

# Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy

## Alumni in Action!



Molly Hayward '10 in Kenya where she conducted research on the issue of menstruation with women and girls of the Maasai tribe.



Eric Williamson '02 inspiring "Playworks" junior youth coaches to step outside of their comfort zone.



Océane Hooks-Camilleri '12 in rehearsal for "Anchor" with *marked dance project*. Future performance information at [www.oceanehc.com](http://www.oceanehc.com)



Emily Heller '08 with Peace Corps in Panama where she researched and taught sustainable organic agriculture and agroforestry to farmers and ecological groups.

## October 2015

## About the Center:

The Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy is an interdisciplinary academic center that unites intellectual inquiry with meaningful social, political and civic action in local and global communities. The scholars gain discipline, leadership skills and assets that they later bring to their own communities.

We are interested in knowing what our alumni are doing and how their experiences in the center contributed to their knowledge, skills, and professional development.

95/226 alumni completed the 2014 Alumni Survey; 42% response rate.

## Formative Experiences of PICA Alumni

- Funded internship
- Senior integrative project
- Meeting and bonding with students of similar interest
- Formal and/or informal advising by Holleran Center staff
- Community learning component in the New London area
- Related coursework outside major completed
- Gateway course
- Public presentation of research findings or experiences



PICA alumni panelists after the panel discussion during Reunion Weekend in 2014.



PICA alumni Stephanie Winter '09, Carly Allard '09 and Heather Day '09 attend first PICA Reunion on May 31, 2014.



PICA alumni interacting at Boston Networking Event on June 13, 2015.

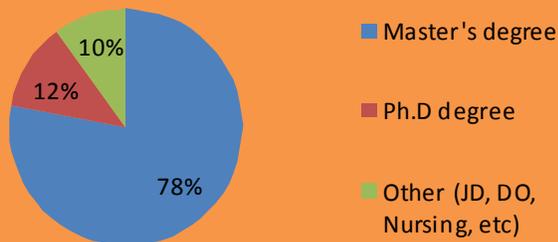
# Key Findings from Holleran Center Alumni Survey

## Education

More than half of PICA alumni (59/95) obtained a post baccalaureate degree.

The most popular advanced degrees were in Health (N=14) and Education (N=13).

### Advanced Degrees



PICA alumni have earned advanced degrees in a wide variety of fields:

- Health
- Education
- Human Services
- Arts
- Law
- Business/Corporate
- Environmental
- Government/Policy
- Cultural
- Communications
- Housing
- Religion

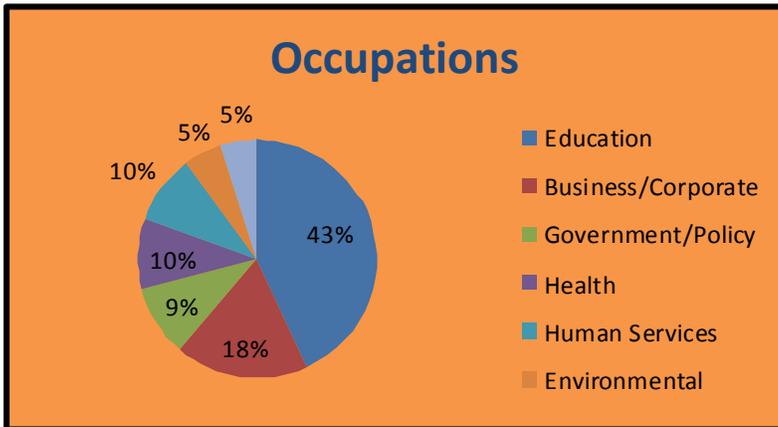
### Post Graduate schools attended by PICA Alumni

- American University
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- Clark University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- Emory University
- John Hopkins University
- London School of Economics & Political Science
- New York University
- Pace University
- Rutgers University
- Tufts University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Connecticut
- University of Oxford
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Vermont Law School

# Key Findings from Holleran Center Alumni Survey

## Employment

PICA alumni pursue careers across many disciplines.



43% of the PICA alumni work in education.

### PICA Alumni's Occupations

Advertising	Investments
Architecture	Law
Art	Marketing
Business	Medicine
Business Owner	Non-Profit Work
College Administration	Organizational Development
Computer Engineering	Photography
Consulting	Production
Counseling/Psychotherapy	Psychology/Psychiatry
Education	Public Administration
Environmental	Public Policy
Film/Video	Public Relations
Finance/Financial Services	Publishing
Food Services	Research
Fundraising	Retail
Government - State/Federal	Science/Research
Health Administration	Social Services
Human Resources	Social Work
Insurance	Teaching
International Work	

### Careers

- Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention
- Senior Compliance Associate, PNC
- Public Affairs Coordinator at Fidelity Investments
- Project Architect at Nandinee Phookan Architects
- Director of Strategy and Development at RaceTrac Petroleum
- Executive Director at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.
- Historic Interpreter at Harriet Beecher Stowe Center
- Securities Litigation Associate at Wilmer Hale
- Behavioral Health Specialist at Aurora Charter Oak Hospital
- Legislative Counsel, State of Vermont, General Assembly
- Director of Social Services at Planned Parenthood of New York City
- Director of the Cross-Cultural Center at Assumption College
- Owner of Pushcart Coffee
- Owner of Bedford Botanics
- Freelance Web Designer
- Director of Employer Partnerships at Urban Alliance

# Benefits of Participation in the Holleran Center's Certificate Program in Community Action and Public Policy

## Greater Understanding of Public Policy and Inequities

“The sophomore year programming helped me the most because it pushed me to never see situations or issues in isolation - to always consider the "isms" involved, to see how issues like education, health and housing were never stand-alone topics and were affected by each other and to actually practice community action by working together on projects with community partners.”

## Commitment to Social Justice

“Beyond the required classes, the most lasting impact PICA had on me was instilling a deep sense of concern for my local community and a sense of awareness of the social justice issues that surround me.”

## Skill Development: Public Speaking, Grant Writing , Consensus Building

“PICA gave me confidence when talking with peers about contemporary social issues, but also the tools to create real change. I think there is a concrete set of skills that a PICA student graduates with. To name a few: public speaking, grant writing, webpage/tech development, outreach, community engagement.”

## Being Around Like Minded Peers

“This was the best Conn College experience academically and socially. It was great to be part of the family in the Holleran Center.”



Holleran Center staff take picture with PICA alumnus Eric Williamson '02 at a Boston Networking Event on June 13, 2015.



Anthony Sis '14 introduces Deb Levine during an award ceremony at YTH Live. YTH is the partner of choice for those in search of new ways to advance the health of youth and young adults through technology.

# Benefits of Participation in the Holleran Center's Certificate Program in Community Action and Public Policy

## Learning How to Put Liberal Arts into Action

“My favorite part of the program was helping to plan the annual Walk for the Homeless. The Walk for the Homeless allowed me to learn about homelessness, volunteer in the shelter (and interact with the guests of the Homeless Hospitality Center), and then plan an event that raised thousands of dollars to support the cause.”

## Learning How to be an Advocate

“Over the course of the program, I gained the confidence and courage to voice my opinions and agreements with the class, which allowed me to grow as a person and be passionate about issues on health, the community, and civil rights. PICA helped me realize that to be a successful advocate you must overcome your fear by immersing yourself in the environment and strive to be proactive and engaging. These skills have really helped me after college.”

## Learning How to Conduct Research

“The entire process of constructing individual SIPs on unique topics and then presenting our findings at the conference has the biggest impact on my academic career and personal development.”

## Professional Skill Development

“I think the most useful aspects of PICA were the tangible, professional skills that I gained in the PICA program. Having completed collaborative projects was useful to put on my resume as well as the soft skills of working with my peers. Professionally, this has been an important experience. Additionally, being exposed to a wide variety of professional opportunities was helpful.”



Recent alumni (left to right) Alexis Adams-Clark' 15, Molly Longstreth' 15, Jae Majors '15 and Michael Murgo' 15 after their Senior Integrative Project Presentation during the Holleran Center Conference.



Emily Heller '08 in Panama implementing training workshops with community based organizations in leadership, agribusiness and marketing for rural agro-tourism.

## PICA ENTREPRENEURS IN ACTION



**By Chelsea Hanson '04**

Having lived in Europe, Asia, South America, Africa, Australia, and the Middle East, I have a unique ability to relate to international clients and advocate on their behalf.

I received her Juris Doctorate in 2008 and have studied international humanitarian law in Melbourne, Australia, international conflict resolution in Jerusalem, Israel, and international mediation in Budapest, Hungary and Paris, France.

I began providing social services to refugees in 2005, and representing immigrants in legal matters in 2007. Prior to founding my immigration law practice in 2015, I spent almost six years directing immigration policy for an international non-profit in Washington, DC, affording me a comprehensive understanding of administrative and legislative changes in U.S. immigration law and policy.

My diverse immigration practice focuses on family-based immigration; legal permanent residency and citizenship; humanitarian relief; and representation of foreign nationals at U.S. consulates abroad.

I am admitted to practice law before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and the U.S. Supreme Court. I work collaboratively with a group of immigration lawyers and support staff in Washington, DC.



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