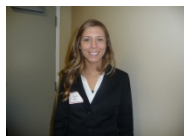


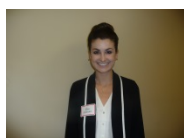
Stanford University's MS in Human Genetics and Genetic Counseling
Class of 2015



Sophie Blease is originally from Massachusetts and received her bachelor's degree in Psychology and Hispanic Language and Literature from Boston University in 2008. As an undergraduate, she was a peer counselor, conducted research in neuropsychology labs, and taught ESL in Costa Rica. She then completed a master's degree in Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics at the University of Oxford in 2010. Since graduation, she worked as a bilingual family counselor and volunteered for a parental stress line. Most recently, Sophie is living in San Francisco working as a bilingual genetic counselor assistant at UCSF's Cancer Risk Program.



Della Bro is from Wisconsin and completed her bachelor's degree in Biology and Spanish at Gustavus Adolphus College in 2012. As an undergraduate student, she shadowed health care professionals as part of three study abroad experiences. Her experiences working with disabled youth and literature review of cross-cultural perceptions of disability inspired her to pursue genetic counseling. Since graduating, Della has been working as a domestic abuse advocate and provides bilingual supportive counseling at the Tubman Center, providing services in English and Spanish.



Elise Calonico is from Los Angeles, where she received her bachelor's degree in Psychobiology and a minor in Society and Genetics from UCLA in 2012. As an undergraduate, she was a case manager for the AIDS Project LA and a research assistant for the UCLA Children's Comfort Care Program as well as the Deaf Genetics Newborn Hearing Screening Project. She gained exposure to genetic counseling through attending genetics workshops and case conferences at UCLA. Elise is currently a clinical research assistant for Kaiser Permanente's Cancer Clinical Trials Access Program.



Ping Gong is originally from China and completed her bachelor's degree in General Biology at UCSD in December 2012. She shadowed genetic counselors at the UCSD Medical Center and attended NSGC's Annual Education Conference in 2012. Ping was an undergraduate researcher in molecular genetics and diabetes research. She also served as a TA and peer advisor at UCSD, tutored ESL for local and international students, and was a volunteer domestic violence counselor.



Rebecca Luiten is from Arizona and will complete her bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Molecular and Cellular Biology at the University of Arizona in May 2013. She shadowed genetic counselors at the University of Arizona's Cancer Center and conducted follow-up surveys with patients enrolled in a Susan G. Komen breast cancer risk screening project. Additionally, Rebecca was a molecular biology lab assistant and volunteered to work with patients in her community through the Ronald McDonald House.



Alexandra (Allie) Newhall is from Minnesota and will complete her bachelor's degree in Genetics, Cell Biology, and Development at the University of Minnesota in May 2013. As an undergraduate, she was a TA for a counseling skills course, taught basic Spanish to young children, and volunteered as a sexual assault counselor and legal advocate. Allie served as a research assistant for the genetic counseling graduate program at the University of Minnesota where she developed a curriculum for a pre-genetic counseling undergraduate major. Most recently, she worked at the Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Center shadowing genetic counselors and conducting research for the NSGC Billing and Reimbursement work group.



Richard Jason (RJ) Okamura is originally from San Francisco and received his bachelor's degree in Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics from UCLA in 2012. RJ gained exposure to genetic counseling by shadowing at Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation and Kaiser Permanente San Francisco. As an undergraduate, he served as an RA and the Director of External Affairs for Swipes for the Homeless (UCLA), assisted the local Asian and Pacific Islander community through health screenings, and tutored peers in statistics. Currently, RJ tutors local high school students in algebra and volunteers at the Homeless Prenatal Program in San Francisco.