EDITORIAL STAFF BIOS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Kendall Banks is a second-year Master of Public Administration (MPA) candidate at the Trachtenberg School, concentrating in program evaluation. Originally from the suburbs of New York City, Kendall graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor's degree in Human Development, and has since held a variety of positions across the public and private sectors, including four years living and working on several international development projects in Latin America. She interned as an Analyst at the US Government Accountability Office and served as an Associate Editor for Policy Perspectives Volume 26 prior to her role as Editor-in-Chief. When not studying, she loves to travel, salsa dance, ride horses, and read whatever she can get her hands on!

MANAGING EDITOR

Jackie Wheeler is a second-year MPA candidate at the Trachtenberg School, focusing on state and local government. Originally from a small town outside of Charlotte, North Carolina, Jackie graduated from the University of Washington in 2013 with a BA in politics, philosophy, and economics. Before moving to Washington, DC for graduate school, she was an Elections Administrator for the Washington Office of the Secretary of State in Olympia, WA. While at the Trachtenberg School, Jackie also interned at the National Association of Counties (NACo). During her free time, she enjoys rooting for Seattle sports teams, hiking, and visiting family in North Carolina and Washington State.

SENIOR EDITORS

Jessica Burnell currently serves as Health Policy Advisor to Congressman Brian Higgins (NY-26). In this role, she manages a legislative and policy portfolio that encompasses health care, education, and anti-poverty programs, and supports the Congressman's work related to his position as a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means and as a Co-Chair of the House Cancer Caucus. Jessica previously served as a health care fellow in the offices of Senator Michael Bennet and Senator Sherrod Brown. Prior to working on the Hill, Jessica was a Senior Research Assistant at the Duke-Robert J. Margolis, MD Center for Health Policy at Duke University. Jessica holds both a Bachelor of Arts in economics and a Master of Public Administration degree from The George Washington University. She also served as Editor-in-Chief of Volume 25 of Policy Perspectives, for which she received the Outstanding Student Leadership Award.

Marissa Esthimer works as an analyst in the public sector and previously served as Editor-in-Chief for Policy Perspectives Volume 26. She has also held roles as Editor and Communications Specialist at the Migration Policy Institute, a nonpartisan research organization focused on immigration. She holds a Master's in Public Policy from the Trachtenberg School and a Bachelor of Arts in government and anthropology from Cornell University.

Carly Gordon graduated from the Trachtenberg School at GW in the Spring of 2019 with a focus in higher education policy and data evaluation. As a student, she served as an editor with Policy Perspectives for two years in addition to holding four internships over her two years in graduate school. Since her time at Trachtenberg, she has worked at Deloitte in the Government and Public Services practice. Her passion is for higher education access which started in her time as an undergraduate student at the University of Virginia and was solidified as an AmeriCorps member with the Virginia College Advising Corps.

Nick Hugh is a Master of Public Policy graduate from the George Washington University. He grew in Rochester, New York and graduated from St. Lawrence University with a Bachelor of Arts in Government and English Literature. He is currently a Senior Research Specialist in the Financial Services practice at Gartner.

Janette Martinez is a Senior Policy and Research Analyst at Excelencia in Education, a national non-profit focused on accelerating Latino student success. In her role, she focuses on federal and state policy and effective institutional practices to address issues including affordability, institutional capacity, and workforce development. She began her career in education as a sixth-grade teacher and interned at various higher education organizations while working on her Masters. During her time at the Trachtenberg School, Janette served as an Associate Editor and an Editor-in-Chief for Policy Perspectives. Janette holds her Master of Public Administration from George Washington University and her bachelor's from The University of Texas at Austin.

Andrew Miller is a third-year Master of Public Administration student at Trachtenberg specializing in budget and public finance. He is particularly interested in the regulatory framework of emerging technologies. Andrew was previously an associate editor for Policy

Perspectives Volume 26, as well as involved with the Trachtenberg Student Organization. He has lived in Washington, DC since 2016 and has worked for the United States Senate since 2015. Andrew graduated from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations and Public Policy, where he completed research for the Institute of Public Administration.

Bridget Smith is a first-year Master of Public Administration (MPA) candidate at the Trachtenberg School, concentrating on Homeland Security and Emergency Management. She is also enrolled in the GIS Graduate Certificate Program through the Department of Geography. Originally from Illinois, Bridget graduated from George Washington University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Immediately after graduation, she served for two years with Teach for America, teaching middle school social studies in Eastern Kentucky. She currently works in homeland security consulting, focusing on the intersection of emergent technology, climate change, and natural disasters. In her free time she enjoys volunteering with local animal rescue organizations, hiking with her dog, and creative writing.

Jean-Luc Tilly graduated with a Master's of Public Administration degree in 2019, concentrating in non-profit management. After graduating with a BA in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, Jean-Luc has worked for eight years in healthcare performance measurement. First, Jean-Luc worked on a scorecard of state long-term care systems published by AARP, and currently manages measure endorsement projects at the National Quality Forum. Jean-Luc is interested in solving the managerial problems, particularly around incentives and resource management, that confront the healthcare industry. Apart from work, Jean-Luc enjoys strategy games - from galaxy-spanning empire simulators to board games with friends.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Jason Cohn is a first-year Master of Public Policy candidate at the Trachtenberg School, focusing on education policy and program evaluation. Originally from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Jason graduated from the University of North Carolina in 2018 with a Bachelor's degree in economics and public policy. He currently works as a Policy Research Intern at the Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP). In his free time, he enjoys watching and going to sporting events and traveling.

Lisa DeBone is a second year MPA candidate with a concentration in urban and social policy. Lisa has a bachelor's degree in public relations from Grand Valley State University. She has primarily worked in communications for social justice advocacy efforts including homelessness, poverty, and civic engagement. Lisa is an AmeriCorps alumna of both the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) and Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA). Originally from west Michigan, Lisa enjoys spending time outdoors at the beach or hiking trails.

Katie Howell is a first-year MPP candidate at the Trachtenberg School, with an interest in social and urban policy. Originally from Cary, North Carolina, Katie graduated from

Appalachian State University in 2017 with a BA in Global Studies. Following graduation and before starting graduate school, Katie moved to Washington, D.C to work with a non-profit managing farmers' markets around the city.

Thomas J. Rachko, Jr. is a second-year MPA candidate at the George Washington University. He currently serves as a program coordinator in the US Program at Human Rights Watch. Prior to pursuing a degree in public administration at the Trachtenberg School, he completed the 2016-2017 New York City Urban Fellows program at the New York Police Department Office of Management Analysis & Planning. He graduated from the City University of New York Macaulay Honors College at Hunter College in 2015 with a B.A. in history.

Stephanie Silver is a second-year MPA candidate at the Trachtenberg School, focusing on urban policy. Originally from Louisville, Kentucky, Stephanie graduated from Indiana University in 2012 with a BA in journalism and political science. She has held a variety of communications positions across the public and private sectors, and she is currently a communications specialist at Fannie Mae. During her free time, she enjoys reading, spending time with friends and family, and rooting for Indiana basketball.

Eleanor Thompson is a first year MPP student with a focus in education. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2017 with a BAS in Political Science and a minor in Hispanic Studies. She was a Teach for America Corp. member and taught high school Spanish for two years in Charlotte, NC. Upon completion of her MPP degree, Eleanor hopes to pursue a career analyzing and lobbying for legislation that promotes a more equitable education system, particularly for the social and emotional wellbeing of students. In her free time, Eleanor loves to sing with her a cappella group, Word Of Mouth, run in the woods, paint, and read with a good cup of coffee.

Elisa Walker is a third-year Master of Public Policy candidate focusing on social policy. She also works for the Social Security Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee, covering Social Security retirement and solvency policies. She previously worked at the Social Security Administration, where she focused on disability policy and research, and at the National Academy of Social Insurance, where she analyzed Social Security financing and policy options. She has co-authored numerous publications on Social Security, including a comparative study of international privatization efforts (in last year's Policy Perspectives) and a nationally-representative survey of public opinions on Social Security. Elisa received the Frances Perkins Center's 2015 Open Door Award, given annually to an emerging leader in social justice and economic security, and a 2016 SSA Commissioner's Team Award. She holds a BA in sociology and Spanish from the University of Mary Washington.

LAYOUT EDITOR

Ellen Wang works as a graphic designer at EPA. She graduated with an MA in Environmental Resource Policy in 2019. She studied design at the University of Cincinnati's DAAP program. She's working to combine complex ideas and concepts with better visual communication and storytelling methods. Ellen loves food, comics, board games, and travelling.