PIFP Mentor Profile

Name:
Ruth Domrzalski

How would you like fellows to contact you?
Phone: 505-715-1912 or Email: domrzalski9@gmail.com

CC graduation year:
2008, Philosophy/minor in Russian

Other education:
Master of Arts in Social Work, University of Chicago, 2010

Current employment position:
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Eastern Colorado Healthcare System:
- Social Worker: Acute Rehab Unit, Denver VA Medical Center
- Supervisor: Community Care Section, Social Work Service
- Coordinator: Graduate Social Work Intern Program

Experience/areas of interest:
- Health policy (I was a PIFP summer fellow at the National Conference of State Legislatures in 2008 in the Health Program, yay PIFP!)
- Medical/Hospital Social Work
- Acute Rehabilitation (for conditions such as stroke, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation)
- Geriatrics
- Mental Health/Substance Abuse treatment

Why have you chosen to work in (or support) the nonprofit sector?
While I don’t technically work in the non-profit world at the moment, social work supports the public interest in many ways. I’m the daughter of a journalist and a writer (natural storytellers). It is an amazing experience to be allowed into the stories of the veterans with whom I work on a day-to-day basis, and I am grateful for opportunity to provide some support and encouragement along their journeys.
Why have you chosen to be a PIFP mentor?
As noted above, I coordinate the graduate social work training program for the Denver VA, which is a very rewarding element of my job. I consider it a great honor/privilege/responsibility to contribute to the training and to support young professionals entering the public interest world.

What’s your favorite book or movie?
Books – most anything by Virginia Woolf or Jane Austen
Movie/Show – Tombstone, Deadwood. Currently Game of Thrones (duh)

What is something most people would be surprised to know about you?
I am a volunteer at the Molly Brown House Museum, which sometimes involves dressing in full Victorian garb to lead tours of the house. My fiancé says people would also be surprised to know that I ate congealed duck’s blood in soup on a recent trip to Thailand. Tasty!