

2015 FASPE Fellows

2015 Business Fellows

Daniel Abel

Graduated from the European School of Management and Technology in 2014

Daniel Abel lives in Berlin, Germany, and has a background in communications and business administration. Over the past seven years, Daniel has worked in various PR positions, supporting companies with their public relations. His last assignment was in China, where he worked for the German Chamber network. Daniel has been confronted with moral dilemmas in the corporate world in various instances.

Elana Berger

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Elana Berger is a first-year student at MIT Sloan, interested in marketing in the CPG/food industry. Elana moved to Boston in 2011 to work at Bain & Company. Prior to that move, she spent a year living in Madrid, Spain, on a Fulbright Scholarship, working at a bilingual secondary school. Elana is fluent in Spanish and takes every chance she can get to speak it. She received her undergraduate degree from Duke University and remains a huge Blue Devil fan.

Elizabeth (Liz) Bershad

Harvard Business School
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Liz Bershad is originally from Montclair, New Jersey, and is currently getting an MBA at Harvard Business School. She went to college at Yale University, where she studied ethics, politics, and economics, and focused on international development. After school Liz worked at Bain & Company, a management consulting firm in New York. She took time off to work with small businesses in Kenya and to work at a startup fitness company in San Francisco. Liz is passionate about community service and has volunteered in domestic microfinance, hunger and homelessness, non-profit consulting, and nutrition education.

Yodit Beyene

University of Michigan, Stephen M. Ross School of Business
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Yodit Beyene is completing her MBA degree at Michigan Ross specializing in finance and strategy. Prior to business school, Yodit worked for seven years in sub-Saharan Africa as an international development professional, promoting private sector development, agriculture policy reform, and higher education initiatives. She is passionate about stimulating the entrepreneurial space in the growing economies in Africa, and she aspires to one day lead a fund to launch the innovations of young entrepreneurs in her home country of Ethiopia.

Trevor Diffley

Emory University, Goizueta Business School
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Trevor Diffley is an army veteran from Northern Virginia and is in his first year of the MBA program at Goizueta Business School at Emory University. This summer, Trevor will be interning as a general manager with Danaher Corporation. He and his wife celebrated three years of marriage in January, and later that month welcomed their baby girl, Priya, into the world. In his free time, Trevor enjoys playing rugby, scuba diving, or smoking a pork shoulder on his back porch.

Julia Dudda

European Business School
Anticipated Graduation: 2017

Julia Dudda is from Cologne, Germany. During her BA studies (majoring in hospitality management), Julia got the opportunity to live in Swiss cities such as Montreux and Geneva. Internships and an exchange semester also brought her to London and Canberra, Australia. After her BA studies, Julia felt like it was time to go back to Germany, where she completed an MA at the European Business School (located close to Frankfurt). Julia decided to stay in the lovely Rheingau region and at EBS for her PhD in strategic marketing.

Julia Elkemann

Berlin School of Economics and Law
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Julia Elkemann is 26 years old and has been living in Berlin for the past four years. She is currently finishing her first year in the MBA program at the Berlin School of Economics and Law with a focus on the financial industry. Before pursuing her MBA, Julia worked for a medium-sized consultancy company in Berlin. She also worked for a large German bank for about six years. Besides working and studying, Julia enjoys sports, especially running and skiing.

Martin Fast

FH Wien University of Applied Sciences for Management and Communications
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Martin Fast is 25 years old and finished his BA in banking and finance last year. In the course of his undergraduate studies, Martin travelled to Vancouver for two terms to get a BTech in accounting. At the moment, Martin is working toward an MA in financial management and controlling. In addition, for the past two years, he has been working in the branch strategy and development team of an Austrian bank. Outside of schooling and work, Martin is interested in film and theater and likes to run and play soccer.

Hugo Santillan

Yale School of Management
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Born in Puerto Rico and raised in New York, Hugo Santillan graduated from Pace University. He is an alumnus of Sponsors for Educational Opportunity and Management Leadership for Tomorrow, and a current fellow of the Robert Toigo Foundation. From 2007-2012, Hugo worked as an investment banker at Lehman Brothers and Barclays in the technology, media, and telecommunication group. Motivated to better understand our nation's education system, he then left the finance industry to complete a ten-month fellowship with Education Pioneers – a non-profit funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. At the Yale School of Management, Hugo serves as senator on Student Government.

Jacob Shmukler

University of Virginia, Darden School of Business
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Born and raised in the suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia, Jacob Shmukler stayed in the area to study economics and Russian at Emory University. After college, Jacob moved to Washington, DC, to work in the health care industry: two years studying health policy at the Cato Institute (a libertarian think tank) and two years advising hospital executives at a DC-based consulting firm. After Darden, Jacob will be working in marketing and strategy for Cigna, a health insurance firm based in Hartford, Connecticut.

Anne Steptoe

Duke University, Fuqua School of Business
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Anne Steptoe is a first-year MBA student at Duke, where she studies health management and social entrepreneurship. She is actively engaged in helping launch health-related social ventures through Duke's Program for Entrepreneurs. She is also a cabinet member of Fuqua's Net Impact Club, Fuqua on Board, and Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital Club. Before Duke, Anne was enrolled as a medical student at Brown University and worked in public health research at Massachusetts General Hospital. In her free time, she enjoys listening to live country music, working through the novels she didn't get to read as an English major, and doing yoga.

Megan Wong

University of California Berkeley, Haas School of Business

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

From Seattle to Princeton to Berkeley, Megan Wong has spent considerable time on the east and west coasts of the United States. Her interest in business ethics stems from a number of factors: her deep interest in faith and work as a Christian, and her time in pharmaceutical consulting where she grappled with questions of purpose and values on both a personal and a corporate level.

Lindsey Anderson

Graduated from American University School of Communication in 2012
Currently a reporter at *El Paso Times*

Lindsey Anderson is an education reporter at the *El Paso Times* in Texas, along the U.S.-Mexico border. She graduated with a degree in journalism from American University in Washington, DC, grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, and has also lived and worked in Boston and southern New Mexico. Lindsey enjoys traveling, books, Netflix, greeting cards, and has recently taken up running.

Alyssa (Lisa) Creamer

Graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2014
Currently a reporter at WBUR

Lisa Creamer is a 25-year-old Boston journalist working for WBUR, Boston's NPR news station and *The Boston Globe*. In 2014, she graduated with a degree in journalism from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she was editor-in-chief of the campus newspaper, *The Daily Collegian*. In 2012, Lisa interned for the Huffington Post in New York. Before moving to Boston, she lived mostly in Western Massachusetts, where she took classes in acting and dance at a conservatory theatre for six years.

Jessica Davey-Quantick

Queen's University
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Jessica Davey-Quantick is finishing her MA in cultural studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, where her thesis deals with environmental justice and environmental racism during last summer's dump fire in Iqaluit, Nunavut. Jessica received an honors BA in journalism from the University of King's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and worked at newspapers in Ontario, Alberta, and Nova Scotia before moving to the Middle East where she spent five years in Doha, Qatar, first as the editor of *Qatar Happening* and then as the editor of *Time Out Doha*. Jessica loves to travel and read books on her Kindle.

Kristian Jebsen

New York University, Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Kristian Jebsen is currently completing his MA in journalism at NYU and holds a BA from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Prior to coming to NYU, Kristian lived in Latin America and, more recently, in Ghana, where he worked for Journalists for Human Rights. Kristian is interested in many things, but in particular he focuses on issues of natural resource extraction and conflict, as well as themes of collective guilt and national trauma.

Alexandra Levine

Columbia Journalism School
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Alexandra Levine graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2012 and is currently completing her MA at the Columbia Journalism School. Prior to Columbia, Alexandra spent two years working in digital marketing for American Express, and—outside of work—doing improv and writing sketch comedy at Amy Poehler’s Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre. Alexandra’s dream job would be to work in long-form journalism, writing for a general interest magazine or investigative comedy show, such as “Last Week Tonight with John Oliver.” Alexandra grew up in New Jersey, the middle child between two brothers.

Joanna Plucinska

Graduated from Columbia Journalism School in 2014
Currently freelancing as a multi-media journalist

Joanna Plucinska is a Polish-Canadian multimedia journalist and a digital media associate at the Columbia Journalism School. She is currently shooting a documentary about the remaining Russian nobility in New York City and has covered everything from the Quebec student protests to the state of the media in the Central African Republic. Born in Canada, Joanna lived in the United Kingdom, France, and Singapore before moving to New York City to attend Columbia. In 2013, she earned a BAH in political studies from Queen’s University in Canada. Joanna speaks fluent Polish, English and French, conversational Spanish, and is now learning Russian.

Krzysztof Sadomski

Jagiellonian University
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Krzysztof Sadomski was born in Warsaw and is now working on an MA in journalism at Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Krzysztof loves adventure, travelling, sports, reading, and writing. In his previous travels, Krzysztof participated in the Erasmus exchange program in Salzburg, Austria, worked as a scratch card seller in Dublin, Ireland, and served as a postman in Frankfurt, Germany.

Laura Smith

New York University, Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Laura Smith is a journalism graduate student at NYU in the Literary Reportage concentration. She is currently working on a long-form project about an outdoorswoman and author who disappeared in 1939. Laura loves running, hiking, coffee, craft beer, and traveling.

Alexa Talamo

Arizona State University Cronkite School of Journalism
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Alexa Talamo is currently a graduate student at the Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University. Her focus is investigative journalism and crimes against children. Previously, Alexa taught and lived on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Her personal interests include *krav maga*, drum circles, and open mics.

Katelyn Verstraten

Graduated from University of British Columbia Graduate School of Journalism in 2014
Currently freelancing for CTV Vancouver, *The Toronto Star*, and other outlets

Katelyn Verstraten is a Canadian journalist specializing in health and science reporting. Her journalistic skills have been honed in three of Canada's top newsrooms – *The Toronto Star*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *The Vancouver Sun*. Katelyn holds a masters of journalism from the UBC Graduate School of Journalism (2014) and an honors BA in psychology from Queen's University (2011). She is also a science writer for the Terry Fox Research Institute and NeuroDevNet, a Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence. From organic farms in China to interviewing leading cancer researchers across the country, science and medical writing is Katelyn's passion.

Alasdair Wilkins

University of North Carolina School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Alasdair Wilkins is working on his MA in science and medical journalism at UNC Chapel Hill. In 2010, he graduated from Harvard University with a double major in history and science (specializing in human evolutionary biology) and archaeology. Alasdair previously worked as the science reporter for iO9, Gawker Media's science fiction and futurism site, and now writes TV reviews for The A.V. Club, the pop culture section of *The Onion*. During college, Alasdair was a member of the sports department at the student radio station, WHRB, where he got to provide color commentary and play-by-play for three Harvard-Yale football games. For fun, Alasdair currently co-hosts the podcasts "Debating Doctor Who" and "The Alasdair and Andrew Show." Isaac Asimov is his favorite author of all time, although John le Carré has been making a late surge.

S. Parker Yesko

University of California, Berkeley, Graduate School of Journalism

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Parker Yesko studies multimedia journalism and investigative reporting at UC Berkeley. Before heading back to school, she was a crime and courts stringer for *The San Francisco Examiner*. Her work has also appeared in the *Contra Costa Times*, *SF Weekly*, and *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, where she's covered local justice issues, housing, and gentrification. Parker was born and raised in New York City and now lives in San Francisco's Mission District. She is an avid runner, an amateur beekeeper, and a lover of all things noir.

Danielle Abada

Yale Law School

Anticipated Graduation: 2017

Danielle Abada is a first-year law student at Yale Law School who grew up on Long Island. Last year, she graduated from Cornell University, where she studied industrial and labor relations. After returning from FASPE, she will be interning at the United States Securities and Exchange Commission in their New York office.

Louis Fisher

Harvard Law School

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Louis Fisher is a second-year law student at Harvard Law School. He spent his childhood on Long Island, growing up in Dix Hills, New York, and then went on to attend Columbia University. After graduating from Columbia in 2011 with a BA in history and psychology, Louis spent two years in Miami, teaching high school English as a Teach for America corps member. At law school, Louis spends much of his time at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, a student-run civil legal aid office, where he represents low-income clients in landlord-tenant matters and post-foreclosure evictions. After law school, Louis hopes to pursue a career as a civil rights attorney. He spent his first summer working at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. and will spend his second summer working at Altshuler Berzon, a small labor, employment, and civil rights law firm in San Francisco.

Jana Jett Loeb

University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Jana Loeb is a third-year law student at Berkeley, where her coursework has focused on federal courts and constitutional law, as well as on comparative legal theory and Jewish law. A graduate of Brown University where she majored in biomedical ethics, Jana worked for two years as an admissions officer at Brown before pursuing a fellowship at Yeshivat Hadar in New York City, where she studied Talmud and Jewish thought. She was then a fellow at the Tikvah Fund, also in New York, studying comparative Jewish legal theory and helping to implement educational reforms in the ultra-Orthodox school system in Brooklyn. Jana moved west for three years, but will return to New York City after taking the bar exam to work as an associate at Boies, Schiller & Flexner. Jana loves to knit, sing, bake bagels, and read non-law school books for pleasure. Jana is originally from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and loves the Green Bay Packers and Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Adam Mendel

University of Pennsylvania Law School
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Adam Mendel is a second-year law student at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Having grown up in central Massachusetts and gone to college just outside Chicago at Northwestern University, he is grateful for Philadelphia's relatively tame winters. Like any true New Englander, Adam is an avid Boston sports fan with a strong aversion to all things related to New York athletics. Adam will be working as a summer associate at the New York law firm of Willkie, Farr & Gallagher after FASPE.

Bibeane Metsch-Gracia

University of Michigan Law School
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

After graduating from Williams College, Bibeane Metsch-Garcia lived in Paris, France, for 7 months before returning to her hometown of New York City. She then worked as a paralegal in the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York in the Terrorism and International Narcotics Unit. At Michigan Law, Bibeane was an articles editor of the *Michigan Law Review* and the president of the Criminal Law Society. Following graduation, she will work at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in New York and will then clerk for a judge in the Southern District of New York during the 2016-2017 term. In addition to the law and ethics, Bibeane loves cheese, horses, and documentary film.

Carla Pierini Losada

Northwestern University School of Law
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Carla Pierini Losada graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2009 with a BA in communications, minoring in English and psychology. After working with the Pan American Health Organization/WHO and the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Carla pursued a one-year accelerated MPH degree at Columbia University, completing her capstone project at UNICEF. Carla will graduate with her JD and MA in bioethics from Northwestern in May 2016. In addition to her academic pursuits, Carla is also a staunch animal advocate and a disciplined believer in healthy and sustainable food practices. When not studying in the library or volunteering at the local animal shelter, Carla likes to practice her Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Italian; indulge her penchant for science fiction; and fine-tune her amateur piano skills.

Nicholas (Nick) Reaves

University of Virginia School of Law

Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Nick Reaves is currently finishing up his third year of law school at the University of Virginia where he served as notes editor on the *Virginia Law Review* and participated in the school's Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. Following graduation, Nick will be clerking for Judge D. Brooks Smith in the Third Circuit before heading to Jones Day in Washington, DC. In his free time, Nick tutors at a local elementary school and also enjoys hiking in and around Charlottesville.

Rebecca Rosen

University of California, Los Angeles School of Law

Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Rebecca Rosen grew up in Southern California and attended the University of California, Berkeley, where she received a BA in history. During her gap year, Rebecca worked at Barnes & Noble and the immigration department at Neighborhood Legal Services. Rebecca will graduate from UCLA Law this May and will start working in Akin Gump's corporate group in October. Rebecca loves to bake, and her favorite television show is "Doctor Who." This semester she is working on editing and writing an evidence textbook and supplement. Rebecca's biggest accomplishment in law school has been her work as a study skills tutor for first year students.

Zachary Evan Shapiro

Harvard Law School

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Zachary Shapiro is in his second year at Harvard Law School. He received a BA in human health and medical ethics from Brown University in 2009 and an MA in biomedicine, bioscience, and society in 2012 from the London School of Economics. At Harvard, Zachary is continuing his study of the intersection of law, ethics, and biomedicine. He is a legal fellow at Harvard's Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Center, working on projects related to returning clinical trial results and the ethics of clinical trials. Zachary is currently researching concussions in youth football, as well as neuroimaging in criminal law.

Hallam (Hal) Stanton

University of Michigan Law School

Anticipated Graduation: 2017

Hal Stanton is a first year student at Michigan Law School. His professional interests include the role of law as a tool for governing social interactions, and the nature of individual and public rights. After graduation, Hal hopes to work as a civil litigator in Detroit. He came to law school after a number of years working in energy and manufacturing industries, in the U.S. and abroad. Hal enjoys rock climbing, running, and traveling.

Roxanne Strohmeier

University of California, Davis School of Law

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Roxanne Strohmeier holds a BA in politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an MPH with an emphasis in maternal and child health from the University of California, Davis School of Medicine. Before attending law school Roxanne worked as a program development consultant for the California Department of Public Health's Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division; and for Planned Parenthood in various capacities. At the University of California, Davis School of Law, Roxanne is a senior sections editor for the *Journal of Juvenile Law and Policy*, a board member of the King Hall Women's Law Association, president of Law Students for Reproductive Justice, and a member of a national Moot Court competition team.

Miaoting (Mimi) Wu

Columbia Law School

Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Mimi Wu hails from Wuhan, China and Millburn, New Jersey. She attended Yale as an undergraduate, double-majoring in English and political science, and is graduating from the three-year JD/MBA program at Columbia University. At Columbia, Mimi was a managing editor of the *Columbia Law Review* and an assistant editor of the Columbia Blue Sky Blog on Corporations and the Capital Markets. She was also a teaching assistant for "Managerial Negotiations" classes at Columbia Business School and the School of International and Public Affairs and for the "Introduction to International Politics" class at Columbia College. After graduation, Mimi plans to practice corporate law at Sullivan & Cromwell. In her spare time, she enjoys trying new restaurants and exploring the thriving food scene in New York City.

Shannon Allport

University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine

Anticipated Graduation: 2017

Shannon Allport is a fourth-year medical student. She hails from Houston, Texas, and attended The University of Texas before pursuing her medical degree at Penn. Shannon is interested in practicing internal medicine with a focus on addressing health disparities and studying barriers to accessing quality health care for underserved populations. Outside of medical school, Shannon is an avid traveler and loves to play soccer, cook, and knit scarves.

Jason Batten

Stanford University School of Medicine

Anticipated Graduation: 2018

Jason Batten and his wife Christine currently enjoy life together in Palo Alto, California. They have been married for almost three years and have three hilarious pets: Mango and Piña (green-cheek conures), and Chica (a Chihuahua). While Jason attends medical school, Christine is working as a speech pathologist at an East Palo Alto school. Jason is enjoying his experience as a first-year medical student immensely, but also misses his prior career as a high-school chemistry and physics teacher in low-income Los Angeles high schools.

Meredith Binford

Yale School of Medicine

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Meredith Binford is a fourth year medical student pursuing an elective year before graduation. Meredith was born and raised near Atlanta, Georgia. After graduating from the University of Georgia with a degree in microbiology, she completed a master's of health science degree in global disease epidemiology and control at Johns Hopkins University. Meredith completed her thesis work for this degree as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Dominican Republic, where her projects focused on food security, HIV and adolescent pregnancy prevention, gender dynamics, hygiene and sanitation (through the construction of aqueducts and latrines), and training community health promoters in preventive medicine. More recently, Meredith worked on a documentary film on the right to health in Uganda, served as the referrals director at the Haven Free Clinic, and coordinated the Global Health Seminar for students in public health, nursing, medicine, and the physician associate program. Meredith sees her future career at the interface of primary care, preventive health programming, and health access policy.

Danielle Bitterman

New York University School of Medicine
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Originally from Connecticut, Danielle Bitterman currently lives in New York City. She completed her undergraduate degree in ecology and evolution at Columbia University, where she conducted field research in the Alaskan tundra. Following college, Danielle worked at Weill Cornell Medical Center's reproductive endocrinology department. She is now a third-year medical student at NYU interested in oncology research and works in a pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia lab. Danielle is deciding between pursuing pediatric hematology/oncology or radiation oncology as a physician. Outside of school, Danielle enjoys hiking, camping, traveling, and tackling new pastry recipes.

Andrew Huang

Dartmouth University, Geisel School of Medicine
Anticipated Graduation: 2018

Andrew Huang is a first-generation Chinese American who was born in South Carolina and raised in the California bay area. As an undergraduate, Andrew attended the University of California, Berkeley, majoring in molecular cell biology and philosophy and receiving a range of great experiences in education field study, teaching organic chemistry, participating in basic sciences and bioethics research, and going on third world medical missions. As he completed his undergraduate studies, Andrew focused more narrowly on third world medical work and his philosophical and ethical interests in medicine. In the fall of 2014, Andrew matriculated at Dartmouth Medical School, where he continues to explore medical ethics and bioethics.

Samantha Kaplan

Yale School of Medicine
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Samantha Kaplan is a third-year medical student at Yale. Samantha grew up in Atlanta, Georgia, and graduated from Dartmouth College in 2009. Between college and medical school, she spent a year working on public health programs for an NGO on the Thai/Burma border, traveled around Southeast Asia, and worked in radiation oncology research in Boston. In medical school, Samantha has been actively involved in the global health curriculum and working for the student-run free clinic. During her first summer, she conducted qualitative research on hookworm infection in Ghana, and she continues to be interested in global infectious diseases. Next year, Samantha hopes to take a year off to do HIV research in either South Africa or Peru. Professionally, Samantha is currently deciding between internal medicine and emergency medicine and would like to pursue a career in international public health. In her spare time, she enjoys running, playing ultimate frisbee, and getting outdoors to hike and ski. Samantha is also an avid international traveler.

Aleksandra (Aleks) Olszewski

Harvard Medical School

Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Aleksandra Olszewski is a fourth-year medical student whose interests include pediatrics, critical care, medical education, and global health. She creates online educational materials for OPENPediatrics, a nonprofit global platform, and is active at Harvard's student-run free clinics. Aleksandra is originally from Poland, grew up mostly in Wisconsin, and attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison for college. Before medical school, Aleksandra worked as a behavioral therapist for autistic children. She enjoys drawing and painting, playing volleyball, hiking, and eating good food with her husband, friends, and family.

Victor Roy

Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine

Anticipated Graduation: 2018

Victor Roy is currently pursuing a PhD in sociology at Cambridge University in the UK, where he is examining pricing for new pharmaceuticals by using the latest available cures for Hepatitis C as his core case study. Victor is on leave as a medical student from Northwestern, where he also completed his undergraduate degree. While in college, Victor co-founded and served as executive director for GlobeMed, a network of university students partnering with communities around the world to improve health. His studies in medicine and sociology fuel a sense of purpose and fresh inquiry in him, and his passion for health and social justice issues comes from his grandfather, who was a rural doctor in India for 60 years. Victor enjoys poetry, music, strolling in the British countryside, and playing basketball.

Caitlin Rublee

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Currently a master's of public health and fourth-year medical student at the University of Wisconsin, Caitlin Rublee is committed to rural and community health. In 2011, Caitlin graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she earned a BS in biology. As an undergraduate, Caitlin applied her studies to her work on remote service trips to the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua. After graduation, she began medical school as part of the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM) program where she is active in promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and studying public health approaches to hepatitis C management.

Elizabeth (Lisa) Schamber

University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Lisa Schamber is a third-year medical student currently deciding whether to specialize in internal or family medicine. Lisa grew up in Louisiana, Iowa, Texas, and the California Bay Area, and she has attended school in Connecticut, Chicago, and Los Angeles. She has served her school as the ethics representative for her class for the past three years, including as vice chairperson and chairperson of the Ethics Committee. When not deeply entrenched in studies of internal medicine, integrative medicine, and psychiatry, Lisa likes to do acrobatic tricks while suspended from silk fabric 20 feet in the air.

Robert Smith

University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Robert Smith likes to think of himself as a “third culture kid.” While American by passport, he was born in Venezuela and has subsequently lived in six other countries. Robert graduated from Emory University in 2011 with a degree in linguistics and anthropology and then went straight through to medical school at Penn. Robert is currently in the middle of a year-long research fellowship through the Center for Emergency Care Policy and Research. He has a range of interests related to the intersection of language, culture, and health, which has led him to various areas of research in narrative medicine, social media, telemedicine, and qualitative methods. Robert loves to travel, laugh, eat great food, drink copious amounts of coffee, dance, and read.

Kelly Wolenberg

Vanderbilt University Medical School

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

A third-year medical student at Vanderbilt University, Kelly Wolenberg plans to pursue a career in pediatrics. She is originally from Richmond, Virginia, and, as an undergraduate she attended the University of Chicago, where she double majored in biology and religious studies. During medical school, Kelly has enjoyed working at Shade Tree, a student-run free clinic, as well as founding and leading the Ethics Club. She loves spending evenings and weekends with her fiancé Nick and their dog Brandy.

Matthew Young

Harvard Medical School and Harvard Law School

Anticipated Graduation: 2019

Matthew Young was born in Kansas City, Kansas, grew up in West Chester, Pennsylvania, studied government and health policy at Harvard College, and is now an MD/JD candidate at Harvard Medical and Law Schools. He is currently on his last third-year rotation, and though it keeps changing, he now has his sights set on internal medicine. Matthew is active within the American Medical Association and the Massachusetts Medical Society. He enjoys making music—piano, voice, or chamber. And he feels that it's a great honor to be a part of FASPE.

Margot Zarin-Pass

University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Margot Zarin-Pass will soon be a fourth-year medical student at the University of California San Francisco. Margot grew up outside of Washington, DC, moved to California for college, and has never left. Before medical school, she conducted research on how women with breast cancer make treatment decisions. Margot is interested in medical education, shared decision-making, patient-doctor communication, and medical ethics generally. Outside of school, she likes to hike, camp, rock climb, and swim.

Rachel Abdoler

University of Chicago Divinity School
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Rachel Abdoler has completed two years at the University of Chicago Divinity School, where she studies Arabic and focuses on theology and Islamic studies. This past year her program arranged for her to spend a year in Indianapolis, Indiana, to intern under Rabbi Dennis Sasso at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. In the fall, Rachel will resume her studies in Chicago for what she hopes is her final year in the master of divinity program. In her free time, Rachel enjoys cooking and baking. Rachel also has aspirations of being a handy-woman and has successfully built furniture and changed the heating element in a dryer. She would love to someday add upholstery and basic car maintenance to her skill set.

Elizabeth (Liz) Andrasi

Baylor University, George W. Truett Theological Seminary
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Elizabeth Andrasi grew up in Austin, Texas with her parents and multiple pets. She earned a degree in psychology from Texas A&M University where she also served in various capacities in the Memorial Student Center. Elizabeth loves travelling—always has—and began Truett Seminary in Waco, Texas in the fall of 2012 with the goal of one day serving overseas as a missionary. She is now in her third year of seminary and her vocational calling changed as her passion grew to serve the local American church, perhaps as a pastor.

Jawad Bayat

Hartford Seminary
Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Jawad Bayat is a first generation Afghan-American born in New Jersey. He is a student at Hartford Seminary within their Islamic Chaplaincy program. Jawad has served as the Muslim chaplain to Fairfield University and as the Muslim coordinator for the Abrahamic Program for Young Adults at the Chautauqua Institution. He is currently completing the clinical pastoral education program at Overlook Medical Center in Summit, NJ, and his master's thesis on the topic of Islam and disability. Jawad has journeyed to Oman and Indonesia to further his study of religion, culture, and interfaith matters. Some of the things Jawad enjoys are being in nature, performing martial arts, spending quality time with his family, traveling, and watching movies.

Ayalon Eliach

Hebrew College

Anticipated Graduation: 2018

Ayalon Eliach is a rabbinical student at Hebrew College. He holds a BA in religious studies from Yale University and a JD from Harvard Law School. In addition to his academic studies, Ayalon was a Dorot Fellow in Israel, where he ran an after-school program for teenagers of Ethiopian descent. His professional career has included teaching English in Seoul, South Korea; interning with the U.S. Department of State's legal division in The Hague, Netherlands; and practicing tax law in a variety of settings. In his spare time, Ayalon enjoys running and competing in half marathons, playing basketball, and international travel.

Katherine Escalante

Luther Seminary

Anticipated Graduation: 2017

Katherine Escalante was born and raised in a suburb of the Twin Cities, Minnesota. As an undergraduate, Katherine studied religion and philosophy. After graduation, she lived and volunteered in Chimbote, Peru, a fishing port seven hours north of Lima. Although she had intended to stay for four months, Katherine ended up staying in Chimbote for over two years. While in Peru, she met and married her husband, Jose, who immigrated to the United States in the summer of 2013. Katherine started seminary that fall. Since then, Katherine and Jose have been working, studying, adapting to life in Minnesota, and reconnecting with family and friends.

Robert Hyde

Boston College School of Theology

Anticipated Graduation: 2015

Robert Hyde grew up in the rolling hills of the Berkshires in western Massachusetts. He is married to his amazing wife, Catherine, and was recently blessed with a beautiful baby girl. Robert is an active member of his denomination, the United Church of Christ, and will seek a called position in parish ministry after graduating from Boston College this May. He is a veteran of the Second Iraq War, during which he served in the U.S. Air Force. Robert loves to travel, is an avid backpacker and is passionate about social justice issues.

Judah Kerbel

Yeshiva University, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary
Anticipated Graduation: 2018

Judah Kerbel hails from Atlanta, Georgia, where his father is a rabbi and his mother works for a Jewish non-profit organization. He is currently in his first year at Yeshiva University's rabbinical school and hopes to also pursue a master's degree in Jewish studies. After spending a year in Israel post-high school, Judah spent three-and-a-half years at the University of Maryland, majoring in Jewish studies and psychology, subjects he still enjoys. Judah began playing violin at a young age, is now learning to play guitar, and loves music in general.

Michael LaMarca

Christ the King Seminary
Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Michael grew up in West Seneca, New York, a suburb of Buffalo, as the youngest of three children. He attended Medaille College in Buffalo, where he earned a degree in sport management. When, in his last year of college, Michael decided to enter the seminary to study for the Roman Catholic priesthood, it came as no surprise to his family and friends. He is now 28 years old and beginning his final year of studies for the priesthood.

Eric Martin

Fordham University
Anticipated Graduation: 2018

Eric Martin grew up in San Jose, California, and studied philosophy before teaching first grade in Los Angeles and the Bay Area for three years. Following this, Eric went on to study theology in Boston for two years. Before starting Fordham's doctoral program in theology, Eric taught classes on ethics and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. while working with the Catholic Worker in DC.

David Stark

Duke Divinity School
Anticipated Graduation: 2018

David Stark is a doctor of theology candidate at Duke Divinity School and an elder in the United Methodist Church, serving a congregation in Raleigh, North Carolina. David studies homiletics and the Hebrew Bible with a particular interest in the way proclamation helps shape just communities. David and his wife have a seven-year-old-son, who makes basketball, board games, beach trips—and life in general—all the more joyful.

Jaye Starr Boz

Hartford Seminary

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Jaye Starr Boz is a student of Islamic studies, Christian-Muslim relations, and chaplaincy at Hartford Seminary. Originally from upstate New York, Jaye recently settled in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with her husband. Jaye was inspired to study chaplaincy as a result of her work with communities impacted by armed conflict and natural disasters. She is interested in the tools of faith that can help heal individuals and communities in the wake of tragedies.

Luke Zerra

Princeton Theological Seminary

Anticipated Graduation: 2016

Luke Zerra is originally from Florida and is currently a second year master of divinity student at Princeton Theological Seminary. Luke previously earned a BA from Flagler College in St. Augustine, Florida. Drawn to chaplaincy, Luke is discerning a call in the Episcopal Church, and is interested in pursuing a PhD in theology and ethics. He has broad interests in Christian theology, generally centered around issues of religious language, the Augustinian tradition, and contemporary Christian theology. Outside of academia Luke loves to play guitar and is a huge Mountain Goats fan.
