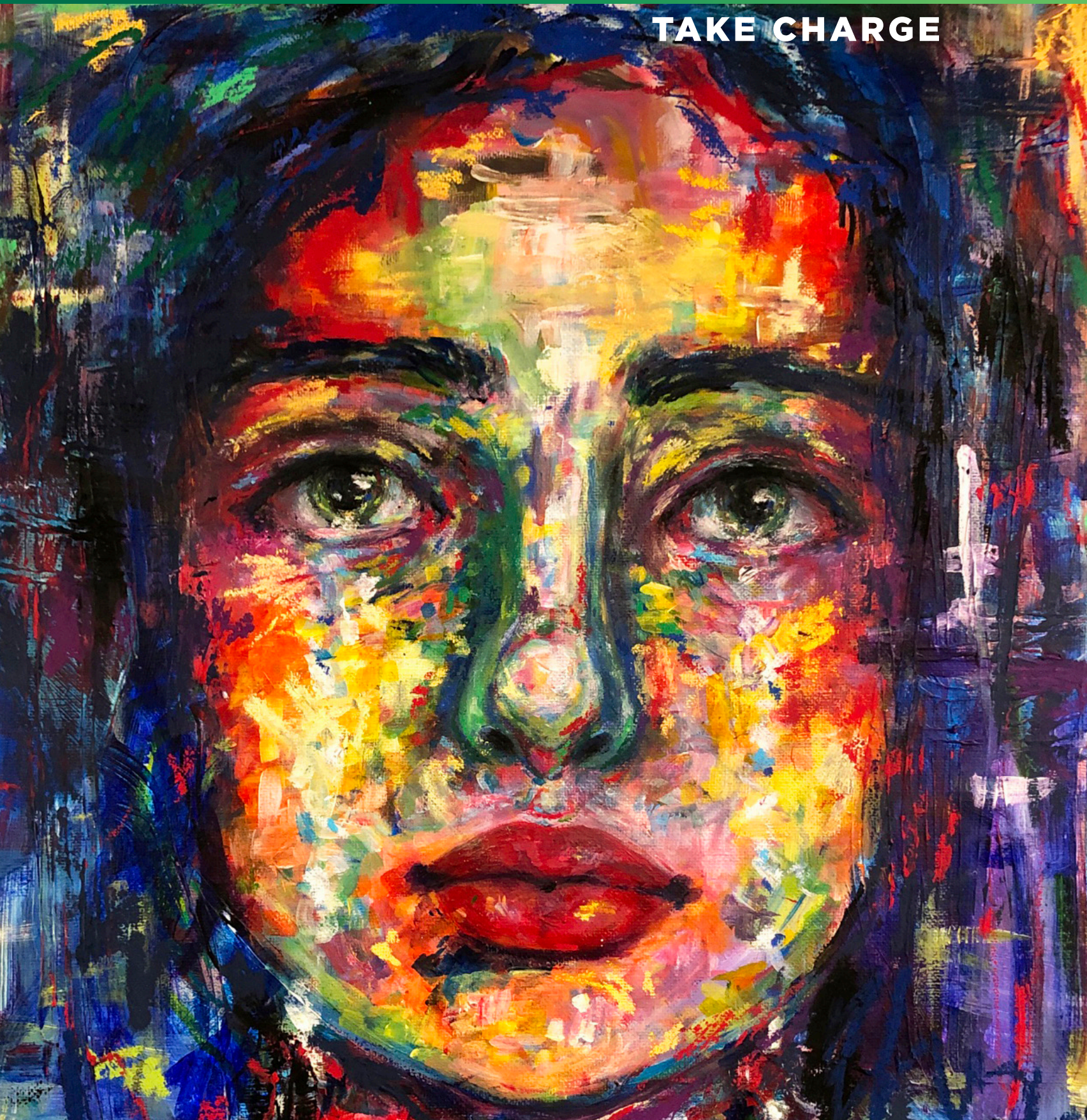


# SHARPUR *EDGE*

Fall 2023 Volume I, Issue 1

**TAKE CHARGE**





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## Dear Reader,

Thank you for picking up a copy of the first edition of *Sharpur Edge*, a new magazine by students in Harpur College of Arts and Sciences. We hope that this publication can introduce Binghamton students, staff and faculty to the programs and resources available at Harpur Edge and other offices on campus.

Each Harpur student can craft their own unique edge with support from the amazing resources available on campus! Take charge of your college experience and define your edge. Keep an eye out for special events and programs during Harpur College week, November 5-11.

The cover art titled "Building Joy from Layers of Grief" by Elisheva Ezor (a former Harpur Fellow) was featured in the 2022 Harpur Edge Fall Art Show. The piece has been overlayed with the Harpur Edge "Take Charge" motto.

This magazine was made possible through the endless support of Erin Cody, Megan Konstantakos, and our generous University partners. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Lorena and Trevor

## Summer Physician Mentorship Program gives students a taste of medicine

By Lorena Maggiore, originally published in BingUNews on September 23, 2022

The Summer Physician Mentorship Program gives Binghamton University students the opportunity to see the everyday lives of doctors firsthand and learn about the patient-care process. On Aug. 26, seven student participants — Apurva Singh, Michael Tortora, Kevin Artus, Adam Elfadel, Molly Batchelder, Daniel Shulman and Allison Trabold — sat down with Harpur Edge director Erin Cody to discuss their experiences.

Tortora, a senior biological sciences major, shadowed a pediatric emergency medicine physician in New Jersey, Kathleen Reichard '89, who gave him insight into what goes on behind the hospital doors.

In the summer program, students were able to take on roles that they had previously encountered but never directly explored. Molly Batchelder, a junior integrative neuroscience major, shadowed Long Island pediatrician Naomi Jackman '90. Although she works as a medical assistant, Batchelder didn't see the doctor's role in the appointment process until she took part in the program, she said.

"I got to actually experience the appointment itself, what the doctor says and asks," she said. "I had the chance to see what my future career would be like."

As students were matched with alumni physician practitioners, they confronted typical daily activities in the physician workforce. Adam Elfadel, a senior majoring in biological sciences, shadowed internal medicine specialist Darren Esposito '95 in the Bronx. Healthcare in the city was a bit of a culture shock, Elfadel said.

However, he was treated like family when he shadowed Esposito, and also took note of the warm relationship between his mentor and his patients. It's something he will strive for when he becomes a physician, he said.

Trabold, a senior neuroscience major who shadowed St. Francis Hospital pulmonologist Michael Como '92, was also inspired by her mentor's interaction with patients. Como was on the frontlines during the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to treat patients who suffer from long COVID.

"They would bring him honey that they made. He's known all of them for so long," Trabold said. "He had been in the hospital with them for months when they had COVID and none of their family members could visit them," she said.

The experience also stretched students' skills. Artus, a senior psychology major, was first a little embarrassed when he began taking medical histories under the mentorship of pediatric urologist Jordan Gitlin '90. Although there was a learning curve, his trepidation quickly developed into excitement.

"That first day I was really like, 'I know what I'm going to do for the future now. I know this is where I belong,'" Artus said. "I want to be in pediatrics as well, so working with kids was such a fantastic experience."



Learn more about how to apply to this program on the Harpur Edge website!

## Looking for a course to take this winter?

Eager to learn more about the types of medical specialties and key issues relevant to the medical profession today?

HARP 302: Current Issues in Medical Practice is a unique opportunity for students to learn about current issues and a variety of medical practices through interaction with successful physician alumni. Each physician will discuss recent topics and dilemmas facing the medical profession in the 21st century.



# Grad School Application Timeline

Created by Lorena Maggiore with input from Dr. Courtney Ignarri, Dr. Vanessa Jaeger and Ms. Erica Miner

## Notes for applicants to fine and performing arts programs:

2 years before graduation

- Build a portfolio or compile professional performance videos and take advantage of the performance opportunities provided on campus
- Create professional recordings of yourself performing different pieces in various styles (having a variety of work will showcase your capabilities and makes it more likely that you will meet program requirements)

## Notes for law or medical school applicants:

2 years before graduation

- Sign up for the MCAT or LSAT exam
- Start studying for any required exams at least three months before the exam date
- For the MCAT, begin studying four to six months before the exam
- Consider getting a masters degree or one-year MBA through Binghamton University's 4+1 program and give yourself an intellectual edge before going to law or medical school

## 4+1 PATH

### EXPLORE

2-4 years before graduation

*...your interests*

- Review 4+1 pathways
- Attend info sessions
- Consider benefits of a master's degree for your future career interests



4+1 opportunities at Binghamton

### RESEARCH

1-2 years before graduation

*...potential pathways*

- Speak with Harpur Academic Advising, Harpur Edge, departmental advising, graduate program advising and financial aid to discuss your plans and options and to map out a tentative schedule for your remaining semesters
- Complete department's "Intent to Apply" step so you can register for grad classes senior year (this will differ by department so this is an essential question to ask the graduate program director)
- Most programs have you apply in the spring of your junior year

### APPLY

1 semester - 1 year before graduation

- Take graduate courses
- Officially apply to the master's program on the graduate admissions portal (spring of senior year)
- Make sure you understand what application requirements will be expected as a 4+1 student



**MORE RESOURCES**

## TRADITIONAL PATH

- Attend graduate school fairs
- Research career pathways on professional organization websites, LinkedIn, Indeed and HireBing
- Meet with a Harpur Edge staff member to discuss future career paths and the educational pathways to get there
- Speak to faculty in the discipline you wish to study to learn about the application process and what experiences you might need to be a competitive applicant

- Visit websites and request information from schools/programs of interest
- Reach out to faculty or program coordinators at schools of interest, attend info sessions or other events hosted by the school or program
- Create a spreadsheet or other tracking method to gather information about the different programs you are considering (track application requirements, deadlines and features of the school or program that are important to you—location, cost, amenities, etc.)

- Compile a final list of programs
- Study for and take any required exams
- Reach out to recommenders
- Begin drafting personal statement, seek feedback from peers and mentors
- Get application feedback from Harpur Edge, the Writing Center and the Fleishman Center
- Finalize resume
- Submit by deadline, interview, and hopefully accept an offer!



How to request letters of rec.



Google

← → ↻

https://www.binghamton.edu/harpur/edge/academic/bonzani.html

☆ ⋮

## Bonzani Memorial Law Lecture

The John and Lawrence Bonzani Memorial Law Lecture is held in the fall semester and highlights a topic of interest related to the law. Prior lecturers have been Harpur College alumni who shared expertise in their field while engaging students interested in legal careers.

### Meeting Lead Prosecutor Moira Penza and the Takedown of the NXIVM Cult

Article by Dayana Mazariego

When I was a senior in high school, I decided to do my final AP Psychology project on cults.

I came across a cult named NXIVM, a sex cult that operated from 1998 until 2018 in Albany, New York. Its leader and founder, Keith Raniere, was finally convicted in 2020 through the efforts made by lead prosecutor Moira Penza. When I was reading articles about his prosecution a few months back, I had no idea I was going to have the privilege of meeting Moira herself through Harpur Edge.

As a freshman in college, I will never forget sitting a few feet away from Moira Penza, talking about her work in dismantling the NXIVM cult. As I listened to Penza, I realized that my research in high school only covered the tip of the iceberg. The Bonzani law lecture shared new insight into the case and gave me a taste of what my life may look like after graduating from Binghamton University.

Penza presented a few recordings the FBI retrieved from Raniere’s cell phone and explained that Raniere had manipulated and conditioned women to establish control over them. All of their decisions were to be approved by Raniere as a way of manipulating women into believing they were being held accountable, and women had to follow this rule to stay in DOS, the secret sex cult that operated within NXIVM. Women in DOS thought they were being empowered and that Raniere was helping them.

I could tell that Penza was still passionate about bringing justice to women and to the victims of Raniere’s abuse years after his prosecution. I was inspired to bring justice to people as Penza did. If it wasn’t for her, hundreds of women would still be under Raniere’s control and manipulation.

Words cannot express how thankful I am to have had the opportunity to meet and talk to Moira Penza about her journey in prosecuting Keith Raniere. I will never forget how sweet and caring she was when we spoke about my career aspirations, and I would never trade that experience for the world.

*Looking for a course to take this winter? Eager to learn more about the types of legal practices and hot-topic issues legal professionals face today? HARP 300: Current Issues in Legal Practice is a unique opportunity for students to learn about current issues and a variety of legal practices through interaction with successful Binghamton University law alumni. Each lawyer will discuss recent cases and dilemmas facing the legal profession in the 21st century.*

Google

← → ↻

https://www.binghamton.edu/harpur/edge/

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## Connection Builder

**Harpur Edge Connection Builder** is a four-week program to teach Harpur College students what they need to know about building professional connections with alumni to help them get a professional edge! Using [Mentor Match](#), an online platform that connects Binghamton students with alumni volunteers, students will explore career paths and learn how to distinguish themselves as they embark on their profession and prepare for a successful future.

Students will learn how to create their Mentor Match profile, refine their resume, identify alumni in area(s) of career interest, reach out and connect for informational interviews, mentoring relationships and virtual or in-person shadowing opportunities.

## Harpur Edge Crash Courses

Crash Courses are offered on a variety of topics to give Harpur College students an edge on their professional development for future internship, research or job opportunities. A few of the offerings also include the opportunity to **earn a Binghamton University Microcredential** that verifies, validates, and attests to the specific skills and/or demonstrated competencies students earn.

crashCourses.py

```
import pandas as data
reviews = data.read_excel('C:\\Users\\harpur\\Desktop\\CrashCoursesReviews.xlsx')
for x in reviews:
    print(x)
```

```
> /Users/harpur/reviews/crashCourses.py
>
> Kristina, SQL Coding, 5 stars
> Wonderful!!! Instructor was patient and very informative. Will definitely
> be attending more crash courses in the future :) I loved this program!!!!
>
> Clare, 2-Day Python Beginning, 5 stars
> that was great! I loved how friendly it was for anyone regardless of
> major to join. Keep doing this!!
>
> Andrew, Coding in R, 5 stars
> Great and useful intro to R!
>
> Lola, Public Speaking, 5
> As someone who doesn't like public speaking, I enjoyed
> this more than expected
>
> Shamar, American Sign Language, 5
> Love it, I feel so lucky that I'm able to have access to this
>
```



7



Top secret:

## Harpur alum discusses career in government intelligence

By Lorena Maggiore,  
originally published in  
BingUNews on Oct. 28, 2022

Harpur alumnus Wesley Moy '79 shared his experience working in government intelligence during an Oct. 7 Brunch & Learn Zoom event with Harpur Edge. As a college student, he never envisioned working for the Department of Homeland Security, he admitted.

"When you say 'career path,' it makes it sound like I had a plan," said Moy. "Let's remember: I had no plan. Things kind of happened along the way."

He graduated from Binghamton University with a degree in political science and a specialization in international relations. During his long career, he amassed other degrees as well: a Master of Business Administration from Rutgers University, a Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence from the National Intelligence University, a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College, and a PhD in business administration from Northcentral University.

After leaving Binghamton, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army infantry and headed to South Korea, where he did patrols in the demilitarized zone (DMZ). Then he spent two decades working in Wall Street firms, became an attaché in Cambodia and worked as an intelligence officer for Homeland Security, retiring in 2019. Currently, he conducts research into how nation-states use disinformation against the United States.

Intelligence is deeply challenging work, he said, and government employees can face limits on their personal activities. A moral compass is a must.

"Don't allow the situations that you are in to degrade what you are," he advised. "Keep that intact because that will be yours, no matter where you are working."

Students interested in government jobs should investigate opportunities through the Political Science Department, and should consider courses

in quantitative methods, which will prove handy in the field. Harpur College's liberal arts traditions can help students develop a breadth of interests for both professional and personal development, he pointed out.

### Preparing for government careers

That said, students interested in intelligence careers don't have to major in political science.

"A good government will bring together a number of different perspectives. If you're working on communication and media studies, that's really important," he said. "You would recognize flaws in the logical or illogical presentation in ideas and that's an important strength."

Students should consider applying to internships, which can lead to permanent positions in the intelligence community.

"The internships that I sponsored for DHS intelligence, my intent was always to hire that intern. We got them a top-secret security clearance," said Moy. "They worked for us even if it was one day a week, and in some cases we let them work remotely."

Whether they opt for a career in government service or elsewhere, Moy encouraged Binghamton students to take on jobs where they can make a difference.

He recommended for students to take on challenges and encouraged them to take on jobs in the world where they may make a difference.

"Bad things happen in the world and you'll see that as you take on greater challenges," he said. "The fact that we're sitting in this room having this conversation means that you are already thinking about 'What can I do to make a difference?' Make a difference in something that's hard."

## Dr. Moy's 10 Tips for Finding a Government Job

**1. Look at job openings on usajobs.gov! Set up an agent in usajobs.gov in order to learn about different job opportunities and receive notifications about new openings.**

**2. If you are interested in joining an intelligence community, make sure to visit their website and read up on their programs.**

**3. Look into federal paid internships. They are often paid at the GS-5 level with locality pay (compensation is adjusted depending on the city) and payment details will be provided.**

**4. If you have language skills, consider working for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Foreign Service, or the Department of Defense. USCIS employ staff that can communicate in all languages, and these employees are responsible for the asylum processing for refugees and working with those applying to come to the U.S.**

**5. Regarding the Foreign Service or Officer Test there are five areas. Moy recommends the political or economic areas, which allow individuals to work directly with host nations. The management area prepares candidates for "the nuts and bolts" of running the agency.**

**6. If you are interested in traveling outside of the U.S. while working in government, consider intelligence job opportunities or Foreign Service at the State Department.**

**7. Moy encourages students to pursue their interests. "Even if you don't wind up going down that path, you'd be able to say you fully explored it," he said.**

**8. Consider working for the Partnership for Public Service because they are a good launching point for gaining an understanding of the federal government. They also administer the "Best Places to Work in the Federal Government" survey, which is a good place to look for opportunities.**

**9. The hardest jobs often have the biggest impact. Some government jobs, especially in the Department of Homeland Security, can be challenging, but they can also make a meaningful difference.**

**10. When it comes to applying for a job, don't overthink. Just do it!**



**Harpur Edge hosts conversations between alumni and students on transitioning to a professional environment. Learn more about Lunch and Learns on the Harpur Edge website.**



# HARPUR FELLOWS

ARTICLE BY LORENA MAGGIORE

The Harpur Fellows Program gives students the opportunity to create and conduct a community service project anywhere in the world. Students receive up to \$4,000 for the service project. Harpur Fellow Scholar Raimi Ade-Salu '12 and Ashleigh Rose Requijo '24 share their experience as past fellows.

Ade-Salu's service project took place in Salcaja, Guatemala. He said that his experience as a fellow is still one of the best things he's done and it taught him about partnering and helping others. Ade-Salu is currently employed at the Robin Hood Foundation and served as a Corps Member of Teach for America in Wahiawa, Hawai'i. He said that when comparing all of his work, his time as a fellow was one of the best giving experiences.

"I still think it's maybe the best thing I've ever done and I work in education and philanthropy now where we give out millions of dollars," said Ade-Salu. "It really is one of the highlights of my giving experience and it also taught me a lot about what it means to try to 'help' or 'partner' with people."

Ade-Salu said that the program offers real-world applications. He said it was important for fellows to see themselves as conduits who have access to resources. He also said that it was a learning opportunity for him.

"We have the privilege to be able to apply for the resources," said Ade-Salu. "I think it's one of the rare times in college where you get to do something that has real world application whereas a lot of things sometimes are just theoretical."

Requijo spent time in the Philippines for the Our Water, Our Future project. She worked with both project managers and her grandmother to install water pumps and septic tanks in a village without a functioning water system.

"There was no sort of pipeline system, so we used the money to buy all of the necessary materials from toilet bowls to different kinds of pipes to the cement," said Requijo. "We installed one pump in one of the areas and three pumps in a different village... twelve toilet bowls total and then two septic tanks."

Requijo said that the experience was enlightening and humbling. Being on the ground and within the village allowed her to see how the local community lived and operated.

"Being on the ground and actually speaking with these people, walking through their village, seeing where they live and how they operate," said Requijo. "It felt really uplifting and really enlightening while also very humbling."

As a fellow, Requijo was able to see the direction she wanted to take professionally from the "Our Water, Our Future" project. Requijo has since considered new career paths including working at a global nonprofit and has delved into global fellowships. Her community service project has connected her with professionals at other institutions as well.

"I was also able to really see the direction I want to go in terms of my professional development ... I've gotten so many great connections," said Requijo. "Alumni have reached out to me and now I'm hoping to work on this newsletter with this Filipina professor in another school."

HARPUR  
EDGE

FEAT.

ASHLEIGH  
REQUIJO



PASSPORT



United States  
of America



# STAY TUNED FOR THE FLEISHMAN CAREER CENTER'S MAJOR EVENTS!



## JOB & INTERNSHIP FAIRS

**Wednesday, Sept. 13**

The Job and Internship Fair is an opportunity for students to network with recruiters and learn more about available job and internship opportunities, as well as explore careers related to their majors and interests.

## LAW SCHOOLS FAIR

**Thursday, Sept. 28**

## GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS FAIR

**Thursday, Oct. 5**

Students interested in graduate programs can attend these fairs to network with representatives from graduate, professional and law schools across the country. Learn more about different schools and how to stand out as an applicant to competitive programs.



# (4+1) COMBINED DEGREE PROGRAMS

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The Office of Graduate Recruitment and Admissions:  
[gradinfo@binghamton.edu](mailto:gradinfo@binghamton.edu)

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🐾 University Union 133



# HARPUR EDGE

**Take charge and  
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to cultivate your  
competitive edge!**

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- **Relationship-building**
- **Funding opportunities**
- **Goal-setting**

**Bartle Library LN 1105**

