

MEET THE 2019 TCNJ FOX SCHOLARS

On May 8, 2019, the James P. Fox Memorial Fund continued the legacy of its namesake, Jamie Fox, with the induction of five Fox Scholars of the Jamie Fox Scholars Program at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ). The program gives students, especially those without a network of public sector contacts, a track into public service and access to a seasoned public service mentor who can provide career advice and guidance. These Fox Scholars are part of a growing group of students participating in the program, which was started in 2018 and now includes 10 rising leaders.

JUAN CARLOS BELMONTE, JUNIOR, DUAL MAJOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT

Mentor: Diane Scaccetti, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Transportation

“I knew very little about the operations of state government. As a Fox Scholar, I saw firsthand how decisions at the state level are made by sitting in on cabinet meetings. My mentor said she wanted to have the same impact on me that Jamie had on her many years ago.”



SARAH ESTOK, JUNIOR, MAJOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE; MINOR: ECONOMICS

Mentor: Kevin Hagan, Princeton Public Affairs Group

“I did not realize how much goes on behind the scenes in government. Through this program I met a lot of people in government and was introduced to new career possibilities. I had no idea before this program that I could turn my passion into a career and make a big impact.”

DEISHA INNISS, SOPHOMORE, MAJOR: HISTORY/POLITICAL SCIENCE

Mentor: Danielle Alpert, River Crossing Strategy Group

“This program challenged my thinking and opened my eyes to other possibilities. My mentor helped me learn to find the things that resonated with me. Being a Fox Scholar introduced me to many high level people and I saw how genuine and passionate they are. It was inspiring.”



ROSEMARY NIVAR, SENIOR, MAJOR: CIVIL ENGINEERING

Mentor: Doug Hritz, River Crossing Strategy Group

“For the first time, I saw that you can marry engineering with politics/government. I didn’t think that was possible. I learned the value of more education and now plan to pursue a master’s degree in public administration or public policy.”

RACHEL SMITH, JUNIOR, DUAL MAJOR: COMMUNICATION STUDIES AND WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

Mentor: Kay Elizabeth LiCausi, President & CEO, Hoboken Strategy Group, Inc.

“Through this experience I was able to let go of the preconceived notion that you need to have it all figured out. I now see that relationships help you fall into other opportunities and that your passion can take a lot of different forms.”

