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CONTRIBUTION

In an increasingly more competitive and unstable academic job market, the need for career opportunities and efficient networks for graduating Political Science students and potential employers has become more important than ever. I promise to devote my time to the ECPR Graduate Student Network to making sure the Political Science graduate student community has a strong voice, and to help facilitate career paths for young Political Science scholars.

EXPERIENCE

As a doctoral candidate I had the privilege of leading the NAGPS (US National Association for Graduate-Professional Students) South-East regional board and to organise an NAGPS conference linking graduate communities in our area. At Johns Hopkins University and K. U. Leuven I invested in graduate student advocacy on several university advisory boards including a Diversity Task Force and PhD board. The above mentioned experiences trained me well for building and nourishing relationships between graduate students, research communities, and University administrations. On top of that membership of APSA, ASA, Fulbright, and other organisations also prepared me to be an efficient team-player in the ECPR Graduate Student Network.

OTHER INFORMATION

I grew up as a Belgian citizen in Germany and have Belgian, Congolese, Turkish, and Japanese relatives; my Japanese fiancée is currently a Political Science doctoral candidate in Japan. As a student, I had the opportunity to spend time at different institutions across the world – Belgium, Austria, Norway, US – which widened my intellectual horizon, and increased my understanding of regional differences in which universities and scholars operate. I'm currently part-time employed at the Johns Hopkins international students' office, where my own experiences prove to be a great asset in helping other students.