



The Maddy Institute

California State University, Fresno

Winter 2016
Maddy Institute Newsletter

A note from the Director...

For our democracy to function we need bi-partisan problems solvers like Sen. Ken Maddy, now more than ever. Creating the next generation of such leaders has always been the driving force behind the Maddy Institute's Legislative Intern Program. It is your support—your investment in our democracy—that makes this program possible.



We have awarded more than 400 legislative intern scholarships since 2001. Our legislative interns have worked in 19 federal and state legislative offices, both Democrat and Republican, in Washington, D.C., Sacramento and throughout the Valley, learning firsthand about how to get things done through the political and legislative process. We would like to provide these opportunities to even more deserving students.

The bottom line is that your investment in our interns has, and will continue to, pay off. In just 15 short years, many of our alumni have already gone on to become Valley leaders in politics, government, law and business. Frankly, that is not surprising given the quality of the students and the rigor of the program (only about 1 in 5 applicants are awarded a Maddy scholarship—and all applicants must have a minimum 3.0 GPA to even apply). The alumni highlighted in this newsletter provide a small example of what our Maddy Alums have done since graduating from the program. As a group, they continue to compile an impressive track record.

We hope you will continue to help us build on that success.

With Appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Kieppeler".

Executive Director – The Maddy Institute

Alumni in the News

Fresno Business Street has announced the Class of 2016's "**40 Under 40**" list, which recognizes outstanding business professionals in the private and public sectors of central California that have yet to reach the age of 40. Nearly one-half of the list are Fresno State alumni and two of our our Maddy Alumni:

- Cole Rojewski, Chief of Staff at the Office of Congressman David Valadao.
- Christopher Rusca, Attorney with the law firm Watkins & Wieland PC

Both of them were highlighted previously in our Maddy Alumni Letters in 2016 and 2011 respectively.



Holly Carter

Holly Carter interned in the Fall of 2007 and Spring of 2008 at the office of Congressman George Radanovich in Fresno. After serving her internship, Holly was recruited to be Executive Director for the Fresno Co. Republican Party.

There she gained national recognition for implementing leadership development, intern and marketing programs and led record fundraising efforts. She also successfully campaigned for elections of seven candidates and numerous propositions.

"The Maddy Institute provided me the opportunity to experience the "behind the scenes" operations of a legislative office. This experience was pivotal in the selection of my current career. The insights I received while interning laid the foundation for what would become my deep concern for good governance. Ultimately, it taught me that the best philanthropy is good public policy—and that led me to pursue a career in public affairs"

Holly started Carter & Co. Communications after creating and building several companies. She also runs a non-profit organization, "The Face of Cancer," helping reunite women with their sense of beauty and femininity during and after cancer.

Dyoni Cole

Dyoni Cole interned at Fresno's City Attorney's Office in 2002. After her internship Dyoni went on to earn her MBA from University of Phoenix, and her DBA from Argosy University.

On her exit statement she said about her internship that:
"... the program played a huge role in the creation of my foundation and that means to me more than anything".



"My time as a Maddy Institute Intern was priceless. My internship at Fresno City Attorney's Office was an amazing experience. From assisting with index pleadings, attending legal proceedings with attorneys (depositions, law and motion hearing, and trials), and of course the general clerical duties, I was like a kid in a candy warehouse.

I was then and yet still remain grateful for such a life changing opportunity. Thank you Kenneth L. Maddy Institute for providing life changing opportunities for the next generation and generations to come."

Dyoni is a entrepreneur and President of Dyoni, Inc., a consulting organization that specializes in leadership development.

Brandon Darnell

Brandon interned in the Spring of 2006 at the office of Senator Barbara Boxer in Fresno. He earned his undergraduate degree in political science, with a minor in economics, from California State University, Fresno, where he graduated *cum laude* and then went to earn his J.D. from the University of San Diego.



"My most important takeaway from my Maddy internship experience was the understanding that the people working in government, even at its highest levels, are no different than any of us; they're just regular people working to improve our society the best they believe they can. That realization was inspiring and empowering, and made pursuing a career in public a more tangible choice for me."

After graduation he started as a certified legal intern in the Juvenile Delinquency Division of the San Diego County Office of the Public Defender and worked as a law clerk at Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP.

In 2012, Brandon joined the State of California Office of Legislative Counsel in 2012 where he is a deputy legislative counsel. He is assigned to the Opinion Branch, which develops and presents, either in written or oral form, the formal legal opinions of the Office of Legislative Counsel.



Jennifer Lugo

Jennifer Lugo served as a Maddy Legislative Intern with former Congressman George Radanovich at his Fresno office in 2002 researching casework for local veterans and active duty military.

Jennifer graduated with a BA in History/Minor in Political Science in 2002, following with a MA in History from Fresno State in 2005.

"The Maddy Institute provided me the opportunity to be directly involved in the political process. The experience I gained during my internship was invaluable, as it taught me the value and pride of working as a public servant for the local community. Researching and working with local veterans inspired me to earn my Master's Degree in History and then start my career as a civil servant working to help improve the infrastructure of my community within the San Joaquin Valley."

Following graduation Jennifer started working at the California Department of Transportation in 2005. And currently she is the environmental project manager of a large interdisciplinary team that coordinates planning, research, and analysis of large capital projects within the San Joaquin Valley and Central Coast.



Nicolas Munoz

Nicolas served as a Maddy Legislative Intern with former Assemblymember Linda Halderman during the Summer of 2011 in Sacramento.

Nicolas graduated in 2011 with a Bachelors of Arts in Philosophy and following that volunteered as a Court Appointed Special Advocate(C.A.S.A.) and worked as a law clerk in an immigration law firm.

"The Kenneth L. Maddy Institute of Public Affairs provided me with an invaluable opportunity to participate in the political process. Specifically, I was afforded a hands-on experience that allowed me to work alongside policy makers as laws passed through the legislative process. I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to the Maddy Institute and all its supporters for making my experience possible. I am humbled by the magnitude of students who are afforded such an incredible political experience every year.

Nicolas entered USC Gould school of Law in 2015, and is scheduled to graduate in 2018.

William Oliver

William served as a Maddy Legislative Intern with U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein in the Fall of 2007 in her Fresno office and with Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula in the Summer of 2008 in his Sacramento office.



“As a Maddy Scholar, I had the opportunity to intern for U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein and Assemblymember Juan Arambula. Both experiences were eye-opening and invaluable to me as I learned about the day-to-day operations of a legislative office, insight into the legislative process, and the interaction between elected officials, their staff, and the public. Most importantly, I learned about the efforts that takes place in Central Valley communities where legislators and staff work daily to address the issues that are of the utmost importance to the constituents and communities they serve. My experience as a Maddy Scholar propelled me to serve as a staff member for U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer and on President Obama's 2012 re-election campaign. As a Councilmember for the City of Madera, I've used the experience that I gained as a Maddy Intern to provide important public service to my constituents. Whether it's regarding a broken street light, a pot hole, or a public safety concern, I have a keen understanding that my position is to make a positive impact on the lives in my community. I am very thankful for the opportunities afforded to me through the Maddy Internship Program.”

William is currently a City Council member for the City of Madera.

Introducing our Fall 2016

Maddy Legislative Intern Scholars

- *Hayden Johnson, Bakersfield: Interning with Senator Andy Vidak (R-Fresno) at his Bakersfield office.*
- *Annamarie Dzambo, Fresno: Interning with Congressman Jim Costa (D- Fresno) at his Fresno office.*
- *Sheila Her, Fresno: Interning with Councilmember Oliver Baines (Fresno, District 3) at his Fresno office.*

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