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GSPiA Degree: MPA

The skills I have gained through my graduate studies at GSPiA have equipped me to accomplish my professional goals. Upon graduation, I plan to work in a local government setting as a municipality manager or to work for the Federal government researching policy and legislation.

I chose GSPiA for a number of reasons. The school helps students to get involved with the community through a variety of hands-on projects. In this way, I feel that GSPiA has given me more than just textbook knowledge, but also a feel for how to manage real-world scenarios. Staff and faculty members are accessible and willing to give students advice about their professional questions and concerns.

GSPiA's campus is located in one of the United States' "most livable" cities. Pittsburgh is a wonderful place to explore on a budget and an even better place to get connected with not only local politics and organizations, but also federal agencies with offices in the city or nearby Washington D.C. In fact, students who are interested in growing their professional network while accruing work experience as an intern have the option to study in D.C. for one semester through GSPiA's Washington D.C. Connection.

I would recommend a GSPiA education to prospective students because GSPiA's curriculum is very relevant for policy-oriented and/or international careers. The School hosts a number of events throughout the year that bring big-name speakers to campus.

I know that my GSPiA education has opened a lot of new doors for me as I start my future career. For instance, over the summer I had the opportunity to intern at the Borough of Brentwood, a community just south of Pittsburgh, through the Local Government Academy Municipal Intern Program. Through my position at the Borough I was able to see the process of how policies take shape in the local government setting. I was also able to understand all of the various positions of a local government office and gain a clear picture about what a career in local government would entail.

I am looking forward to my future career search thanks to the skills and professional network that GSPiA has helped me to build.

GSPIA

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