

IDS Alumni Panel Winter 2016

Oliver Dzuba

Graduated in 2012, Political Economy and Administrative Change area

Oliver Dzuba graduated from the University of Guelph in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in the International Development program with a specialization in Political Economy and Administrative Change. Starting his career abroad in Shanghai helped him facilitate a deep understanding of international trade and how it can be used to create lucrative new opportunities for global businesses. When gaining experience in marketing, editorial, and supply chain management positions, he was able to use skills and perspectives gained from UofG and the ID program in day to day work. Returning to Canada in October 2015, Oliver currently works for a currency risk management firm and helps Canadian SMEs (Small or Medium Enterprises), importers and exporters limit their exposure to the volatility of global currency markets.

Katherine Peterson

Graduated in 2010, Latin American Studies area

Katherine graduated from the International Development Program in 2010 with an area of emphasis in Latin American Studies. In the fall of 2010 she began a one year M.A program in Immigration and Settlement Studies at Ryerson University. Afterwards she remained living in Toronto where she continued to volunteer in the Settlement Sector and continued research projects with Ryerson and OCASI (Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants). In 2012 she returned to Outdoor Recreation at a YMCA Camp in Haliburton. In the spring of 2013 she moved to Kitchener-Waterloo and began volunteering for the YMCAs of Cambridge and Kitchener-Waterloo Immigrant Services. After her volunteer work there she was offered a one month contract position and after a handful of other contracts has secured a permanent position as Director of Immigrant Services.

Scott Lewis

Graduated in 2000, Political Economy and Administrative Change area

Scott graduated from the University of Guelph with a BA in CIDS with a focus on Political and Administrative Change. He went on to do a Master's in ID at St. Mary's in Halifax with a focus on African Development. Scott is currently Program Manager for the International Law Research Program with the Centre for International Governance Innovation in Waterloo. Prior to joining CIGI, he was a Program Officer, Asia for the Canadian Cooperative Association in Ottawa. With this position, he managed cooperative and credit union projects in Cambodia, Vietnam and Indonesia. Prior to this, he worked on community development projects with the Mennonite Central Committee in both Vientiane, Laos and Prey Veng, Cambodia. He has also completed research placements with the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service in Baltimore, Maryland and with the Bonn International Center for Conversion in Bonn, Germany.

Kuusta Laird Barry

Graduated in 2012, Latin American Studies area

Kuusta graduated from the University of Guelph with honours in 2012, earning a bachelor's degree in International Development Studies, A.o.E Latin America with a minor in Spanish language. She then went on to complete a Master's degree in Latin American & Caribbean Studies, an interdisciplinary program also at Guelph, in 2014. She travelled to Buenos Aires, Argentina to conduct independent fieldwork for the completion of her thesis on the women's social movement Las Madres de Plaza de Mayo. Kuusta has spent the last year being a full-time mom to her almost one-year-old son, Cade and is currently looking for work in her field in anticipation of her return to the workforce this Spring. She spends most of her days happily at her home in Guelph which she shares with her husband and their 3 german shepherds.

Sophie Lovell

Graduated in 2014, Rural and Agricultural Development area

Sophie recently finished a year long position with Free The Children where she worked as an Educational Programming Coordinator. She worked on their domestic programming within schools in British Columbia. After graduating from the IDEV program, with a focus on Rural Agricultural Development, she took time to travel and receive her yoga teaching qualifications. Sophie has recently decided to pursue a career in health and wellness, taking her back to school for Holistic Nutrition.

Katherine Laycock

Graduated in 2013, MA in Capacity Development and Extension with IDS

Katherine did her BA at Wilfrid Laurier University in Political Science and Global Studies. She continued onto the University of Guelph for her MSc In Capacity Development and Extension with a International Development Studies collaboration. In June 2013 she moved to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on a CIDA internship with the Canadian Urban Institute as a Community Economic Development Officer, where she worked on an evaluation for a project that has just concluded after 3 years. After 6 months she returned back to Ontario and began a Sustainable Development Goals Internship at the United Nations University--Institute of Water, Environment, and Health for 3 months. September 2014 she began her Doctoral studies at the University of Waterloo in Planning where her research focus is on communication networks around climate change adaptation in the Philippines. This past summer she spent 3 months conducting interviews and surveys throughout the Philippines and will be returning in June for her own research for 6 months.

While working on her PhD she also volunteers with the Red Cross Disaster Management Team, organizes a speakers series Supporting Women in Gender Issues, and coordinates a Brown Bag Lunch speaker series for the School of Planning.