

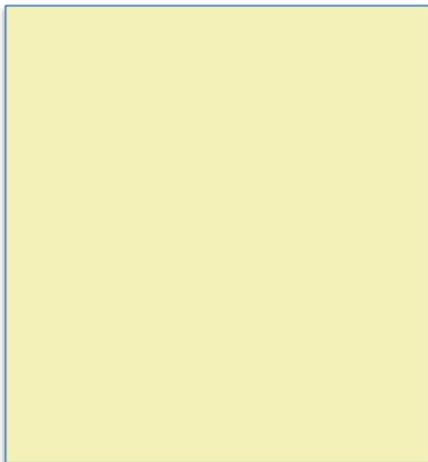
### Upcoming Events

UC Davis end-of-year celebration for GSP and GPP students at the Chancellors Residence

The Getting Ready for Graduate School online class will commence again in Fall of 2015



UCDAVIS Office of Graduate Studies



**UC Davis  
GPP in  
the NEWS!!**

Article on Pg. 2

### Funding and Fellowships

GPP students were not only successful in gaining admittance to MA and PhD programs in a wide range of disciplines (as well as medical school), but also received generous funding to help with their education. The cohort includes a Dean's Fellow, NSF awardee and two students who received UC Graduate Opportunity grants. Other student funding includes research/teaching assistantships and cash awards. The collective total amounts to over \$1 million!

### 2014-2015 Application Cycle Success

A total of fourteen students were admitted to a variety of PhD and Masters programs beginning in December 2014 with Justin Waterman's admission to the MBA program at USC's Marshall School of Business. This was Justin's first choice so he accepted and began to make plans for Fall 2015. Other students, however, had a much more drawn out process with some receiving multiple admissions decisions and others receiving a couple of denials before some very successful final acceptances. Waiting for a decision can be anxiety provoking! The GPP Fact Sheet for Application cycle 2014-15 is available on the UC Davis Grad Studies website. It includes all the programs to which students were accepted and their awards.

The GUARDIAN PROFESSIONS PROGRAM is funded by the Stuart Foundation, The California Wellness Foundation, and the May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust.

UC Davis GPP contact:  
530-752-5264

<http://tinyurl.com/UCD-GPP>

### **Starting early for a Successful Application**

Wishing to pursue a career in environmental policy, Mercede Ramjerdi applied to six different programs including Masters in Public Health and Masters in Environmental Health Sciences. Mercede had an excellent GPA and work experience in the area of study she wanted to pursue, but one of the key factors to her success that every applicant can employ is STARTING EARLY. She began her program search in early June of 2014 and made a list that included individual program requirements and deadlines. She then began drafting a personal statement, statement of purpose and resume, and worked with the GPP Director to shape those into finished products. The drafts also served as material for programs that needed only one combined statement. By the end of summer Mercede was studying for the GRE and took the exam in early Fall. Most schools of Public Health use a centralized application portal called SOPHAS that has an early November deadline which Mercede easily met. In January of 2015, Mercede began to receive acceptances and received one from every Masters program to which she applied. Congrats Mercede!



### **GOOD NEWS!**

Over twenty students are currently working with the GPP Director on applications to be submitted in Fall 2015.

\*\*\*

Eden Haven-Martinez completed her Teacher Credential for English at UC Davis School of Education.

\*\*\*

Hen Werner completed her Masters degree in Education at UC Davis School of Education and will continue teaching Social Science at Laguna Creek High School, Sacramento.

### **Next Newsletter in September 2015**

#### **GPP in the News During the Month of May**

May was Foster Care Awareness month and the GPP was featured in two news articles during the month. One, an editorial written by the GPP Director, Dr. Sylvia Sensiper, "Advancing Education for California's Former Foster Youth," appeared in the local *Davis Enterprise* on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The editorial argued that emphasizing education should be a part of foster care services and that the successful students from the Guardian Professions Program "have demonstrated that where you start in life does not necessarily determine where you can go." An additional article, "UC Davis Offers Unique Support to Former Foster Youth" by UC Berkeley Public Policy student Anna Maier appeared in the *Chronicle of Social Change* on May 21. This article focused on GPP student Alyssa Heckmann who will be starting in the PhD program in Criminology, Law and Society at UC Irvine in Fall 2015. The article provided more details about the GPP and Ms. Heckmann's successful use of program services to create a competitive application. See the website for links to the articles.

#### **Online Curriculum**

We have experimented with the online curriculum this year, offering a year-long program and also a shorter form class this spring/ summer directed specifically at the application process. We will be revising the curriculum again this summer in hopes of making it even more accessible for students as well as educators who want to use some of the materials to teach classes locally and provide services to students. What may work best for potential applicants and advisors is a self-directed resource that is updated regularly and available to all.