



Institute for Public Service  
College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

**MSU Denver:**

An Anchor Institution for Public Service



## MSU Denver Roadrunners Are

**58%**

First Generation

**50.3%**

Students of Color

**33.3%**

Latino/a/x

**80%**

Working Adults

**95%**

From Colorado

**30%**

Pell Grant Eligible

**5%**

Military & Veteran

## Why public service at MSU Denver?

A strong democracy depends on diverse representation in the public-service sector, where decisions are made in the public interest.

**MSU Denver students ARE the new generation of talented individuals providing narratives reflective of our country's underserved and historically minoritized populations.**

MSU Denver Public Service Institute provides a public-service curriculum; coursework; high-profile speakers and guest instructors; significant public events, and paid internships for our students in a variety of sectors through individual or cohort-based programming. The aim is to have representation at the local, state, and national levels.



"This experience has just made me more excited, given me more confidence and drive to continue on this path."

**- James Vargas, Political Science and History student  
Presidential Intern in Public Service**

"I think that representation is really important, so that's why I'm so driven to work in public service. I want to be a voice for the Hispanic community, immigrant community and, of course, women."

**- Jackie Alderete Urena, first-generation student,  
Political Science major, Presidential Intern in Public Service**

# 2022 in Review

The internship program **created opportunities for 26 students** to experience firsthand the value of service and be exposed to high profile public servants.

"By funding these internships, we are removing barriers to public-service opportunities that are often out of reach for so many students. This is about strengthening our democracy by diversifying the public-sector pipeline so that those who make decisions in the public interest are representative of those they serve. I am so proud of our first cohorts of students. They are remarkably talented and motivated, and I know their experiences were transformational."

- Janine Davidson, Ph.D, President of MSU Denver



Dr. Fiona Hill with President Davidson during Hill's visit to campus in March.

## January 2022

The first Hart Center Forum on Public Service featured former Senator Gary Hart; Dr. Janine Davidson, President of MSU Denver; U.S. Senator Michael Bennet; the Honorable Federico Peña, former mayor of Denver, and Secretary of both Transportation and Energy; and Rebecca Love Kourlis, former Colorado State Supreme Court Justice.

## March 2022

The Hart Center for Public Service and the MSU Denver Presidential Speaker Series co-presented a discussion with Dr. Fiona Hill to discuss her life in public service as a senior national security advisor to multiple presidents.

## January – August 2022

26 students engaged in paid internships in offices and organizations such as U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper, U.S. Representative Diana DeGette, Denver Police Department, and Make-a-Wish Colorado. The internship program created opportunities for students to experience first-hand the value of service and to be exposed to high profile public servants.

## April 2022

The Hart Center for Public Service Board of Directors decided to merge the work of the Center into the University. Planning began for a new MSU Denver Institute for Public Service, building upon the accomplishments of the Hart Center, that will launch in 2023.

## October – November 2022

Solution Studio was created as a place where candidates for Governor and U.S. Senate could "audition" – one at a time – on the strength of their solutions to issues most important to students and young Coloradans, not on the cleverness of their soundbites, before a panel of four students. The panel videos were recorded and produced by MSU Denver students.

To watch the Solution Studio videos, visit:

[msudenver.edu/institute-for-public-service/the-solution-studio/](https://msudenver.edu/institute-for-public-service/the-solution-studio/)

## January 2023

The MSU Denver Institute for Public Service will launch with the announcement of the inaugural director. Stay tuned! And thank you for making this possible.



Students participated in a panel for the Solution Studio to ask pressing questions to Colorado political candidates ahead of November's elections.

### Funding Opportunities

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