



**Bryan Griffin**

*Field Director, Maccabee Task Force*

*Hometown: Tampa, Florida; Age: 29*

Bryan is currently a senior fellow at the London Center for Policy Research and the national field director of the Maccabee Task Force Foundation. Born in Florida, he received a Masters of International Affairs with a specialty in the Middle East from Columbia University in New York City. He holds a Juris Doctorate, Masters of Management, and Bachelors in Classical History and Political Science from the University of Florida. Bryan is also a Professionally Registered Parliamentarian (PRP) and licensed private pilot. On November 15th, 2013 Bryan was sworn in as an attorney by United States Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas at the Supreme Court. From 2010-2013 Bryan held the elected office of Soil and Water Supervisor of Alachua County. At Columbia, he was named the Editor in Chief of the Journal of International Affairs.. Bryan is the author of *The Encyclopedia of Militant Islam*, published in 2015.



**Courtney Joline**

*Development Coordinator at Search for Common Ground*

*Hometown: Freehold, NJ; Age: 26*

Courtney Joline serves as the Development Coordinator at Search for Common Ground, one of the world's largest dedicated peacebuilding organizations with operations in over 43 countries. In her position, she focuses on individual and foundation outreach, and is spearheading the organization's campus chapter and alumni initiatives. Prior to joining Search for Common Ground, Courtney served as a manager at Cogite, Tunisia's first-ever coworking space. While based in Tunisia she also served as Outreach Coordinator for TEDxCarthage, one of the largest TEDx events in the world and was a Project Manager for a communications and events company. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Middle East Studies from The George Washington University. Courtney is a member of the National Organization for Women (DC Chapter) and Phi Beta Kappa.



**Hunter M. King**

*Staff, Office of Congressman Steve King*

*Hometown: Mason City, IA; Age: 24*

Hunter is a scheduler in the Office of Congressman Steve King (IA-04), where he is responsible for scheduling all events, meetings, and travel for the Representative. Recently Hunter has also started doing more communications and press work for the office, exposing him to the many different facets on Capitol Hill. After graduating from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro with a B.A. in Political Science, Hunter moved to Washington D.C. as an intern for Congressman King. Prior to his internship, Hunter was playing professional baseball in Marion, Illinois after enjoying his successes as a Division-I player at UNCG. Hunter moved to D.C. in hopes of pursuing his passion for politics and his desire for knowledge, especially in foreign affairs. He looks to continue his career on Capitol Hill for some time to come.



**Jack Gordon**

*Co-founder of Digital Development Communications  
Hometown: Westfield, NJ; Age: 35*

Jack Gordon is a DC-based filmmaker and co-founder of Digital Development Communications (DDC), a production company that specializes in creating dynamic visual content for international development organizations. He has produced film and photo projects in over a dozen countries for USAID, the World Bank, and many other clients. Jack is also a dedicated interfaith organizer and works to build bridges of understanding between religious communities through dialogue, the arts, and service projects. As a board member with the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington, he led the creation of the annual DC Interfaith Leadership Summit, an annual gathering of young adult leaders from throughout the DC area.



**Jean Kwon**

*Professional staff member on the Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Hometown: Houston, Texas; Age: 29*

Jean Kwon is a professional staff member on the Senate Committee on Appropriations under Vice Chairman Patrick Leahy of Vermont. She manages various accounts on the Legislative Branch subcommittee, including the Library of Congress and the Government Accountability Office. Furthermore, she also supports the staff director and deputy staff director in managing the front office and carrying out the Vice Chairman’s priorities. Before joining the Committee, Jean had completed her Masters in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and was a Peace Corps Volunteer in China, where she taught English to college students in Zigong, Sichuan. Her loving community in China taught her to appreciate the world as a global community and inspired her to design and launch an annual women’s summit to empower women through professional development.



**Jessica Mulligan**

*Government Relations Manager, U.S. Global Leadership Coalition  
Hometown: Cambridge, MA; Age: 25*

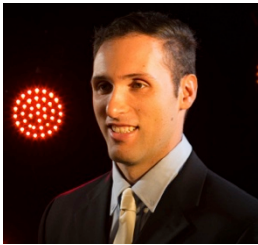
Jessica Mulligan serves as a Government Relations Manager at the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC), a broad-based network of over 500 businesses and nonprofit organizations; national security and foreign policy experts; and business, faith-based, academic, military, and community leaders who support strong investments in development and diplomacy. Prior to joining USGLC, Jessica worked as an Associate at the Glover Park Group (GPG), where she provided public affairs and government relations counsel to a wide variety of clients in the firm’s International Affairs practice. Jessica has also served on several political campaigns, including Senator Cory Booker’s 2013 special election race and Gov. Howard Dean’s Democracy for America political action committee. Jessica graduated magna cum laude from Princeton University with a B.A. in Politics.



**Kristina Ryan**

*Program Officer, Global Engagement Center, U.S. State Department  
Hometown: Colorado Springs, Colorado; Age: 27*

Kristina is a Program Officer at the Global Engagement Center (GEC), an interagency office housed at the U.S. Department of State that is responsible for the integration, coordination, and synchronization of U.S. Government efforts to counter non-state and state propaganda and disinformation. Prior to joining the GEC, Kristina was an analyst examining foreign terrorist fighters to enhance the U.S. government’s understanding of terrorist threats globally. While in graduate school, Kristina interned with the Department of State’s Office of Opinion Research where she quantitatively examined public opinion patterns and trends among foreign populations to aid the formulation and implementation of U.S. foreign policy. She also interned as a counterterrorism analyst with the Department of Defense at U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Kristina holds a Master of Arts in Global Finance, Trade, and Economic Integration from the University of Denver’s Josef Korbel School of International Studies with a concentration in International Security and a regional emphasis on the Middle East. She received a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs and Anthropology from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



**Michael Matthiesen**

*Senior Academic and Career Advisor, Miami Dade College  
Hometown: Miami, Florida; Age: 27*

Michael is a Senior Academic and Career Advisor and adjunct Professor of Philosophy at Miami Dade College. Before becoming a Senior Advisor, he served as a Grant Coordinator for the Community College Initiative, a U.S. State Department Fulbright Scholarship, located at MDC. Michael has worked at MDC since 2012, starting as an AmeriCorps VISTA for MDC’s Single Stop program. As an AmeriCorps VISTA, Michael raised \$1.25 million in monetary and in-kind donations for MDC students living in poverty. For his service, Michael received the President’s Call to Service Award and Presidential Volunteer Service Award from the Obama White House. Michael received a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship to complete an M.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics of Health from University College London (UCL), University of London.



**Thomas Stein**

*Regional Director of Sales for American Trust Administrators  
Hometown: Eudora, Kansas; Age: 33*

Tom is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Man Tables LLC, an Innovation company that pairs new applications of old technology with quality Amish labor. This has allowed Him to launch and acquire vendor partners for a number of new products that have been featured in numerous magazines and news outlet. Additionally, he serves as the Regional Director of Sales for American Trust Administrators for new distribution outreach. This outreach has resulted in some of the largest growth that American Trust has seen in its storied history. By working in these two spaces Tom is constantly recharged by the change in work that these two outlets afford.