

This summer I served as an intern at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress in Washington, DC. CSPC is a unique non-profit organization that seeks to promote bipartisan cooperation between the branches of the federal government by drawing on the lessons to be learned from the historical legacy and institutional memory of the presidency. A political think tank, CSPC is an organization whose studies are focused both on past policy initiatives and current policy efforts, and whose aim is to provide sound suggestions to today's political leaders. CSPC produces a number of scholarly publications centering on public policy, ranging from the *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, the only journal devoted exclusively to the study of the presidency, to books and reports on public policy initiatives. In addition to producing quality publications, the Center also convenes roundtables that serve as a forum for members of the policy making community to discuss current issues and search for pragmatic solutions to the problems confronting our political leadership.

My duties as a CSPC intern were wide-ranging and included a number of different tasks. Though my efforts were primarily focused on performing research and writing assignments for the Center's various publications and reports, I also had the opportunity to help organize, and eventually attend, meetings and conferences with various public officials. My internship with CSPC was a unique and invaluable opportunity for me to explore a potential career path and to see first-hand the political world I studied during my four years at Sewanee. This summer provided me with an occasion to learn about the inner workings of a prominent non-profit organization, while also gaining experience in the field of political science research and publication. As an intern at CSPC, my research and writing assignments at the Center were challenging and compelling, allowing me to explore the international and domestic issues currently facing the executive and legislative branches of government. This summer I gained valuable work experience, while honing my research and writing abilities – skills that will be indispensable to me in any career I decide to pursue in the future.