In and Of Washington 2007–2008 PAF Accomplishments

The Presidential Administrative Fellowship program exists to advance the objectives and reputation of The George Washington University through the philanthropic, academic, professional and personal contributions of its Fellows. Through the first year of President Steven Knapp’s administration, key goals have centralized the University’s direction: partnership with the community, dedication to research and commitment to the alumni community. Combining these goals with the PAF focus areas of academic, professional, and ambassadorial experiences, a lens is created to view the accomplishments of the PAF program during the 2007-2008 academic year.

Academic:
- Ravi Alfreds: His Masters in Public Policy capstone project is to work with the DC City Council to examine re-entry programs for ex-felons in Washington, DC.
- Josh Laxey: He is currently working on a project to assist Bethesda Green in an effort to create a sustainable community in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Professional:
- Steve Roch: He is currently working with The Washington Nationals Baseball Club as the Mascot Coordinator.
- Kenan Cole: He is currently developing, organizing, and presenting the following labs for Lab and Technology Days that outreach to middle school and high school students from Maryland, Virginia, and DC: Fall Lab Days in conjunction with GW Admissions, Potomac Middle School Electrical Circuit and Mechanical Labs, VA Campus Technology Day, Electrical Circuit and Robotics Labs, and Electrical Circuit Lab Day with a middle school group brought in through National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). Kenan gave a presentation on Mechanical Engineering to Thomas Jefferson Middle School Odyssey of the Mind students and she organized and hosted the Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS) competition for high schools from Maryland, Virginia, and DC.

AMBASSADORIAL:
- Fellows partnered with DC Today... DC Tomorrow and Thursday Marshall Academy to help high school students complete community service requirements. Fellows also took part in the AIDS Walk and Relay for Life this past year.
- Fellows presented at the Student Leadership Symposium, Leadership by Example in which Fellows discussed different leaders visible today and how to emulate their qualities.
- Kenan Cole and Josh Laxey helped organize the Community Breakfast during President Knapp’s Inaugural Week.
- Bianca Garcia, co-chairs GW’s first Relay for Life in the Smith Center on April 12, 2008. Relay for Life is a community based fundraising and awareness walkathon to bring survivors and supporters together to help fight cancer.
- Josh Laxey volunteers at Saint Mary’s Court in Foggy Bottom, teaching a current events class once a month to senior residents.
- Steve Keating teaches an elderly gentleman in the Foggy Bottom community how to use computers and the internet, several times per week.
- Sara Grimy volunteers monthly as an overnight volunteer at Calvary Women’s Services in Chinatown. While training for the St. Anthony’s Triathlon, she became an advocate for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through Team in Training. She also represented the George Washington University’s Rugby Football Club on the Potomac Rugby Union’s U-19 All Star Team in November 2007.
- Caitlin Carroll is a DC Cares volunteer and a Project Leader for Servathon. She also serves as a Columbia Heights Day planning volunteer.
- Ravi Alfreds is a Member of the Board of Alumni Advisors for the Theta Zeta Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi. This past year he organized the arrival of Journey of Hope 2007 on GW’s campus with the Office of Greek Life.
**ACADEMIC:**

- **Bianca Garcia** is a Student Association Senator representing the Elliott School of International Affairs.
- **Titi Williams-Davies** organized a PAF sponsored graduate school workshop for graduating seniors considering graduate school in general, and graduate programs at GW, more specifically. Online assistance was offered through SmartThinking.com for students seeking help on their personal statements and representatives from the Office of Graduate Enrollment Management presented information on getting into graduate school.

**PROFESSIONAL:**

- In his placement, **Ross Manukta** recruited undergraduate students at college fairs and high school visits for freshman and transfer admission to GW.
- **Carroll Wark** served as President Knapp's Inauguration “Lifelong and Worldwide Community” Day subcommittee as Assistant Inaugural Coordinator.
- With the help of Alumni Relations, **Steve Rock** built a WRGW Alumni Advisory board and helped to craft a Colonial Cabinet reunion during Alumni Weekend. In his placement, Steve also hired, trained, and mentored two Colonial Cabinets and two Colonial Cabinet Staffers (2007 and 2008). In his placement, Steve facilitated training and strategic planning for the program and its staff. He coordinated training, program logistics, contracts and client relations for CI. Additionally, he worked with campus partners to better integrate student life with the Colonial Inauguration (CI) experience. Finally, Steve also led events, helped develop a strategic plan for CI 2009 reorganization with his preceptor, Christine Cruzvergara. Together, they also coordinated a budget and contract process.

- As part of Engineer’s Week, **Kenan Cole** hosted a panel of four GW Alumni of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences to speak and offer advice to SEAS students about careers in engineering.
- **Katie Carder** works on Alumni communications initiatives, including management of Colonial Cable alumni newsletter and helping to redesign the GW alumni relations web site.
- **Lamaa Thibedeau** was responsible for developing and managing a number of fundraising and giving initiatives: GW Faculty and Staff fundraising campaign for 2007-2008, GW’s first Faculty and Staff Kick-Off Party, the Leadership Annual Giving’s African American alumni engagement strategy, GW’s first African American Alumni Reunion and Program on April 5th, 2008, and a $50,000 endowed scholarship and fundraising campaign on behalf of GW’s first African American Graduate, Samuel Liang Williams, in conjunction with GW’s Black Alumni Association. Additionally, he is currently developing a $50,000 endowed scholarship on behalf of Vice President Mike Freeman. He also serves as the manager to the Luther Rice Society’s Steering Committee, helping to plan events for recent graduates including prospective student athletes, and he organized and led parts of April Visit Days.

**AMBASSADORIAL:**

- All of the Fellows sat on the Inaugural Ball planning committee in varying capacities.
- **Rosa Malanu** was the Liaison/Host for GW to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Kabul University. He is also a member of the Young Alumni Network and a member of the Luther Rice Society.
- **Ellen Westley** was a member of the Young Alumni Network Committee and Luther Rice Society.
- **Carroll Wark** is coordinating Alumni Outreach for the GW Red Scarf Project and is a member of the Young Alumni Network and the Luther Rice Society.
- As a part of her placement, **Kenan Cole** leads tours of the Engineering School to prospective students and their families, including prospective student athletes, and she organized and led parts of April Visit Days.

**LOOKING FORWARD: 2008-2009 PAF GOALS**

As a class, the 2007-2009 Presidential Administrative Fellows have set their goals for next year.

- **In and Of Washington**
  - To continue to service the DC community.
  - As part of the commitment to community service, the Presidential Administrative Fellows plan to continue our partnership with various community groups to assist the greater DC neighborhoods. Utilizing our time and organizational expertise, we hope to enhance and help expand existing service initiatives originating from GW undergrads and targeted at local high school students.

- **Research and Discovery**
  - To continue to be an on-campus resource with increased visibility to University administration and student life.
  - Our role as Presidential Administrative Fellows puts us in a unique position to be a valuable resource and liaison between the University Administration and students. Over the course of the year, it is our goal to spread awareness of our abilities and to encourage administrators and student groups to take advantage of them.

- **Lifelong and Worldwide Community**
  - To increase and improve alumni connectivity.
  - The community of current and past Presidential Administrative Fellows is only loosely organized. Over the next year, we plan on updating all of our contact information and continuing to get back in touch with PAF alumni, both to encourage engagement with the current fellows and to develop a network that can serve as social and professional resource for all members.

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**PAF Pirates raised $2,000 for cancer research at Relay for Life.**

Bianca Garcia and Blair Alfreds are PAF Pirates at Relay for Life.
WHO WE ARE

BIOGRAPHIES:

RAVI ALFRED
Degree: Class of 2008
Placement: GW Homeland Security Policy Institute

RAVINDRAN ALFRED, Singapore, graduated from GW's Elliott School of International Affairs with a major in international affairs. Prior to coming to GW, Ravi spent two and a half years in the Singapore Armed Forces, where he served as an infantry sergeant. During his time at GW as an undergrad, he was highly active both on and off campus, serving in various positions within his fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi, and in the Interfraternity Council, while playing on the GW varsity squash team. Ravi also complemented his international background with international work by interning for the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations. He is graduating this May with his Master's in international affairs with a focus in security policy studies.

CAITLIN CARROLL
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Alumni Relations Office of Communication

CAITLIN CARROLL, Indianapolis, IN, received her undergraduate from the School of Media and Public Affairs with a major in journalism and minor in sociology. As an undergraduate, she worked for four years at The Hatchet, the University's 165-year-old award-winning independent student newspaper, and served as its editor-in-chief her senior year. She started her college career as a member of the Press Room Living and Learning Community, which traveled to London during spring break on a GW-sponsored research trip. Carroll is currently pursuing a master's degree in sociology and hopes to apply what she learns to a journalism career focused on social and cultural trends.

KENAN COLE
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

KENVIN COLE

Rocky Ridge, MD. Finished her undergraduate degree in GW's School of Engineering and Applied Science with a B.S. in mechanical engineering. She received the GW Outstanding Academic Achievement Award her sophomore and junior years, and was named a Distinguished Scholar her senior year. In addition to her time spent at engineering's Tongkins Hall, Cole's second home was the Charles E. Smith Athletic Center where she was a starter for the GW Women's Basketball Team. She was named to the A-10 All Academic Team her junior and senior years as well as to the A-10 All Conference Third Team her senior year. Cullinating her career with an NCAA Sweet 16 appearance, Cole also was named to the ESPN Magazine All Academic Atlantic First Team and the Division I-AA Athletics Directors Association Scholar-Athlete Team during her senior campaign. She is continuing her studies in Mechanical Engineering by pursuing Master's degree.

BIANCA GARCIA
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Alumni Relations Reunions, Groups and Clubs

BIANCA GARCIA, Austin, TX, graduated with a B.A. from the Elliott School of International Affairs and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Latin American and Hemispheric Studies concentrating in Business and Economics. As an undergraduate, Garcia was active in her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma, where she held various leadership positions. She also was engaged in the D.C. Latino community as a Congressional Hispanic Caucus intern. In the future she hopes to return to Texas and advocate on behalf of Latino issues.

SARA GIMMY
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Higher Education Administration

SARA GIMMY, Flemington, NJ, received a B.A. in Spanish language and literature and a B.A. in economics. She served as the vice president of GW Class Council and a captain of the GW Women's Rugby team. She also was vice president of standards in the Panhellenic Association, and an active member of the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society. Her experience with both student life and community has led Sara to pursue a M.A. in Higher Education Administration with a focus on higher education branding and marketing.

STEVE KEATING
Degree: Class of 2008
Placement: Office of the President Emeritus

STEVEN KEATING, Rochester, NY, recently graduated from GW's School of Business with a Bachelor of Business Administration, concentrating in international business and marketing. As an undergraduate, Keating worked in several offices at GW, including the President's Office, the Office of University Events, and the Office of Management and Enrollment in the Elliott School of International Affairs. As a FAF, Steven will graduate in May with a Master's degree in Business Administration.

JOSH LASKY
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Government, International and Community Relations

JOSH LASKY, Stamford, CT, graduated from the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences with a degree in political science and a minor in geography. Lasky served as Student Association executive vice president (2006-07) and senator (2005-06). He also worked for three years in resident life in multiple capacities including as a community facilitator (2003-05), dean (2005-06), and house scholar (2006-07). Lasky was co-captain of the Men's Ultimate Frisbee Club Team and a member of the 2006 Colonial Cabinet. His service extended into the greater Washington community as a Heads Up tutor in Mount Pleasant and intern on Capitol Hill. Lasky is a recipient of the J.B. Pritzker Award for Leadership in Student Government.

MATT SAUNDERS
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Special Media Projects for Vice President of Communications

MATT SAUNDERS, Valley Forge, PA, received a B.A. in electronic media and a minor in music. Saunders served as the general manager of both WRCW-Radio and GWTV, as well as president of Colonial Brags. He also took part in numerous first-year development programs including Colonial Inauguration, the Emerging Leaders Program, and Experience D.C. Outside of GW, Saunders has been working in television as a producer for a nationally syndicated program. He is currently pursuing an M.A. in the School of Business this fall.

LAMAR THORPE
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Division of Development and Alumni Relations, Leadership Annual Giving

Lamar Thorne, Los Angeles, CA, received a B.A. in Women's studies and sociology. He has held various leadership positions throughout the University, including president of the Student Association. As president, Thorne assisted in selecting GW President, Dr. Steven Knapp. Thorne also has worked in various other areas of student administration, including the Joint Committee of Faculty and Students, where he advocated for the creation of an Africana Studies program at the Elliott School and an initiative to put condoms in residence halls. Thorne is currently pursuing an M.A. in women's studies.

CARRIE WARICK
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Media Relations

CARRIE WARICK, Mechanicsburg, PA, graduated with a B.A. in international affairs and history. As an undergraduate, she served as the co-president of the 2006 Senior Class Gift Campaign and is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society. In her first three years of college, she served in the Student Association and the National Residence Hall Honorary. Off campus, she worked for more than a year with the National College Access Network, a non-profit that provides member services to college access programs with the goal of helping disadvantaged and first-generation students attend college. This experience led Warick to pursue a M.A. in Public Policy from GW's Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration.

ELLEN WEXLER
Degree: Class of 2008
Placement: Office of the President

Ellen Wexler, Northport, NY, served as chief of staff for the Student Association. Active both academically and socially at GW, Wexler is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and was a 2005 Colonial Cabinet member. As GW's campaign manager for Tea for America, Wexler is an ardent supporter of the organization. Off campus, Wexler interned at TASH, a nonprofit advocacy organization for equity, opportunity, and inclusion for people with disabilities. Her experiences at TASH and with Teach for America inspired her to pursue graduate studies in public administration with GW's Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration.

TITI WILLIAMS
Degree: Class of 2009
Placement: Graduate Licensing and Trademarks

TITI WILLIAMS, an international student from Nigeria and Britain, graduated with a B.B.A. concentrating in marketing and event management from the GW School of Business. During her time at GW, she was involved in several cultural and service student organizations including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the Organization of African Students, AATAS Persian Dance Group, the Black Student Union, and the Black Women's Forum. Williams-Davies also served the University in various capacities including the 2006 Colonial Cabinet, GW community facilitator with GW Housing Programs, a senior interviewer for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, and a student coordinator in the Office of the Senior Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services. She is currently pursuing an M.B.A.