

THE ROCKEFELLER CENTER
FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

WELCOME CLASS OF 2012!

Vol. 14 No. 1 • Summer 2008

*Celebrating 25 Years of Educating,
Training, and Inspiring the Next
Generation of Public Policy Leaders*

Q&A with Mentor Chris Marston '96

Chris Marston '96, acting assistant secretary for management with the U.S. Department of Education, so enjoyed his first experience mentoring a Dartmouth student last year that he is mentoring three this summer. We talked with Chris about the experience.

Why did you decide to mentor?

I've really enjoyed my time in public service, so I was excited that the Rockefeller Center has a program to get first-years involved early in public service, and I wanted to be part of it.

What does mentoring involve?

Rocky has done great work preparing the first-years for working in Washington, but nothing substitutes for direct experience and establishing a personal network. I try to help find opportunities, both in their work assignments and in developing our relationship, for the first-years to do both. We work together to determine their goal for the summer, and I do what I can to help them achieve it. Last year, the first-year I mentored really wanted to get into the details of a specific program and learn all about it, so I moved her from my office, which has more general responsibilities, into a program office responsible for grants administration. She learned about translating policy objectives into outcomes through grant programs, but we still met regularly and worked on establishing a network of people in Washington she could call on in the future to identify new opportunities and gain some real-world perspective on her government coursework.

Is it difficult working with three students this year?

It's fun, actually. It's definitely different. Last year, we were able to work more closely together and customize the experience. This year, I'm not as able to move them around the department and get different projects. But they're able to compare their experiences with one another and share some notes on what it's like being in different parts of the department.

What are your thoughts about the experience?

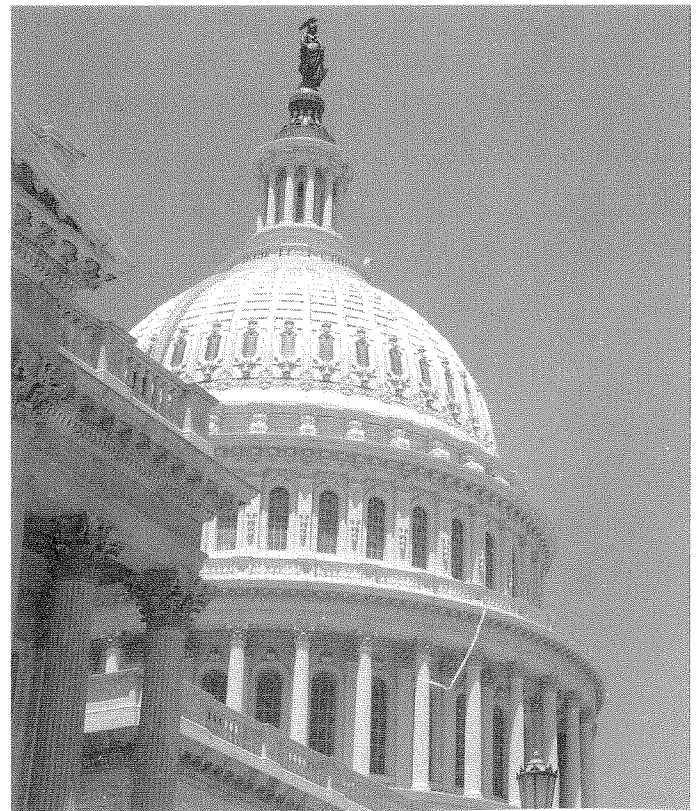
I am really impressed with how well prepared the first-years are. The feedback I've gotten from the folks that the first-years have worked with both this year and last was that they came into the department ready to go. We knew they were smart going in, but they impressed us with their professional bearing, adapted quickly to the work environment, and got some serious work done.

What are the benefits to the students?

They get an early exposure to what public service, and the federal government in particular, is like. I know some of the first-year fellows are not in government; they're at nonprofit organizations or in the legislative branch. But in terms of those I've worked with, they have benefited from a good exposure to what the executive branch is like, what working in the federal government is like, and some serious policy work.

What are the benefits to you as a mentor?

I really enjoy being involved in helping other people. It's fun to do that, particularly when they're from your alma mater, and, as it turns out, these students are adding real value to the department, so we're getting a good deal too.



ROCKEFELLER

Your go

Rockefeller Public Events

CURRICULAR

FIRST-YEAR FELLOWS PROGRAM

Learning & Living Public Policy for First-Year Students

- PBPL 5 "Introduction to Public Policy" (winter)
- STATISTICS or METHODS PREREQUISITE in any social science department (fall, winter, or spring)
- CIVIC SKILLS TRAINING
Five-day intensive training program in Washington, D.C., for first-year students (June)
- WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP with a Dartmouth mentor
Special internship opportunities with NGOs, government, nonprofits, media, and more (summer)

CO-CURRICULAR

PUBLIC

- PBPL
- PBPL
- PBPL

DISCU

- First-Y
- Agora
- Daniel
- PoliTA
- Wome
- Rocky

First-in-the-Nation NH Pri

Check it all out a

ROCKEFELLER at DARTMOUTH

our gateway to public policy

Public Events • Distinguished scholars, political figures, journalists, NGO leaders, analysts, and

PUBLIC POLICY MINOR — Core Courses

- PBPL 40 “The Economics of Public Policymaking”
- PBPL 42 “Ethics and Public Policy”
- PBPL 45 “Introduction to Public Policy Research”

DISCUSSION

- First-Year Forum
- Agora
- Daniel Webster Legal Society
- PoliTALK
- Women in Leadership
- Rocky VoxMasters

TRAINING

- Public Policy Internship
leave-term funding
- Civic Skills Training
Washington, D.C.
(September, March, June)

PUBLIC POLICY MINOR —

- Three topical courses, including a
Customized policy tracks in health, law, urban issues, or a topic of your
- PBPL 91 “Independent Study in F

RESEARCH & WRITING

- Policy Research Shop
- Senior Honors Thesis Grants
- *Dartmouth Law Journal*
- Dartmouth-Oxford Exchange
at Keble College

NH Primary & General Election • Presidential candidates, debates, for

out at <http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu>

MOUTH

analysts, and more

MINOR — Topical Courses

es, including a seminar
tracks in health, education, environment,
a topic of your own design

dent Study in Public Policy”

ITING

LEADERSHIP

s Grants

- Rockefeller Leadership Fellows

nal

- Student Organizations

Exchange

- McSpadden Public Issues

Forum Grants

s, debates, forums, etc.

CAREERS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

LAW

POLITICS

PUBLIC SERVICE

JOURNALISM

NGOS

POLICY ANALYSIS

ADVOCACY

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

th.edu

THE DIRECT LINE

Welcome to Dartmouth! Amazing opportunities await you at the Rockefeller Center: the public policy minor, the Policy Research Shop, student-led discussion groups, an undergraduate law journal, and a broad range of training and leadership development programs. I hope that you will make "Rocky" a big part of your Dartmouth experience.

Come to the Rockefeller Center to find a home, mentors, and peers as you get engaged with public policy. The Rockefeller Center has a specially designed First-Year Fellows program for the Class of 2012 that begins by taking Public Policy 5 in the winter of 2009. Outside the classroom, you can join a number of weekly discussion groups that

focus on world affairs, politics, law, or women's leadership. The public policy minor allows you to customize your own interdisciplinary plan of study around an important policy area, such as the environment, law, education, health, poverty, and urban issues. You can plan a leave-term internship and apply for funding through the Rockefeller Center.

The Rockefeller Center staff and I, along with Rockefeller student leaders from the classes of 2009, 2010, and 2011, look forward to meeting you at the Rockefeller Center's Open House in September.

Andrew Samwick, Director



Two Who Interned...

"Working at the Department of Education, I experienced the policy-making process firsthand. I was given the responsibility to analyze data and was able to present my findings to inform policy decisions."

—Brian Freeman



Brian Freeman was born and raised in Windsor, Conn. In addition to being active in several theater groups in high school, he taught in the local religious school and served as a student representative to the Windsor Board of Education. In 2007, he graduated from Windsor High School as valedictorian. At Dartmouth, Freeman is planning to pursue a major in government and a minor in public policy. On campus, he has worked as a student assistant in the Rockefeller Center; participated in WiRED and the Ten-Minute Play Festival; attended Rocky discussion groups, such as First-Year Forum and Rocky VoxMasters; and performed with the Dartmouth Chamber Singers. He sang with the Chamber Singers during spring break on their tour of Southern California. This summer, he participated in the First-Year Fellows program in Washington, D.C., interning for Chris Marston '96 in the Department of Education.

Karen Doster is from Basking Ridge, N.J., where she graduated from Ridge High School in June 2007. Her first fall term at Dartmouth she was elected as a representative to the student assembly and became involved in the DREAM mentoring program. This year, she served as the alumni relations liaison for the Class of 2011 Class Council and was recently invited to join the Hill Winds Society. Doster is also an active member of the Programming Board and a tour guide for the Office of Admissions. Her participation in an alternative spring break trip to New Orleans last March sparked her interest in urban politics. She is pursuing a government major, with a public policy minor, and spent this summer as an intern in the Office of Postsecondary Education at the Department of Education in Washington, D.C., under Chris Marston '96.

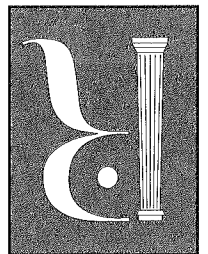


"I have had the pleasure of interacting with everyone—from appointed officials to federal employees to students. These interactions have been the most rewarding and memorable parts of my experience. I now have a deeper understanding of the issues facing higher education in the United States and what challenges we must confront to remain competitive in today's global market."

—Karen Doster

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Public Events September • 2008

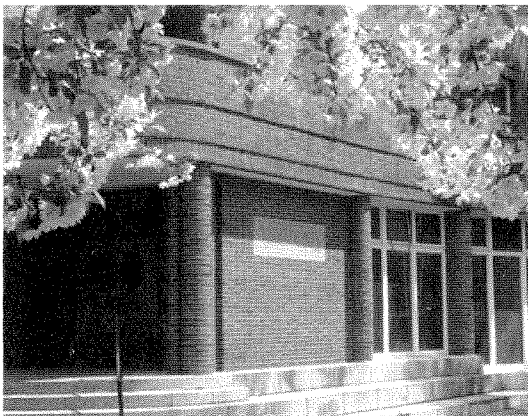
Don't Miss Rocky's First-Year Student Open House

Meet the faculty, staff, and students who make Rocky's programs rock.

Thursday, September 18 | 9:30–10:30 A.M.

Hinman Forum | Rockefeller Hall

Information | Student Leaders | Food



Richard P. Nathan

*Co-Director, The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government,
State University of New York*

"Nelson Rockefeller and the Future of Federalism"

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 4:30 P.M.

3 ROCKEFELLER HALL

A Constitution Day program

A Nelson A. Rockefeller Centennial Series lecture

Montgomery McFate

Senior Social Scientist, Human Terrain System, U.S. Army

"Using Social Science Research in Conflict Situations:

The Human Terrain System in Afghanistan and Iraq"

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 4:30 P.M.

3 ROCKEFELLER HALL