

# ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016



THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC



Presidential Administrative  
Fellowship

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# FROM THE PAF ADVISING TEAM

The PAF Advising Team had the pleasure and honor of supporting and guiding the PAFs as they made a significant difference at GW during the 2015-16 academic year. As the Advising Team, we are very proud of their accomplishments and their contributions to the 26+ year legacy of the PAF program. Looking back, each PAF truly embraced each of the PAF pillars of academics, professional development, and service and ambassadorship in the following ways, and many others:

## *Academics*

- Exceeded academic expectations by achieving an average graduate GPA of 3.86 among all current PAFs and surpassing the minimum GPA requirement for PAF applicants (3.25) with an average undergraduate GPA of 3.69 for the incoming first-year PAF cohort.
- Incorporated academic discussions and concepts into weekly meetings and other PAF program activities; for example, Kelsey presented on her course in developing a comprehensive social media plan, and Alec presented on cybersecurity.
- Engaged in academic research inside and outside of the classroom; for example, Katie investigated the political, cultural, and economic factors that affect women's political leadership at the state level, and Marcus researched how policy could play a role in reducing childhood obesity rates.

## *Professional Development*

- Learned "on the job" through their placements and other activities. Spent the year reflecting on their development in a deliberate way to prepare them for a lifetime of reflective practice.
- Set and tracked progress on their individual goals with their Preceptors through a flexible, metric driven Learning Agreement and performance management process.

- Embraced the PAF professional development curriculum, which once again focused on 10 top competencies critical to career success: Giving and Receiving Feedback, Perspective, Dealing with Ambiguity, Conflict Management, Clarifying Expectations, Creativity, Learning on the Fly, Listening, Political Savvy, and Self Knowledge. Additional competencies were included in sessions focused on crucial conversations and diversity and inclusion.
- Five PAFs received more than \$1,300 in PAF Professional and Academic Development Funds (generously supported by alumni donations) to pursue academic and career enrichment opportunities in California (x2), South Africa, China, and DC.

## *Service and Ambassadorship*

- Engaged as a group in multiple service projects throughout the year, including during Freshman Day of Service, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, PAF Alumni Day of Service, and the PAF summer retreat, and also furthered their commitment to service through individual activities.
- Served as ambassadors for the program and for the university by attending and presenting at national conferences, volunteering for university-wide events and serving on committees and task forces, and participating in PAF recruitment efforts.
- Achieved 100% philanthropic giving to GW among the current PAFs.

We also celebrate that PAF alumni continue to stay engaged with the program and GW long beyond their graduation, with nearly 93% of PAF alumni having made a gift to the university at some point and more than 50% of alumni engaging with the program and the university over the past academic year (in-person or virtually), continuing the record level of engagement established during the 25th anniversary year in 2014-15. We are deeply grateful to the alumni who gave back in so many ways this past year, including those who volunteered for PAF selection, attended alumni events, and provided mentorship and career guidance to the current PAFs.

As the PAF program closes out its 26th year, we watched the PAFs achieve significant academic and professional accomplishments while balancing the demands of their placements and coursework, their commitment to service, and their professional development. Our role as the Advising Team has been extremely rewarding and we recognize this report highlights only some of the outstanding contributions the PAFs have made to the PAF program and to the university throughout the past year.

Sincerely,

The PAF Advising Team

**Peter Konwerski**  
PAF Administrative  
Advisor

**Sara Melita**  
PAF Professional  
Development Advisor

**Robert Snyder**  
PAF Program Director

**Anna Mahalak**  
PAF Program Coordinator

**Kathy Newcomer**  
PAF Faculty Advisor

# Living our LEGACY



## PAFs HELP LAUNCH ENGLISH WORKSHOP FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**Yuxuan** organized three Everyday English Workshops to give international students the opportunity to practice conversational English with other students. **Angela**, **Chelsea**, and **Max** volunteered at the workshops by acting out common conversations and working in small groups to practice ordering food, talking about health, and popular sayings in American culture. The experience contributed to ensuring international students feel more comfortable at GW and confident in everyday interactions with other students. After three successful workshops, Yuxuan secured funding from the GW Shenkman Career Services Fund to expand the program.



## THE PAFAMILY ADOPTS-A-FAMILY

This past holiday season, the PAF program adopted a family affiliated with the Adopt-a-Family program. The family had three children, and the PAF program donated presents including clothing, books, and toys for the holiday season.

# SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS



**PAFs remain deeply engaged in service to the university and their communities, and the current fellows continued the program's legacy of giving back to others in a variety of ways this year.**

- **PAFs and the PAF Advising Team volunteered to sort donated food at Capital Area Food Bank as part of the summer training and retreat.**
- Nearly all of current fellows provided feedback to seniors at the School Without Walls for their final papers.
- **Angela** volunteered with City Year to help organize a local school library.
- **Chelsea** worked with Native American preschoolers as a Learning Partner for the GW Alternative Spring Break trip to Cherokee Nation.
- **Zinhle** served as the Learning Partner for the GW Alternative Winter Break trip to Puerto Rico focused on sustainability and organic farming.



- **Marcus** volunteered to help deliver Thanksgiving baskets to more than 2,000 families in the DC area with his church.
- **Kelsey** volunteered to collect food items for Capital Area Food Bank as a Trick or Treat for Service participant.
- **Max** volunteered with the College Success Foundation as a mentor to a local DC high school student.
- **Katie and Alec** volunteered at the George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum's "Student's Day" helping visitors use silk screens.
- **Chelsea** volunteered to plant trees and help beautify Mount Olivet Cemetery in Northeast DC with the nonprofit organization, Casey Trees.
- **Ashlynn** volunteered as a classroom assistant with a local preschool for homeless children.
- **Zinhle** was a Freshman Day of Service leader at the GW GRoW garden, joining her fellow PAFs in supporting this GW signature event.

# Celebrating our COMMUNITY



## PAF ALUMNI SERVE ON A PANEL FOR PAF MLK DAY OF SERVICE WORKSHOP

**Kelly** used her nonprofit management skills to organize PAF's participation in the 2016 MLK Day of Service & Leadership. A panel of four alumni - **Austin Frizzell**, BA '13 MPH '15, **Titi (Williams-Davies) Harley**, BA '07 MBA '09, **Jeff Marootian**, BA '01 MPA '03, and **Josh Lasky**, BA '07 MPA '09 - provided key insight on how millennials could lead social change. After the panel, current PAFs and alumni led small group discussions on how to make change in issue areas including education, the environment, and the criminal justice system.

# ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



PAFs are committed to engaging the program's 125+ alumni, building on the record 55% of alumni engaged with the program and the university during the PAF 25th anniversary year in 2014-15. Current fellows have had many meaningful interactions with the program's strong alumni base.

- Six PAF alumni - **Jonathan Nurse, BA '99 MPA '01, Carrie Potter BBA '99 MBA '01, Daniel Bernstein, BA '09 MBA '11, Sandra Perez-Hawthorne, BA '09 MA '11, Cameron Smither, BA '12 MPP '14, and Darrin Kayser, BA '98 MA '00** - led a speed interviewing session with current fellows, both online and virtually, as part of PAF Spring Training.
- The PAF selection committee organized the participation of 24 PAF alumni in the selection process of the 2016-18 cohort.
- **Kelsey** gave PAF alumnus, **Paul Kendrick, BA '05 MPA '07**, a tour of the "Civil War Washington" exhibition at the GW Museum and The Textile Museum.
- **Chelsea Ullman, BA '12, MPP '14**, served as the preceptor for **Zinhle** at the Global Women's Institute.
- **Max** helped coordinate the reenactment of PAF alumnus **Shakir Cannon-Moye's, BBA '10 MBA '12**, proposal to fellow GW alumna **Elizabeth Acevedo, BA '10**, for the GW Holiday Video.
- **Kelly** coordinated the celebration of alumni milestones in the PAF newsletter.
- **Yuxuan** improved the PAF program's LinkedIn usage to engage alumni and provide them with resources to continue their PAF professional development.
- **Khadija** planned a summer happy hour for PAF alumni to connect with the incoming fellows.



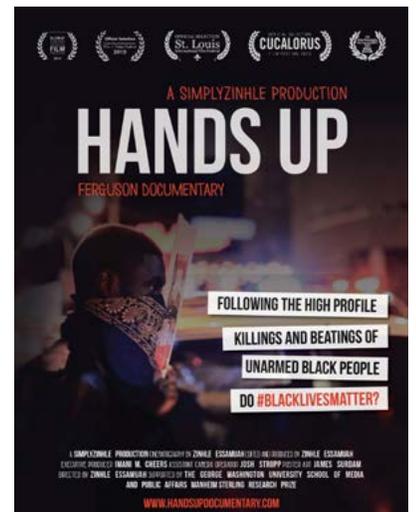
- PAF alumni participated in a variety of happy hours throughout the academic year, including Alumni Weekend, to connect with current PAFs and each other.
- PAFs continuously connect with alumni for informational interviews, graduate program and career advice, travel tips, and to discuss their shared passions and interests.
- **Current PAFs and eight PAF alumni celebrated the holiday season together at the National Zoo's "Zoolights" event.**
- PAF alumni participated in the program's second annual PAF Alumni Day of Service at the Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service.

# COMMUNITY & DIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS



## PAFs FACILITATING AND LEADING CONVERSATIONS ON RACE RELATIONS

**Khadija** organized GW's participation in Howard University's "Conversation on Race Relations" to discuss how local universities could ensure their campuses were welcoming to students of all races. President Knapp, **Ashlynn**, and students from GW and universities across the District worked together to develop solutions to racial campus climate issues.



## A DOCUMENTARY ON THE #BLACKLIVESMATTER MOVEMENT

**Zinhle's** film, *Hands Up*, has become a part of the national and campus conversation on the Black Lives Matter Movement. Her film was incorporated into the curriculum of nearly a dozen GW courses, served as a foundation for the PAF discussion of diversity, was a part of the university's King Week and Black Heritage celebrations, and was screened at multiple film festivals this year.

# COMMUNITY & DIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS



**Interim Provost Forrest Maltzman charged the PAFs with going out of their way to make everyone feel like they have a place at GW. PAFs have engaged in a variety of efforts to support the university's values of community and diversity.**

- **During Spring Training, PAFs participated in "Messages from the Mountaintop," reading powerful speeches given by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to celebrate his legacy.**
- **Alec** served on the planning committee for GW's Second Annual Flag Day Celebration and Philanthropic Initiative.
- **Kelly** coordinated the first housing staff reunion during Alumni Weekend.
- **Yuxuan** served as a leader for the Elliott School's orientation and shared her experiences as an international student.
- **Zinhle** launched the Global Women's Institute's #WhenWomenLead campaign, where students, staff, faculty, and community members shared the value of women leaders in their lives.
- **Marcus** developed the curriculum for the Rodham Institute's Health Education Leadership Program, an initiative focused on creating a pipeline to college and health professions for DC area students.
- **Ashlynn** traveled to high schools across DC to help present local students with GW's Stephen Joel Trachtenberg Scholarship.
- **Chelsea** was elected Master of Public Administration co-chair of the Trachtenberg Student Organization's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, and developed monthly "Conversations on Race in America."
- **Katie** helped launch the XD@GW Initiative, which promotes cross-disciplinary teaching, learning, and research across the university, giving more undergraduate students the opportunity to design their own education.



- **Max** works to ensure students are represented on GW social media, supporting student takeovers and highlighting student events and stories.
- **Marcus** discussed childhood obesity as a panelist at the 2015 Rodham Institute Summit alongside Chelsea Clinton.
- **Ashlynn** and **Zinhle** hosted a workshop on "New Media for Social Change" at the Nashman Center's Academic Service-Learning Symposium.
- **Khadija** enhanced collaboration between the Multicultural Student Services Center, student organizations, and the Diversity and Inclusion Council to improve campus safety, diversity, and inclusion.
- **Chelsea** served on the Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response and drafted a one-pager for faculty and staff on discussing sexual assault with students.
- **Kelsey** increased student participation in the GW Museum and The Textile Museum by developing the Student Corps.
- **PAFs welcomed the Class of 2019 as volunteers for GW First Night, and volunteered at George's Birthday Celebration.**

# Focusing on our FUTURE



## PAF LEARNS ABOUT GLOBAL ADVOCACY IN SOUTH AFRICA

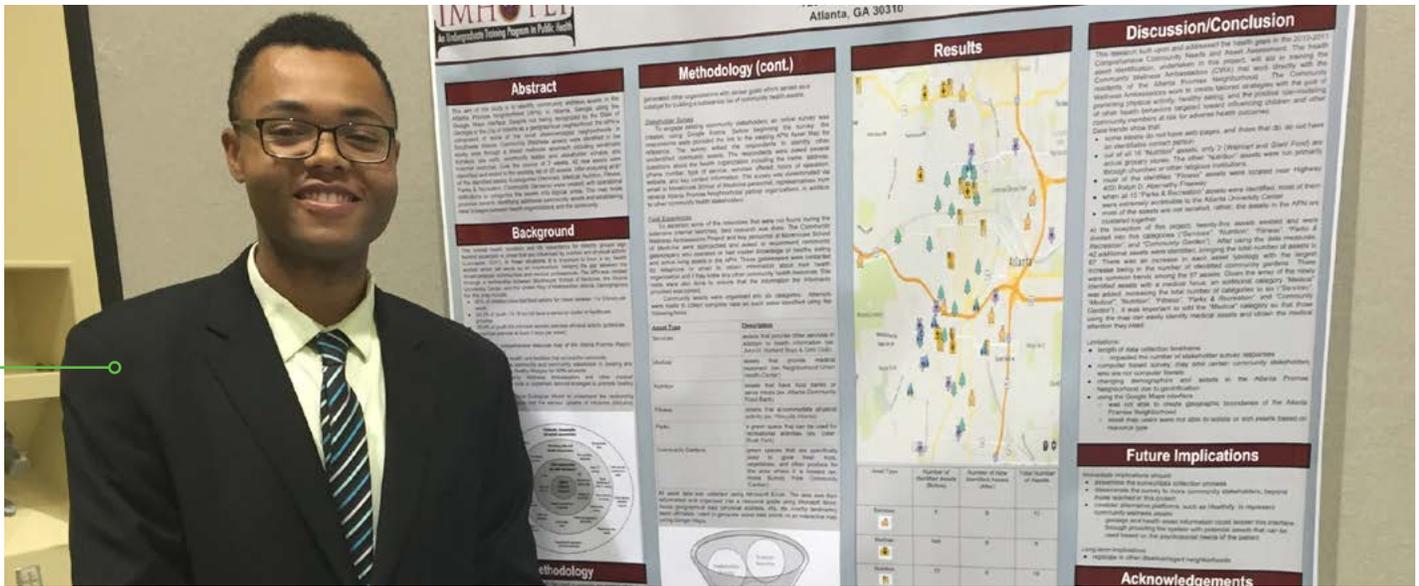
As a part of her academic coursework, **Katie** traveled to South Africa to meet with business, media, governmental, and nonprofit leaders. The class allowed Katie and her classmates to immerse themselves in South African culture in order to learn how to effectively advocate within the South African political system.



## PAF EXPLORES LINCOLN AT HERTOG FOUNDATION INSTITUTE

**Kelsey** was selected to participate in the weeklong Hertog Foundation Institute on the "Political Thought of Abraham Lincoln in New York City." Kelsey, a history buff and passionate expert on Lincoln's legacy, engaged in exciting workshops and seminars on Lincoln with other burgeoning scholars in the fields of history, political science, and political theory.

# ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS



**PAFs have a variety of academic interests - from documentary filmmaking and nonprofit management to cybersecurity and international trade. Whether through their actual coursework, or other hands-on learning experiences, PAFs celebrated many academic accomplishments this year.**

- For her capstone project in the Trachtenberg School, **Ashlynn** conducted a cost-benefit analysis of DC's largest truancy prevention program and testified about the results in front of the DC Council.
- **Angela** and **Max** conducted a pro-bono program evaluation of the National Park Service's Scorecard Program as part of the Trachtenberg School program evaluation course taught by PAF Faculty Advisor Kathy Newcomer.
- **Kelsey** presented at the 2016 Museums and Web Conference session, "Adapting Museum Studies Programs for a Digital Future."
- **Marcus** presented his research on asset-mapping, funded by the Centers for Disease Control, at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students.
- Based on her academic interests, **Kelly** conducted a workshop on grant writing for staff in the Division of Student Affairs.
- For her capstone project in the Trachtenberg School, **Khadija** researched how federal agencies engage in the rule-making process.
- **Zinhle** was invited to attend seven film festivals this year based on her coursework in the School of Media and Public Affairs and her original film, *Hands Up*.
- **Yuxuan** helped develop the digital marketing strategy for a local start-up's crowdfunding phase for a class project in the Elliott School.



• **Alec** represented GW as a student delegate to the second annual World Internet Conference in Wuzhen, China.

- For her capstone project in the Trachtenberg School, **Chelsea** developed desk guides to be used by all coastal zone management programs around the country for the Coastal States Organization.
- **Max** participated in an intensive conflict management and negotiation simulation, where he conducted opposition research and negotiated with a team over three sessions.
- **Chelsea** conducted a hazard and threat assessment of GW's Science and Engineering Hall for her Management of Risks and Vulnerabilities for Hazards and Terrorism course in the School of Engineering and Applied Science graduate certificate program in Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness and Response.
- For her capstone project in the Trachtenberg School, **Kelly** developed a budget for a nonprofit organization in her hometown, Children First For Oregon.
- **Khadija** was accepted into Northwestern Law School and received a full scholarship.

# RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Research experiences are not only a priority of the university, but also the current fellows. In addition to the previously listed academic experiences, PAFs engaged in exciting research projects to solve problems around the world this year.

- For her capstone project in the Elliot School, **Yuxuan** used econometrics modeling to study the fast growth of e-commerce in China.
- **Kelly** conducted interviews with nonprofit leaders to learn about promising management skills and shaping an organization's strategic vision.
- **Katie** conducted a research analysis investigating the political, cultural, and economic factors that affect women's political leadership at the state level.
- **Kelsey** conducted research to develop a comprehensive fundraising plan for the National Museum of American History for a class project in the Museum Studies program.
- **Max** analyzed data on GW's Instagram content performance and GW's Alumni Relations Facebook page to inform the university's digital strategy.
- **Angela** researched the effects of hospital mergers on healthcare services delivery for her economics course in the Trachtenberg School.
- **Khadija** researched the impact of the Affordable Care Act tax credit ruling in the *King v. Burwell* Supreme Court case.
- **Marcus** researched how policy could play a role in reducing childhood obesity rates.
- **Alec** conducted a cost-benefit analysis of the Real ID Act of 2005, which set federal standards for state issued identification.
- **Ashlynn** and **Chelsea** researched a variety of hot-button policy issues as writers for the Trachtenberg School's Brief Policy Perspectives blog.
- **Alec** conducted an economic analysis of the Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies Act's (SAFETY) potential impact on cybersecurity technologies.
- **Angela** conducted an analysis of the policy discourse around changing Restrictive Housing Unit laws.
- **Kelly** researched the relationship between foundations and nonprofit organizations, and the impact of grants with specific performance requirements.

## PAF LEADS RESEARCH PROJECT ON DIABETES

**Marcus** collaborated with his placement, the Rodham Institute, and the GW Hospital to lead a research project on diabetes "hot-spots" in DC. He found where the highest volumes of patients with diabetes are to help medical professionals improve their outreach to the community. As a DC native who is passionate about improving the health of the city, Marcus is continuing the project over the summer.

## PAF EXPLORES CYBER ATTACK RISKS

Through his placement, **Alec** was able to build on his professional and academic interests by contributing to a book chapter alongside the director of GW's Center for Cyber and Homeland Security, Frank Cilluffo and Secretary Michael Chertoff. The chapter, entitled, "A Strategy of Cyber Deterrence," on what can be done as the risk of cyber attacks rises in the public and private spheres.

# —Meet The— FELLOWS

## SECOND-YEAR FELLOWS



### **Yuxuan Shen**

is pursuing a Master of Arts in International Trade and Investment Policy with a placement at the Milken Institute School of Public Health.

### **Ashlynn Profit**

is pursuing a Master of Public Administration with a placement in the Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service.

### **Kaitlynn "Kelly" Bartz**

is pursuing a Master of Public Administration with a placement in the Division of Student Affairs as a member of the Planning and Outreach team.

### **Kelsey Johnston**

is pursuing a Master of Arts in Museum Studies with a placement at the George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum.

### **Khadija Lalani**

is pursuing a Master of Public Administration with a placement in the Office of the President.

### **Chelsea Lenhart**

is pursuing a Master of Public Administration with a placement in the Office of Safety and Security.

# —Meet The— FELLOWS

## FIRST-YEAR FELLOWS



### **Zinhle Essamuah**

is pursuing a Master of Media and Strategic Communication with a placement at the GW Global Women's Institute.

### **Katherine "Katie" Paz Wynne**

is pursuing a Master of Professional Studies in Advocacy in the Global Environment with a placement in the Office of Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration.

### **Marcus Andrews**

is pursuing a Master of Public Health in Health Promotion with a placement at the Rodham Institute.

### **Maxwell "Max" Tingle**

is pursuing a Master of Public Administration with a placement in GW Marketing and Creative Services.

### **Angela Sako**

is pursuing a Master of Public Policy with a placement in the Office of the Vice President for Research.

### **Alec Nadeau**

is pursuing a Master of Public Administration with a placement at the GW Center for Cyber and Homeland Security.

# Where PAFs WORK



TO STAY CONNECTED WITH  
THE PAF PROGRAM, VISIT:

 | [paf.gwu.edu](http://paf.gwu.edu)

 | [@GWPAF](https://twitter.com/GWPAF)

 | [GWPAF](https://www.facebook.com/GWPAF)

 | [Inkd.in/dkRErTY](https://www.linkedin.com/company/gwu-paf)

 | [paf@gwu.edu](mailto:paf@gwu.edu)

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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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WASHINGTON, DC