JOB MARKET BLUES
James Marshall Public Policy Postdoctoral Fellowship
James Marshall Public Policy Fellowship

- Use social science to inform policy

Serve as the bridge between social science and policy

SCIENCE  
Katya Migacheva, PhD  
POLICY
WHY I DECIDED TO APPLY

EFFECTIVE SOCIAL CHANGE

Policy
Practice
Research
APPLICATION PROCESS

- Information gathering
- Policy Brief
- Biographical Statement
- Letters of Recommendation
- Interview
BEING A FELLOW

- Time at SPSSI
  - Adjustment

- Searching for Placements and Interviewing
  - What is my value?
  - Realizing the power of a fellowship
  - An opportunity to dream
  - Networking

- Choosing a Placement
  - TOM LANTOS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission

- Commission within the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives
  - Bi-partisan
  - No legislative activity
  - Bridge between human rights organizations/activists and Congress

- Lead Democratic Fellow
  - Advise to the Democratic Co-Chair and other Commission Members
  - Gather information independently and through meetings
  - Organize briefings and hearings
  - Communicate with the U.S. State Department and other relevant actors
  - Write speeches, essays, statement
Burning Questions

• Do you get to conduct your own research?
• Does what you do now relate to what you did in gradschool?
• How do you use social psychological research?
  • Effective Communication
    • Persuasion
    • Framing
  • Comprehensive assessment of the issues
  • Inform Member Statements and Proposals
• Do you see use for your own research?
• What does your typical day look like?
• How did you know what to do?
• Is there a way back to academia after this?
Things I Have Learned

- Overall, a tremendous learning experience
- The value of PhD education
- A world of new opportunities
- Academia and policy divide
From Academia to The Hill
Things to Consider:

- Depth vs. Breadth
- Multiple Projects
- (Very) Fast-Paced
- Absence of visible credit
- Can’t talk research
- “On” Mode all day long
- Little to no time to do research/write
- Would you like that?
THANK YOU!!

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DON'T PANIC!
RESEARCH CONCLUDES:

WE ARE DESTROYING EARTH.

COULD YOU KINDLY REPHRASE THAT IN EQUIVOCAL, INACCURATE, VAGUE, SELF-SERVING AND ROUNDABOUT TERMS THAT WE CAN ALL UNDERSTAND?

GOVERNMENT