SAIS LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM (LASP)
INTERNSHIPS/RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN LATIN AMERICA
SUMMER 2017

In 2017, fifteen students were placed in Latin America under the auspices of the SAIS Latin American Studies Internship/Research Fellowship Program. These opportunities are designed to broaden classroom learning and offer substantial field experience in the private, public and nonprofit sectors. We strive to match internship placements with the interests/career goals of participating students.

ARGENTINA

- Miguel Algarin (Bologna), *Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI)*, Buenos Aires – Contributed to research projects highlighting Argentina's regional and global engagement.
- Juan Bernardo Alvarez, *Poliarquía Consultores*, Buenos Aires – Researched methods of capital controls for prominent political consulting firm.
- Daniel Schiffrin, *Puente*, Buenos Aires – Worked in support of Capital Markets and M&A teams with Argentina's return to international capital markets.
- Merritt Simon (Bologna), *Berensztein*, Buenos Aires – Conducted research and analysis for leading political and economic consultancy firm.
- Amanda Sztein, *CEFEIDAS International Advisory Firm*, Buenos Aires - Developed comprehensive industry reports on the Southern Cone's key sectors, including mining, transportation and the digital economy. Conducted research and drafted weekly memos for international clients on political, economic and social developments in Argentina.

BRAZIL

- Matthew McCollum, *Control Risks*, São Paulo – Monitored current trends and forecasts in public policy, security, and regulatory agencies within the Southern Cone region and provided risk analyses to clients signaling how their investments could be impacted. Analyzed legal frameworks within the energy, telecommunications, pharmaceutical, and agribusiness sectors and summarized the potential regulatory risks involved in market entry. Investigated occurrences of corruption and fraud within government agencies.
- Elmer "EJ" Richardson (Bologna), *Thomson Reuters*, Brasília – Reported from Brazilian Congress and government ministries to provide Reuters journalists with specific details and quotes for breaking news. Interviewed area experts and drafted story on the increase in poverty in Brazil following its worst economic recession on record.
- Navid Shahidinejad, *International Finance Corporation.* (IFC), São Paulo – Performed credit, financial, and risk analysis of Brazilian agribusiness, healthcare, and education companies. Led due diligence tasks for a new investment to sugar and ethanol plant. Authored market research reports on the Brazilian private healthcare and higher education markets.

CHILE

- Christopher Phalen (Bologna), *Dax Energy Group*, Santiago – Supported the development of multiple wind, solar, and thermal generation projects in Argentina. Prepared investor presentations for equity-raising round(s), and conducted legal and political research.
- Alexander Weisman (Bologna), *Compass Group*, Santiago – Directed the analysis of economic and market indicators aimed at producing macro top-down evaluations; generated global investment ideas for various asset classes.

COLOMBIA

- Laura Altafulla, *CAF Development Bank of Latin America/Climate Change Unit*, Bogotá – Performed research and analysis related to climate change adaption and mitigation.
- William "Eli" Birge (Bologna), *CAF Development Bank of Latin America/Infrastructure Division*, Bogotá – Monitored and evaluated critical construction milestones for metro systems in Lima and Quito. Analyzed project finance spreadsheets for prospective Bike Share Program in Cali; identified savings of $500,000 annually. Provided recommendations for a $100MM grant proposal to the UN.

- Chelsea Rodstrom (Bologna), *AT Kearney*, Bogotá – Assisted with Project Proposals and Closing Reports. Researched trends within insurance industry for major Latin American financial institution. Completed comprehensive survey project evaluating Boards of Directors for over 800 Latin American companies.

MEXICO:

- Katherine "Katey" Finnegan (Bologna), *Government of Oaxaca-Governor's Office*, Oaxaca – Devised a strategic plan of action for the government of Oaxaca to develop the mezcal industry through private and academic partnerships.
- Norman McKay (Bologna), *Federal Authority for the Development of Special Economic Zones*, Mexico City – Assessed labor market conditions in four planned Special Economic Zones; identified key labor market indicators, analyzed existing supply of skilled labor, and produced comprehensive databases on relevant university programs and competencies. Researched active labor market policies to increase supply of qualified labor in productive sectors of local economies in order to minimize anticipated skills mismatch.