

SUMMARY

Xiaoxue Zhao, Class of 2008

Under the 2006 SRO summer program, I worked with Professor Jonathan Koppell on a unique project examining the design and administration of global governance organizations. The objective of the project is to understand how these organizations work, why this is the case and the substantive implications of this reality.

As part of the program, I have assisted professor Koppell with the qualitative part of the project through building and updating a database, which aims to identify the relationship between an organization's structural features and its governance outcomes. During the eight weeks of the program, I have done extensive research on two very different international organizations: the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The centerpiece of my work is to produce an instrument that gathers all the necessary information needed to code the organizations on a set of approximately 100 variables regarding their structures and processes. I am also responsible to comment on any irregularities and controversies on the organization governance and produce a current issue summary on each organization.

The SRO summer program has been a very valuable experience for me. It gives me an opportunity to learn about and work on a project that I take great interest in. More importantly, it exposes me to many important methods of systematic research which will surely be very useful for my future studies and research. I enjoyed this program very much, and the experience of working with SRO has confirmed my intention to do research work as my future career.