



IE PRE GRAD INTERNS BECOME FACULTY

The Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium (IE), which began in 1996, launched a Pre Graduate School Internship program in 2003. Since then nearly 3,000 undergraduate students representing all of UT's colleges and schools and over 60 academic disciplines have enrolled in the IE Pre Grad Internship course. In excess of 60% are either the first in their family to graduate college, members of underrepresented minority groups, or come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. A growing number of these students have now earned a Ph.D. and taken faculty positions at institutions across the country.



Dan Conroy-Beam, completed his PhD in Psychology at UT in July, 2016. He will be appointed assistant professor in Evolutionary Psychology at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Perhaps he is one step closer to realizing his stated goal set during the IE internship: “to become the Barack Obama of Evolutionary Psychology.” Notes Dan: “There's really no better position for an evolutionary psychologist: UCSB is a large research school with a faculty very interested in evolutionary approaches to studying the human mind. I'm just elated to have this job. And my path to Santa Barbara all started when the IE program enabled me to attend my first conference: the annual meeting of the Human Behavior

and Evolution Society. It was at that conference that I realized that I wanted to do science for the rest of my life. And now, almost seven years later, I will be joining many of the people I saw at that conference as colleagues!" Read a narrative and watch two videos describing how Dan's IE Pre Grad Internship experience "fostered an incredible growth environment and opened doors for me academically that I previously never knew existed." http://www.ut-ie.com/d/dan_conroy-beam.html



Natasha Shrikant completed her PhD in communication in May, 2016 and has accepted a tenure track faculty position at the University of Colorado Boulder starting in August, 2016—one of the nation's best communication programs. Says Natasha, "I participated in the IE program the final semester of my senior year. I wanted to gain research experience before attending graduate school. Through my participation in the IE program, I had the opportunity to work with Professor Jurgen Streeck and learn discourse analytic methods for studying verbal and non-verbal communication. This research experience helped me succeed in many of the subsequent graduate courses I took in my Masters (University of Illinois) and PhD (University of Massachusetts) programs, and today I

still use discourse analysis for conducting my own research. Overall, the IE program provided me with a strong foundation in research that contributed to my current success as a scholar of communication."



Communication Studies IE Pre Grad Internship alumnus **Robert McDonald** successfully completed his Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina in 2016. He accepted a lecturer position at the University of Kansas. "There's no doubt in my mind that my semester in the Intellectual Entrepreneurship program as an undergraduate," notes Robert, "prepared me for earning my doctorate at the University of North Carolina. My mentor, Dr. Bryan McCann, modeled for me the rigor, the focus, and the values of graduate education. I hope to pass on the lessons I learned from him and the program as a whole to all of my future students. Many thanks to Dr. Richard Cherwitz and IE!" When Robert began his doctoral program he made a video describing his IE experience, noting how it allowed him to "peer over the edge into a world

that excited him." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E0THbd4ALPQ>



Amanda Porter, the first in her family to graduate college, was both an IE Pre Grad intern and mentor. Following completion of her doctorate at the University of Colorado she became an assistant professor at Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam and part of the KIN research group (<http://www.kinresearch.nl/>). "Participating in the IE pre-grad school program has shaped my experiences in higher education greatly," notes Amanda. "I had the wonderful opportunity to be both an intern and a mentor in the program and have benefited in important ways from experiencing the mentor-intern relationship from both

perspectives. I did the internship as an undergraduate to explore the possibility of graduate school. As a first generation college graduate, I really had no prior reference for understanding what graduate school entailed. However, my experience as an intern helped me develop an in-depth understanding of the graduate school culture. I then became a graduate student in the same department that I did my internship in and took on the role of being a mentor to another undergraduate student much like myself. As a mentor, I made an effort to provide my intern with all of the valuable experiences that benefited me so much when I was an intern in the program. Some of the activities of this internship included visiting graduate seminars, interviewing faculty and graduate students, and attending departmental colloquia. Importantly, I had the unique opportunity to build a professional relationship with a student that is unlike any experience I ever had in the classroom. Working one-to-one with my intern, I felt that I was really able to help her by tailoring the internship to meet her needs. As an intern and a mentor, I have benefited from the IE pre-grad school program in every way possible. I feel so rewarded to have the experience of both intern and mentor; I feel that in many ways I have come full circle in the IE pre-grad school program."



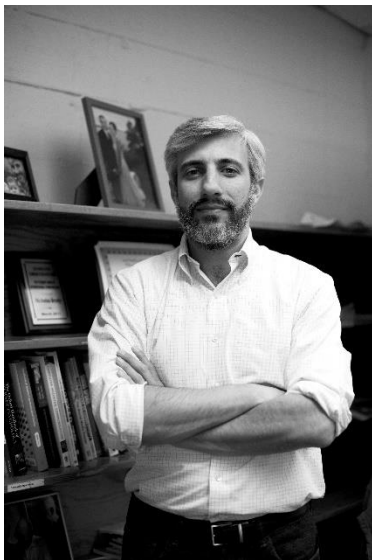
Austin Wright, the first in his family to graduate from college, earned a PhD from Princeton University in the Department of Politics and in July, 2016 will become an assistant professor in the Harris School of Public Policy at The University of Chicago. “The Intellectual Entrepreneurship Program helped shape and refine my research interests,” says Austin. “My IE course of study (with Bryan McCann) focused on the ideological origins of terrorist networks. My final response paper clarified the econometric design of my Sociology thesis (advised by Robert Woodberry) and provided the foundation of my Communication Studies [Political Communication] thesis (advised by Sharon Jarvis). After graduation, I was a Teach For America corps member in New Orleans, LA, where I taught high school mathematics. The research I completed while in the IE Program became a core element of my

applications to graduate school. I recently completed my PhD in the Department of Politics at Princeton University, with a special focus on the political economy of insurgency, where I was a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow and received the George Kateb Prize for Best Preceptor in Politics. In July 2016, I will join the faculty of the Harris School of Public Policy at The University of Chicago as an assistant professor. At Chicago-Harris, I will work with The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts, combining the insights I gained during the IE program with my recent work using satellite imagery to study the tactics and technologies of rebellion.”



Megann McGill was both an IE Pre Grad intern and mentor. She completed her PhD in communication sciences and disorders in 2016 and began a tenure-track faculty position at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon in September (2016). She notes: “The Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) program is an exceptional opportunity for students who are interested in pursuing a graduate degree. As an undergraduate IE student, I shadowed graduate students in speech-language pathology who shared advice about selecting and applying to graduate programs, allowed me to observe them as they conducted diagnostic evaluations in the UT Speech and Hearing Clinic, and taught me to score and interpret standardized speech and language tests. Through this unique internship program, I participated in hands-on clinical experiences that prepared me for

my graduate studies in speech-language pathology. My IE experience undoubtedly strengthened my interest in graduate school and provided insight into the rigorous clinical and academic requirements of a graduate program. As a master's student and now as a doctoral student, I have had the pleasure of serving as a graduate student mentor for many outstanding undergraduate IE students through my involvement with the Michael and Tami Lang Stuttering Institute. I frequently reflect on my graduate school experiences with my mentees - and realized how fortunate I am to have had the opportunity to work with each of these truly remarkable students. I am thankful for the framework that the IE program provides that, in turn, leads to successful experiences for both mentees and mentors.”



Nick Brody was an IE Pre Grad intern and during his doctoral work at UT served as an IE mentor to four students. He currently is an Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at the University of Puget Sound. Notes Nick: “I participated in the IE program as both an undergraduate student and a PhD mentor. The program had an immensely positive influence on my career and academic development. As an undergraduate, I got a taste of what it was like to be a graduate student by assisting with research and attending graduate seminars, which reaffirmed my commitment to graduate studies. As a PhD student, I mentored several undergraduate students participating in the program. I gained invaluable experience working one-on-one with my entrepreneurs on research projects, advising them regarding their post-graduation opportunities, and introducing them to the sometimes bewildering world of academia. These are skills I use daily as faculty member, and I am indebted to the IE program for providing these opportunities.”

Learn about the IE Pre Grad School Internship:

<http://moody.utexas.edu/ie/>

Read what student say about the program:

<http://www.ut-ie.com/testimonials#pregrad>