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Jared M. Rhoads

Graduate Student BRI Leader

Founder, Healthpolicy.tv

Greetings!

January 20, 2015

My name is Jared Rhoads, and I'm the BRI Student Leader for the newly-formed Dartmouth Chapter at the Geisel School of Medicine in Hanover, NH. I'd like to thank you for your interest in BRI, and for your support of its programs and mission.

I'm not the typical BRI Student Leader - if there even is such a thing as a typical leader among this diverse group of talented individuals. For starters, I am a graduate school returnee, having spent ten years gaining practical experience in research, consulting, and policy analysis in the healthcare industry. Moreover, I am not a medical student. I'm a graduate student in the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program run by the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, which is part of the medical school.

Nevertheless, I can report with assurance that the BRI message is just as needed in the fields of public health and health policy as it is in the medical profession proper.

The view that the government not only can but should intervene in all manner of health-related issues is virtually standard in public health and academic health policy.

Students and professors alike tend to look to government as the institution to alleviate whatever threat or dysfunction is at hand, and rarely explore free-market alternatives that can offer a better, simpler solution. Markets are said to "fail." Deregulation is seen as capitulation to "Big Pharma" or other profit-making interests. Advocating individual responsibility is seen as callous. And any sort of principled, systematic change is seen as unfeasible - unless it is in the direction of single-payer.

So far, I've been fortunate enough to study under some truly excellent professors who encourage critical thinking and fact-based reasoning. Still, it is quite possible for students to go through years of training in these fields and never truly hear or grapple with free-market perspectives.

BRI helps Student Leaders host the types of events and speakers that can draw students in. This past fall we held a Code Black film screening in conjunction with the Health Policy Interest Group. It turned out to be the best-attended event of the semester. For this spring, I'm working on putting together a major health policy debate featuring nationally-known participants. If we are successful in holding one, it will be due to BRI's help with event organization, publicity, and speaker funding.

Working with BRI makes it possible for important pro-market ideas to be heard not just by the medical students on campus, but to all graduate students and even undergraduates. I'm glad to be a part of it, and you should be, too.

Thanks again for your support,



Jared M. Rhoads, Graduate Student

[Geisel School of Medicine | Dartmouth](#)

More about Jared Rhoads - HealthPolicy.tv



In addition to being an MPH student, Jared also works part-time in a research capacity for The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, and runs HealthPolicy.tv, a website that curates health policy videos from across the political spectrum. (Yes, that's Jonathan Gruber, lower right, who was uploaded to Jared's HealthPolicy.tv before he became infamous!) Jared has also appeared in BRI's Student Leader promotional videos, and is a frequent contributor to BRI's blog.

[See more](#)

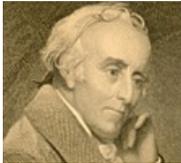
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