



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

2020 Scott Kloeck-Jenson Fellows Biographical Statements

Aman Abhishek is a PhD candidate at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, with minors in history and political science. Prior to this he was pursuing a PhD in particle astrophysics, which he left because he felt that the field was disconnected from social issues. He has published research on the #MeToo movement and mass shootings in the US, and more broadly, his research focuses on the political economy of communication, activist media and social movements. He will use the SKJ fellowship funds to do fieldwork with activist media outlets in India, where he is from. He is interested in studying media outlets in India that have continued to question the powerful even as the country's press freedom rankings have been steadily deteriorating and authoritarianism is on the rise.

Tanya Carney is a graduate student in the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. She is pursuing a master's degree in Environment and Resources, with a minor emphasis in African Studies. Prior to her graduate studies Tanya worked for Blumont, an international development agency, and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer focusing on education and food security in Burkina Faso. She holds a degree in Conservation Biology from the University of Minnesota. Her research draws on her experiences in international development and aims to understand the role of technology, specifically climate information systems, in agricultural decision-making processes for smallholder farmers in Senegal. The SKJ Fellowship will allow Tanya to visit Senegal to carry out field research through a collaborative internship with the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics and Senegal's National Agency of Civil Aviation and Meteorology.

Kevin Inks is a graduate student in the Department of Geography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In the course of earning degrees in economics and geography at the Ohio State University, he completed undergraduate research on the political ecology of dam construction in the Himalaya. His current research interests revolve around disaster management, social justice, political ecology, and how states and policymakers understand, map, and influence landscapes undergoing rapid change. His Master's thesis focused on disaster management in the Brahmaputra River Valley, in which communities experience frequent widespread displacement due to flooding and erosion. His research explores how political and bureaucratic decision-making, especially as it relates to mapping, surveying, and land tenure, shapes uneven disaster management outcomes. His other research interests

include bureaucratic approaches to shifting landscapes in the Arctic and Mississippi River Delta, as well as the historical cartography of shifting landscapes.

Claudia M. Triana is a doctoral student in education policy studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. A scholar of comparative and international education, her research focuses on the inequities of im/migration and education policies, displacement, and resistance. Her pre-dissertation fieldwork examines how displaced migrant families make sense of deportation or forced return and how schools cultivate spaces for (re)-integration. Prior to returning to graduate school, Claudia was an evaluator for the New York City Department of Education. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and a Master’s in International Educational Development from Teachers College, Columbia University.

Valeriia Umanets is a PhD Student in Political Science at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Her research interests include women’s representation and political participation, political parties, post-Communist states, and Russian politics. In her dissertation, Valeriia studies the effects of Soviet state-sponsored feminism on women’s political participation in Russia using text-as-data and archival resources. Prior to joining UW–Madison, Valeriia completed her MPhil degree in Comparative Government at the University of Oxford.