

Name: Shantel Jordison

Current Role: Managing Capacity Development Specialist, Energy at Agriteam Canada

Graduating Class: 2012

Current Role and Description of a Typical Work Week:

My job is to make life better for the world's poorest and most vulnerable people by designing and implementing international development projects. I have a lot of variety in the work that I do each week, but usually it's related to communicating thoughts and ideas with diverse individuals and groups. One day I might be working with Mongolian policymakers for an upcoming study tour. On another day I might be researching policy and regulatory changes for a new energy project in South America, or preparing terms of reference for an upcoming mission. No matter what else is happening in any given week, at some point I'll probably be writing up an expense report, working on another time zone, or working with my team to review a budget.

How the MPP program has furthered my career:

I use my MPP every day. My degree trained me to think differently about society's problems, whether they're here at home, or a million miles away. For better or for worse, I believe that all of the world's problems are solvable. The hallmark of the MPP program is that by the time you're finished your degree, you will have the right instincts about how to make decisions in the public interest.

Advice I would give a new MPP student:

It's easy to get caught up in studying for next week's exam, but don't skip out on extracurricular events throughout your degree. You never know who you will meet at an SPP event. Also, invest time in building meaningful relationships with classmates and professors. It's a small world, and speaking from experience, the people you meet in your MPP will be the ones who pick up the phone six years later when you want to kick an idea around...or need a favour.