

MEET OUR SPRING 2019 INTERNS



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Elaine-Mae Ignacio esi15@my.fsu.edu

Undergraduate Double Major: International Affairs, Interdisciplinary Social Sciences History

Tell us about yourself: Elaine was born in Japan and grew up in Pensacola, Florida. Her Father is in the Navy and Elaine’s parents met when her Dad was stationed in the Philippines. She has two older sisters, as well as an 11-year old rescue cat, and two rabbits at home. Elaine moved to the states when she was very young but has visited the Philippines. She loves the land and the people of the Philippines, however, Elaine was struck by a lack of urban planning and zoning. As a result, Elaine’s visits to her birthplace have sparked an interest in Urban and

Regional Planning.

Goals and future plans? Elaine intends to pursue a degree in Urban and Regional Planning.

Strengths and interests? Writing and research, and a background grounded in advocacy through education. She has experience with Excel, Word, and PowerPoint. Elaine has advocated for many social issues, including Asian-American representation in the media, the importance of historical context in understanding systemic discrimination, and increased voter engagement with the national nonpartisan organization APIA (Asian Pacific Islander American) Vote.

Leadership Experience:

Institute on World War II and the Human Experience, Student Intern - *January 2018 – May 2018, Tallahassee, FL*

- Processed primary resources surrounding people’s experiences during WWII
- Created finding aids for researchers from these sources
- Served as a research assistant to a doctoral student

Asian American Student Union, Education Coordinator - *May 2017–May 2018, Florida State University*

- Head of Leadership Exploration and Development (LEAD) committee. Mentored 7 underclassmen through a pseudo-executive board to teach them its functions and goals to facilitate leadership skills
- Collaborate with board members to execute monthly general body meetings, social and cultural events, and banquets; an average of 8 events per semester
- Research and present lectures at least 2 times a semester pertaining to Asian American Pacific Islander issues, history, and culture

Filipino Student Association, Activities Coordinator - *May 2016–May 2017, Florida State University*

- Designed and organized activities and themes for monthly general body meetings
- Organize and delegate tasks to volunteers for larger per semester cultural events

Honors/Activities:

- Culligan Scholarship for Study Abroad, *March 2018*
- FSU Freshman University Scholarship, *August 2015 –present*
- Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholars Award, *August 2015 – present*
- Seminole Torchbearer, *November 2017*
- Filipino Student Association Member of the Year, *April 2016*
- International Baccalaureate Diploma, *July 2015*

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Elaine has a passion for social issues and “how people interact with and are affected by the spaces they inhabit.” She is impressed with the Coalition’s advocacy work, “particularly with your focus in empowerment through education and resources.”



Kate McMahon kem15b@my.fsu.edu

**Undergraduate Double Major: International Affairs, Political Science
Creative Writing**

Tell us about yourself: Kate grew up in Stuart Florida along with her two older sisters. One of Kate's sisters is an artist in New Orleans—the other is in medical school. Kate's parents plan on moving to New Orleans in a few years and they visit the city frequently. Family road trips always include their dog, Colleen, as well as the family cat.

Goals and future plans? Kate plans on taking time off before attending graduate school and has applied for a Fulbright Scholarship with the intention of teaching English in the Czech Republic. Alternatively, Kate may seek employment as a Program Assistant at FSU's London Study Centre. Her longer-term goal is to work in the NGO/non-profit sector on issues of human and civil rights.

Strengths and interests? Kate has strong leadership, organizational, communication, and research skills. She is a dedicated student—as an undergraduate, Kate wrote a masters level thesis in order to prepare herself for graduate school. Kate has experience with Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.

Leadership Experience:

Office of Tulip Siddiq MP, Intern - September 2018 – December 2018, London, United Kingdom

- Corresponded with constituents and various government agencies on issues related to housing, immigration, crime, and government policy
- Assisted in office management and tours coordination

Florida State University, Resident Assistant - June 2017 – August 2018, Tallahassee, FL

- Oversaw over 45 residents in crisis management, bimonthly programming, and connection with campus resources
- Created, organized, and implemented events for three on-campus residence halls
- Coordinated with staffs of 4-8 on programming, office duties, and crisis response

World Affairs Program, Florida State University, Model United Nations team member - September 2015 – Present, Tallahassee, FL

- Competed on traveling team of 12-22 students at multiple national and international Model United Nations conferences

Study Abroad Program, Florida State University, Research and Studies - September – December 2016, Valencia, Spain

Research:

Honors in the Major Thesis, Florida State University - January 2017 – Present

Designed and implemented an independent research project on Irish foreign policy regarding the Spanish Civil War

Social Sciences Research Assistant, Florida State University - September 2015 – June 2016

Collected and analyzed data for a multi-year project regarding the role of money in American politics

Honors/Activities: **Phi Beta Kappa, Member, Florida State University Chapter - March 2018**

Phi Eta Sigma, Peer Academic Leader - May 2016 – June 2016; May 2017 – June 2017

Phi Eta Sigma, Member, Florida State University Chapter – April 2016

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? During the 2018 Fall semester, Kate “had the opportunity to intern in the office of Tulip Siddiq, MP. In Ms. Siddiq’s office I worked on several issues related to housing, which included liaising with government bodies to secure housing for constituents and advising constituents on the best routes to successfully apply for accommodation for themselves and their families. This experience further highlighted to me the importance of housing rights and sparked a desire to see tangible changes made to the current system.”



Mary Ann Montague mam14ay@my.fsu.edu

Undergraduate Double Major: Communication, Concentration in Media and Communication Studies, English, Concentration in Editing, Writing, and Media

Tell us about yourself: Mary Ann was born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida. Her parents met when her Dad was a captain in the Marine Corps and Mary Ann's mom was a nurse. Mary Ann has an older sister and brother, as well as an 8-year old rescue cat, along with her two (former) kittens. Mary Ann's father is now an airline pilot and has taught her the tricks of the trade on how to travel for next-to-nothing. She enjoys last minute early morning flights to unexplored destinations.

Goals and future plans? After graduation, Mary Ann aims "to get a job writing articles - news articles to be more specific." She is "very interested in the discussion news can bring, and how said-discussion is what can lead to societal progression." Mary Ann hopes "to eventually become a TV news reporter - helping spread knowledge to the community even further, with the facts important to them."

Strengths and interests? Writing, research, and editing. She has experience with Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.

Leadership Experience:

WVFS 89.7FM, News Reporter - August 2018—Present, Tallahassee, FL

- Write approximately 500 words per 2-hour weekly shift
- Focus on 1 international, national, state, and local story of my choosing
- Attend weekly meetings with whole News Department to discuss past week's stories and various announcements

Florida State University, Freshman Interest Group Leader - August 2018—December 2018, Tallahassee, FL

- Taught 6 freshmen students through discussion questions and hands-on learning
- Held class once a week for 50 minutes, followed by 1 hour of office hours
- Created 15 lesson plans meant to enhance the students' college experience

WGBH-TV (a PBS Broadcast Company), News Production Intern, Beat the Press and Greater Boston - June 2018—August 2018, Boston, MA

- Researched guests and topics before 6pm tapings
- Compiled clips from other networks related to the day's topics
- Transcribed videos for fellow production team members

Florida State University (College of Communication), Teaching Assistant, Intro to Mass Media - January 2018—May 2018, Tallahassee, FL

- Recorded bi-weekly attendance for 190 students and compiled the totals before each exam
- Helped submit student grades by transferring raw data into excel spreadsheet for all three exams
- Answered students' questions after class, or through email

WGBH-TV, Strategic Research Intern - June 2017—July 2017, Boston, MA

- Created approximately 40 overnight highlight reports every morning to provide ratings and share result of WGBH programs and competitor programs.
- Analyzed rate, share, person, and cumulative average of shows and competitors in excel and power-point for monthly/yearly result presentations.
- Reviewed and revised approximately 16 completed projects related to WGBH's aired programs, and survey drafts.

Honors/Activities: **Caring and Helping In Community Service (C.H.I.C.S.), Volunteer- January 2018—May 2018**
President's List, May 2017-Present
Dean's List, Garnet & Gold Scholar Society Inductee, December 2015-Present

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Mary Ann "would love to gain writing experience while helping the Florida Housing Coalition."



Shanava Saintolien ss15k@my.fsu.edu

Undergraduate Major: Mathematics/Secondary Education
Minor: Economics

Tell us about yourself: Shanava grew up in Miami Florida with her three older brothers and one younger brother. Her parents immigrated to South Florida from Haiti and have worked hard throughout their lives. They saved carefully and bought a home when Shanava was a youngster and would like for Shanava to have that home one day. They have instilled in Shanava and her brothers the value and importance of a good education. As a result, Shanava will be a first-generation college graduate.

Goals and future plans? Upon graduation in May 2019, Shanava would like to teach for a year and then enroll in FSU's graduate program in Urban and Regional Planning/Public Administration. Alternatively, Shanava may pursue a graduate degree in Nonprofit Management.

Strengths and interests? Shanava's strengths are in research, mathematics and data analysis and she characterizes herself as being efficient – with strong communication and organizational skills. Shanava loves to teach and gets satisfaction from seeing young people learn and grow. She has experience with Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.

Leadership Experience:

Uncommon Schools, Teaching Fellow - May 2018—August 2018, Brooklyn, NY

- Led classroom for 10 weeks teaching Geometry to high school students in summer school for credit recovery

Growth International Volunteer Excursions (GIVE), Volunteer - May 2018, Zanzibar, Tanzania

- Aided in the construction of new pavilions in the village of Kairo
- Led teens class (ages 9-14) teaching English as a foreign language for 3 weeks

FSU Teach Office, Peer Mentor - December 2015—present, Tallahassee, Fl

- Provide students with assistance on finding resources for their lessons and critique their lesson plans

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, Florida State University - 2016—present, Tallahassee, Fl

- UROP Leader, 2017-2018
- Instructed first/second year students on research methods

Dr. Jenny Root, College of Education, Florida State University – 2016, Tallahassee, Fl

- Studying methods to effectively teach mathematics to students with severe disabilities
- Root, J. R., Wood, L., Gonzales, S., & Saintolien, S. (2016). Graphic organizers to teach STEM content to students with severe disabilities: An evidence-based practice review

Breakthrough Miami, Teaching Fellow (summer internship) – 2014, 2015, 2016, Miami, FL

- 6th/7th grade teacher
- Prepared lesson plans weekly for a span of 8 weeks
- Taught various aspects of Earth Space Science, Biology, and Mathematics to 6th/7th grade students

Sisters2Service Community Service Organization, 2016—present, Tallahassee, Fl

- Community Service Organization: Mentoring girls grades 3-5 at Walker Ford Community Center
- E-Board position: Vice President (2018) Curriculum Chair (2017)

We-Teach FSU, 2015—present, Tallahassee, Fl

- E-board position: Vice President (2017), Secretary (2016)

Honors/Activities:

- Robert Noyce Scholar, 2017
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars, October 2016
- FSU Residential Scholar, February 2016
- Bill & Melinda Gates Millennium Scholar, April 2015

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Shanava chose to intern at the Florida Housing Coalition because she is seeking an Internship that would be challenging and rewarding.



Julie Godfrey jmg15e@my.fsu.edu

**Undergraduate Double Major: Political Science and Writing
Editing, Writing and Media**

Tell us about yourself: Julie grew up in Ft. Lauderdale Florida. She has a younger sister who attends the University of Central Florida. She is very attached to her two rescue dogs at home—Carlie and Sadie. They are getting older and Julie likes to get home to see her family and her pets. Julie has worked in a variety of positions throughout her high school and college years—she’s been a waitress, an office assistant, bookkeeper, as well as working in customer service, and training new employees.

Goals and future plans? Julie would like to become a teacher. She has a passion for writing and is a stickler for good grammar. In addition, she’d like to further her experience in Communications.

Strengths and interests? Experienced with Word, Photoshop, and PowerPoint. Julie describes herself as eager to learn and curious. She loves reading, writing, and editing.

Volunteer/Intern Work:

Killearn Elementary School, Teaching Assistant - August 2018- Present, Tallahassee, FL

Develops lesson plans for students and engages students in academics

Rio Vista Church Community, Camp Counselor - Summer 2018, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Taught children ages 3-11 and coordinated various activities and exercises. Ran after-care program for ages 6-11 for approximately 10-20 children daily.

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Julie appreciates the mission of the Coalition and sought an Internship at FHC in order to further her experience in political science through writing and editing. For that reason, Julie says that our intern advertisement “jumped out at her!”



Kaileen McHugh kaileen.mchugh@gmail.com

Undergraduate Major: Economics — Dean's List

Relevant Coursework: Intro to Urban Planning, Consequences of Planning, Multicultural Urbanism, Intro to Public Policy, Intermediate Microeconomics, Intermediate Macroeconomics

Tell us about yourself: Kaileen grew up in Naples Florida. She has three terrific older brothers.

Goals and future plans? Kaileen plans on getting her Master's in Urban and Regional Planning at either FSU or Georgia Tech.

Strengths and interests? Experienced with Word, Excel, Data Analytics. Kaileen characterizes herself as organized, detailed and analytical--balanced with strong writing skills

Volunteer/Intern Work:

Florida State University - Office of Governmental Relations, OPS Student Assistant - *November 2016—Present, Tallahassee, FL*

Assist the Chief Legislative Affairs Officer in finding information to update the university community on legislative issues of interest and impact, Prepare and deliver correspondence on campus and at the state capitol, Help with organization of FSU promotion and special events

Leadership Experience:

Florida State University, Freshman Interest Group Leader, *August 2017—Present, Tallahassee, FL*
Teaching Assistant

Developed and lead 15 lesson plans for group of 14 freshman at FSU, Established professional but inclusive relationships that empowers students to engage in the academic culture of the university, Provided one-on-one and group feedback to struggling students

Circle K International, Volunteer/Active Member - *August 2015—Present, Tallahassee, FL*

Served over 200 volunteer hours at various community organizations over the course of 4 semesters, Prepared recruitment guide for 22 clubs at the state-level, Planned and lead membership development and education activities such as workshops, Created record-keeping system to track service hours for 70 dues paid members

Florida State University, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, Research Assistant - *August 2016- May 2017, Tallahassee, FL*

Created quantitative interview questions sent out for data collection, Assisted in interviewing faculty, and transcribing interviews, Engaged in faculty workshops and coding workshops

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Kaileen is very interested and passionate about urban planning, specifically in economic and community development. Upon receiving her Master's in Urban and Regional Planning, she hopes to "work with a company or organization focused on economic development." Kaileen would like to gain opportunities and experience from the Coalition to carry forward into her future career.



Kathrina Regnier kr11v@my.fsu.edu

**Urban and Regional Planning Graduate Student
Public Health Graduate Student**

Undergraduate Major: Interdisciplinary Social Science and Psychology with a concentration in Sociology and Economics — Deans List for 4 years – Salute to Education Scholar 2011

Tell us about yourself: Kathrina was born in Boston Massachusetts and moved to Miami Florida at the age of 4. She has one brother who is 18 months younger who also attends FSU. Kathrina competed in Track and Field as an undergraduate student at Florida State.

Goals and future plans? Would like to find a career that combines Public Health and Urban Planning.

Strengths and Interests?

- Experienced with Word, Excel, Data Analytics, Arc GIS, SPSS and ESRI
- Kathrina characterizes her primary strengths as having strong research skills, seeing patterns in complex details, and having the ability to synthesize information into a “big picture.”
- Kathrina is taking additional coursework at FSU which focuses on real-estate certification and has completed coursework in real-estate investments and real-estate valuations.
- In addition, she is certified as an EKG technician, a nursing assistant, and is certified in CPR/First Aid

Volunteer/Intern Work:

Community Garden Coordinator for the South City Revitalization Council - March 2017 to present
Kathrina’s work includes:

- Extensive outreach in a historically disadvantaged, high minority community in a food desert in Tallahassee, Florida
- Planning and hosting volunteer sessions, community events, educational seminars, and workshops
- Researching relative initiatives and trends in community gardening/urban farming and other agriculture-based initiatives
- Educating the community on the benefits of using SNAP, healthy eating, and cooking on a budget
- Providing bi-weekly reports to administrating supervisor regarding progress of garden programming and events

Bi-lingual Choice Counseling Specialist for Automated Health Systems - January 2016--March 2018

Kathrina’s work at this high volume call center for recipients enrolled in the State Medicaid health insurance program involved translating calls in Creole, communicating with clients effectively to trouble shoot their problem in order to enable access to healthcare and provide resolutions to crisis, and referring clients with information regarding healthcare, billing, Medicaid, Medicare, food stamps, and other social services

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Kathrina is looking for an appropriate first step into the world of urban planning and public health. She is ready to take on a new project in a career-oriented path.



Melanie Flores mjfl6c@my.fsu.edu

**Undergraduate Double Major: International Affairs
English Literature**

National Honor Society, President - 2015—2016, Miami, FL

Tell us about yourself: Melanie's parents are from Ecuador. Melanie grew up in Miami, Florida. As a child, her Mom took her to soup kitchens, pantries, local churches, and nursing homes to teach her about volunteering and giving back to her community. As a result, volunteering is an intrinsic part of Melanie's life.

Goals and future plans? Melanie will be entering into the Master's Program in Urban and Regional Planning in the Fall of 2019.

Strengths and interests? Melanie is a very strong Writer (English Lit background—has done a lot of writing) and has strong Critical Thinking skills. She has experience with Word, and PowerPoint. Some experience with Excel.

Leadership Experience:

Phi Eta Sigma, Leadership Council - 2016—Present, Tallahassee, FL

- Utilizing communication skills to promote honor society through collaborative outreaches on campus
- Planning events and creating innovative ideas to successfully increase membership

Leadership LOGIC, Facilitator - 2017—Present, Tallahassee, FL

- Teaching FSU students about how to be culturally competent in leadership roles
- Coordinating retreats to create inclusive, safe, and friendly environments for personal growth

Steps to Success, Treasurer - 2017—Present, Miami, FL

- Created a non-profit organization that supports young adults with disabilities to find jobs
- Offered interview training, resourceful resume critics, and promote social and community outreach

Peace Jam Program, Mentor - 2017—Present, Tallahassee, FL

- Facilitates middle school and high school students with their community project
- Emphasizes the importance of being an ally, facilitator, advocate, and activist

Volunteer Experience:

- **iGrow: Current** Cultivates and harvests vegetables and fruits to give away to local communities in Frenchtown
- **Garnet and Gold Honor Society: 2017**
- **FSU Leadership Institute: 2017** Attended conference
- **Big Bend Homeless Coalition 2017:** Mentored children after school with homework and facilitated outdoor games
- **Global Citizenship Certificate Scholarship 2016:** Currently learning about cultural competency and service
- **CIES Mentor Tutoring 2016:** Assigned to a foreign exchange student to help improve their English
- **Coral Reef Nursing Home 2016:** Assisted nurses with weekly group activities, laundry, and fed the patients.
- **Mission Trip to Puerto Rico 2015:** Distributed medical donations and supplies to local churches and schools
- **Casa Gabriel in Ecuador 2011:** Helped clean, cook, and care for high school drop outs in the homeless community

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Melanie wishes to pursue a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning. She wants to work and interact with urban and regional planners, so that she can learn more about community development, affordable housing, and sustainability. She hopes to contribute to the innovative professional environment at the Florida Housing Coalition.



Tiffany Machin tiffanymachin6@gmail.com

Combined Bachelors/Masters Degree Program: Political Science, Urban and Regional Planning

Tell us about yourself: Tiffany's parents relocated from Miami to Tallahassee in order to find a safer school environment for six-year old Tiffany and her middle-school age brother. Tiffany considers herself a native of Tallahassee and she lovingly characterizes her hometown as an "urban forest" or "city within a forest." Tiffany has a mini dachshund as well as two cockatiels—*Chica and Chico*.

Strengths and interests? Tiffany has played the guitar since she was 7 and is a fan of many genres of music, particularly the "Blues". She describes herself as an "indoor person" and has a strong interest in graphic design as well as sociology, culture and how people work. Tiffany's skills include:

- Microsoft Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.
- Adobe Photoshop
- Sketchup (3-D modelling of urban design elements)
- Critical thinking and research analysis
- Fluent in English and Spanish

Relevant Coursework: State Politics, Political Science Research, Policy Analysis, Introduction to Urban and Regional Planning, Collective Decision Making, Neighborhood Planning, Introduction to GIS

Volunteer and Work Experience:

Challenger Learning Center, Supervisor of Host Staff - May 2017--Present, Tallahassee FL

- Manage a staff of over 20 people, to maximize efficiency of the team
- Responsible for performing closing cash drawer audits; created store deposit, prepared cash drawers for following day, as well as maintain safe
- Trained all incoming employees and monitored performance increase during probationary period
- Monitor the development and performance of daily operations

Capital Regional Medical Center, Volunteer- Receptionist and Nurse Shadowing - June 2015- September 2015, Tallahassee, FL

- Spoke with patients families, evaluated their condition
- Shadowed nurses during stressful work times
- Resolved conflicts and concerns for over 15 patients per day

Honors and Awards: Deans and President's List, Fall 2015—Spring 2018

What made you choose the Florida Housing Coalition? Tiffany would like to combine her knowledge and skills in the area of graphic arts and design with her knowledge and passion for Urban and Regional Planning. An internship at Florida Housing Coalition, designing presentations and creating graphics, seems the perfect fit!