

Ward Fellowship 2015

Alumni News Letter



*“One must act
as if one can
make a
difference” –
John William
Ward*

The 2015 Ward Fellows & Their Sponsors

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Linda Qin
Sean Cheatum
Maddie Kilgannon
Adam Kamoune
Justin Flattery
Aimee Chan
Fiona Fitzgerald

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Dan Conley, District Attorney
Maura Healy, Attorney General
Matt O'Malley, City Councilor
State Rep. Adrian Madaro
Jack McCarthy, MA School BA
Glenn Cunha, Inspector General
Joseph P. Kennedy III, U.S. Rep.

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John Wang
Paul Mulrone
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Alejandra Spruill
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Michelle Wu, City Councilor
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Glenn Cunha Meeting
By Abigail Thomson



Inspector General Glenn A. Cunha was our first ward fellow meeting and was therefore burdened with loads of excitement and high expectations from all the fellows. These expectations were only heightened by the presence of doughnuts and a beautiful view of Boston and the Charles River from our spacious meeting room. Needless to say, Mr. Cunha did not disappoint.

Born and raised in Somerville, Mr. Cunha attended Boston College where he interned at the State House, inspiring him to go into public service. After college he worked in sales and marketing for ten years where he learned valuable interpersonal skills and was given the opportunity to earn his MBA at Bentley University. But throughout all this he still dreamed of a career in public service. To achieve this goal he enrolled in Suffolk law school and became interested in a career as a defense attorney because, as he says, he bought into an idea popular on criminal TV shows at the time that most defendants were not actually guilty. However, during law school he worked at the Dorchester city court and steadily came to realize that TV was incorrect, and the vast majority of defendants are guilty and it is actually the victims who are the most underrepresented and targeted during trials. He explained that he concluded this when working on a domestic abuse case and speaking to the partner of the defendant. He realized that his client was truly guilty and that the partner had done everything she could to help her boyfriend, and it was really her that needed help representing and healing herself. After graduating from Suffolk and passing the bar, Cunha interned and then was given a job at the Norfolk District Court where he worked as a prosecutor before moving to the Suffolk County District Attorney's office. At the DA's office he worked his way up from the district to superior court levels the same way he worked his way from an internship to a paid job at Norfolk - by being willing to take on any case no matter how trivial or ugly, completing it to the best of his ability and getting as much court time as he could. Cunha was then hired by the Attorney General's office for his trial experience. Again he worked hard, taking any case he could, and it paid off: he was promoted to managing attorney of the criminal bureau where he worked for a number of years. He was then appointed to the position of Inspector General, the very position that John William Ward founded, making it fitting that Cunha was our first ward meeting. Mr. Cunha is very proud of his position as IG, describing it as the pinnacle of his career in public service. While his office takes part in thousands of cases per year the ones that Cunha talked about most were the corruption of the Westfield State president and cases involving housing projects. Cunha's deep involvement in housing projects struck me as running true to all the work he did in his early days, trying to improve the lives of lower class victims. I feel that this connection highlights Cunha's personality and life as a whole; he is a kind, determined man whose dream is to help anyone he can, no matter how hard he has to work to do it.

"My time with the Ward Fellowship this summer was an eye opening one. The opportunity I was given was amazing, the average eighteen year old would never have the opportunity to meet the people I met this summer, nevertheless sit down and learn from them."

"This is an experience that I know I will never forget, and I know the experiences I have gained here will most definitely help me throughout the rest of my life."



Abigail Thomson



Aimee Chan

“Through the fellowship, I am given opportunities every day to do impactful and meaningful work for the city and communities I love.

Speaker Robert DeLeo Meeting

By John Wang

Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Robert DeLeo is an amazing, humorous man and proud graduate of the Boston Latin School. Graduated in 1967, Robert DeLeo talked about his time at Boston Latin School when it was all boys and how he would always ridicule English High, even long after his years there. After BLS, he attended Northeastern University and studied Law at Suffolk University Law School. As a young boy, he was always interested in politics. He loved to read stories from the political conventions when he was young. And in 1976, he even helped his friend Jimmy Carter successfully run for presidency. It was through his interest and involvement in politics that has led him to where he is today. He is currently the 85th Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He is currently serving his fourth term as Speaker to 160 Representatives in the House.

DeLeo has always been focused within the greater Boston area. He stated that he did not really know what kind of issues or problems were happening outside of Boston in the rest of the state. It was through his position as Speaker of the House he was able to become more aware of the complete commonwealth. For example, he recently visited many places in Massachusetts and one of them was the Plymouth House of Corrections Hospital where he saw firsthand the effects of opioid abuse in Massachusetts. He and other officials describe this as one of the largest issues currently facing the state which lost over 1000 people to drug overdose last year. Another recent project of the Speaker is his proposed energy legislation. The legislation carries with it the hopes of preventing the energy spikes many encountered during the past winter during future winters. He has also worked to give more money to cities and towns in Massachusetts for education, which has been a huge topic in education reform. The Speaker also described some of the top issues he encountered while sorting the agenda for the Massachusetts House of Representatives, besides opioid as being gun violence and domestic violence all things that the legislative body is taking seriously and doing their best to actively combat.

DeLeo describes how growing up in the mid-1900s in Boston has changed immensely. One such change was integration. In Boston back then, the city was much divided by ethnic enclaves. There was an Irish section, Charlestown and South Boston, Italian section, the North End, Roxbury was mainly a black community, and Mattapan had a huge Jewish population. Boston was really divided and it was not until DeLeo entered Boston Latin School did he see different types of kids from different backgrounds come together. He states it was at Boston Latin School did he ever see an Asian student and he thanks BLS for fostering that diverse environment to allow him to better understand the world. Today, it is much different in that the city of Boston is much more integrated and diverse. There are less of the sections that divided by ethnicity. Although DeLeo agrees with most of the fellows that gentrification has taken a great toll on the city bringing in a new crowd of privileged and affluent folks, that are forcing many life time and long term residents out of Boston.

“The amazing thing about government is that you get to do and be so many things at once. It might be tiring or frustrating, but the high that helping people gives me could cancel out a million bad days.



Johan Wang



Vivian Herbert



In his own words, “I will represent BLS till the day I die.” DeLeo says he owes a lot to the education he was able to gain at BLS. If it was not for BLS, he would probably not be the Speaker today. What he does at the State House as the Speaker of the House gives him hope to do something productive every day and an opportunity to help many people.

Attorney General Maura Healey Meeting

By Fiona Fitzgerald

On July 22nd the Ward Fellows had the honor of meeting with Attorney General Maura Healey. Seated before a beautiful view of the city, we had the opportunity to speak with her about her career trajectory and her personal mission as Attorney General. The Attorney General had a very warm and friendly nature and this certainly seemed to translate into her goals for community engagement with the people of the Commonwealth. Attorney General Healey played college basketball at Harvard and then went on to play professionally in Austria, yet she was very humble and when asked about her personal record for points scored, insisted that she was most proud of her assists. This sort of team-oriented attitude stuck out to me again when she spoke about her race for Attorney General where she was undoubtedly the underdog. She managed to win against a formidable opponent through her grassroots efforts, and she attributed her success to endless door knocking and her attempt to learn about Massachusetts' diverse constituency. Attorney General Healey has made connecting with the people of Massachusetts a huge part of her office's vision and I was very impressed by the way that she has spread awareness about the services offered by her office and the way her office protects this state. She spoke about how many people were unaware of the duties of the attorney general and how she is very happy to educate people about her job as the lawyer for the state and the state's people. I personally never knew that the Attorney General can have a hand in writing legislation and deciding how such legislation is implemented. She spoke about she sees this lack of understanding as an issue of access, and as a former civil rights lawyer she feels a particular passion about securing equality for all.

This can be seen going all the way back to when as Assistant Attorney General she challenged the Defense of Marriage Act and won, helping same-sex couples gain the same rights as heterosexual couples in Massachusetts. Attorney General referenced several times her mandate to "act in the public interest", and this was even more apparent through her desire to recognize people with disabilities. Earlier that day she had spoken at the American Disability Act's 25th Anniversary Celebration on the Boston Common and she explained to us that she felt a strong responsibility to civil rights because of her mentor, Federal Judge Reginald Lindsay. She was often witness to the hardships he endured because of his physical illness and this undoubtedly helped to shape her career as a professional and person who highly values social justice. This relates to her upcoming battles as Attorney General because her office has recently been focusing on issues that affect women and women's health. Her office has called for the need for pay equity and for unimpeded access to contraceptives. She also has focused on issues relating to mental health, for instance the opioid-abuse crisis within Massachusetts and the nation. This problem is especially dear to me because it is a topic that I have been researching for my sponsor, Congressman Joe Kennedy. Overall, Attorney General Healey's progressive action during such a short time in office really excited me and made me hopeful for the future. The other Ward Fellows and I were deeply impressed by the Attorney General's commitment to fairness and integrity and I could see that she is a person who is genuinely dedicated to providing a voice to those who often are not heard.



"I feel changed by this experience because [of the Ward Fellowship] I have decided that I want to study government when I arrive at college.

"The Ward Fellowship has given me a window into my future. I now see many avenues into public service and the ways I can help others."



Fiona Fitzgerald



Sean Cheatum

“I will forever be thankful for the Ward Fellowship and to all those who made this incredible opportunity possible, including the BLSA. I cannot wait to give back to the program, my alma mater, and to the greater Boston community that shaped me into the person I am today.”



Katherine Swain-Smith

Representative Adrian Madaro Meeting
By Kate Swain Smith

Adrian Madaro was born and raised in East Boston, and it is clear that he has a profound sense of pride and gratitude for his neighborhood. East Boston is the gateway into Boston for many groups of immigrants, and Adrian is a part of that facet of East Boston’s identity being the son of Italian immigrants himself. His parents were deeply involved in the community, so ever since he was a child, Adrian felt a personal commitment to give back to the neighborhood that shaped him into the person he is today. While at Boston Latin School, Madaro first got involved in public service through the John William Ward Fellowship, where he interned for the Chief of Environmental and Energy Services.

After graduation from Boston Latin School, Madaro matriculated to Tufts University to get his Bachelor’s Degree. In college, Madaro got involved in the Miller Fellowship, and worked for former U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand in Washington D.C. After being exposed to both municipal, state, and federal government, Adrian realized his true passion lied in improving individual communities, and thus got bit by the local government bug. Even before completing his undergraduate degree from Tufts, Adrian Madaro started working for former State Representative Carlo Basile as his Chief of Staff. It was not easy working full time while also finishing up his classes at night, but that just demonstrates how serious Adrian Madaro is about helping others, and how committed he is to giving back to East Boston. Upon graduation, Madaro continued to work for Representative Basile, learning the ropes first hand, while also getting his Master’s Degree from Tufts. Carlo Basile was a deeply influential mentor and when he decided to leave his position and work under the recently elected Governor Baker, Adrian was the first to know. Now he had a choice to make.

With the unwavering support of his family and friends, Adrian Madaro announced his campaign for State Representative at the age of twenty six. Madaro described it as a “David and Goliath” type of campaign because he lacked the support of the Mayor and the unions, which some of his competitors enjoyed. Madaro did have one thing though; he had the community. His campaign manager and life-long friend Liana LaMattina, another Boston Latin School graduate, described the dedication their volunteers showed throughout the campaign process, especially during the brutal 2014 winter. It was clear to the voters how invested Madaro was in his community, and he continues to volunteer as the Vice President of the YMCA, the President of the Harborside Community Council, and a member of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Board.

After tireless campaigning, Adrian Madaro was elected as Massachusetts State Representative for East Boston in 2015. Although he is new to office, Representative Madaro was successfully advocate for East Boston during the budget process, and is on four important committees. Beyond legislation, Representative Madaro is the co-chair and co-founded of the Mario Umama Public Service Fellowship because he believes everyone deserves the same opportunities he had.

Before giving us a personal tour of the State House, Adrian Madaro gave the current Ward Fellows three pieces of advice. Give back to Boston Latin School, give back to the Ward Fellowship, and never forget the community that gave you your roots. When Madaro steps into the room, his classic-Boston charisma and sincere excitement are contagious, and when combined with his passion for public service, there is no doubt that Adrian Madaro will continue to make Boston a better place.



“I will forever be grateful to have been a Ward Fellow. This experience has only increased my love for public service and now I cannot imagine doing else with my life other than helping others.”



Adam
Kamoune

Larry DiCara Meeting

Adam Kamoune

Larry DiCara is often described as the most prominent mentor in local politics. As soon as I met him I knew he would be an excellent person to speak with. Prior to meeting with Larry, I had written him a thank you letter for his contributions towards the BLSA, specifically for the scholarship I had received from his graduating class. Larry responded and congratulated me on my achievements, along with sharing with me some of our similar interests such as Model UN. When the Ward Fellows and I met with Larry, he was delighted to share with us stories about his tenure at Boston Latin. He is particularly proud of his graduating class of 1967 and its accomplishments along with its contributions to Alma Mater. During his tenure at BLS, Larry was involved in the debating society and declamation where he developed his public speaking skills. In fact, Larry had won a gold medal in declamation. Around the age of 15 he decided that he wanted to be class president. Larry attributed his ability to quickly remember names and being virtually involved in every facet of school activity as reasons for winning the election for class president. His high motor and strong work ethic enabled him to attend Harvard after graduating from Latin.

Larry DiCara began his political career in the City of Boston while he was a senior at Harvard. In 1971 he strategized a method to win a seat on the Boston City Council. He points to his last name as a reason for gaining support in the North End, East Boston and other Italian neighborhoods in the city. He emphasized the importance of a home base when running for office, which is why securing Dorchester was so important. The final contributor to his successful campaign came with his degree from Harvard. The wealthier neighborhoods of Back Bay and Beacon Hill were more inclined to support someone whom they saw as educated therefore they supported the Ivy League graduate. With a broad coalition of support Larry was able to obtain a seat on the City Council. During his time on the City Council, Larry worked tremendously hard towards developing the city during the 70s with projects such as Quincy Market, the Charlestown Navy Yard and Lafayette Place. One of the things he takes pride in is being able to see the impact he has had on the city's development.

When asked about what keeps him going he spoke about having optimism, his health, an ability to multitask, an ability to say no and the work ethic his parents instilled in him. During his time as a politician he fought for civil rights and was the first to support gay rights in the Council. He attributes the acknowledgments he received from the black community and the rewarding nature of helping others as motivators for his time in office. Larry has also stated that although he may have three daughters at home he has hundreds of sons from his time at Boy's State.

With a countless number of people seeking his advice, Larry has become the most sought after political consultant in the city and rightfully so. His presence and warm attitude are hallmarks for a man who was a political trailblazer of his time. Larry's legacy and his reach extend in the form of mentorship to many Councilors, State Representatives and Senators. In fact, one might argue that his influence is much greater since leaving office. There is no doubt Larry helped shape our city into what it is today. His contributions to Boston Latin, the city and the young leaders of our future are immeasurable



“The next day [Robert E. Primus]respond ed, his email brought me to tears[...]The email he sent me I knew he wrote it, he responded to what I said in my letter, gave genuine feeling and good wishes.”



Alejandra Spruill



Governor Charlie Baker Meeting By Alejandra Spruill

We met with Governor Baker in his ‘show’ office; he has another one where the real business of government gets done. He has a striking presence, you really couldn’t miss him. He is over 6’ and has a voice that can be heard from down the hall. He shook all of our hands and asked us individually where we worked and where we were from. He looks into your eyes and gives you the attention that you want an elected official to give you. He is the first person that we have talked to, who wasn’t a Latin School alum that knew, in detail, about the fellowship program. He asked everyone who was going off to college where they would be going. After Fiona he asked if anyone else was going to Harvard and Sean raised his hand by accident, we all laughed and began the conversation.

We jumped straight into questions, he didn’t speak about himself and achievements at all beforehand, only talking about his background inside a questions answer. The first question came from Maddie Kilgannon about last year’s gubernatorial race. She asked what the value of the Globe endorsement was. Governor Baker, in his own words, “was endorsed by every newspaper in the commonwealth except for two.” The value of the Globe endorsement so close to the election meant that people who were on the fence were pushed more toward him.

Next we got into some heavier stuff, we talked about the recent controversy from the Department of Children and Families (DCF). He says that the problems that the common person is having with it are that they just don’t understand how the process works. He, with the help of Linda Qin, explained to us the pipeline that a case has to go through before any decision on a child is made. First there is an intake that is submitted by a mandated reporter, the child is then screened-in or screened-out, finally a judge gives their view on the child’s situation. The DCF cannot make decisions on the child on their own, the judge decides if their recommendation is valid and can then proceed. He said that whenever children were involved he just had to hope that the judges would make the right choices each and every time.

The next question was simple but actually really interesting. Abby Thompson asked about the differences between law school and business school, and if he could, would he go back and change going to business school. He uttered blankly that government doesn’t need any more lawyers. He said that he never wanted to be a legislator, he sees being the Governor as being a manager and thinks that the skills that he learned in business school are the ones that he needed the most for his current position. He wanted to be Governor to make a difference, public service was wired into him just like how some people are wired to be doctors or soldiers. He talked about the challenges that have come up during his short amount of time in office. He never expected the Olympics to be as big of an issue as it was, they never talked about it during the campaign. He didn’t expect the challenges that would come with a winter worse than 1978. “You have to adapt to what the world is telling you is important,” he said. I thought that was a very striking, somehow obvious, thing that I had never even begun to think of. At the end of Patrick’s term and the beginning of his he asked Patrick if he had any advice; Patrick told him “[t]ry to have fun.” The Governor said that he has had plenty of laughs during his time in office but none of that has taken away from the seriousness of the position and all the work that it entails.

I work for Senator Chang-Diaz, one of her passion projects is *An Act Relative to Transgender Nondiscrimination*, Governor Baker recently said that he didn’t support the bill but everywhere I looked I couldn’t find his reasons. No better way to find out than to ask the man himself. He said he supports the bill as a whole (i.e. no discrimination in hospitals or at lunch counters) but that he found the public accommodations section to need some tightening up. He made really valid points about how this is going to be really hard for small business’ to adapt to and that this is a lawsuit waiting to happen. He believes that bad people will abuse the law, but well intentions of the many should ultimately overshadow the evils of the few. He wants people to prove that they are who they say they are but could you imagine a world where someone stood outside of a bathroom and ‘verified’ your gender before giving you permission to use the restroom?

Next, Adam asked him about giving driver’s licenses to illegal immigrants. He went back to what he had replied to my question on how he wants people to prove that they are who they say they are. Abuse of privilege is what he is getting at, not the rights of illegal immigrants themselves. The logistics of both desired implementations is something the Governor needs better explained to him before he will support any type of legislation.

We talked as a group about the 2016 Republican Primary. We asked if he had anyone that he wanted to endorse and he marvelously said, “Nobody elected me to care about the 2016 election.” Together we named all 17 republicans running, a handful of the names I had never heard before. We talked about the 2010 gubernatorial election and somehow the purpose of third party candidates came up. During one of the debates the moderator asked third party candidates took votes away from candidates who could actually win. Jill Stein (the green party candidate) was asked, “Without Ralph Nader, if Bush would have still won Florida and the election.” Jill responded “Bush didn’t win Florida.” Baker said that was the best comeback he wish he came up with.

Lastly, we talked about the Ward Fellowship. He said that it is always important for him to give money to community based organizations. He wants us to get a taste of what it is like to be in the public sector. “People in the end determine the quality of any organization,” he said. He said what we are all good people and will all do great things if we choose to do into public service. And well, I sure hope he is right.

Mayor Martin Walsh Meeting

By Saron Admasu

Mayor Martin Walsh was born in Dorchester, MA, and grew up around Savin Hill. He attended St. Margaret's school, and later went to high school at The Newman School. He went onto college at Boston College, where he earned his bachelor's degree.

Mayor Walsh's father was a union worker; his father and other family members were politically active, and often engaged in conversations about unions and politics. Influenced by his father's union labor, Mayor Walsh first worked at the World Trade Center, then became the secretary and treasurer of a union group called the Boston Metropolitan District Building Trades Council. Because he always had a passion for politics, in 1997 Mayor Walsh ran and successfully got elected as a Massachusetts State Representative. He represented his childhood and present-day hometown of Dorchester. In 2013, he ran for mayor against City Councilor John Connolly. Although it was a close race, Mayor Walsh succeeded again, and is now the mayor of Boston.

However, there is a dark side to Mayor Walsh's past. As a teenager, he became an active drinker. His drinking progressed as time went on; he started from a teenager experimenting with alcohol, and ended up as an alcoholic in danger. After drinking restlessly every day, he eventually hit rock bottom. In his early twenties, Mayor Walsh took the responsible and admirable step of checking himself into rehab. He faithfully attended the Alcoholics Anonymous help program, desperately seeking to change his life for the better. Eventually, he became fully recovered from alcoholism, and has not had a single drink for 20 years now. He knows how it feels to be in such a vulnerable, yet dangerous position, and to lose important things in life, so he became a great supporter of those facing situations similar to the one he is in. Specifically, he is a huge advocate for My Brother's Keeper, a program that allows people to be mentors, and positive influences in young people's lives, especially young, disadvantaged men of color. Mayor Walsh loves that Big Brother provides excellent development needs, and role-models for at-risk children, and seeks to have the program implemented here in Boston.

Mayor Walsh is also involved with civil rights. He recognized that the Boston Police Department does not reflect the diversity of Boston, which he critiques. He also believes that there are not enough discussions regarding race within our society. He agrees that race is an uncomfortable topic for many people, but holding such conversations is absolutely necessary considering the recent events involving police brutality towards minorities in the USA.

Mayor Walsh has faced dramatic differences transitioning from a Massachusetts State Representative to the Mayor of Boston. Previously, he had very few people working for him, whereas now, there are thousands. He is known to have one of the busiest schedules, and rarely has free time to engage in activities for himself. He is also not very used to always having to be formal. As a mayor, wearing casual clothing even outside of work could serve as a disadvantage to him! Recently, he has the rare opportunity to travel to Rome and meet the Pope. The experience absolutely blew him away. Mayor Walsh was astonished at how pure and ethereal the pope was, and the incredible presence that could be felt once he was in the room. Mayor Walsh is adapting well to his fairly new position, and hopes to leave behind a better Boston.

"I am very happy to have been a member of such a unique and admirable program"



Saron Admasu

"I will try to share my experience in the Ward Fellowship with others and I hope to educate them on the role that government plays in their lives."



Paul Mulrone



“While not part of the Ward job description, the bond and community created from being a fellow was a great result of working this summer.”



Justin Flattery

“The Ward Fellowship allowed me to discover what I like to do. And I enjoy public service, and it has been a wonderful opportunity to work in City Hall as a staffer.”

Washington D.C trip
By Justin Flattery

As the doors glided open at the airport, the young Ward Fellows and I were hit with a wave of scorching air that would follow us over the next four days. The heat battled with the humidity in a fight of oppression and we wondered how we would survive. While the temperature was intense, it was an incredibly small price to pay in what would become one of the most interesting, engaging and worthwhile trips I would experience.

This trip was unforgettable to me because we were more than your average DC tourists. Sure we walked around the city, enjoyed local food, and toured the monuments (which were beautiful!), but we came with an agenda. We were young professionals granted access to areas and people the average camera holding, I heart DC T-shirt wearing sightseer could never dream of. We talked personally to senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren, chatted with representatives Michael Capuano and Robert Kennedy, asked questions to Hillary Krieger (a head editor for CNN), and even took a shuttle train underneath the capital usually reserved for senators and staffers. My experience was much more than looking at these famous buildings of DC, I was talking to the people who worked every day in them, and continue to make them into the famed institutions which we revere.

I also really enjoyed this trip because it complimented my Ward Fellowship experience. I saw in DC the amount of people working and dedicating their lives to public service. Most of these people were not senators, representatives, or high ranking officials either. They were bureaucrats, staffers, guards, and more. Each senator or representative had 10-15 people around them. These people were out of the limelight and fame sometimes associated with politics, but they were just as motivated in making sure constituents voices were being heard. This complimented my Ward experience because this year I am working for the Mass School Building Authority. This government agency provides funding to school districts and works in accordance with contractors in the construction of new schools. This is not a job in the state senate or city council, but it is just as much of a government job. The 40+ staff members working in my office are just as dedicated to the bettering of their community and home state through the institution of government. People can work for their government in a variety of ways, and still see a positive response in their own communities. This trip showed me this ideal was not reserved on a small scale either. A head staffer for Capuano discussed how he just helped the representative make his decision on the new education bill. This bill concerning education was immensely important to the staffer – and his two young sons.

This trip was also very inspiring. Hearing that someone is a congressman or CNN journalist is intimidating and seems like an intangible goal, but each meeting starting with the person tracing their life path from high school made it seem a little more realistic. Hearing Capuano and Markey’s humble beginnings near a city, or Hilary Krieger’s work on the BLS Argo made them more relatable and their high school selves not too different than us. Not only hearing these life stories, but those of the Miller Fellows was inspiring too. As we shared a delicious meal from the South African chain restaurant of *Nando’s* I learned how pursuing your love for government in college and spending the summer in DC for a senator were incredibly accessible possibilities for my future.

There were many memorable moments during this trip, but something that particularly stood out to me was Rep. Capuano’s discussion on compromise. He told us that each day is filled with your own personal compromises and struggles, but they are important to living a successful life. He said in government reaching across the aisle is necessary for the progress of the entire community, mentioning how recently partisanship has gridlocked the government and hurt the public. I have remembered this since and have tried to follow the representative’s sentiments on meeting people halfway in my daily life. While filled with many words of guidance for the future, these people of importance always seemed to touch on the same piece of advice, and I have taken that home with me. Work hard and have enthusiasm for what you do. The rest will fall into place.



Maddie Kilgannon

Boston Police Department Meeting
Kylie Webster-Cazeau

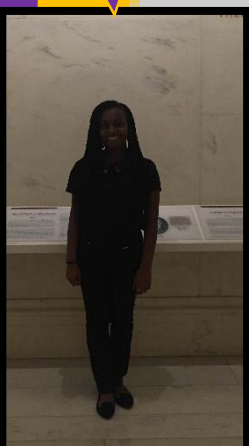
Our Day at the Boston Police Headquarters

Everyone knows what police officers do. In T.V shows they solve 40 year old cold cases, catch vicious murderers, and buy donuts at the closest donut shops. A few of those things are true, but no one really knows what goes on behind the scenes. No one really knows what it takes to be a cop, what it means to be a cop. We had the opportunity to learn about that when we visited headquarters.

When we first arrived, we met with Superintendent Bernard O'Rourke. He is in charge of the field officers. Field officers are the officers who wear the uniform every day. They are the officers who patrol, are dispatched by the 911 operators, and the officers who attend large events to make sure that everything runs smoothly. He talked a lot about how Commissioner Evans has done a great job in office so far. He has implemented somewhat of an initiative where police officers spend less time in their cars, and more time out and about: more time actually talking to the community. With all that happened in our country with the last few year, the civilian population has little trust in the police officer. He talked about how Boston is one of the forefront cities when it comes to community outreach from the police departments. The department as also realized that the best way to keep crime off the streets is to reach out to children; particularly at risk children. If one person can help this one child to make the right decision and not get involved with the wrong people, that's potentially one less robbery, or one less homicide, or one less person in jail. They have many programs like the teen police academy, or the shop with a cop, but most officers tend to simply just visit schools and libraries, or to socialize with people in the community. There's always room for improvement, but Boston has been doing a really great job.

After we met with Superintendent O'Rourke, we then went and visited the Operations Division. Operations is where all the 911 calls are received, and then officers are dispatched. The technology used to locate people calling, and where the closest officer is, is superb. We then visited BRIC, which stands for Boston Regional Intelligence Center. This office keeps track of everything. They monitor the cameras placed around the city. They filter through people's tweet, they have access to shot spotter which are a series of antennas that are set up around the city that can tell where gunshots are coming from within 25 meters. BRIC is there to let officers know things that they wouldn't know because they're out patrolling. They help keep the officers safe. BRIC is a relatively small department, but their purpose is extremely important. We then visited the Crime Lab. There we learned about the different things that get tested and the different methods to do so. We learned about DNA testing, and learned how to test gunshot residue. The downside is that this kinds of testing takes a while to process and come up with results, but it is better to have the right results than to wrongfully arrest someone. The Boston Police headquarters was an amazing place to tour. A lot goes into being a good police officer, and for officers that do a great job, we should have the upmost respect.

"This fellowship has not only opened numerous doors, but it has also opened my eyes and allowed me to see the bigger picture. Public service isn't all about law and justice, and good cop, bad cop stuff; there is so much more to it. There's also bureaucrats, and they basically make sure that the system works, and is up and running."



Kylie
Webster-
Cazeau



Judge Patti Sarris Meeting
By Javiera Vasquez

The law was created to protect individual's rights and the people who defend, prosecute, or decide for the violators of the law have a very critical job, which can affect or help many people and it is to them whom we owe much respect. An example of this is Judge Patti Sarris whom we met on Tuesday June 17th. She grew up in Boston, Massachusetts and her father was a dentist. Judge Sarris went to Girls' Latin School in Dorchester and was in the graduating class of 1969. Girls' Latin was a difficult school, however, it was grounding for the workload she gets as a judge and she finds it very rewarding and helpful since she knows how to work under pressure and have high expectations. After graduation, she attended Radcliffe College, B.A., 1973 and then Harvard Law School, J.D., 1976. When Judge Sarris was at Harvard, she personally felt that school was harder at Latin and in a way that helped her be able to handle the amounts of work she was given at law school. Post law school she became a clerk for the Supreme Judicial Court and in 1980 she worked for Senator Edward M. Kennedy in Washington. In 1995 President Clinton appointed her to the United States District Court. Judge Sarris has worked for the federal branch for almost 30 years as a judge beginning in 1986. She is currently married to a Harvard professor and has four children. Later Judge Sarris talked about Sentencing Law and the components to it. There are four major things to take into consideration: public safety, deterrence, personal information (mentally stable, school attendee, etc.), and retribution. All of these are major factors not only because the defendant's life and freedom on the table but also the public's. If the wrong decision is made, this person could possibly cause great harm or great harm could be caused to them. Judge Sarris gave us the following example and we had to sentence this person to either jail, probation, both jail and probation, or nothing: An eighteen year old school dropout woman was the "mule" for her drug dealer boyfriend and was caught by the police with 17 grams of cocaine. She was brought into custody, was given bail but she skipped on bail. Seven years later the woman skipped a red light, however, she is now back in school, with a new boyfriend, and has a child. The responses the judge received were between probation and ten years in jail, and as she explained back in the 80's this was the case. Many judges would have different opinions because the woman had changed her life and had a child but others would argue that there needed to be harsh punishment because she skipped bail and if no punishment was given to her then other people would be inclined to believe that skipping bail has no consequences. Then the war on drugs came with a mandatory minimum of five years on drug related cases, which increased the prison population by millions overnight. Now many people are trying to change it so the mandatory minimum only applies to direct drug dealers and make it so some of the lower offences are counted as misdemeanors. This meeting was really eye opening to the judicial system and how complex it is to make life-changing decisions. Personally it encouraged me more to become a lawyer and help people who are being accused unjustly but also to bring justice to those who deserve it.



"No matter how small the role of an assistant might seem in an office, it usually has a great impact and is a great help to the people that the public is seeing on a day to day basis."



Javiera
Vasquez

“The actual pay isn’t great when working in public service, but the rewards you get from it, the recognition, emotional payoff, and satisfaction you get when you’re able to help is worth a lot more than the money.”

Undersecretary Rachel Madden Meeting By Aixa Davila

At the Rachel Madden meeting, there was pizza and soda. We sat at a long table where Rachel Madden talked to us from one end. She told us about how she is from the BLS Class of 1989, from Hyde Park, and was a Ward Fellow. She showed us her plaque that she received after her fellowship. Her BLS experience was asked about and she told us how she was a part of the first soccer and tennis teams and everyone laughed because even then the teams weren’t great. Madden was also a student at BLS during a huge project to remove large sums of asbestos throughout the building. She experienced seeing men and women in what she described to be “giant space suits” protecting them from the asbestos, while she would have no choice but to play her flute with no form of personal protection. At 17, Madden knew that her dream job would be to work in the public sector, specifically for the Administration and Finance for the Commonwealth, after her Ward Fellowship. Rachel Madden was sworn in as Under Secretary of Administration and Finance for the Commonwealth February 6th, 2015. She joked about this because a lot of teenagers don’t know what A of F is.

Rachel Madden explained what A of F was and in short it controls all of public funding for the Commonwealth. The biggest task that A of F has is the yearly budget. The Executive Office for Administration and Finance sends out the first budget, which is what the rest of the budget is based off of. There would be differences in dollar amount and such but the first and final budget tend to be close. Rachel Madden and her team at the office worked on the budget for 27 days straight and they were able to come out with a well thought out budget. A budget usually take three to four months to do, at a minimum, and with hard work and dedication, Madden and the office was able to get it done in record timing and she is proud of this. Madden also clarified how priority is decided upon during the budget. Another huge task asked about was the Regulatory Reform. This is a complete review of every single Executive Branch regulation in the CMR (Code of Massachusetts Regulations), which Madden herself is very passionate about. The reform was issued by the Governor Charlie Baker, with whom Rachel Madden works very closely with. Rachel said she has wanted to do Regulatory Reform for years.

When Rachel Madden was asked the least favorite part of the job, she answered with not having the ability to do enough, but when asked about her favorite part of the job, she answered with being able to do more than expected. She gave the example of the budget. There were long hours put into making the budget happen, and all that paid itself off when there was left over money from the hard work. Rachel loved this moment because it really broadcasted how the office’s hard work and her hard work gave way to go above and beyond what was expected. More funding was provided to more organizations because of hard work and that is what Madden loves about her job. This shocked many since the descriptions of all the long hours spent in the office seemed to be the worst part. We discussed the idea of pay off vs. getting paid as a group.

After the meeting with the pizza, we took a trip to her office where there was a giant desk which belonged to a past governor which was cool. From her office she showed us how she has a perfect view of Governor Baker’s office. Also in her office there was a daunting portrait which Rachel described to be like the portraits in Scooby doo whose eyes move, but at one point said she has grown accustomed to it. During our time in her office, the Secretary of A&F walked in and introduced herself. When we took our picture, there was a sign of broken glass at the entrance. We asked Rachel what happened and very enthusiastically she told us how during budget week a lawyer walked straight into the glass and it shattered everywhere.



Aixa
Davila

Councilor Michelle Wu Meeting

By Linda Qin

On July 20, 2015, the Ward Fellows had the opportunity to talk with Boston City Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu, who met us in City Hall along with her baby, Blaise. Upon meeting Councilor Wu, what immediately struck me was how down-to-Earth she was. Before, when I thought of people in politics, I saw in my head the prominent face that showed in campaign advertising and city outreach and publicity, the face that seemed ages above and past what I could possibly achieve out of high school. On the other hand, instead of giving off this image, Councilor Wu simply seemed like an ordinary Boston citizen in real life, someone I could relate to and possibly even follow the footsteps of. Just like me, she came from an Asian immigrant household, and even took part in the same club organization as I do now (the Junior Classical League). As well, she never expected nor had a plan laid out to be in politics. I am definitely able to relate to this, since I applied for the Ward Fellowship to get a feel for public service, but never really considered government work as a future career. However, I am not against it, and this fellowship definitely pulled me in a positive direction down this field. Seeing a City Councilor who originally did not plan to be in politics, but yet who was able to become involved and elected, showed me that anyone with the drive and passion to help others and effect change could become a government official, and that, despite the publicity and hype, these offices were not Hollywood elitist. Finally, Councilor Wu told us that it was she herself who maintained her Twitter, and she gushed over how she loved using it because of the opportunity to reach many constituents through it. She said that she wanted keep her Twitter authentic, and in her voice. I admire this choice, as it makes her really approachable for all residents of Boston.

What made her the most down-to-Earth, and what I found the most admirable, however, was Councilor Wu's ability to both be a City Councilor At-Large and a mother at the same time. She did not need to stop being one for the other—she was able to take care of Blaise, and even breastfeed him, and have our Ward meeting at the same time. Many women are burdened by having a child, and have to take time off work to care for their baby. Councilor Wu could have easily cancelled our meeting after she learned about the daycare complications leaving her to care for Blaise. Wu's ability to not have to compromise one thing for the other once again proves the strength of women and makes her a role model for working women in Boston.

As well, Councilor Wu is very passionate about this close-to-home topic; in fact, she was at the forefront of the establishment of the paid-parental work policy. Just recently, on May 18, 2015, Mayor Walsh signed an ordinance that allowed City of Boston employees, both men and women, to take six weeks of Paid Parental Leave. Previously, employees were given unpaid leave, and the burden of no income forced parents to perhaps go back to work sooner than they would have preferred or even needed with their newborn baby.

We were given the opportunity to ask Councilor Wu questions, and many of them had to do with how she arrived at her current position, and why she chose to run for City Councilor At-Large. Although she did graduate from Harvard with a degree in law, Councilor Wu emphasized that one does not need a certain degree to work in politics; what matters, above all, is the existence of a strong desire to help people and to make a difference. Furthermore, Councilor Wu said that working for the city government allowed her to really make impactful changes on the neighborhood around her, and that city government is no less important than the state government. In fact, Boston was actually the leader in establishing Paid Parental leave, and the state only picked it up after it was done at the city level. It was inspiring to see how Councilor Wu was able to use her own experience and the flaws in the system that she witnessed in order to effect change and better our city of Boston, and even in all of Massachusetts.

"I came into this fellowship hoping to learn more about public service, and, coming out of it and looking back, I realize that I have not only learned more, but have experienced more, firsthand."

Linda
Qin



Dir. Brian Golden of BRA Meeting
Justin Flattery

This past week we met with Brian Golden director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA). Before the meeting we did our own independent research and realized this was a very interesting time to be meeting with the BRA. Between new building projects, models for possible Boston 2024 layouts, and two new appointees to their board, it was a busy time to be visiting their office.

When Brian Golden first met us he was accompanied by one of his project managers. They both were Latin school alums and they reminisced about their memories on Avenue Louis Pasteur some good, some not so good. Then Mr. Golden talked about the journey to his appointment as director of the BRA, which was anything but mundane. After attending Harvard University and William and Mary Law School, he did not immediately practice law, but instead joined the U.S. Army. A few years later he was elected as a State Representative for Massachusetts. He was deployed into active tours for some spells during his time in the legislature. From there, Mr. Golden was appointed by Governor Romney as Commissioner of the Mass Department of Telecommunications and Energy. After two years, he became regional director of the Dept. of Health and Human Services. After a couple of years in this position he found himself appointed to executive director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority. Brian Golden agreed that this was not an ordinary path or these jobs were even related, but he said willingness for immersion, coupled with strong administrative skills were his secrets for success.

The director than gave us a history of the BRA, the good, the bad, and the ugly. He discussed how prior to its establishment in 1957 Boston was a very vertically challenged city. Its highest building was the custom house tower, and nothing else came close to that height. However, with the establishment of the BRA and the help of President Lyndon B. Johnson’s Great Society funding, a catalyst of construction began. In just a few decades, the iconic Boston skyline looks almost identical to what it is today, and Boston was secured to be a profitable city for the foreseeable future. However this avenue for commercial success came with drawbacks. He discussed how the big neighborhood of the West End, once a strong middle class mecca was completely torn to the ground and instead it was replaced with luxury condos, with no connection to the multi-cultured true Bostonian neighborhood that once stood there.

Mr. Golden used this decade of change to illuminate the BRA’s mission today. He said they wish to continue in the path of the Great Society and truly put Boston in the forefront of metropolitan success for other cities in the USA. However, they do not wish to repeat the disaster of the West End in their future work in Boston. This brought up the topic of gentrification, which many of the fellows had questions about. Mostly they asked how the BRA attempts to alleviate gentrification, when for many it is viewed as a cause for it. Answering, the director revealed that it is very important to the BRA to provide affordable housing in Boston. He said all new redevelopment projects have a requirement of creating 13-15% affordable housing. His colleague even said a project that was being discussed 4 years ago, is just beginning development now, because of the community outreach and meetings that were being done. Mr. Golden ended the meeting saying that he wishes the best for improvement for Boston in the future, but for there still to be a place for the middle and lower classes.



Amias
Callender
(Coordinator)

“Being entrusted to lead such an extraordinary group was an amazing honor and opportunity. The experience, knowledge, and personal growth are things I would not have had the opportunity to accomplish anywhere else and I sincerely thank the Ward Fellowship for providing them to me.”

Meet the Miller Fellows



Vanessa
James

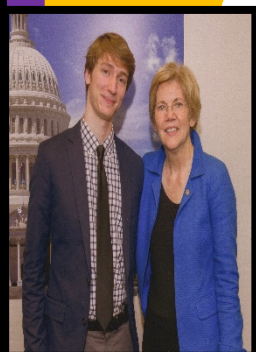
Working for Senator Edward Markey was an eye-opening experience into the inner workings of national politics. Having previously interned with foreign affairs think tanks and contracting firms, I wanted a look into another side of foreign policy-making, hence my choice for Senator Markey on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Not only did the Senate give me in-depth insight into U.S. current foreign policy – including the chance to sit in on some historic Committee hearings and briefings pertaining to the Iran deal – but I also got a closer look at extremely important national policies being debated. Overall, my internship was incredibly memorable as I got to spend every day up close to a U.S. Senator during one of the most politically active and historic summers on Capitol Hill in decades.

This summer working with the office of Representative Joseph Kennedy III has been filled with incredible experiences that have all contributed to an unforgettable internship. The opportunity to work on Capitol Hill during an extremely eventful period of time that has included major developments such as the legalization of gay marriage and the historic Iran Nuclear Deal has been unforgettable. I have been able to make the most of my position by hearing congressional leaders speak, sitting in on hearings and meetings about current issues, and talking to the people in my office. Every day I found that I was learning something new about how our federal government works, giving me a new perspective on it and greater respect for it. I didn't come into this summer with my heart set on becoming a congressional staffer or even working in government, but I am coming away with a newly inspired ambition to do so.



Mark
Favorito
(Coordinator)

Three summers ago I interned in the office of Massachusetts Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo as a Boston Latin School Ward Fellow. This summer I followed up that experience as a Miller fellow. I interned for Senator Elizabeth Warren in D.C. where I got a chance to see firsthand the balancing of constituent services with federal policy. It was a thrill working for such a passionate, well informed, and motivated Senator. She gave me a greater understanding of how one can influence policy to "keep the ball rolling." I got a chance to work on both legislative work and constituent services, which included writing memos on hearings and briefings, doing policy research, answering phone calls, and best of all, taking pictures of the Senator posing with her fans. The breadth of tasks I worked on gave me an opportunity to understand the varied ways one can be a public servant. Additionally it was exciting to find myself in the capitol of the country where so many life changing decisions get made, I got a chance to join revelers outside the Supreme Court after the decision legalizing gay marriage and a chance to watch the Senators on the floor as they passed the controversial Fast Track Trade Authority bill for the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement. My experiences as a Ward and Miller fellow have furthered my interest in public service and given me the tools to pursue this interest professionally. I will not forget the lessons I learned this summer as a Miller Fellow.



Jacob
Metz-Lerman

The Honorable Judge Mark L Wolf

Judge Wolf of the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, has served as the founder and head of the Ward Fellowship since its creation in 1986. Presiding over the Ward Fellow selection process, Judge Wolf has, for the past twenty-six years, served as the central point of cohesion among the Fellows, alumni, and the many local and statewide officials associated with the program. Through his role in the Fellowship as well as his position as Federal Judge, he has inspired and empowered young people to believe in and participate in public service. Despite his persistently time-consuming caseload, he has never turned his back on the Fellowship he established, but has rather honored Judge William Ward's legacy by expanding both participation in and breadth of the program. Each year Judge Wolf provides each Fellow the opportunity to ask him about his experience and to share his or her own. His sincere commitment to hearing the input of Fellows from year to year has allowed the program to develop into an enduring component of the Boston Latin School and the Boston community

Remarks from Remarks from The Honorable Judge Mark L. Wolf



The John William Ward Public Service Fellowship for Boston Latin School students was established in 1986 to encourage the development of the engaged citizens and honorable public servants that Bill Ward advocated as essential to improving a state government for which the Ward Commission found in the 1970's, "corruption was a way of life." As this newsletter reflects, many fine public officials have provided the Fellows with exceptional opportunities and wonderful role models. As the Fellow's comments demonstrate, they have been inspired to participate in the public life of our Commonwealth and, through the Washington D.C. Stanley Miller Fellowship for former Ward Fellows, of our country. Hundreds of them are now energetically engaged citizens. Boston City Councilor Matt O'Malley (Ward Fellow '96) is an example of a Ward Fellow emerging as an admirable public official himself.

The Ward and Miller Fellows have refreshed the idealism of their elders, and provided Bill Ward and Stanley Miller with vibrant living legacies. We are grateful to them and to all who contribute to making the Fellowships possible.