

## **Group 1 – Peace and Coexistence**

### **"Poverty and Peace" with Devika Mahadevan '00**

Devika has used her ECSF experience in China as a springboard for a life devoted to social justice, working in Zimbabwe and India for children's rights. Drawing on the stories of those with whom she has worked, Devika will discuss the relationship between poverty and peace, and her belief that true innovation in development happens on the ground – with academicians often getting in the way.

### **"Get Back: Leveraging your International Experience into a Fulbright Scholarship" with Benjamin Singerman '99**

How did Ben turn his ECSF internship in Ecuador into a Fulbright Scholarship to continue his work there? Ben explains the application process and shares tips that maximize your chances of securing a Fulbright.

### **"Religion and Secularism in Modern Turkey" with Kosmas Kaprinis, '07**

Despite its multi-religion history (Christianity, Judaism and Islam), modern Turkey faces a conflict between secularism and fundamentalism. Examine this unique model of relatively peaceful religious coexistence in the Western World, and what the difficult issues it faces today might mean for tomorrow.

## **Group 2 – Development, Power, and Corruption**

### **"Community-Based Development: Opportunities and Challenges" with Daniel Duffy '07**

To what degree must development be democratic? Working with community-based organizations gives poor people a voice in their own development and reduces the problem of international development groups' misinterpreting local needs. But, at the same time, local corruption often means that World Bank loans get channeled away from development projects into private bank accounts. Duffy will speak about his work with community organizations in Mexico and Grenada to explore these troubling questions of power and democracy.

### **"Researching the Unspoken in China & Japan: Intellectual**

### **Freedom & Free Speech"** with Miriam Kingsberg '03

Miriam spent two years in China and Japan researching the impact of opium trading and the drug culture on urban development. In the process, she encountered substantial barriers working in foreign archives under conditions of restricted intellectual freedom and limited free speech. Catch this glimpse into the exciting travels and difficult challenges of a grad student.

### **"The Ethics of Fundraising"** with Ava Morgenstern'06 and Josh Rosenthal '07

Fundraising for American nonprofit organizations appears at first glance to be a worthy and uncontroversial pursuit – they need money, so why not raise as much as possible? However, over the past few decades in the USA, nonprofits have dramatically multiplied while inequality has soared. Ava and Josh will explore difficult questions about the attitude of nonprofits and donors toward their disempowered clientele; the (often expensive and ethically problematic) cultivation of donors; and the fundamental attitudes of nonprofits in relation to inequality.

## **Group 3 – Advocacy, Activism, and Justice**

### **"Rethinking Social Justice Advocacy Along Color Lines"** with Nakisha Evans '02

African-Americans were among the vanguards of social change in other decades – but why are their voices noticeably less prominent in social justice campaigns today? Nakisha is the founder of The Imani Project, an advocacy campaign that aims to recruit black religious and civic leaders into the Darfur human rights movement.

### **"Battle of the Story"** with Joshua Kahn Russell '06

Worldviews are communicated through stories. Whether through images of the statue of Saddam Hussein being pulled down, or those yellow car ribbon magnets, our culture is increasingly defined by the building blocks of ideas, called "memes," which replicate and spread until they have reshaped a society's dominant narratives. Activists across the country are developing something called "Story-Based Strategy" - crafting their activism with memes. Josh will explain the concept of "meme activism" and share CNN clips and photos about

how he has effectively used the "Battle of the Story" in his own organizing with Rainforest Action Network. (One action reframed a story so sharply that it was picked up by over 700 major media networks all over the world.)

**"Legal Careers in Social Justice"** with Wendi Adelson '01

What alternative legal careers might Brandeis graduates pursue, particularly related to social justice? Wendi shares her experience as a juvenile immigrant lawyer, trying to help orphans and abandoned children from around the world obtain asylum in the USA.