2015

Poli Sci alums, students headed to graduate, law school

Sarah Gardner  
*Dominican University of California, sarah.gardner@dominican.edu*

Dave Albee  
*Dominican University of California, david.albee@dominican.edu*

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Students and alumni from the Department of Political Science and International Studies are heading to Stanford, Georgetown, New York University, the University of Edinburgh, Willamette University to attend either graduate or law school this fall.

Audrey Curtis ’09 was admitted to law school at Harvard University, NYU, Northeastern University, University of California Berkeley, University of California Los Angeles, and University of Southern California. She will attend NYU.

While at Dominican, Audrey’s research paper “Manly Women: A Look at the Effects of Masculine Qualities on Women’s Political Success” was published in the spring 2009 issue of the Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics. The paper aimed to find a correlation between the number of masculine traits possessed by female politicians and the level of power they achieve. The Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics publishes manuscripts of the highest quality in all areas of political science from undergraduates of any class or major. In general, papers selected for publication have been well-written with a well-developed thesis, compelling argument, and original analysis.

Magdalena Fitipaldi ’15, a student in Dominican's Department of Political Science and International Studies, was admitted to the Global Studies graduate program at University of California Santa Barbara, and the Latin American Studies graduate programs at University of California Los Angeles, University of California San Diego, and Stanford University. Magdalena will be attending Stanford.

Magdalena recently was named the recipient of a 2015 Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact. Nominated for the honor by Dominican President Mary B. Marcy, Magdalena has demonstrated her investment in finding solutions to the challenges that face communities throughout the country. The Newman Civic Fellows, sponsored by the KPMG Foundation, recognizes students who represent the next generation of public problem solvers and civic leaders.

Adrienne Formentos ’10 was admitted to Global/Public Health graduate programs at Boston University, Emory University, George Mason University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, University of Maryland, and Tufts University. Adrienne will be attending Georgetown.

In 2010 and 2011, Adrienne gained experience in both community outreach and patient advocacy while serving as a member of the Vincentian Service Corps. She worked at St. Vincent's Medical Center in downtown Los Angeles.

Vanessa Hanson ’15 was admitted to University of Edinburgh’s graduate program in Global Crime, Justice and Security, the graduate program in Intelligence and International Security at King’s College of London, the Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies graduate program at Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, and the International Studies graduate program at University of Washington. Vanessa plans to study at University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

This spring Vanessa presented her research on “Looted Antiquities: Economic Opportunity for Terrorists” at the Southwestern Political Science Association conference in Denver and to the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Melissa Graveson ’15 will be attending law school at Willamette University. In 2014, Melissa was initiative into Dominican’s Alpha Delta Omicron chapter for Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science national honor society.

A Political Science major with a concentration in Public Law and History, Melissa in 2013 interned at Restorative Justice Diocese of Santa Rosa. She is member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman Honor Society and Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society.