



RACE TRACK INDUSTRY PROGRAM
2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



WELCOME

Thank you for taking time to read through this yearbook highlighting the activities and accomplishments of Race Track Industry Program (RTIP) students. The RTIP prides itself on providing a hands-on learning experience that prepares students for the racing industry. Whether through internships, teaching fellow Animal Science students, volunteering at the Breeders' Cup, or attending the Global Symposium on Racing, RTIP students gain vast knowledge by not only completing the coursework, but also by doing.

Reflecting back on my first semester as RTIP Chair, I couldn't be prouder of the team we have assembled to support our students. Having lost a tremendous amount of institutional knowledge, everyone around me has pitched in support of our students. Kudos to our team of professors Dr. Kathy Broneck and Phil O'Hara, and office staff Emiliano Alvarado and Denise Pharris, who have worked hard to support my efforts this first year.

The team also faced the challenge of pulling together our first Global Symposium on Racing in an accelerated time-frame. We cannot thank the racing industry enough for their support of the 2021 event. Whether it was through sponsorships, exhibiting, speaking on Symposium panels, or helping to get the word out through advertising, it truly "takes a village" to produce this event. I've stated that this isn't my Symposium or even the RTIP Symposium. The Global Symposium on Racing belongs to the racing industry and exists to serve the industry.

In closing, I want to acknowledge previous RTIP Directors Wendy Davis and Doug Reed who have served as mentors to me in support of our program's efforts. I can't thank them enough for their guidance.



Robert Hartman
Chair, Race Track Industry Program

RTIP

NEW TEAM MEMBERS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW RTIP FACULTY & STAFF



Robert Hartman

Robert Hartman serves as the Chair of the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program. Hartman is an RTIP alum with over a decade of experience in race track management.

Hartman began his racing career serving as a summer intern at NYRA, an opportunity afforded to him as an RTIP student. The opportunity led to a full-time position at NYRA and served as a springboard for his racing career. Hartman held senior management positions at Santa Anita Park and served as the General Manager of Golden Gate Fields.

In addition to serving as Chair, Hartman will be teaching several classes during the spring and fall semester. He will also be heading up the Global Symposium on Racing, the largest horse racing conference in the United States. Held each December, the conference is a forum for industry leaders to share best practices.

"I look forward to taking the Program to the next level through new offerings that best meet the needs of our students. We have a top-notch team of professors and staff in place to support students as they prepare for a career in the industry," said Hartman.

Emiliano Alvarado (left) and Robert Hartman "horsing" around at the UArizona's Al-Marrah Equine Center



The RTIP Legacy

Race Track Industry Program students are united by passion. For the horse, for racing, for making their own mark. This passion and drive connects them long after the degree has been earned and careers have been launched.



Phil O'Hara

Phil O'Hara joined the faculty at the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program in the fall of 2020. Phil, an RTIP alum, is incredibly well-versed in all areas of racing and brings a wealth of knowledge to the students.

O'Hara has operated his own firm, P T O'Hara, Jr. Services, Inc. since 2012, primarily providing project management and advisory services. He formerly was a partner in Meyocks & O'Hara Racing Enterprises, Inc., served as President and CEO of Equibase Company LLC as well as Executive Vice President, Pari-Mutuel Operations for Penn National Gaming, Inc.

O'Hara is currently teaching RTIP students a variety of Racing Administration and Management classes including: Intro and Advanced Racing Laws and Enforcement; Racing Department Organization and Administration; Racetrack Organization, Structure and Financial Management; and Racetrack Business Strategies and Global Perspectives.

"I'm really excited to have returned to the RTIP where my dreams of a career in the racing industry began. I look forward to assisting the next generation of racing's leaders pursue theirs," said O'Hara.



Emiliano Alvarado

Emiliano Alvarado brings to the Race Track Industry Program more than 15 years of experience supporting organizations in Higher Learning, Technology, and Publishing. In that time, he has utilized his expertise in data management and project coordination to organize corporate events; serve as a marketing collateral developer, copy editor, and technical writer; and implement document management structures. As an administrator of several salesforce.com databases, he worked with strategic members across diverse teams to develop improved systems and methods for sales, planning, logistics, and created common, effective channels of communication. Emiliano is a graduate of Northern Arizona University and recently acquired his professional certification in Digital Marketing from Arizona State University.

Joining the RTIP in 2021, Emiliano is responsible for the overall coordination of a broad range of services that keeps the program operating efficiently, expanding the program's reach, and is the logistics coordinator for the annual Global Symposium on Racing.

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RTIP PROGRAM FACULTY/STAFF:

Robert Hartman, Chair
 Phil O'Hara, Asst. Professor of Practice
 Dr. Kathy Broneck, Asst. Professor of Practice
 Denise Pharris, Marketing Specialist
 Emiliano Alvarado, Administrative Assistant

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A special thank you to RTIP students MaryRuth Hodsden and Hailey Shiffer for their assistance in helping this yearbook come to life.

MENTOR LUNCH



Students and mentors enjoy getting to know each other over a delicious lunch

Networking is critical in any industry, but in such a tight-knit community as racing, it is invaluable.



Mentor Lynette Fox Smith and MaryRuth Hodsdon



Giselle Lugo and mentor Jon Moss

MACKENZIE KIRKER-HEAD
Consultant, Thoroughbred Idea Foundation

STEVE KOCH
Senior Vice President, Racing The Stronach Group

KEI MATSUZAWA
Senior Manager, Japan Racing Association

DOUG MOORE
Executive Secretary, Washington Horse Racing Commission

JON MOSS
Executive Director HBPA Inc. – Iowa

JIM MULVIHILL
Senior Director, Betting Information, Churchill Downs Inc.

LONNY POWELL
CEO, FTBOA

DAVID RICHARDSON
Executive Director, Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

SCOTT ROBINS
Director, Safe Racing & Sustainable Breeding, Greyhound Racing Victoria

LYNNELLE FOX SMITH
Executive Director, Oregon Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

MIKE TANNER
Executive Vice President & CEO, United States Trotting Association

JANET VANBEBBER
Chief Racing Officer, American Quarter Horse Association

SCOTT WELLS
President/GM, Remington Park Racing & Lone Star Park

THOMAS CASSIDY
Sr. Manager of Industry Relations–TVG, FanDuel Group

PATRICK CUMMINGS
Executive Director, Thoroughbred Idea Foundation

MARSHALL GRAMM
Professor of Economics, Rhodes College

MATT HEGARTY
Reporter, Daily Racing Form

Putting Scholastic Knowledge into Context

Each year during the Global Symposium on Racing, students have the opportunity to participate in the Mentor Luncheon. This event brings students together with industry professionals who provide information that puts scholastic knowledge into context. The opportunity to be in a one-on-one situation with industry leaders allow the students to gain insights and focus on their personal goals.



Shinobi Horikawa and mentor Kei Matsuzawa



Michael Sandulli and mentor Matt Hegarty

David Range and mentor Thomas Cassidy



SUMMER 2021

ERIC DECOSTER

This summer, I was provided the wonderful opportunity to intern for Wanamaker's, an online auction house for the Thoroughbred racehorses, in Saratoga Springs. At the direction of my boss, Liza Hendriks, I was tasked with helping develop the catalogue for the monthly online auctions, writing descriptions for horses entered in the sales, and recruiting potential sales prospects. This allowed me to see what goes on "behind the scenes" and the logistics of putting together a horse auction. It was amazing to be part of an innovative company within the Thoroughbred racing industry.

During this time in Saratoga, I was also able to work as a hotwalker for trainer Ray Handal. Ray was able to give me so much insight into what it takes to train a racehorse and the care that is put into the profession that I had never had exposure to before. Additionally, I was able to shadow him, as well

as trainer Tom Morley, at two different Fasig-Tipton sales that took place in August. Given my immense interest in the bloodstock aspect of the industry, being able to pick the brains of these two men, as well as many other people, taught me so much about the intricacies of the Thoroughbred.

Overall, my experiences in Saratoga were life changing and only furthered my desire to be a part of the Thoroughbred racing industry. The countless people I met and relationships I was able to form are ones I hope to continue to develop, both personally and professionally, and I hope to return to Saratoga for the summer in the very near future.

— Eric DeCoster



Eric hotwalking at Saratoga Racecourse

DAVID RANGE

This summer I spent seven weeks at the TRPB in Fair Hill, Maryland working in the Wagering Integrity Unit. During my time at the TRPB I was able to learn about the various forms of data that are involved with wagering integrity and the Racetrack Manager program that is used to analyze the data. While at the TRPB I spent time updating data that is used to analyze wagering pools as well as assist in wagering investigations. Near the end of my time at the TRPB I spent a morning assisting in the digital tattooing process at the Fair Hill Training Center.

The TRPB also set up three racetrack visits during my internship that afforded me the opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at racing operations. I spent time at Pimlico, Delaware Park and Penn National observing: the taking of entries, the creation of the overnight and program, the duties of the mutuel manager, the duties of the racetrack investigator, and the duties of the stewards. The highlights of my summer internship were calling for riders up before a race at Pimlico and visiting the paddock before the Delaware Oaks won by Crazy Beautiful. — David Range





Giselle Lugo and RTIP alum Aaron Vercruyse handicapping in the paddock at Arizona Downs

GISELLE LUGO

This summer I interned at Arizona Downs in Prescott Valley, Arizona. I gained valuable leadership, management, television, and racing industry skills at the Arizona Downs summer race meet. At the track, I was the assistant to the General Manager, one of the paddock show hosts, an entry clerk in the racing office, and the program designer. I also helped in whatever capacity the racetrack needed me to. I got to see what it was like to run a racetrack on the management side, but I also got to be an integral part of the racing office this past summer, which was an amazing experience.

As assistant to the General Manager, Mike Weiss, I learned the ins-and-outs of each department and what they need to do to run smoothly and efficiently. I realized that management is a possible route for where I want to go after graduation because I have varying leadership experiences at UArizona, and being able to utilize these skills in different ways this summer was really eye opening and beneficial to me.

I was also one of the paddock show hosts, alongside RTIP alum Aaron Vercruyse. Working alongside Aaron was an experience I wish all RTIP students could have. I learned so much about the industry, television, and handicapping through Aaron. He's very willing to teach, and it made me even more excited to be a part of the horse racing industry. Thanks to Aaron, who felt like a mentor to me, there was never a dull moment while going to work on race days!

In the racing office I got to take entries alongside the Racing Secretary and Assistant Racing Secretary, proof the races before the draw, and be sure each horse entered is eligible to run in the respective conditions set, participate in draws, enter the races after each draw into the computer system, and then smoke the races afterwards. Once all that was done on entry days, the next day(s) I would design the program utilizing an array of computer formats and editing applications, and then submit the final program to the Daily Racing Form. These days of the week were my busiest days, but they were also the most fun.

This summer experience is one I won't ever forget. My knowledge on every position at the track, on the backside, and in the regulatory area has grown tremendously. I learned so much more than I thought I was going to during my internship at Arizona Downs, and I'll be forever grateful for the opportunity. — Giselle Lugo



HAILEY SHIFFER



Hailey holding a yearling for a rinse after exercise

This summer I spent interning at Lane's End Farm in Versailles, Kentucky. This was an experience of a lifetime and one I would be happy to repeat. I worked in the yearling barn prepping horses for the various summer and fall sales such as Fasig-Tipton July, Fasig-Tipton Saratoga NY Bred Sale, and Keeneland September. There was never a dull moment in the barn.

We cleaned stalls, hand walked, took horses to the six-horse eurociser, groomed, held for the vet or farrier, did general veterinary care, turned out and brought in horses. I was in charge of five horses for grooming and was excited to watch their progress throughout the summer.

I got to attend the Fasig-Tipton July Sale and learn the in-and-outs of actually selling a Thoroughbred. Showing the horse to potential buyers, looking up who has come back for "second checks", registering who has vetted the horse, and preparing the horse for the sale ring were all part of my daily routine.

I spent my off day touring different farms around the Lexington area such as Spendthrift, Winstar, and Coolmore. I took the opportunity to talk with other people at the farms and get their prospective/advice for someone wanting to join the industry. I also spent Monday mornings watching horses and taking pictures at Keeneland Racecourse during morning workouts. — Hailey Shiffer

MARYRUTH HODSDEN



Morning at the barn with Boots

During my last summer as a Wildcat scholar, I interned at Wyoming Downs Racetrack under Frank Lamb and Judy Horton. I started off my summer in Blackfoot, Idaho at the Kash Evans Racing Barn. Kash Evans trains primarily Thoroughbred racehorses and I learned the ins-and-outs of maintenance at a racing barn. I spent 10 days in Idaho getting acquainted with the horses and my new co-workers. I ended up bonding with a 3-year-old filly who belongs to Frank and Judy named Wapiti Rose [Rosie (Chestnut)], and a 3-year-old colt owned by Kash named Tiger Treats [Tigger (bay w/ white face)]. I enjoyed when I had the free time to spend time with them and could spoil them with love and face rubs to get all the itchy spots they couldn't reach. They were always the first faces I saw at the barn and Rosie always greeted me with a happy nicker or whinny.

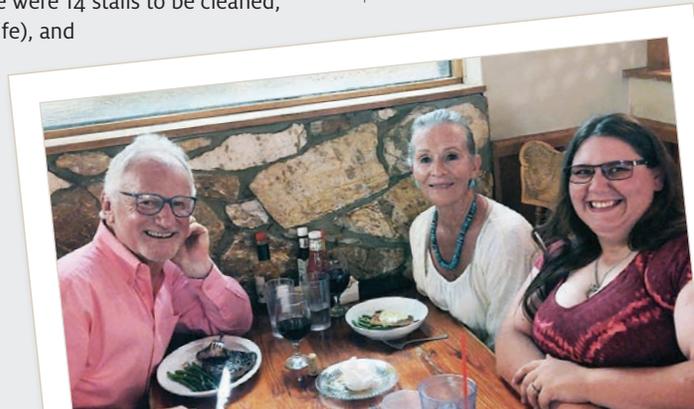
The first week in Wyoming was spent prepping stalls and getting horses settled in their new homes. It was hard work. The Evans Racing Barn has 14 horses so that meant there were 14 stalls to be cleaned, leveled and bedded. Tammy (Kash's wife), and Dusty (fellow groom) and I managed to get this done in one day. After the horses arrived, we settled into our routine and began conditioning for the season. Every day the horses all went out in one way or another. Most were put on the automatic hot walker so that they could stretch their legs and so I could clean and bed their stalls while others would go out to the track to be ponied or galloped. When

they came back they would be hosed down and put on the walker to cool off. My job was to take down the hay nets, clean the stall, bed the stall and then dump, clean, and refill water buckets. Depending on the day I may also have to fill hay nets.

I spent two weeks at the Evans barn, then after the first weekend of racing I moved to Stacey Rushton's racing barn. Stacey and his daughter Bailey run a small Thoroughbred barn. They only have nine horses and their pony horse Poncho. At this barn I especially felt like part of the team and had a special bond with each of the horses. At this barn I was more hands-on with the horses. My responsibilities were to put horses into the empty stalls so we could clean their regular stalls. Once the stall was clean, we would bring out a horse and hand walk them and let them graze. Later on we got an automatic walker that we could let them walk on. Everyday there were 2 or 3 horses that went out to pony and one horse that would get galloped or worked.

I felt like part of the team instead of just hired help. They were the first team I got to be in a "win" picture with. The horse that won was one of my favorites, Forest Treasure (Forest). My responsibilities also included putting tack on horses going out for works. This was my first experience with racing/English tack. A few times I got to take the horses to the track to learn from our regular rider, Jackie Bobroff. She taught me how to be a good race groom and to handle the horses with a rider on them. I also learned ways to help horses relax before races and great ways to help with circulation. We used a poultice commonly known as mud. This poultice cools and pulls heat from the muscles it is put on and has an overall relaxing effect. Most trainers use it before and after intense works and races. Stacey would also have us wash their legs daily to help with circulation and cooling. This helped to keep horses from being lame or helped to hasten the healing process of horses that were lame.

Stacey and Bailey left early to go to their home track in Denver, Colorado, so for the last couple of weeks I worked for a Quarter Horse barn trained by Josh Taylor. I learned that the training for Quarter Horses isn't too different from Thoroughbreds. Quarter Horse works are much more intense since speed is the key instead of preserving stamina. Other than that care and training is very similar, at least between the two trainers I worked for.



Despite all the work, I still got to enjoy the races every weekend. I worked as the paddock maintenance person during race weekends. My job was to harrow the paddock and rake the stalls after cleaning them, then I had to keep the dirt watered down so that there weren't copious amounts of dust when the horses were in the paddock.

Frank Lamb, Judy Horton, and MaryRuth share a meal after a long day

Internships are an integral part of the RTIP experience

Each year qualified students complete internships in the United States and abroad with race tracks, farms, trainers, and racing-related organizations. Internships provide RTIP students with unique opportunities to put their classroom knowledge to practical use, thereby enhancing the educational experience and making them better prepared to assume responsible positions after graduation.

My main job was to open and shut the gate that led onto the track. This was my vantage point to watch every race and I will have to say it is my absolute favorite. You can see the whole race easily and it is just an experience in itself. You get to see the horses before and after the races and the gate is situated alongside the homestretch where most races get interesting. You are also close enough that you can hear the jockeys calling out to their horses, the crack of the crops, the horses snorting, and the pounding of hooves as they roar by to the wire. That would be a moment that would make anyone fall in love with racing if they didn't love it already.

I looked forward to the races every weekend especially when my trainer had horses in. Watching a horse that you care for daily win a race is one of the best feelings. The weekend I didn't work in the paddock I was the runner for the stewards. The runner would take copies of the results of each race and the clerk of scales paperwork to the racing office. I got to learn about how the stewards do their jobs and how they decide race results. Overall the work I did for the track was a good experience and was fun. My internship was a very valuable experience that helped me decide what career path I want to follow. I learned many things about horses and how to navigate the complex communities that each track has. I am grateful for each of the trainers that were willing to take me in and mentor me. I will take with me the lessons I learned into my future career and cherish my relationships that I formed with them. — MaryRuth Hodsden

KAMRYN KOUTRAS

This past summer, I interned at Victory Rose Thoroughbreds, located in Vacaville, California and run by the renowned trainer Ellen Jackson. I weaned herds of Thoroughbred mares and foals. I also broke and trained weanling Thoroughbred horses from a crop of 46 foals and met the stallions behind it all, including the G1 Idiot Proof who ran Dubai in 2008.

At the farm, I was also able to get first-hand experience as an assistant groom in the barn, where I tacked the starting 2-year-olds up and down, hot walked them, and bathed them post workout.

Currently, I am planning on another internship in the summer of 2022 where I hope to learn more about the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance and training process, while continuing to make lasting connections in the race track industry.

“Working with the weanlings at Victory Rose really solidified my love for training young horses and setting their foundation as racing athletes.”

— Kamryn Koutras



Perfect posers

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS AND SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Arizona Downs

Giselle Lugo

Wyoming Downs

MaryRuth Hodsden

Cash Evans Racing Barn

MaryRuth Hodsden

Victory Rose Thoroughbreds

Kamryn Koutras

Lane's End Farm

Hailey Shiffer

Wannamaker's

Eric DeCoster

Thoroughbred Racing

Protective Bureau

David Range

Shug McGaughey Barn

Michael Sandulli

REAL WORLD MEETS THE CLASSROOM...ON ZOOM!



This year's *Joe Hirsch Speaker Series* was memorable in that it was held 100% online. While the students didn't get to sit in the room with our speakers, they were still able to hear directly from the industry's leaders on the most current pressing topic – the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority. Our guest speakers provided the pros and cons of HISA as well as a deep dive into their own operations.

Ed Martin makes Zoom look easy as he shares his perspective with RTIP'ers in February.

2021 JOE HIRSCH SPEAKERS:

SAL DIMARIO

Secretary, HHI; Executive Director, DE Standardbred Owners Association

ALAN FOREMAN

Chairman & CEO, THA

ERIC HAMELBACK

CEO, National HBPA

EDWARD J. MARTIN

President, ARCI

TERENCE J. MEYOCKS

President & CEO, Jockeys' Guild

MIKE TANNER

Executive VP & CEO, United States Trotting Association

JANET VANBEBBER

Chief Racing Officer, American Quarter Horse Association

HANK ZEITLIN

Executive Vice President, TRA; President, TRPB

Fall semester speakers:

LESLIE JANECKA

Coordinator, Kentucky Equine Management Internship

JEN ROYTZ

Executive Director, Retired Racehorse Project

GAYLE VAN LEER

Bloodstock Agent, Gayle Van Leer Thoroughbred Services

Leslie Janecka walks to class with RTIP'er David Range during the fall semester when in-person visits became possible again.



SPEAKER SERIES

The Joe Hirsch Speaker Series is presented by the Daily Racing Form



Cass Dewey and Dr. Kathy Broneck speak to students about aftercare



Mike Weiss talks about running a racetrack

RILLITO PARK SERVES AS “LIVING LAB” FOR HUNDREDS OF ACBS STUDENTS

During the last week in September, the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program (RTIP) introduced over 300 students to the basics of the horse racing industry. Students enrolled in Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences (ACBS) 102L, Introduction to Animal Science Laboratory, visited Rillito Park as part of their experiential learning about different aspects of the animal industry.

The afternoon kicked off in the historic Rillito Park paddock and continued to five different stations set up in the Rillito Park Club House. Each station was manned by a RTIP student or instructor. Students learned about training and equipment, stewards and racing law, race track operations, breeding and horse sales, as well as horse wellness and aftercare. Students prepared for each of the five subject areas through pre-assigned readings and videos. An

“in-lab” worksheet and post-lab questions reinforced that the students achieved the desired learning outcomes.

In addition to learning about horse racing at Rillito, students later visited other Tucson sites including the Reid Park Zoo and Al-Marah Equine Center over the course of the semester.

A special thanks to RTIP professors Dr. Kathy Broneck and Phil O’Hara as well RTIP students MaryRuth Hodsden, Kamryn Koutras, Eric DeCoster, Hailey Shiffer, David Range and Giselle Lugo who taught at Rillito. This program could not have happened without the help of our community partners including Mike Weiss, Rillito Park’s General Manager, Dr. Ed Ackerley, Rillito Park Foundation Board Member, and Cass Dewey of Desert Oasis Rescue. They all generously volunteered their time to benefit our UArizona Animal Science students.

“The students’ experience at Rillito Park was unlike any other,” said Crista Coppola, ACBS 102L Lab Coordinator. “They spent the afternoon in the Club House where they learned from the experts about all the behind-the-scenes work that goes into making every race happen. They were ecstatic about spending their afternoon at a real racetrack!”



STUDENTS

The RTIP student body is comprised of a diverse group of individuals. Much like the make-up of the equine industry, our students come from many different backgrounds and from all regions of the country.



BEN ATKINSON
Sophomore

Home State: Arizona

Ben is entering his sophomore year at the University of Arizona majoring in Animal Sciences with the Race Track Industry Program emphasis. Growing up in Scottsdale, Ben never went to the racetracks often other than going to Del Mar every summer and visiting the beautiful track there.

With no real immediate ties to the horse racing industry, Ben became very interested in racing through these summer trips to “where the turf meets the surf.”

It was exhilarating to see the horses cross the finish line against such a spectacular backdrop. Ben did have a little push start from his Grandpa who loved the races so much, so he started to enjoy them just as much.

In the future Ben would like to pursue the business side of the industry and would love to help in managing a track someday.



MARY KARLENE CISNEROS
Sophomore

Home State: Wyoming

Mary Karlene Cisneros was born and raised in Casper, Wyoming, and grew up watching the rodeo at Central Wyoming Fairgrounds. Without a horse or even a saddle to call her own, Mary Karlene joined the military, and was eventually deployed to Panama and Kuwait.

Upon discharge, she began working as a civil servant for the Department of the Navy. While working in San Diego in 2007, she heard an advertisement for Santa Anita Park. She drove up to The Great Race Place and wished she had found paradise sooner. The Santa Anita ushers provided an education about horses, jockeys, and trainers. Trevor Denman calling the races made the crowd come alive. Clocker's Corner and studying the Daily Racing Form became a passion.

It was attending 2009 Breeders' Cup Classic, witnessing Zenyatta make history, that solidified her decision to make the racetrack her office. She is not sure whether she wants to be a pinhooker, racing steward, general manager or even the next Jimmy the Hat. She is excited about the opportunity the Race Track Industry Program will provide her to explore all of those options and contribute to an industry she is passionate about.



Watching workouts during the 2021 Breeders' Cup
(Photo: Hailey Shiffer)



ERIC DECOSTER
Sophomore

Home State: Iowa

Eric is entering his sophomore year at the University of Arizona. He has been a horse racing fan for as long as he could walk and talk. A native of West Des Moines, Iowa, Eric's earliest memories include spending weekend mornings and nights at nearby Prairie Meadows, where his love for the sport began and evolved.

Despite not having any family or friends interested in horses or horse racing, Eric took it upon himself throughout his childhood to become as educated and versed on all facets of the sport.

After moving to Arizona in 2012, Eric became interested in the RTIP in order to fulfill his dream of someday working in the Thoroughbred racing industry and decided very early on that the University of Arizona was the place he needed to be. Eric hopes to continue to grow his knowledge and make new connections within the industry through the RTIP.

Although every aspect of horse racing intrigues Eric, he hopes to one day start his own full-service bloodstock agency, specializing in sales, racehorse management, and pedigree consulting.

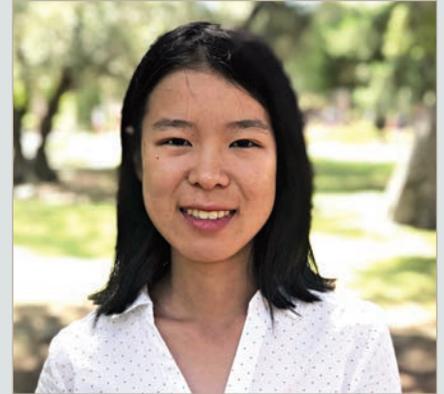


MARYRUTH HODSDÉN
Senior

Home State: Arizona

MaryRuth was born and raised in Queen Creek, Arizona, a small city outside of Phoenix. Having been raised around horses, MaryRuth always knew she wanted to have a career in the equine field but she never felt she had found her niche until she came across the RTIP during her first year at the University of Arizona. She has been a fan of horse racing since she was eight years old when she saw her first Kentucky Derby on television. At the age of twelve, her love for horse racing was solidified during a trip to Turf Paradise to watch the Cotton Fitzsimmons Mile.

MaryRuth is currently on the equine path in the RTIP. She began her career as a microbiology major before declaring her degree path in the RTIP. This past summer, she completed her internship at Wyoming Downs Racetrack. She spent most of her time on the backside in the barns with various trainers working as a race groom. She also worked maintaining the track paddock and did various other jobs with just about every department at the track. After graduation this spring she is headed to Versailles, Kentucky to pursue a job at Lane's End farm to begin her path to becoming the head of a breeding barn.



SHINOBI HORIKAWA
Senior

Home State: Arizona

Shinobi is currently pursuing a double major in Animal Sciences with two areas of emphasis – Race Track Industry Program and agricultural education with a teaching emphasis. Outside of her studies, Shinobi is a member of the University of Arizona's equestrian team and volunteers with the National FFA Organization at both the state and local level.

She became interested in horses when her sister took lessons at a therapeutic equestrian center. This prompted Shinobi to take horseback riding lessons, after which her interest in horses grew.

After graduation, she plans to pursue a career as a high school teacher and run an education program that addresses all agricultural industries. Shinobi is pursuing a double major because she believes the RTIP allows her to gain further experience in Animal Science and business. This additional knowledge will make her a more well-rounded agriculture teacher. She hopes to use her experiences in the RTIP to educate high school students about horse racing and introduce them to career opportunities within the industry they might not otherwise have known about.



KAMRYN KOUTRAS
Junior

Home State: New Jersey

Kamryn graduated from Robbinsville High School in the small town by the same name in 2018. She originally wanted to pursue becoming a large animal veterinary technician. After attending the University of Arizona and having her eyes opened to the various fields in Animal Science, Kamryn realized that she wanted to pursue a career in the equine industry.

Kamryn changed majors from equine science to Race Track Industry Program in the fall of 2019 after she took the Introduction to the Race Track Industry class. After meeting the amazing students and staff that are a part of the RTIP, she knew that she had found her home. In the spring of 2020, Kamryn interned at the local race track in Tucson, Rillito Park. There, she functioned as a veterinary assistant and a Field Safety Steward's Aide.

Kamryn is very proud to have been Teacher's Assistant in a horse training and management class at the University of Arizona in the spring of 2020. She also had the opportunity to conduct an independent study project at the Al-Marah Equine Center where she will be focusing on learning about equine reproduction and breeding.



GISELLE LUGO
Senior

Home State: Arizona

Giselle had an admiration for animals of all kinds, especially horses. For the longest time, she wanted to be a veterinarian, specializing in either equine or exotic animals. After working as a veterinary assistant at a few veterinary hospitals in Las Vegas while going to college, she realized that her plans for her future career were changing.

Giselle obtained her Associate of Science degree at the College of Southern Nevada last May. During her last year, she realized she wanted to fully work with horses after volunteering much of her time with Horses4Heroes. After doing extensive research on the Race Track Industry Program, Giselle knew that's where she wanted to continue her education into the equine world. Having always taken an interest in Thoroughbred racing, this was one of the easiest decisions Giselle made in her educational career.

During her time in the RTIP, Giselle expanded her equine knowledge and networked within the industry. With that experience she hopes to have the luxury of deciding whether she wants to train or manage a breeding farm of her own Thoroughbreds.



BRETT POZNIAK
Sophomore

Home State: New York

Brett was born in Amsterdam, New York. Saratoga Race Course is approximately 30 minutes from my hometown. He remembers being a young child and asking the jockeys at Saratoga for their autographs. One time he was waiting for the jockeys and a lady came out of nowhere and she asked him if he wanted a picture with a jockey and he said yes. Before Brett knew it, he was taking a picture with Angel Cordero Jr. and was in shock. A month later the picture magically appeared at his parents house!

Brett is involved with seven different partnership operations and owns pieces of 20 different race horses. One of Brett's horses raced in a Grade 1 stakes race with a \$1,000,000 purse. He would love to learn how to breed and train horses.

Working on the racetrack has always been Brett's dream – one that he is following as a Race Track Industry Program student.

Peer-to-Peer Mentoring

First-year RTIP'ers often meet with returning students who pass along their experiences and wisdom on "how to get the most out of the Program." Informal gatherings at the local OTB, backyard BBQs, hanging out by the pool, or down the street at Gentle Ben's are just a few ways students pass along knowledge and create new, shared experiences.



DAVID RANGE
Senior

Home State: Colorado

David, a native of Parker, Colorado, was not exposed to the world of horse racing until a trip to Arapahoe Park in his mid-twenties. The competition and the spirit of the Thoroughbred enthralled him. After that glimpse of the world of horse racing, the rest, as they say, is "history". However, it took a Colorado bred named Get Happy Mister to truly capture his imagination and inspire him to enroll in the RTIP.

David spent summer 2021 working at the TRPB in Fair Hill, Maryland gaining experience in the wagering integrity division. He spent the summer learning about Variance Reports, Cyclical Odds Reports and Racetrack Manager, which he used to assist in wagering investigations. David also spent a portion of his summer at Pimlico, Delaware Park and Penn National where he was able to see how racetracks operate, as well as spend time with the stewards observing how the sport is regulated.

A passion for the Thoroughbred athlete fuels David's desire to work in the racing industry, but he also wants to share that passion with others. He plans to pursue a racing club to bring new owners to the sport. He also seeks involvement with helping Thoroughbreds find second careers after racing.



MICHAEL SANDULLI
Junior

Home State: Connecticut

Michael hails from Southington, Connecticut and he is a generational fan. His grandparents owned Thoroughbreds and as such he feels a strong connection to the sport of horse racing. He believes that he wouldn't be the person he is without it. Horse racing isn't all that his life has been though. Michael played baseball from the age of five until his high school graduation, consistently rating as a top pitcher in his region. However, horse racing is his true calling. It's a career that he could envision, even when he was a freshman in the Race Track Industry Program.

Michael's goal is to follow in the esteemed footsteps of RTIP alums Bob Baffert and Todd Pletcher, given their successes with horses of all ages, overseas, and in the Triple Crown. This goal is what drives him to be the best that he can be. During the previous two summers, he worked in the Shug McGaughey barn as a hotwalker and part-time groom. Michael believes one would be hard pressed to find a more personable, likable, and talented trainer than Shug. During those two summers, Shug passed on a wealth of knowledge and advice to Michael for which he is incredibly grateful.



CHANEY SEAY
Sophomore

Home State: Virginia

Chaney did not grow up familiar with the racing side of the equine industry. She was involved in riding and showing hunter/jumper horses for several years while in Florida. Her family is not a horse family per say. Other than her mother tagging along to competitions, only her grandfather had any experience with horses. He worked with standardbreds and would often tell Chaney stories of working on the farm. When she told him of her decision to follow an equine career path, he was excited at her prospects.

The oldest memory she has of racing is of Animal Kingdom winning the 2011 Derby. However, it wasn't until 2014 that her interest in horse racing started to grow. She attributes the true reason for her interest in racing to Union Rags and his progeny. A first-year transfer student, Chaney did extensive research into the RTIP and the racing industry, concluding that her future career happiness was contingent on coming to Arizona. So she did! She enjoys the idea of analyzing horse's conformation and pedigree to estimate their value. Therefore, her ultimate career goal is to become a bloodstock agent. Who knows, maybe she'll even buy a Union Rags offspring of her own!

A Strong Alumni Network

The relationships formed by students while in the Program are a true testament to the tight-knit community of the RTIP. Our alumni can be found in every aspect of racing – hiring and being hired by each other, coming back to mentor and share their knowledge with current students, or just hanging out at the track together.



HAILEY SHIFFER
Junior

Home State: California

Hailey grew up on the Central Coast of California. She got her first horse when she was 5 years old and has been riding ever since. She competes mainly in barrel racing but has dabbled in reining, roping, western pleasure, and even dressage.

She fell in love with horse racing while watching Zenyatta win the 2009 Breeders' Cup Classic. She was instantly hooked and followed Zenyatta for the rest of her career. Her pursuit of horse racing led her to meet some people involved in the industry.

She worked a breeding season at Ed Allred's Rolling A Ranch before being hired on at Checkmate Thoroughbreds where she worked sales prepping horses for the Fasig Tipton, CTBA, and Keeneland sales. With Checkmate, she also worked as a showman for a couple sales. She spent the summer of 2021 interning at Lane's End Farm working with the yearling crop sales prepping them for the summer and fall sales.

Hailey discovered the RTIP on a trip with her dad to Santa Anita Park. From that moment on, she pursued her dream of attending the University of Arizona to help her expand her knowledge of the racing industry. Hailey's career goal is to be a bloodstock agent or work on the breeding side of the industry.



SOPHIA WARDOUR
Sophomore

Home State: Wisconsin

Sophia was born and raised in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, a small town with a very close community. She competed in soccer throughout high school, which was a huge part of her family, and also developed a passion for tennis. But outside of sports that involve teams, uniforms, contracts, and a ball of some sort, Sophia was interested in rodeos. At the age of 8 she started riding horses with a family friend and started competing in barrel races with her shortly after. Her favorite horse was "Munchie" and the two of them became a winning team, representing titles for the state of Wisconsin.

Rodeo life taught Sophia many important life lessons: everyone is there to support one another, there is always room for improvement, and the only person you are truly competing with is yourself. Those life lessons have stuck with her to this day.

As Sophia's passion for horses grew, she became interested in the UArizona Race Track Industry Program, specifically Race Track Media and Marketing, and Management. She aspires to be involved with decisions affecting the jockeys and the equine athletes.

She feels she will excel at this career as she takes pride in her work and in the horseman's life.



Alex Sausville receives a \$5,000 scholarship award from Xpressbet/Race for Education at the 2019 conference

STUDENT AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE 2019 GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM ON RACING



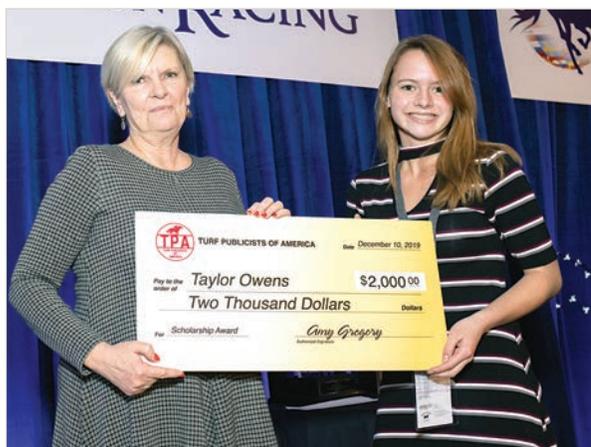
RTIP Distinguished Student Award presented to Abel Zander



Above: RTIP Distinguished Student Award presented by Wendy Davis to Alex Sausville

The Distinguished Student Award is given to the RTIP student who the faculty feels best embodies the qualities and performance that represent the goal of the Program – to bridge education with opportunity. The award recognizes academic and personal growth achievement.

Abel Zander and Alex Sausville shared the honor in 2019.



Taylor Owens receives a \$2,000 scholarship award from the Turf Publicists of America

PROGRAM SUPPORT THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS GROWS

Established RTIP scholarships include:

- Odds On Racing Scholarship
- Xpressbet/Race for Education Scholarship
- The Jockey Club John K. “Jack” Goodman Scholarship
- Turf Publicists of America Scholarship
- Dave Johnson & William “Bill” Fisher Scholarship Award
- The Liz Bracken Endowed Memorial Scholarship
- The Liz Bracken Memorial Scholarship
- Joseph Joyce, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
- Bob Umphrey Memorial Scholarship
- Hope Jones Scholarship
- Kieckhefer Scholarship
- Outlaw Inn Scholarship
- Harry M. Stevens Scholarship
- Vessels Scholarship

THE ABC'S FROM BREEDING TO SALE

The Al-Marrah Equine Center, situated at the foot of the Catalina Mountains on Tucson's east side, is the home to the horses used in all hands-on courses in ACBS. Students enrolled in the RTIP get real-life experience in many aspects of the horse industry. In ACBS 272, they learn the basics of handling horses safely and communicating with the horse under saddle. With ACBS 271 and 273 students are responsible for training weanling and yearling horses, taking the horses bred and born into the program and teaching the basics of haltering, leading, and culminating in completing an obstacle course in-hand and saddling and bridling

horses destined for the performance ring or race track.

The finale of the hands-on Equine courses is ACBS 371. In this class, students oversee and evaluate exercise programs and diets for the horses that students present to the public for sale at the annual Arizona Thoroughbred Breeder's Association. Students also thoroughly evaluate desirable conformation of performance and race horses, and how to best show their horses to clients. Students travel to the sale grounds and spend three days showing the horses to clients in-person, interacting and networking with industry professionals.

This past fall, RTIP student Hailey Shiffer joined students from the Equine Science program in showing a large group of yearling Thoroughbreds after not being able to travel to the sale in 2020 due to the global pandemic. The ATBA was glad to have our students back on site! The horses prepped and shown were donated in 2020 by Ballena Vista out of California and included offspring of I'll Have Another and Texas Ryano. The students were busy, showing to a large group of sale participants and clients.
— Kacee Richardson, Al-Marrah Farm Manager



Hailey shows one of the yearlings to a prospective buyer at the sale



MaryRuth sets up a horse for a sales photo



Al-Marrah Equine Center, Tucson, Arizona

HANDS-ON



Chaney giving Diva a well-earned bath



MaryRuth hotwalking Diva

HAILEY SHIFFER – FINALLY SEEING IT THROUGH

This year I got to attend the 2021 Arizona Thoroughbred Breeders Association Sale. We spent three days at the Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Center. The consignment had 5 yearlings, one 2-year-old, and 2 broodmares. We have been working with the yearlings since mid-August in the Sales Prep and Management Class. It is always a neat experience to see them grow and mature from when we start working with them until sale time.

Each day started off early beating the sun to the grounds. Feeding and cleaning stalls were the first tasks of the day. Then we bathed each of the horses to make sure they didn't have excessive dust and dirt in their coats. Then after they dried, they would be groomed with manes brushed and banded so they looked their best for potential buyers. Buyers would come and walk the barn and ask to see horses out. Horses would be given a quick clean up then taken out to be shown.

Having previous experience working the sales in California, it was interesting to see how the shows are run in Arizona. It was a great experience to have under my belt since I want to sales prep, buy/sell, and consign racehorses.

Last year, I worked with a yearling filly MaryRuth and I gave the barn name of Diva. We were unable to take her to the 2020 ATBA Sale due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This year I got to see it through and escort her to the show ring as a two-year-old. Taking Diva down and watching her go through the ring was a bittersweet moment for me. I wish her new owners the best of luck in whatever career path they choose for her.

It takes a village to prepare horses for a sale. I loved every minute of it! I look forward to keeping track of the horses and seeing them go onto their future careers! — Hailey Shiffer



Hailey works Savvy at Al-Marrah

The Thoroughbreds foaled at the University of Arizona Al-Marrah Equine Center don't have a long wait to "get enrolled" in college courses. They are an integral part of the hands-on classes offered at the University and a favorite part of the curriculum that makes up the RTIP equine management path. Some students have been a part of the entire process from breeding and foaling out the mare, training her foal as it grows up, taking it through the yearling sale, to watching it compete at the track.

2021 BREEDERS' CUP



RTIP students represent during Breeders' Cup



Gisele Lugo chats with Arizona Down's General Manager Michael Weiss

This year, RTIP students attended the 2021 Breeders' Cup World Championships at Del Mar. During two of racing's biggest days, they helped out by working the new Contender Cam feature.

Each member was given a camera for a designated post position and was assigned to follow the horses in the paddock. This allowed viewers on the app to select a certain horse to watch up close while they were in the paddock. After the horses exited the paddock, the students then went to where the horse's owners were viewing the race to film winning reactions.

The Breeders' Cup Contender Cam gave them an up close and personal experience with each of the horses and their connections throughout the event. Some students even got to reconnect with co-workers from their summer internships.



Michael Sandulli works the new Breeders' Cup Contender Cam

"Getting up close and personal with the horses and viewing the races from the owners perspective was a very thrilling experience."
— Hailey Shiffer



"Working at the Breeders' Cup was a racing fan's dream come true!" — MaryRuth Hodsdon

TVG FEATURES RTIP STUDENT DURING BREEDERS' CUP WEEK



Hailey Shiffer speaks with TVG host/reporter Joaquin Jaime

Hailey Shiffer had an opportunity to show off her media skills training during her first nationally televised interview. Hailey spoke about watching Zenyatta win the Breeders' Cup Classic and how that motivated her to seek out a career in the racing industry.

The RTIP recognizes the importance of these hands-on opportunities for students to put their skills into practice. Great job Hailey!



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF RTIP “MOM” BETTY PREWITT

It was with incredible sadness that the RTIP family learned of Betty Prewitt’s passing due to complications from COVID-19 in January 2021. To say she was an institution at the RTIP doesn’t do justice to all that she meant to the faculty, the students, and the industry.

She oversaw all of the administrative duties of the RTIP and the Symposium, taking both from the age of the typewriter – with all correspondence being in written form and delivered by the USPS, through the crazy new technology of the fax machine right into the all-digital world. Betty’s long tenure at the University of Arizona was a godsend for the Program; she knew someone in every department and at every level. She knew how every system within the university’s bureaucracy worked and who to go to first to get the answers that were needed. From the University of Arizona Foundation to the motor pool, Betty could “hook you up.”

For students, Betty was often their first point of contact with the Program. She relished the role she often played as the “Mom” for those who were far from home, many for the first time.

The number of students whose careers at the Program were supported by casual conversations in her office are far too many to count. She was very approachable; students often felt more comfortable asking questions about the Program, academics or industry contacts with her than a faculty member. On a personal level, she kept in contact with a great number of students long after their graduation. It gave her great pleasure to share in the joy of their weddings, new babies, career promotions and other great life events. She was also there for some who reached out during some not-so-happy times.

From the fall semester of 1993, Betty was an integral part of the Program. Her contributions to the Program will be felt long into the future and her personal relationships with so many in the racing industry will be treasured for a lifetime.

—Wendy Davis



The birthday Queen on her 70th

TWO SCHOLARSHIPS HONOR RTIP’S LIZ BRACKEN



Liz Bracken at the White Stallion Ranch in 2018

The overwhelming outpouring of generosity and support to honor the memory of Race Track Industry Program’s Associate Coordinator Liz Bracken has generated two scholarships named in her honor.

The Liz Bracken Endowed Memorial Scholarship was started by family, friends, and co-workers to honor her legacy and provide scholarships to future generations of RTIP students. Liz graduated from the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program in 1990, and her name will now be indelibly linked with her alma mater.

A second scholarship, the Liz Bracken Memorial Scholarship, was funded by the New York Racing Association (NYRA). Liz was an integral part of the NYRA team, working in the simulcasting department for 16 years. Liz started as simulcast coordinator and work her way up to the vice president of simulcasting. Prior to joining NYRA, Liz worked as a racing official in various jurisdictions. She held the positions of Assistant Racing Secretary, Stakes Coordinator, and Placing Judge working at Rockingham Park, New Orleans Fair Grounds, Hialeah Park, Suffolk Downs and Tampa Bay Downs.

The Race Track Industry Program wishes to thank all of the donors who have made these two scholarships possible. It is the first time in RTIP history that two scholarships were named for a single individual.

Additional donations can be made in Liz’s honor by visiting give.uafoundation.org and typing Liz Bracken in the search field.



(Photo: Hugh Anderson)

Taylor Owens (Left) and trainees with jockey William Buick after his win on Godolphin horse Zakouski in the Ben Marshall Stakes at Newmarket Racecourse



Taylor Owens and fellow trainees Jessica Daw and Margaux Herinckx outside the paddock at Longchamp Race Course

RTIP GRAD TAYLOR OWENS' JOURNEY WITH GODOLPHIN FLYING START

I applied to the Godolphin Flying Start program in January 2021 after graduating from the Race Track Industry Program in December 2020. Godolphin Flying Start is a fully-paid, two year full-time management training program that takes twelve trainees to six different countries.

I began in Ireland at Kildangan Stud in mid-August. Working alongside Kildangan's staff learning to break Godolphin's home-bred yearlings while attending afternoon lectures, visits to studs, and completing an Equine Anatomy and Physiology course at UCD. I have the opportunity to see the world's best horse racing,

including Irish Champions weekend at the Curragh and Leopardstown racecourses, as well as attending Longchamp in Paris, France for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

I have been in Newmarket, England since the beginning of November – I was able to use my new contacts to engage with Roger O'Callaghan of Tally-Ho Stud and shadow him at the Tattersall's mare and foal sale.

Our program has also launched the *Leading to Success* podcast, which has been a very rewarding experience. —Taylor Owens

“RTIP set me up with the tools for success. It gave me a great foundation of knowledge of the racing industry, connected me with so many people, and helped me maximize my potential. RTIP played a key role in preparing me for one of the twelve available spots in Goldolphin Flying Start.”



Taylor breaking a colt by Mastercraftsman
(Photo: Chris Moore)

THANK YOU TO THE RTIP ADVISORY COUNCIL

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PUBLISHED BY:

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Photo courtesy of Hailey Shiffer