



Alumni Spotlight

Your fellow Public Policy alumni would like to showcase you and your achievements to the PUBP community on our website. We would be grateful if you would send us a profile. Please fill in the name/city/etc. in the blanks provided. Then pick as many questions as you would like, or add your own topics, and type your answers in the text boxes following. Thank you!

Name: Sean Dunn

Graduation semester/year: Winter 2011

City of residence: Atlanta, GA

Current professional position: Policy Analyst at the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

Question Choices for Alumni Profiles

- What do you do for a living now?
- What did you think you wanted to do during your time at Tech?
- Where would you like to go with your career?
- What research did you conduct while at Tech?
- What research are you interested in now?
- What did you do in the year after graduating?
- What links, news sources, or interesting research would you like to share?
- What was your greatest "Ah-Ha!" moment at Tech?
- Do you still believe in the same principles as you did when you were a student?
- What are your current hobbies or interests?

Please send a photo with this profile

I am a fiscal and policy analyst at Georgia's Governor's Office of Planning and Budget—I provide budget oversight on behalf of the Governor and policy recommendations regarding several agencies within the State's "Growing Georgia" initiative. I work closely with the Department of Natural Resources (including the Environmental Protection Division), Department of Agriculture, and Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

While at Tech, I focused mainly on Environmental Policy and Economic Development Policy—Atlanta's Beltline Project was a large conductor of this interest. I still hold a strong affinity for "sustainability", where I feel these two policy areas intersect, and I always had my fingers crossed for employment at the City's Office of Sustainability or a progressive think-tank.

I subscribe to "Next Draft" <http://nextdraft.com/> which is a free, quick, 10-point news subscription that finds an informative and entertaining balance between NPR and Tosh.0

The job market was tough when I graduated in December of 2011, so much of my time was spent networking, applying for jobs, and laying out by the pool. Fortunately, I also gained a ton of experience with part-time employment at Damespointe Consulting, a non-profit management consulting firm.

My greatest Ah-ha! moment at Tech took place somewhere between Microeconomics for Policymakers and Geographies of Innovation when I realized much of what is “known” about how businesses, the economy, and economic development works is still largely theory! I always thought that, “I just didn’t get it” ... turns out no one knows for sure how all these variables do, or should, fit together. Phew!