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Political Matters Journalism Internship program places student journalists with The Canadian Press and *The Globe and Mail*

The Political Matters Journalism Internship program today announced the first two student journalists selected as interns, as well as the news organizations that will host them over the coming summer.

Rachel Emmanuel will be attached to *The Globe and Mail's* parliamentary bureau and Christian Paas-Lang will be placed with the Ottawa bureau of The Canadian Press.

The two will have the opportunity to hone their political reporting skills on Parliament Hill with some of the best in the business during the run-up to the 2019 federal election.

Emmanuel is a fourth-year undergraduate student studying journalism with a double minor in English and political science at Carleton University. Her professional experience includes a full-time stint last summer as a multimedia journalist with the *St. Catharines Standard* and ongoing work as a freelance writer helping to cover parliamentary committees for iPoliticsINTEL.

"I've wanted to be a political reporter since I began my studies in journalism," she said. "I feel so privileged to be chosen for this internship." Emmanuel said she's looking forward to learning from *Globe* journalists as well as making a contribution to a bureau that's such a vital source of political news.

Christian Paas-Lang is in his final year of the Master of Journalism program at Carleton. Currently also a writer with iPoliticsINTEL, his previous journalism experience includes internships at *The Globe and Mail* and the *Ottawa Citizen*, as well as full-time summer work last year at the *North Bay Nugget*.

"I'm thrilled to join the storied Canadian Press bureau in Ottawa, filled with writers whom I have looked up to as role models throughout my studies," said Paas-Lang. "I can't wait to learn from these amazing journalists, while helping to cover some of the most exciting and consequential stories of the day."

Emmanuel and Paas-Lang will each receive a \$10,000 honorarium from Political Matters for their participation in the summer program. They will be mentored at CP and the *Globe* by senior journalists who will work with them to develop the skills to pursue a career in Canadian media.

"The training, teaching and development of Canadian journalists has been a core element of CP's mission virtually since the national news agency's inception more than 100 years ago," said James McCarten, CP's acting Ottawa bureau chief.

“We're delighted to be playing a role in the Political Matters program, and can't wait to see the important contributions that Christian and Rachel are going to make to Canada's national political discourse.”

Emmanuel and Paas-Lang were chosen as the inaugural recipients of the Political Matters internships after a national call for applications that resulted in submissions from talented student journalists from across the country.

“Our media environment is facing challenging times so it was uplifting to see so many young journalism students with aspirations to tell stories and shine a light in dark corners,” said Robert Fife, the *Globe's* Ottawa bureau chief. “We were impressed with all the journalism candidates and look forward to mentoring Rachel and Christian over the summer months.”

According to Jennifer Ditchburn, one of the members of the internship's steering committee, it was a challenge to choose from a pool of such well-rounded applicants.

“Today's young journalists aren't just coming out of school with writing or broadcasting skills. They are adept at using social media, they record podcasts, they cut video, and have an entrepreneurial spirit. Canada will be well served when they enter the job market.”

Initial funding for the program came from an event held last fall at the Black Sheep Inn in Wakefield, Que. The fundraiser was supported by many organizations and individuals who believe in the importance of journalism in Canada's political life. The program will be expanded to three placements in subsequent summers.

For more details about the process, please follow the link below.

<https://www.politicalmatters.ca/>

The Political Matters Journalism Internship steering committee includes Bruce Anderson, Susan Delacourt, Jennifer Ditchburn, Bill Fox, Susan Harada, Nancy Jamieson, and Peter Mansbridge, all individuals with extensive experience in political journalism, journalism education, politics and public policy.

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Individuals or organizations wishing to donate to help fund the program in the future are welcome to contact Bruce Anderson for information at banderson@anderson-insight.com.

A charitable tax credit is available.