Our SPPA Student Profiles are back for Winter 2018!

This week we are pleased to present Gurkamal Dhahan,
2nd year Bachelor of Public Administration (BPA) Spec. Honours and
Junior Ambassador for Public Policy and Administration Student Association (PPASA)

Have you ever heard of or had that “ah hah” moment? Well, this is mine. For long I had thought that I was destined for a path where engineering or technological design would be the centerpiece of my future. My interest in both public policy and administration really only spurred in the later years of high school when law and politics were always the classes that I looked forward to the most. This could have been for several reasons, but the sheer appeal of it all laid in the empowerment that I had felt with the materials I was learning in class; I wanted to be a leader who makes a difference.

That’s when I came across the Bachelor of Public Administration program at York University. I knew instantly that it was a program well suited for me. The ability to specialize in a field with an interdisciplinary curriculum like the BPA offered was the perfect harmony of everything I wanted. It’s safe to say that once I started the BPA here at York University, I have not once looked back to regret the hasty change in career path that I made.

The BPA program is preparing me for the interdisciplinary nature of government. I have taken courses across administrative studies, human resources management, economics, government and public policy. I realize that there is a plethora of futures in the public service, and this program has tuned my skills to be applicable to these fields. The specialization aspect of the program will further allow me to pursue the goal of excelling in public management.

In the first year of this program, every course has deepened my passion and commitment to the BPA program and pursuing a career in public service. Feeling compelled to get the most out of my degree, I decided I wanted to be more active in my program. I’m now a second year student and a Junior Ambassador for the Public Policy and Administration Student Association (PPASA). The PPASA has been a great opportunity for me to make friends, develop further my character, and explore future pathways. Through events such as our recent trip to Ottawa, networking events and career panels, I’ve had the chance to network and connect with others, including professors and alumni who share similar passions as I do. The professors have all not only worked in the field of public administration, but are also the most helpful and genuine mentors that I have met. I’ve even had the chance to network with those leading ministries through revolutionary policy changes, including Michael Coteau with the Anti-racism Directorate during the OPS breakfast hosted by the School last Fall. How cool does that sound? I will admit, starting university as a quiet student, joining the PPASA was definitely out of my comfort zone. Now and forever though, I commend myself for taking risks.

To every student at York, take those rewarding risks! Don’t be afraid to leave your comfort zone. Get involved when you can, ask questions when you need to, and always take that extra step. It’ll be worth it, just as it was for me.
McLAUGHLIN COLLEGE

As part of our popular Lunch Talk Series, McLaughlin College proudly presents:

Royal Canadian Mounted Police: Careers in Law Enforcement

Presented by:

Constable Frank Di Biase

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International Law in the Global South
Research Seminar Series

Third World Approaches to International Law: More Than An Invasive Species

James Gathii
Loyola University Chicago School of Law

James T. Gathii has served as a professor of law and the Wing-Tat Lee Chair in International Law at Loyola University Chicago School of Law since July 2012. He is a graduate of the University of Nairobi, Kenya, and Harvard Law School. He sits on the board of editors of the American Journal of International Law, the Journal of African Law and the Journal of International Trade Law and Policy, among others. His research and teaching interests are in Public International Law, International Trade Law, Third World Approaches to International Law, (TWAIL), African Constitutionalism and Human Rights. Professor Gathii is an Independent Expert of the Working Group on Extractive Industries, Environment, and Human Rights Violations in Africa formed by the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights. He is also an expert member of the Working Group on Agricultural Land Investment Contracts of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDRIOT). He has sat as an arbitrator in two international commercial arbitrations hosted by the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague. He is a founding member of the Third World Approaches to International Law, (TWAIL), network. He is an elected member of the International Academy of International Law. He has consulted for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (OHCHR), and the Economic Commission for Africa, (ECA), among others. Professor Gathii is also widely published.

Thursday, February 15, 2018, 4:00pm to 5:30pm
Osgoode Hall Law School, Ignat Kaneff Building, Room 1003

RSVP: www.osgoode.yorku.ca/research/rsvp
**Announcements and Job Opportunity**

**LCIL Workshop:**

**Complicity and Exclusion from Asylum**

**Call For Abstracts**

The Lauterpacht Centre for International Law is hosting a one-day workshop, sponsored by the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI), on the topic of ‘Complicity and Exclusion from Asylum’ which is to be held on:

**Friday 29 June 2018 - 9 am to 5.30 pm**

The aim of the workshop is to engage in a thorough discussion of this topic through a number of papers selected on the basis of this call for abstracts.

The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees provides in Article 1F that the Convention does not apply to ‘any person with respect to whom there are serious reasons for considering that’ the person has committed a crime against peace, a war crime, a crime against humanity; has committed a serious non-political crime outside the country of refuge prior to admission as a refugee or has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. But what does it mean to have ‘committed’ or to have been ‘guilty’ of acts?

This workshop examines how the notion of ‘complicity’ has been understood in the interpretation and application of international refugee law and how this compares with the understanding of ‘complicity’ in international criminal law, international humanitarian law and public international law more generally. It will also engage with concerns that have emerged with respect to complicity and exclusion from refugee protection.

**See more information and Register for the event**

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**Student Employment Program (Summer 2018)**

**Parliament of Canada**

**Closing date:** March 2, 2018

Are you curious and innovative? Are you passionate about Canadian politics? Are you motivated by collaborating with team members to get the best results? If you are, this could be the right opportunity for you, consider joining the Senate as part of the Student Employment Program to work in a Senator’s office or within the Senate Administration. [More information >>]

**Policy Analyst**

**College of Family Physicians**

Reporting to the Director, Member Engagement and Public Affairs, the Policy Advisor is responsible for monitoring healthcare policy trends in primary care/family medicine that affect the OCFP’s membership, translating policy implications to the OCFP (for education, member outreach and policy planning), and supporting strategic initiatives in primary health care. This role is also responsible for developing and maintaining key strategic relationships with stakeholders such as government, health charities, health-care and primary care organizations and other professional associations and Colleges [More information>>]

**Gold Rush Summer Intern**

**Kinross Gold**

**Closing date:** February 20, 2018

Kinross Government Relations is looking for a summer intern to support and assist with research and analysis across our various projects and day-to-day monitoring. They are looking for 3rd or 4th year undergraduate studies in Politics, International Relations, Economics, Business, or related program from a recognized educational institution with an excellent academic record. [More information>>]

**Senior Policy Advisor**

**Ontario Ministry of Finance**

3 positions

The MoF’s Financial Services Policy Division is looking to hire team-oriented Senior Policy Advisors to lead and manage policy research, analysis and development projects and provide guidance to Policy Advisors. The incumbents will be responsible for: planning, leading, and managing the development of financial services sector regulatory policy; identifying, analyzing and interpreting emerging issues in areas such as capital markets, securities and FinTech; researching and analyzing policy trends in other jurisdictions and providing advice on legislative and regulatory options for implementing new policy initiatives; writing sections of budget papers, policy proposals, briefing notes and presentations for Minister/Deputy Minister/senior management and; maintaining effective networks with internal and external stakeholders. [More information >>]

**Registration fee:** £20 (full) £15 (for current students)
Job Opportunity

Policy Affairs Specialist
OP Trust
Closing date: February 16, 2018

The Public Affairs Specialist supports the Manager of Public Affairs in furthering OPTrust’s advocacy, stakeholder relations and reputation management goals. The Public Affairs Specialist is responsible for monitoring analysis of issues and the public policy environment as it relates to pensions and investment activity; preparing briefing notes and other material to support stakeholder relations; and helping to plan and implement strategies that advance OPTrust’s objectives with all stakeholders. This role works collaboratively with Actuarial Services & Plan Policy, and Legal Services to write and coordinate policy submissions to regulatory and policy-making bodies; it also works closely with Communications to execute on campaigns and materials for a variety of stakeholders.

Policy and Trade Strategy Advisor
Ontario Ministry of International Trade
2 Permanent

Are you looking for an opportunity where you can build your trade policy and research expertise, help shape provincial international trade strategies, and support the implementation of Ontario’s Global Trade Strategy? Consider joining the Ministry of International Trade's (MIT) Trade Strategy, Analytics and Partnerships Branch’s Trade Strategy and Intelligence Unit. They are seeking two creative trade Policy & Trade Strategy Advisors to bring innovative and modern trade ideas and approaches to international trade agreements that will enable Ontario businesses and people expand, strengthen and diversify their export potential. More information >>

Manager, Planning and Policy
Elections Ontario
Closing date: February 20, 2018

The Administrative Cluster, Shared Services Division, of Elections Ontario seeks an innovative and motivated leader to manage a team of professionals in the areas of corporate planning, strategic analysis and policy development. Working out of their office in Scarborough, the Manager, Planning and Policy will support the implementation and management of Elections Ontario’s (EO) strategic plan and provide strategic analysis, advice and support to senior management and executives on a broad range of complex issues associated with the ongoing implementation of EO’s initiatives. More information >>

Manager of Government and External Relations
Ontario Veterinary Medical Association

The Manager monitors the public policy environment and identifies emerging issues and proposed legislative, regulatory or policy changes that could affect Ontario's veterinarians. You will prepare reports analyzing policy issues and setting out recommended strategies to address those issues for review by the association’s Board of Directors More information >>

Manager, Mental Health and Addictions Policy
Mental Health and Addiction Branch, Strategic Policy and Planning Division
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Closing date: February 19, 2018

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) is seeking a motivated and seasoned policy expert to lead and manage policy strategies for Ontario's mental health and addictions system More information >>

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