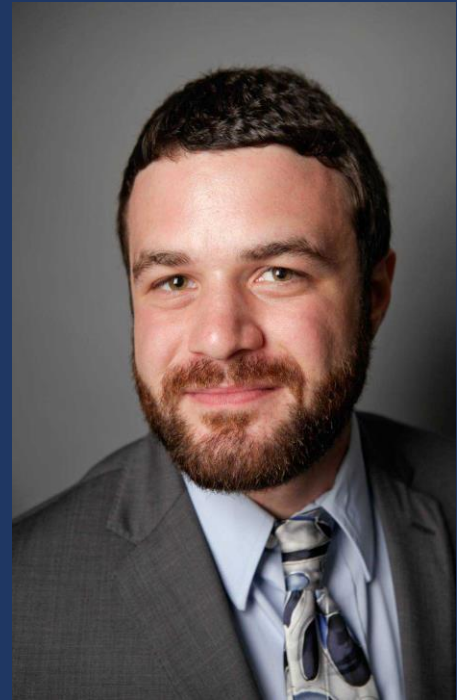
“The Fred Harris Congressional Internship was an incredible experience; an opportunity to see first-hand how a Congressional office operates, to better understand the workings of our government in DC, and to engage in dynamic networking opportunities. Beyond the internship experience itself, the course with Senator Fred Harris and various guest speakers provides the opportunity to supplement the experience with classroom-based instruction.”

- Hannah Wood (right)



“The UNM Fred Harris Congressional Internship provided such a valuable experience to me and my career trajectory. I wouldn't be where I am today without the support, teaching, networking, and experiences that UNM, Fred, and the internship provided. The program helped enrich my knowledge of the inner workings of the United States government through integrated, hands-on learning experiences and provided me an unforgettable semester which afforded me an insightful look into modern politics in America.”

- Jordan DiMaggio



“My work on Capitol Hill inspired many questions about how members of Congress behave inside and outside the institutions. As a result, I decided to pursue a Ph.D. in American Politics. Today, I am a second-year graduate student at the University of California, Davis studying American Politics, specifically congressional elections and Congress.”

- Sharif Amlani



“Once I graduate in May 2018 with 2 B.A.s from UNM, I will move to New Orleans to work as a Special Education teacher in the 9th Ward at George Washington Carver High School. This is through Teach for America, which places grads into high need classrooms all across the country. After my two year commitment, I am looking at many career options that will continue to allow me to give back to the community I am in, like education policy or law. I want to "retire" to be a child psychologist in Israel or own a large dog breed rescue.”

- Aubie Knell

“Every day of my Fred Harris internship was a learning opportunity that gave me the experience I needed to get hired on Capitol Hill and launch a career in Washington. I'll never forget the two days I spent sitting five feet behind Senator Bingaman during a committee markup to try and reform No Child Left Behind. I not only got to see a congressional committee in action but the staff as well--all the way from preparations beforehand to the end. The internship ultimately led to two jobs in the Senate and my current job as a senior policy analyst at a think tank, the Bipartisan Policy Center, working on reforming our government and political institutions and strengthening our elections systems.”

- Michael Thorning

