Why I Chose... GSPIA

Name: Christine Waller
Hometown: Pittsburgh, PA
GSPIA Degree: MPIA/GPE

I plan to use my GSPIA degree to further my career in the international communications industry. Before coming to GSPIA I worked as an internal communications analyst at the CEMEX global headquarters – a large, multinational building materials company based in Mexico. GSPIA has helped me to gain a wider international context, and prepared me to expand my professional aspirations to include work as a corporate public or community affairs specialist with an international scope, or as a sustainability communications specialist for companies with global operations.

I chose to earn my master’s degree at GSPIA because of the academic merit scholarship opportunities and because of the University’s location in a great city like Pittsburgh. A degree from GSPIA became the best value option for me as I considered different programs, and I am happy to be studying in one of the United States’ “most livable” cities.

Prospective GSPIA students should know that a GSPIA degree opens doors for careers in many different areas – in the public and private sector, in non-profit and for-profit organizations. I have found that my degree has been useful for work in international corporate communications and international media, in addition to the more traditional policy-oriented career paths.

A GSPIA education is relevant because it teaches students to think critically, and to transfer leadership skills to many different professional contexts. My degree program has introduced me to a talented and hardworking peer group – people I will want to stay in touch with after I graduate. I would definitely recommend that students consider GSPIA as one of the most viable options for a graduate education.

www.gspia.pitt.edu
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs
3601 Wesley W. Posvar Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
412-648-7640