

# School of Public Policy and Administration

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

March 2016 – Volume 4, Issue 10

### SPPA Student Profile

We are pleased to present our next SPPA student profile:

**Ghazal Haidary**, Sociology major/Public Administration minor



My name is Ghazal Haidary and I am in my fourth year of an Honours BA Major/Minor in Sociology and Public Administration. My university experience so far has been quite the ride. I knew that I loved sociology and that I excelled in academia, but it wasn't until I joined the Sociology Undergraduate Student Association that I realized I had passion for policy and administration. This led to me to think about going into a career that would allow me to apply not only my academic skills, but my problem solving, management and communication skills as well.

One fateful day, I was walking by the Founders assembly hall and I noticed there was a panel discussion going on about how to get a job in the public service and what it was all about. It was then and there that I had my “ah hah” moment. I met Professor Constantinou and Professor Kimakova and learned how perfectly the public administration program would complement my education. I hadn't heard of the program before this, so I looked at the courses offered by the program and it seemed right up my ally. I immediately got in touch with Professor Kimakova and started the process of minoring in public administration. This was one of the best decisions I made. I started right away during summer school of my second year and was not disappointed. After taking AP/PPAS 1110 3.0 Introduction to Public Administration I knew I had made the right choice. Now in my fourth year at York, I can say without a doubt that the public

administration program has enhanced my education both academically and professionally. The combination of Sociology and Public Administration has allowed me to gain both academic and practical skills. I am able to effectively conduct research, analyze policies and critically examine government decisions. It combines my interests in society, governance and politics and allows me to really enjoy the classes that I am taking.

One perfect real life example of how this combination of programs has helped me is the Internship I had last summer with the International Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) in Stockholm, Sweden. This was an incredible experience that was organized by York International. My main duties revolved around the management and promotion of the ACE - Electoral Knowledge Network, where I summarized expert forum posts, wrote case studies, and uploaded these and other content to the website. I worked collaboratively with IDEA's partner organizations around the world – United Nations Development Program, Elections Canada and the International Foundation for Electoral systems (IFES) to name a few. It was the organizational skills, writing skills (specifically policy) and research skills I garnered through my two programs that allowed me to succeed at such a prestigious organization. It was also the unique combination of my education and experiential learning involvement that enhanced the confidence in my skills and leads me to take more initiative and do tasks beyond my role. For instance, writing the proposal and first draft of a policy paper that will soon be published by IDEA. The experiential learning I am referring to is my involvement at York. I am highly involved within the sociology department as the President of the Sociology Undergraduate Student Association. I am also one of the student representatives for the LA&PS Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Success. In the past I have been a YU start mentor, a Leadershape Institute graduate, and Student Success Leader. All of these experiences have allowed me to truly grow as an individual and have taught me invaluable professional and leadership skills. I have also been an avid supporter of the Public Policy and Administration Student Association (PPASA) by attending their many events. These events provided excellent networking experiences and insider knowledge on working in government, which have been extremely helpful. I am looking forward to getting more involved with PPASA next year. I know how important it is for students to complement their education with the practical skills that being involved on campus can provide. I highly encourage all students who are looking to give themselves a competitive edge upon graduation, to look into the Public Administration program, and to get involved with their student association. These two parts of my education have truly changed my experience at York for the better and I am so excited to see where it takes me in the next year. – **Ghazal Haidary**

## The IPAC/CAPPA National Annual Case Study Competition

The IPAC/CAPPA National Annual Case Study Competition was the highlight of our year as MPPAL students. It gave us the opportunity to foster a wide variety of transferable skills that work to better my academic and professional career. Working closely with the team; rehearsing the best ways to communicate with judges, and each other, during the presentation; compiling an audience friendly PowerPoint; and developing policy options and implementation strategies were just a few of many. The competition gave us the opportunity to connect with prominent policy professionals and academics as well. Through participating in the University of Ottawa's Expert Roundtable, we were given access to network with a Public Sector Vice President, a Special Advisor to the President at CBSA, and a former president and CEO of a widely acclaimed public policy forum. From the first day of preparation at York University to the day of the competition at the University of Ottawa, we feel that we have grown and developed significantly as both students and professionals. This experience was without doubt an unforgettable one. It didn't only give us the experience of analyzing and implementing policy in a competitive setting, but also the opportunity to represent and distinguish York University as a conduit for tomorrow's brightest policy professionals.



Photo: (left to right) Coach Naomi Couto, students Venesse Lewis, Andrew Farah, Ashley Cabral, Shireen Salti, and coach John Wilkins.



# INTERESTED IN LAW PUBLIC POLICY and MANAGEMENT?



*Explore the Interdisciplinary*  
**Bachelor of Public Administration**  
*Program*

**WEDNESDAY**  
**MARCH 16**  
**1-2:30PM**

**140 McLaughlin College**  
(Senior Common Room)

*Come and talk to alumni, current students and faculty from the  
School of Public Policy and Administration*

### **School of Public Policy and Administration**

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## **SCLD work-study and volunteer applications are now live**

Student Community and Leadership Development (SCLD) is hiring for multiple positions in all units throughout the department for both Summer and Fall/Winter 2016-17. Our positions build leadership skills, community and York pride and give you an opportunity to get involved with student life. Most these positions are work-study positions as well volunteer positions and are open to both domestic and international undergraduate students.

[Learning Skills Services](#) - Helping students figure out how they can become more effective learners.

[Club Peer Mentor](#) - Mentor and support student clubs to achieve their goals.

[Health Education and Promotion Peer](#) - Have a passion for health and wellness? Want to have an amazing experience with a tight knit group of fun people? Want to wear the famous green shirt? We are looking for volunteers and work study students to facilitate our programs, activities, campaigns and events and lead our health topic teams!

[Media & Communications Ambassador](#) - Create, inspire, and empower through new and diverse communications media.

[RED Zone Ambassador](#) - Help transition new students to York University and be part of a welcoming team that impacts students both in-person and online.

[York Leadership Assistant](#) - Leadership is not about position, but impact. Make an impact. Join the Leadership team!

[YU START Student Coordinator](#) - Open to current and graduating students, the YU START Student Coordinator position offers a fast-paced, leadership-heavy, administrative working environment which serves as a great transition between school and a professional career.

[Click here](#) to learn more about working at SCLD

## **Interparliamentary Relations Coordinator Parliamentary Protocol and Public Relations Branch Legislative Assembly of Ontario - Toronto**

This key role is well-suited to a proactive, bilingual communicator, fluent in English and French, with three to five years of related experience.

Under the direction of the Protocol Manager, you will: oversee the coordination of interparliamentary associations and related activities, including the day-to-day operations of each secretariat; plan and organize high-level events, official visits, parliamentary conferences, seminars and meetings for internal and external groups; oversee the delivery of the Legislative Student Usher Program ensuring staffing support in the Legislative Chamber for all House sittings; provide guidance and leadership to Liaison Officer.

**Please click here for more details:**

<http://www.ipac.ca/Coordinator-116E>

## **Coordonnateur des relations interparlementaires Direction du protocole parlementaire et des relations publiques parlementaires L'Assemblée législative de l'Ontario, Toronto**

Ce poste clé convient parfaitement à un communicateur bilingue et proactif avec une maîtrise de l'anglais et du français et de trois à cinq ans d'expérience pertinente.

Sous la direction du Chef de protocole, vous devrez : coordonner les activités interparlementaires et les activités reliées, incluant la gestion du fonctionnement quotidien des secrétariats ; planifier et organiser des événements de haut niveau, visites officielles, conférences parlementaires, réunions et séminaires pour les groupes, internes et externes ; coordonner le programme d'étudiants-huissiers de l'Assemblée assurant le personnel de soutien à la Chambre législative pour toutes les séances ; diriger et conseiller l'agent de liaison.

**Veuillez cliquer ici pour plus d'informations:**

<http://www.iapc.ca/Coordonnateur-116F>



## March activities at the Career Centre

The Career Centre is pleased to provide you with an [online calendar](#) of activities for the month of March 2016.

In addition to our regular series of [Career Exploration](#) and [Job Search](#) workshops offered daily at the Career Centre, students are invited to attend the following special events this month:

This year's [Classrooms to Careers](#) series, taking place from March 28 - April 1, will arm students with practical information that will help them succeed during the transition from student to professional. Students are invited to join us during this week-long series featuring guest speakers, hands-on workshops and presentations to learn more about:

- o How to prove your fit as you apply for jobs
- o How to use information interviews to build your professional network
- o How to dress for success both at job interviews and beyond
- o How to stand out and be successful in a group interview
- o How to choose a first job that fits with your personality type

Students are also invited to drop into one of our <http://careers.yorku.ca/students-and-new-grads/services-events/educator-information-sessions> satellite locations in the Learning Commons in Scott Library (Tuesdays from 10am-12pm and Thursdays from 1-3pm) or in Complex 2 (Bethune College on Wednesdays) to speak with one of our Career professionals.



Ontario students from low-income families won't be paying tuition for college or university starting next year, part of an Ontario government plan to eliminate the "sticker shock" that deters so many from going on to post-secondary education.

The new Ontario Student Grant, announced in Thursday's budget, is a revamp of the student aid system and will begin in the 2017-18 school year — it means money will be available upfront, before tuition bills are due, for families earning less than \$50,000, said Reza Moridi, minister of training, colleges and universities.

The Liberal government expects 70 per cent of those students will actually receive more in provincial grants than the average amount of university tuition, leaving them with no provincial student debt.

For more information please visit:  
<http://www.thestar.com/news/queenspark/2016/02/25/free-tuition-for-college-or-university-promised-to-students-from-low-income-families.html>

**Freedom of Movement:**  
Exploring a Path from Armed Conflict, Persecution, and Forced Migration to Conflict Resolution, Human Rights, and Development

9th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS)

**May 11-14, 2016**  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada

For more information, please go to [www.carfms.org](http://www.carfms.org) or contact Dr. Stephanie Stobbe, Chair of CARFMS 2016 ([s.stobbe@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:s.stobbe@uwinnipeg.ca))

Hosted by Conflict Resolution Studies,  
**Menno Simons College**  
A college of Canadian Mennonite University  
Affiliated with The University of Winnipeg

 [mscollege.ca](http://mscollege.ca)   **CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY** [cmu.ca](http://cmu.ca)

**Website:** <http://carfms.org/>

**Twitter:** [@carfms](https://twitter.com/carfms)

Join the conversation online by using the hashtag #CARFMS16

**Facebook:** [click here](#)