



**Name:** Amy Y. Wong

**Josef Korbel School Degree Program:** MA [International Security](#), 2012

**Undergraduate Institution/Major:** Wellesley College, BA Biological Sciences and German Language & Literature

**Tell Us About Yourself:**

I'm originally from San Francisco, the beautiful city by the bay. I attended Wellesley College for undergrad, where I double-majored in biology and German. I also studied abroad during my junior year in Vienna, Austria. After graduation, I worked for about two years with the World Affairs Council of Northern California and then returned to Vienna as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Vienna. When I came back to the States, neither the economy nor the job market was as welcoming as I would have liked, so I completed a Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University while preparing for and applying to graduate school.

**What brought you to the Josef Korbel School?**

I wanted a professional school with a strong reputation in international security. I was accepted to other prestigious [APSIA](#) institutions in D.C. and on the East Coast, but I ultimately decided on Korbel because of its location outside of the Beltway and the flexibility of its program.

**Internship Site:** U.S. Department of State, [Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs](#); Center for International Security Policy Research ([CISPR](#))

**Intern Title:** Priority Intern; Consultant

**How did you obtain your Internship?**

Ambassador-in-Residence Roger Pierce nominated me as an alternate priority State intern. A graduating second year recommended me to her supervisor that I take her place as an intern with CISPR.

**Main responsibilities:**

At the State Department, I prepared background briefs and drafted talking points for senior officials. With CISPR, I researched case studies related to cascading failures of the electrical grid.

**What's the most important lesson you learned during your internship?**

The most important lessons I learned were flexibility, prioritization, and networking.

**What are your career goals?**

Ideally, I'd like to begin my career in public service as a special agent for a federal law enforcement agency and then transition into the Foreign Service on the consular track with the State Department. My academic focus here at Korbel is transnational organized crime (TOC), and I'm interested in seeing the enforcement and investigative approach as well as policy and programs perspective toward combating TOC.

Sarah Crozier, MA Candidate, International Development  
Josef Korbel School of International Studies