ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



Presidential Fellowship

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Greetings from PRESIDENT WRIGHTON





Dear Presidential Fellowship Alumni, Fellows, and Friends,

Congratulations on another successful Fellowship year!

As the university continues to strengthen our academic excellence and welcomes President-elect Granberg, I recognize with gratitude the impact of the Fellows within each of their placements and their work to advance the university.

I share my very best wishes with the graduating Fellows: Emily, Skye, and Vivika. On behalf of the university, I appreciate your six years of service and contributions. You are joining a special group of double alumni whose engagement is helping to generate even greater positive momentum for our future.

The university community is proud of your accomplishments and will continue to value your support as active alumni. Thank you to all for your continued dedication to the Fellowship and the George Washington University.

Sincerely yours,

Marke & Wrighton

Mark S. Wrighton

Executive SUMMARY

The Fellowship moved to a hybrid model this year, with such activities as our community volunteer day at the GW Store, the first Lindsey Ferris Gymnastics Invitational since the pandemic (with the Ferris family in attendance), sessions with GW leaders and the Fall Alumni Reception held in person, and the regularly scheduled meetings and Spring Training Day, remaining virtual. This year also marked the second year that the program was paused to continue the assessment process launched by the Provost's Office. There is good indication from on-going conversations with the Provost's Office that the program will continue just in a different format

A significant highlight for the Fellows and the Advising Team, included assisting with the launch of the Presidential Fellowship program at Guilford College, where PAF Alumnus Kyle Farmbry serves as President. The Advising Team met with the Guilford Program Coordinator and liberally shared information, the program guide and other collateral to help form the base to build their program. The GW Presidential Fellows met with the Guilford Fellows to share perspectives and experience in support of their first year. Fellow Skye Blanks called it: 'you are our First Year Fellows'.

Another highlight included the selection of Will Alexander, PAF Class '06 as President of the George Washington University Alumni Association. Will, who actively championed the Fellowship program this year, met with the Fellows for a dialogue around his experience, and provided advice on running a business and balancing work and family.

Despite their disappointment with the continued program pause and its influence on the recruitment and selection of a new class, the Fellows continued to provide ideas and their student voice within their respective placements and with GW leadership. A key focus was on assisting the Fellows with their preparation for life after GW and included meetings with PAF alumni with similar majors and tips and life lessons from Preceptors, Advising Team and Career Center colleagues.

Fellows, on track to graduate, have determined their post-GW plans

Core Strengths of the Presidential Fellowship:

2 YEAR PROGRAM

with a tuition grant for a full-time Master's Degree

OPPORTUNITY

to support relevant

University initiatives

CONTRIBUTE

to GW leadership and the University as student ambassadors

> Contribute **5 HOURS** per week to Fellowship

GAIN

initiatives, ambassadorship, and service

Criteria to Become a Fellow: UNDERGRADUATE GW SENIOR In good ACADEMIC AND DISCIPLINARY STANDING. Completed at least 55 CREDITS in residence at GW

experience with a GW Department

from a 20-hour per week placement

professional development skills

Earn a combined salary and stipend totaling





CURRENT FELLOWS



REPRESENTED:

SCHOOLS • Milken Institute School of Public Health - 2 • GW School of Business - 1





VIVIKA FERNES



SKYE BLANKS



EMILY LOU

The "Presidential

Internship Program"

was created by GW

President Stephen

Joel Trachtenberg

- **TIMELINE** 34 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP



The first "University Intern" was **John Davis Morris.** The program was adopted by then Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services, Dr. Robert A. Chernak. Fellow **Elizabeth Allen** created GWired Web Pages, UPD Website, and the first virtual tour of residence halls.

Fellow **Darrin Kayser** started GW's first Alumni Association. This included an alumni directory and the organization of events in New York City and Washington, D.C.

2000

Fellow **Will Alexander**

2005



Campaign GW and Sustainable GW were founded with the support and dedication of Fellows **Gina Fernandes** and **Josh Lasky**, respectively.

2008

1999

The Fellowship celebrated its 10th Anniversary.

992

The first cohort, consisting of three Fellows, moved into Building JJ.



. .

2001 The Fellows stopped

living in Building JJ.



Steven Knapp

President of the

For the first time,

Wexler, was placed

in the Office of the

a Fellow, Ellen

joined GW as

University.

President

2009

The Presidential Administrative Fellowship celebrated its 20th Anniversary.

Honey W. Nashman Center (formerly the Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service) was founded with the support of Fellows Jacqueline Hackett and Collin Stevenson, who both served on the search committee.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR CHAMPIONS - STAFF, FACULTY, ALUMNI, AND LEADERSHIP ALIKE - FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT IN MAKING THE PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIP SUCH A MEANINGFUL AND SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM FOR OVER 30 YEARS!



The Global Women's Institute The george washington university

The Global Women's Institute and Healthy GW were founded with the support of Fellows **Chelsea Ullman** and **Meredith (Barnes)** Waters, respectively.





Thomas J. LeBlanc joined the university as President of the University.

The Presidential Administrative Fellowship name was changed to the Presidential Fellowship.





The Fellowship celebrated its 30th Anniversary.



President Mark S. Wrighton joined the university in January 2022. Fellows formally introduced themselves and the program to President Wrighton in March 2022.

2022

2011

PAF-isms were PAFirst created by PAF Class of 2011, and often cited by GW PAFamily member President **Steven Knapp** after he was asked to join Fellows in a PAFoto. Other words include PAFun, PAFail, PAFone and PAFriend.

2013

Fellow Lauren (Shenfield) Baker assisted the Textile Museum in its transition to the George Washington University Museum and the Textile Museum, now located on campus.



2018

The Presidential Fellowship program moved from the Division of Student Affairs to Center for Career Services and Enrollment and Student Success.



2021-2022

GW commemorates the University's Bicentennial Year; Fellows celebrate at the Bicentennial Commencement Ceremony and Monumental Alumni Dinner.



2022-2023

Program paused for assessment by the Office of the Provost (2 years)

Over the course of this time, the following departments worked with, and for, the Fellows on a day-to-day basis, providing guidance, mentorship, and/or program coordination, as well as strategic planning, in order to ensure the continual achievement of the Fellows and of the program:

Board of Trustees Office, Career Center and the Career Services Council, CCAS Advising, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Athletics, Department of Computer Science, Development and Alumni Relations, Division of Safety and Facilities, Division for Student Affairs, Elliott School of International Affairs, Events & Venues, Human Resource Management and Development, Milken Institute School of Public Health, Multicultural Student Services Center, Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service, Office of Business Services, Office of Campus Living and Residential Education, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement, Office of Graduate Assistantships and Fellowships, Office of Student Life, Office of Student Success, President's Office, Provost's Office, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and all countless contributors who made us who we are today!

Meet the **FELLOWSHIP**

AMBASSADORIAL ACTIVITIES



One of the main pillars of the Presidential Fellowship program is the ambassadorship to the university by the fellows. Ambassadorship has included participating in University-wide committee initiatives, student group events and initiatives, Leadership to Leadership dinners with the Board of Trustees, strategic planning task force, President's greeting venues for students and parents, onboarding new University leadership, and providing the student perspective on research, projects, and related activities for placement departments.

This year Skye, Emily, and Vivika started the fall semester by volunteering at the Raise Up Community Fair which helps introduce new students and families to the Raise Up GW initiative. This event is an opportunity to engage with offices and units representing the eight dimensions of well-being: physical, cultural, financial, spiritual, intellectual, environmental, emotional and social well-being.



Volunteer day at GW's food pantry, The Store

CONTRIBUTE to GW leadership

and the University as student ambassadors The opportunity to continue to serve the University and the wider DC community directly, as a part of our six-year history, has allowed us to create a greater impact.
 Skye Blanks



Milken Institute School of Public Health's 25th Anniversary Celebration

The fellows also had the opportunity to attend the first post-pandemic Lindsey Ferris Invitational Gymnastics Meet where they met the late PAF Alum, Lindsey Ferris' parents. Other events included meeting the GW Alumni Association President and PAF Alum Will Alexander at the PAF Alumni Reception as well as attending the Milken Institute School of Public Health's 25th Anniversary Celebration and volunteering at the GW Campus Store. The fellows hope to continue serving the University in multiple or diverse ways after graduation.

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

The Fellows participated in various virtual activities throughout the year and the Fellowship was honored to host a number of guest speakers, including Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs Suresh Subramaniam, Vice Provost of Enrollment and Student Success Jay Goff, Vice President, Chief of Staff to the President, Secretary of the University Aristide Collins, Assistant Vice President of University Resilience Katie Fox, Assistant Professor of Clinical Research and Leadership Dr. Robert Turner, Deputy Chair of the Department of Management Dr. Ayman El Tarabishy, and other Fellowship stakeholders. Other highlights include:



MEET AND GREET WITH PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWS FROM GUILFORD COLLEGE

PAF Alumni Kyle Farmbry, ESIA BA '92, TSPPPA MPA '94, currently serves as President of Guilford College and launched a Presidential Fellowship program this year. The current Guilford and GW Fellows met virtually several times to discuss their experiences and roles as ambassadors throughout their undergraduate and graduate programs.

SPRING TRAINING SESSION PAF ALUMNI PANEL

Alumni panelists represented each of the majors of the Fellows and provided ideas and tips around different career paths and life and work balance issues. (*At right, clockwise, from top left*)

- Shakir Cannon-Moye, MBA '12, Director, Jobs for the Future/Fellow, Material Change Institute
- Elizabeth Barnett Glidden, MPH '13, Program Assistant, USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance
- Titilola Harley, MBA '09, Senior Program Officer -K-12 Education, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Marisa Cordon, MPH '18, Research Program Manager, Johns Hopkins Medicine













ABOUT SKYE

Undergraduate Degree: Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs

Hometown:

Keyport, NJ

Fun Facts:

Skye was cast as a background actor for the Netflix film, "Rustin" The film tells the story of Rustin, played by Colman Domingo, who dedicated his life to fighting against a world entrenched in both homophobia and racism–and was always kept on the outskirts of the civil rights movement he helped build.

Skye visited both United Nations Headquarters, New York City, USA, and Geneva Switzerland in the same year in 2022.

66 The Presidential Fellowship has provided me with the opportunity to not only be the first in my family to pursue a master's degree, but it also has allowed me to be a bridge for undergraduates and graduate students as well as for administrators, through continued service to the university. **99**



SKYE BLANKS

Master's Degree: Master of Business Administration & Graduate Certificate in Financial Management GW School of Business





FELLOWSHIP ROLES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Skye, along with Marva and Emily attended the first post-pandemic Lindsey Ferris Invitational Gymnastics Meet where they met the late PAF Alum, Lindsey Ferris' parents. Skye had the opportunity after the meet, to speak to the GW athletics community about the fellowship and how it has impacted GW for the better.

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT

Skye attended the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA) Leadership summit in June. The summit convenes chapter leaders, new members, and youth activists in Washington, D.C. to empower and engage UNA-USA members with skills and knowledge regarding the U.S.-UN relationship.

PLACEMENT: DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT Title: Senior Project Manager

Job Description: Skye supports all Management faculty with digital solutions for their online and in-person teaching as well as takes the lead in planning and organizing in-person and online conferences like GW Entrepreneurship Week and International Women's Day. He also works closely supporting GWSB's strategic partnerships within DC such as with the Coalition for Nonprofit Housing and Economic Development (CNHED), as well as internationally with the International Council for Small Business.

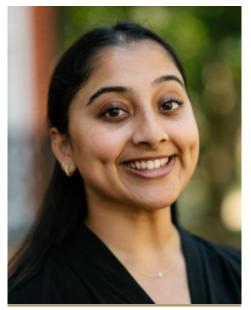
Placement Spotlight

Skye gave a speech about the Future of Youth Entrepreneurship at the United Nations for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Day. He also helped facilitate training for local entrepreneurs in Washington, D.C. through ELEVATE program which stands for Executive Leadership Education Venture Advancing Talented Entrepreneurs. The program, in partnership with GWSB and CNHED, aims to provide best-in-class training to minority-owned small businesses located in the D.C. area.

Preceptor: Ayman El Tarabishy, Ph.D. **Title:** Deputy Chair of the Department of Management

"Skye Blanks was the leader in putting together the ICSB World Congress, hosted at GW. The ICSB World Congress is a global event that brings together ALL small business and entrepreneurship stakeholders to advance research, support enterprises, and advance a global network. Skye's vision and strong work ethic have propelled this event to the highest success. Skye fosters the motivation and positive development of his colleagues and student followers. Exemplifies moral standards within the department and school and encourages others. Skye enables an ethical work environment with clear values, priorities, and standards. Skye has a very bright future ahead, and we are very fortunate to have him as our PAF."





ABOUT VIVIKA

Undergraduate Degree: Bachelor of Science in Public Health

Hometown:

Fremont, CA

Fun Facts:

My love for teaching and cooking merged this semester where I presented tips for healthy eating on a budget and conducted a live cooking class for a group of young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

This past winter break, I traveled to India to celebrate my paternal grandmother's 100th birthday!

66 PAF has been led me to a wealth of experiences and opportunities, including receiving a fully-funded education and leading a National Institutes of Health-funded research study. However, I am most grateful for the mentors and friends that PAF has connected me to. Much of my professional and personal growth over the past 2 years is thanks to my PAFamily! **9**



VIVIKA FERNES

Master's Degree: MPH in Global Health Program Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation Milken Institute School of Public Health





FELLOWSHIP ROLES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Vivika served as a panelist at Terrific Inc.'s Annual Health Fair where she articulated the need for the Caregiver Study to over 120 attendees. Additionally, Vivika and her team are working on transforming their winning GW Research Showcase's poster, entitled Centering Community Voices in the Black Male Dementia Caregiver Burden Study, into a manuscript.

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT

Vivika co-authored her first publication entitled How an Anti-Racist Organizational Change Model Can Build Capacity to Support Historically Excluded Students: A Guide for Advisors and Administrators of Pathway Programs. This publication builds off the research she contributed to under the mentorship of Dr. Maranda Ward, a long-time supporter of PAF.

PLACEMENT: SMHS DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL RESEARCH AND LEADERSHIP

Title: Research Assistant

Job Description: Vivika's primary role in the lab is to lead the outreach and study processes of the Black Male Dementia Caregiver Burden Study. To aid in the study's recruitment, she works closely with a broad range of community organizations, often spending weekend mornings at tabling events in the DC-area. Throughout her time in the lab, she has onboarded and supervised ten research assistants, ensuring they are well-supported to fulfill their assigned tasks.

Placement Spotlight

Vivika, who aspires to be a global qualitative researcher, is working on two qualitative research projects this year-one with University of California San Francisco's Brain Health Registry and another as part of her MPH's Culminated Experience (CE). For her CE, she is using interview data from the Black Male Caregiver Burden Study to qualitatively analyze the unique lived experiences of Black male caregivers.

Preceptor: Robert W. Turner II, Ph.D. **Title:** *Assistant Professor*

"As I pause to reflect on the time that Vivika has spent in my lab as a GW Presidential Fellow, it is apparent that words cannot express the growth and maturity she has shown over the past two years. Never one to back away from a challenge, Vivika is always ready to do whatever it takes to ensure each, and every task is completed to her utmost ability. I'm sure that I speak for everyone in the lab in saying it has been a tremendous honor to work with her. Vivika, please check in often and grace us with your infectious smile."





ABOUT EMILY Undergraduate Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Communication

Hometown: East Brunswick, New Jersey

Fun Facts: Emily's middle name means "queen" in Sanskrit. Emily adopted a cat named Goose last summer.

66 As I reflect on my time at GWU, I am so appreciative toward the network and opportunities that PAF has brought me. PAF has helped me learn what I'm passionate about and how I can leave a lasting impact once I leave the 'GW bubble.' The guidance I've received from my preceptor, advisors, and the other Fellows will stick with me forever! **99**



EMILY LOU

Master's Degree: Master of Public Health in Epidemiology Milken Institute School of Public Health





FELLOWSHIP ROLES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Emily serves on the Diversity Program Review Team, where she works with faculty, staff, and other students to conduct a review of the university's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. Emily also attended the first post-pandemic Lindsey Ferris Invitational Gymnastics Meet, with Marva and Skye, and met the late PAF Alum, Lindsey Ferris' parents.

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT

Over summer 2022, Emily switched her concentration from Health Promotion to Epidemiology, as her interest in data analysis and surveillance in public health grew. Emily has taken courses like Epidemiology of LGBTQ+ Health and Epidemiology of Psychiatric Disorders and worked as a Research Assistant with Milken's Department of Epidemiology. Emily helped to collect data on people who inject drugs (PWID) in D.C. as part of the CDC's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) study.

PLACEMENT: DIVISION OF SAFETY AND FACILITIES Title: Program Analyst

Job Description: Emily is primarily responsible for delivering methods to improve DSF's communication with students, from her own student-perspective. Emily's main function is leading the Student Advisory Board, which provides students the opportunity to identify campus safety concerns and provide direct feedback to University leadership. She also works across the many departments under DSF, including the Office of Advocacy and Support, Office of Emergency Management, Environmental Health and Safety, and Office of Sustainability, to support various projects.

Placement Spotlight

Emily has spearheaded recruitment efforts for the Student Advisory Board, which resulted in the highest number of students serving on the board since its inception in Fall 2018. Emily worked to include voices from important student organizations and groups on campus like the Student Association, Black Student Union, Students Against Sexual Assault, Athletics, Resident Hall Association, and Fraternity and Sorority Life.

Preceptor: Kathleen Fox

Title: Assistant Vice President of University Resilience

"Emily is a bright, engaging person who cares deeply about public health and her community. She is dedicated to improving communication and understanding and is brave in her advocacy for her beliefs and values. Emily's willingness to face adversity head-on with honesty, candor, and grace, and her perseverance in pursuit of her goals have been a gift to GW and will serve her well throughout life. It has been a privilege to learn from Emily."

Advising TEAM HIGHLIGHTS



Marva Gumbs Jennings

Program Director, GW Presidential Fellowship

Specialist, Interdisciplinary Career Services Initiatives

My highest tribute this year is for the unsung heroes of the Fellows and the Fellowship program. For over 34 plus years, members of the GW community have been integral to the success of the program and have supported, nurtured, challenged and cared deeply enough in their respective roles to engage, encourage and educate the Fellows. These GW community members include Faculty and Staff from a variety of departments and to name just a few – the Office of Graduate Student Assistantships and Fellowships, Division of Student Affairs, Enrollment and Student Success, Office of Diversity Equity and Community Engagement and University Leaders including Vice President, Chief of Staff and University Secretary Aristide Collins and Vice Provost for Enrollment and Student Success Jay Goff.

In particular I am singling out the community of PAF Alumni and Preceptors. Alumni have mentored, presented and attended events to support the Fellows and as the news of the pause was announced, came together to advocate for the program. This is truly a unique and strong Fellowship. The Preceptors have shouldered the responsibility of incorporating Fellows into their departments, learning their strengths and skill sets and providing the base for Fellows to manage programs, drive direction and gain valuable and broad-based experience. That is truly priceless in priming Fellows for success, post GW.

I honor President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg for recognizing the value of the student voice/experience in serving the University, Bob Chernak and Peter Konwerski for helping launch and actualizing the dream and Robert Snyder and Toby Davidow for shaping/refining and carrying the program over the years. I salute you!

Kathryn Newcomer, Ph.D.

Faculty Advisor, GW Presidential Fellowship

Professor, The Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration

This academic year went by as quickly as ever, and it was especially rewarding to work closely with our small group - Skye, Emily, Vivika and Marva and I were able to spend more time together which was really nice given the COVID break in all of our personal contacts. Our time conducting community service and interacting with great PAF alumni reminded me of similar highlights of my time with PAF over the thirty plus years of my involvement.

There are too many cool moments to recall all, but here are some, as I remember quite vividly:

- how proud Steve Trachtenberg was when he stood up the program and worked so enthusiastically with some of our star student leaders (e.g., John David Morris and Kyle Farmbry) with whom he has remained close over all of these years;
- our August PAF retreats to parts unknown, where we competed in many things including scavenger hunts, miniature golf, and cooking contests;
- how grateful President Le Blanc was to have a PAF in his office to help him with getting to know students and our student culture at GW;
- how much fun we had in service such as sorting foods for A Wider Circle, and weeding the Grow Community Garden on campus;
- working closely with many alumni and GW colleagues, and especially then MPP student Alden Wells, to collect and analyze data for the 2020 PAF Task Force Evaluation; and
- working especially closely with Marva Gumbs, Robert Snyder, Toby Davidow and Peter Konwerski we have been quite a caring and cohesive team!

LEGACY

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS #BECAUSEOFPAF



Marisa Cordon

Degree: MPH in Maternal and Child Health '18

Current Position: Research Program Manager/Project Director in Dept. of Pediatrics, JHU School of Medicine

#BecauseofPAF, I had the honor to teach Global Women's Health at GWU, a course that I helped Dr. Maranda Ward develop when I was a second year PAF in the dept of clinical research and leadership. I have kept in touch with Maranda since graduating, and I am now teaching a course she developed (Foundations of Health Equity), online at GW.



Titilola Harley Degree: GWSB MBA 2009; GWSB BBA 2007

Current Position: Senior Program Officer - K-12 Education, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation #BecauseofPAF, I learned how important it is to consider challenges and situations from a variety of perspectives. As a PAF, I had the opportunity to experience the university as a graduate student, an employee, an alumna, a former undergraduate student and an international student, allowing me to see various aspects of life at GW in ways that might not have been as apparent to others. The PAF program helped me understand the value of my and others' diverse perspectives, and empowered me to contribute my voice in ways that continue to serve me as a consultant and grantmaker.



William D. Alexander, III

Degree: B.S. Mechanical Engineering '04; MBA Small Business & Entrepreneurship **Current Position:** Chief Operations Officer, SUSTAINABUILT

#Because of PAF, I knew out of the gate that I had a level of professional preparation that could propel me through nearly any situation I would face in the workplace upon leaving GW. We worked to tackle some of the toughest challenges facing the university and our broader community. I also had the privilege of having been able to do so alongside some of the sharpest minds entering their respective industries. Knowing that I had earned my place in this cohort gave me the confidence I needed to successfully launch my own career and assume a variety of leadership roles along the way.



Halea Kerr-Layton

Degree: M.A. Global Communication '21; B.A. International Affairs, Spanish & Latin American Languages, Literatures and Cultures '19

Current Position: Deputy Press Secretary, Partnership for Public Service

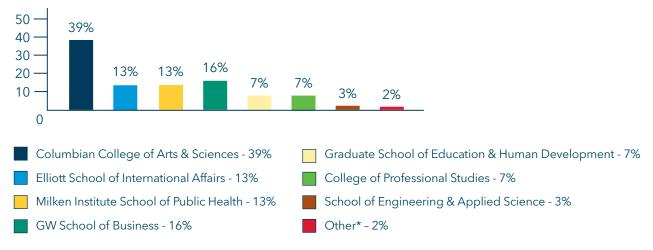
The Presidential Fellowship is an investment into the GW community. #BecauseofPAF, I was able to give back to my GW community with my time and expertise as a liaison between the student and professional GW experience. As a professional communicator I continue to use and *expand* the same skill set to unify and build coalitions between different stakeholders and audiences to better my communities.

LEGACY STAYING CONNECTED WITH THE PAFAMILY





WHAT GRADUATE SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED?



* Other: GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences & GW Law

PAF IN PICTURES









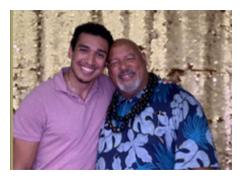






















-Tribute to MICHAEL TAPSCOTT



Our Tribute to and Celebration of Mr. Tapscott

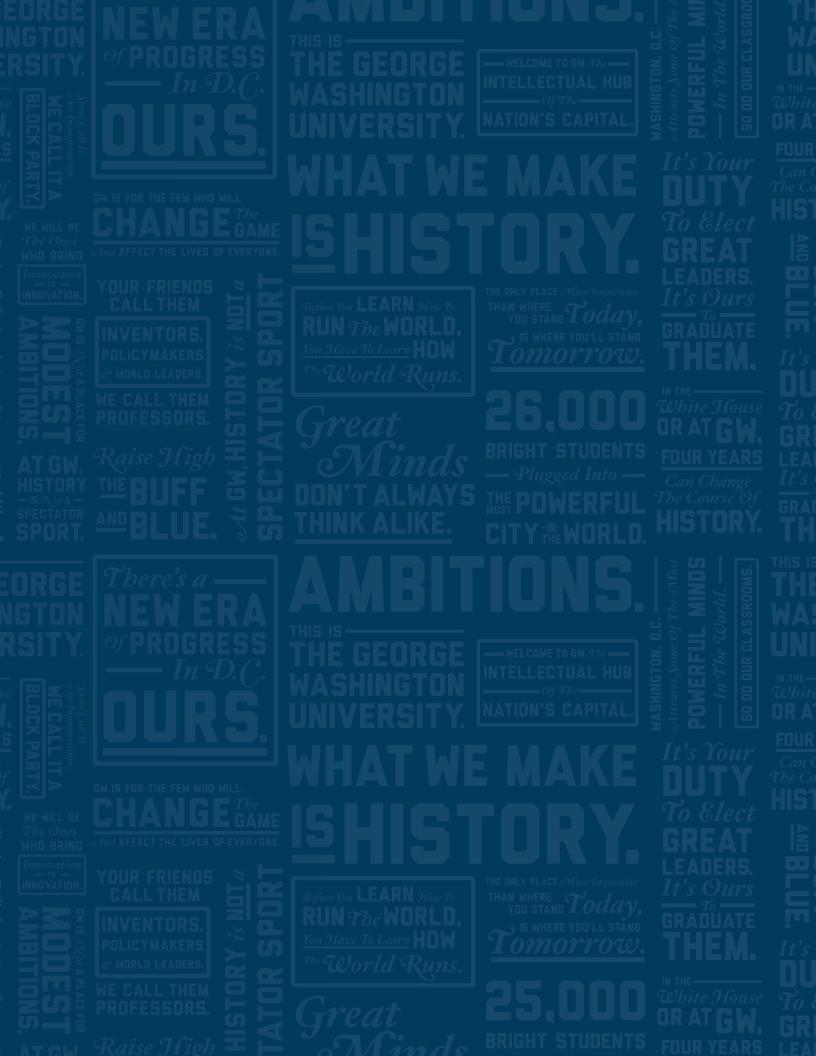
"Enthusiasm – one of the most powerful engines of success" –Michael Tapscott

On June 30, 2022, Michael Tapscott, our dear colleague, mentor and friend to many, retired from GW after 19 years of dedicated, innovative, and enthusiastic service to our community.

"G-O-O-D M-O-R-N-I-N-G!" Anyone who has had the privilege of attending one meeting with Mike Tapscott can conjure up the consistent, enthusiastic and bellowing words which Mike greeted all attendees. It was as if he commanded all negative energy to just dissipate. If participants were still a little drowsy and the morning lifters had not kicked in yet, it wasn't uncharacteristic of Mike to gently increase the tone and excitement repeatedly until it got to an acceptable energetic decibel level. Caffeine had nothing on Mike Tapscott. And participants left meetings with a little extra bounce in their step. For almost 20 years, Mike or "Mr. T, as he is known with some" uplifted, educated, and humorously resonated with hundreds, if not thousands, of GW community members. Specifically with the Presidential Fellowship program, he was a respected and integral part of the PAFamily. Serving in multiple roles with the Presidential Fellowship program including preceptor, recruiter, selection committee member, and advisory board, Mike always brought diverse and reflective perspectives as he championed the program to students and administrators.

Mike is missed on a daily basis walking around the campus and leading the Wobble dance. But undoubtedly the GW legacy he built continues to resonate in the souls of all who have crossed paths with him, including the Presidential Fellows he mentored.

Mr. Tapscott has been an anchor in the GW community for all students of diverse backgrounds as long as he has been here. I remember visiting the Multicultural Student Service Center after difficult days on campus and feeling refreshed walking through those doors. Mr. Tapscott along with the staff and students of the MSSC, always welcomed me in with open arms. He helped build and lead a diverse family that looked out for one another on a campus that often did not look like our families back home. Without that found sense of belonging, I know I and many others may have never graduated from GW. Mr. Tapscott is one of the most inspiring people I had the pleasure of meeting during my time at GW and his presence and ENTHUSIASM will be deeply missed. -Skye Blanks





TO STAY CONNECTED

WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, **VISIT:**



🚾 | paf.gwu.edu



in | linkedin.com/groups/51430

🖂 | paf@gwu.edu

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC