At the Ash Center, students are front and center

SNAPSHOT

Reach: In an average year, one in ten HKS students receives support through the Ash Center.

Impact: Through our experiential learning opportunities, students not only gain invaluable field experience but build pathways to new careers.

Research and Learning: Working with over four dozen faculty affiliates, students have the opportunity to contribute to groundbreaking research projects.

Student Support

The Ash Center and its faculty are committed to enriching the educational experience for students at the Kennedy School. In addition to teaching degree courses, our faculty regularly advise and engage with students from the time they arrive on campus for orientation through graduation and beyond. The Ash Center is proud to support students with tuition assistance and a host of co-curricular opportunities, including funding for student-led events and initiatives, research and applied learning experiences, study groups, and more.
Students are at the core of what the Ash Center is all about. Some of my closest research collaborators have been those whom I’ve had the opportunity to teach in class.

TONY SAICH Daewoo Professor of International Affairs  
Director of the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation

Student Initiatives and Independent Study

The Center supports student-led events, conferences, and other initiatives that offer applied learning opportunities. Periodically, the Center awards research grants to HKS students for independent research projects, with preference given to projects involving Ash Center faculty.

Finding a PAE/SYPA Client

Through our network of practitioners, the Ash Center’s faculty and research programs can help students connect with organizations working on antiracism, Asia public policy, democratic governance, Indigenous governance, government innovation, and more to serve as clients for a Policy Analysis Exercises (PAE) or Second Year Policy Analyses (SYPA).

PAE/SYPA Research Grants

The Center provides research grants to HKS students working on their PAE or SYPA. First priority is given to projects advised by Ash Center affiliated faculty as well as those related to the Center’s research agenda.

Research Assistants and Student Writers

Students engage with Ash Center-affiliated faculty and research programs as research, course, and teaching assistants working on a wide variety of topics. The Center also engages students as writers/researchers for the Center’s online publications such as Data-Smart City Solutions. For details, contact faculty/faculty assistants or research program staff directly.

Study Groups and Workshops

The Ash Center regularly supports a number of not-for-credit study groups and workshops for interested HKS, Harvard, and other Boston-area students to work and learn from practitioners and scholars affiliated with the Center. Most study groups and workshops are convened by fellows with varied backgrounds as political practitioners, policy advocates, technologists, and academics who are interested in sharing their real-world experiences.