Public Policy Panel 1/24/15, 1:30PM, Salomon 001
Jim Amspacher – Brown University CareerLab, Career Advisor

Jim has been a Career Advisor at Brown since 2010. In addition to general advising, Jim co-leads the Careers in the Common Good project, which helps students connect with alumni and employers in the nonprofit sector, public service, social service, and government or entrepreneurial ventures devoted to serving the common good. From 1991 to 1996, Jim organized students at college campuses in Colorado, Massachusetts and Connecticut and ran door-to-door canvass operations in seven states for CALPIRG, CoPIRG, MASSPIRG, Sierra Club, Green Corps and Clean Up Congress. From 1996 to 2002 Jim worked as a writer and graphic designer and from 2008 to 2009 as the Senior Editor for Public Interest GRFX, the in-house communications team for the Public Interest Network. From 2002 to 2008, he oversaw the direct mail projects for 50 state PIRGS and Environment America’s federation of state environment groups.

Leanne Barrett 1989 - Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, Senior Policy Analyst
Leanne Barrett is a Senior Policy Analyst at Rhode Island KIDS COUNT with core responsibility for early learning and early childhood development policy statewide. She is the coordinator of the Rhode Island Early Learning Council and co-wrote the state’s winning Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge grant application. She is a state leader in the early learning field, having spearheaded the development of BrightStars, the state’s Quality Rating and Improvement System, and staffed the state’s Pre-K Exploration and Design Committees. She played a central role in bringing both the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood scholarship program and the Nurse-Family Partnership home visiting program to Rhode Island. Prior to joining Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, Leanne was Vice President and Director of Community Initiatives at United Way of Rhode Island and a national program manager for the American Business Collaboration for Quality Dependent Care at Work/Family Directions, Inc. She has a bachelor’s degree in developmental psychology from Brown University and a master’s degree in child and family policy from Tufts University.

Kate Dumouchel 2005 - Federal Communications Commission, Attorney-Advisor
Kate Dumouchel is an Attorney-Advisor in the Wireline Competition Bureau at the Federal Communications Commission. She is currently working on modernizing the E-rate program, which funds broadband connections to schools and libraries throughout the country. She began her career at the FCC in 2012, initially working as a Special Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel. Prior to joining the Commission, she worked in the Telecommunications, Internet, and Media practice group at Arnold & Porter LLP, served as a law clerk for the Senate Judiciary Committee and as a legislative assistant for Senator Jack Reed of Rhode Island. Kate received her A.B. in International Relations in 2005 and her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Shelley Fidler 1968 - Van Ness Feldman, Principal
Shelley transitioned from art history and theater at Brown to politics and policy thereafter. A great boss helped her think big (if amateur) legislative thoughts about energy and the environment and she worked 20 years in the Congress and six in the Clinton White House. She still practices public policy as a non-lawyer principal in a DC law firm.
Kate Tsunoda 2008 - Millennium Challenge Corporation, Program Analyst
Kate Tsunoda works as an analyst in the Office of the Vice President of Compact Operations, the arm of the agency that is charged with providing oversight and technical assistance to the development and implementation of MCC’s compacts. In her role, she manages the design and development of cross-functional collaboration platforms for department teams as well as leads special projects, including business process strengthening efforts. Previously, she provided program management support to the completion of MCC’s $697.5 million Morocco Compact, a grant to invest in high potential sectors with some of the poorest members of the Moroccan economy. After the Morocco Compact was completed in September 2013, she played a key coordinating role in the handover of the program’s assets and responsibilities to the Government of Morocco.

Before coming to MCC, Kate supported program and fundraising teams at Direct Relief International, an emergency response NGO providing medical supplies to victims of natural disaster, and at Surgical Eye Expeditions International, Inc., a non-profit providing vision care services to under-served populations. As a Peace Corps Volunteer in the south of Morocco, she worked on youth empowerment and civic engagement projects on the eve of the Arab Spring and has also previously held marketing and communications roles with Ashoka Innovators for the Public, an organization identifying and supporting thousands of social entrepreneurs worldwide, and PlanetRead, an award-winning social enterprise promoting non-formal education on national television among 1 billion learners in India.

Campus Affiliation: Brown Center for Students of Color