

2021 Chaddick Scholars



Reed Capshaw

Reed Capshaw, a native of El Paso, Tx, came to Chicago in 1998 to study music at Roosevelt University. He later earned his Master's degree in Trombone Performance from Northwestern University and sustained a successful freelance music career for many years. He is now a candidate for the Master of Public Policy at DePaul. He hopes to research better practices to help create just, equitable and sustainable policies. He is still devoted to the fine arts and believes that space for the arts and arts education are important facets of community design and development. In Chaddick, Reed has found a way to better learn the landscape and language of policy and urban planning while engaging with a group of like-minded scholars.



Hugo Coronado

Hugo Coronado is an international student from Colombia, who came to Chicago in 2019 to pursue his master's degree in Sustainable Urban Development. Hugo saw in this program an opportunity to link his background experience in public policy with his passion for urban planning and transportation. At the same time, he has been able to apply the knowledge acquired in the program to his current job at the World Bank Colombia developing an analysis of the supply chain for the country's school food program. For him, the Chaddick institute was the door that opened his career to the urban planning field. It was also the space to connect with his peers during the pandemic and discuss different urban issues regarding transportation, zoning, and equity.



Kimberly Fair

Kimberly Fair is a Public Policy graduate student, Winter 2021 Chaddick Scholar, and Steans Fellow. She has a deep passion for economic policy and how it can be used to tackle poverty in the US. Her area of interest is developing policy programs at the state and municipal level to reduce poverty for distressed black communities. She has a genuine love for helping others and wants to dedicate her life's work to eliminating poverty. In addition to her academic life, she is a wife, mother, and avid swimmer.



Sara Frankiewicz

Sara attended DePaul University for her undergraduate degree and earned her BA in Chinese Studies with minors in Intercultural Communications and International Politics. Now a returning graduate student, Sara is pursuing a MA in DePaul's Sustainable Urban Development program. She plans on using her degree to focus on a career involving community development and placemaking. Her areas of interest include green spaces, green infrastructure, and community engagement. Sara loved being able to gain more insight on a variety of urban planning topics through participating in Chaddick events and workshops and meeting professionals in the field. Her favorite spots in Chicago are the Field Museum, Promontory Point in Hyde Park, Chiu Quon Bakery in Uptown, and Lincoln Park Zoo.



Dylan Haber

Originally from Toronto, Canada, Dylan Haber is pursuing his Master's in Sustainable Urban Development. Dylan is a professional engineer with 7 years of experience as a building sciences technical consultant. As a project manager he led teams through on-site building assessment activities and oversaw the preparation and delivery of physical infrastructure analysis reports. He has helped hundreds of building owners develop long term capital plans and strategies to prolong the lifespan of their assets. Seeking to broaden his understanding of infrastructure from the property level to the more expansive metropolitan scale, Dylan came to DePaul where his studies have focused on urban water and sustainability issues. He is enthusiastic about designing and

implementing solutions to ensure water systems remain effective and resilient into the future. While at DePaul Dylan worked at the Metropolitan Planning Council researching the development and launch of StormStore, a program enabling stormwater credit trading. In his free time, you can find Dylan competing on the soccer pitch and riding his bike along city trails.



Jennifer Hernandez

Jennifer, a first generation Mexican American and daughter of immigrants, was born and raised in Oxnard, CA. She is a second-year graduate student in the School of Public Service at DePaul University pursuing a Master of Public Policy with a certificate in Metropolitan Planning and Development. Her undergraduate studies took place at Indiana University where she acquired a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a minor in pre-law. She currently works at Heartland Alliance where she leads a team in the reunification of unaccompanied minors with their families in the United States. Her work with this population and close ties to immigration are the factors that inspired her to pursue a Master of Public Policy. Her interest lies heavily in

immigration, specifically in immigration reform/pathway to citizenship, housing, education, and health care. She plans to serve her community with research, advocacy, and policy design to foster equity and liberation for the undocumented immigrant community as well other marginalized communities. She is a huge Kobe Bryant fan, a music lover, enjoys cleaning and cooking, and loves her family and dog.



Mitch Hirst

Mitch grew up in Minneapolis, MN. He attended DePaul University where he earned his bachelor's degree in Communications and minored in Sociology. He is currently pursuing his MA in Sustainable Urban Development with a certificate in GIS at DePaul University. During his time as a graduate student at DePaul, Mitch has primarily focused on transportation equity, urban mobility, mass transit, housing, and land use policy. Upon the completion of his degree, Mitch aspires to work in transportation planning. Currently, he is working as a transportation planning intern at HNTB where he has been working to help transit agencies apply for federal funding and infrastructure grants. In his free time, Mitch enjoys biking, walking, and exploring various neighborhoods in Chicago. He has

enjoyed being engaged with the Chaddick Institute because of the interesting research opportunities and the numerous networking opportunities to engage with professionals in the field.



Casey Lawler

Casey is a graduate student at DePaul pursuing a Master's in Sustainable Urban Development with certificates in Metropolitan Planning & Development, Community Development, and GIS. Before arriving at DePaul, she received a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign in Environmental Sustainability with a minor in both Business and Urban Planning. While taking a sustainable design course at DePaul, she was introduced to the Chaddick program as a runner up in the annual design competition and from there became more involved. In efforts to combine her passions for urban planning and design with environmental sustainability, she hopes to pursue a career where she can make it easier for people to live more sustainably utilizing the built environment.

While pursuing her graduate degree, Casey works full time as a shift manager at Starbucks. In her free time, Casey enjoys taking care of her plants, spending time with friends and family and exploring local environments.



Valeria Tarka

Valeria is a first year Master of Sustainable Urban Development graduate student at DePaul University where she is also working towards a certificate in Metropolitan Planning. As a Double Demon, she completed her bachelor's degree Economics from DePaul in 2020. Currently, she is working as an Economic Development, Planning & Zoning Intern at the Village of Mount Prospect. A native of South Elgin, Illinois, Valeria has enjoyed Chicago's public transportation and pedestrian walkability. This has spurred her interest in urban mobility, equitable distribution of resources, and affordable housing. Upon completing her degree, she hopes to work as a metropolitan planner. Her favorite thing about the Chaddick Institute is the opportunity to learn from and network with other professionals in the

urban planning and development field.