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Greetings from PRESIDENT LeBLANC



Dear Presidential Fellow Alumni and Friends:

This past August, I was just into my third week as GW's 17th president when I had the opportunity to join the current fellows for an introductory meeting during their annual Summer Training and Retreat. That experience affirmed what all of you already know: The Presidential Fellowship is a very special program at GW. I am honored to be part of it.

The current fellows—as well as program alumni, staff, and friends—have been an integral part of my transition to the university. You have provided keen insight into the GW student experience, participated in my inauguration, and helped me connect with others in the university community. I have been particularly fortunate to benefit from these efforts firsthand by continuing the tradition of having a Presidential Fellow placed as my student liaison.

It is clear the Presidential Fellowship has played a pivotal role in supporting the university's growth during the program's 28-year history. Fellows have been critical to developing new offices and initiatives, including those focused on civic engagement and public service, sustainability, and global women's issues, among others. Fellows excel in and out of the classroom, making substantial contributions to advancing the scholarship and research missions of the university. And, of course, fellows remain connected to the university well beyond graduation, serving on the Board of Trustees, the George Washington Alumni Association Board of Directors, school advisory councils, reunion committees, and many other initiatives that enhance our university. Fellows also give back through philanthropy—at record levels for the program—to ensure future generations of students have the opportunities they had.

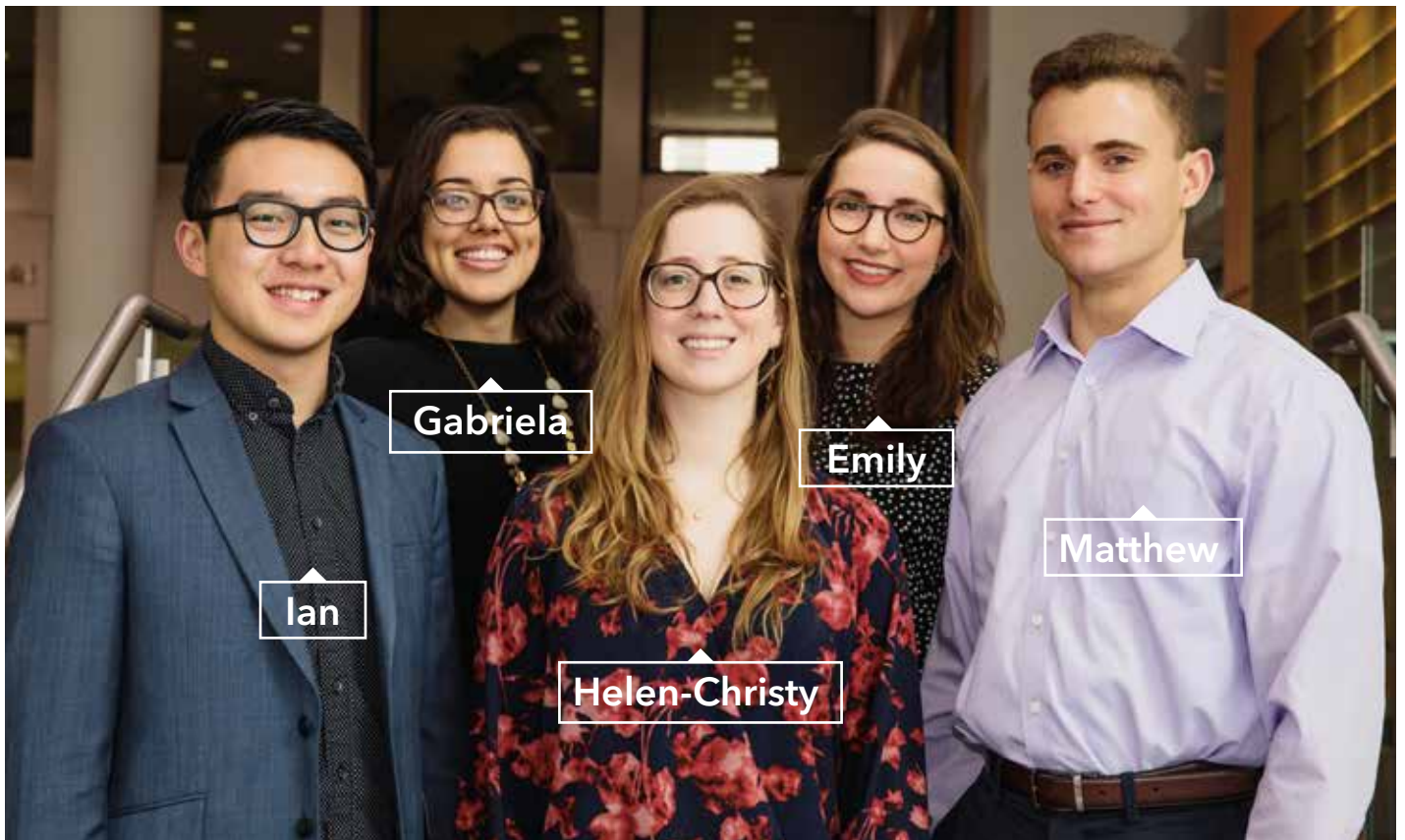
The pages that follow include rich detail about the activities of the current fellows during the past year, and I hope that you review them with significant pride in the legacy you have left behind. I encourage you to keep this legacy alive through your engagement with the program and the university: stay in touch, support the current fellows and other students in their academic and professional development, give back philanthropically as you are able, help recruit and select the next cohort of fellows, and share your experiences. Together, we can continue to seek preeminence in all that we do.

Raise High!

Thomas J. LeBlanc

Meet the FELLOWS

FIRST-YEAR FELLOWS



Ian Tang

is pursuing a Master of Public Policy degree with a placement at GW's Marketing and Creative Services department.

Gabriela Madrid

is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree in community-oriented primary care with a placement at the Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute.

Helen-Christy Powell

is pursuing a Master of Arts degree in security policy studies with a placement at GW's Program on Extremism and Center for Cyber and Homeland Security.

Emily Somberg

is pursuing a Master of Arts degree in sociocultural anthropology with a placement at the Multicultural Student Services Center.

Matthew Basista

is pursuing a Master of Arts degree in security policy studies with a placement at the Dean's Office in the Elliott School of International Affairs.

Meet the FELLOWS

SECOND-YEAR FELLOWS



Grace Mausser

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

Dor Hirsh Bar Gai

is pursuing a Master of Science degree in environmental and energy management with a placement at the Division of Operations.

Marisa Cordon

is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree in maternal and child health with a placement at the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Zunara Naeem

is pursuing a graduate certificate in nonprofit management after recently completing a Master of Public Administration degree with a placement at the Dean's Office for Health Sciences in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Alex Wang

is pursuing a Master of Arts degree in applied economics with a placement at the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Welcoming

PRESIDENT LeBLANC



THE FELLOWS WELCOME A NEW PRESIDENT TO GW

The 2017–2018 academic year marked a milestone for the George Washington University: the university welcomed a new president, Thomas J. LeBlanc. This past August, Dr. LeBlanc became the 17th president of GW after serving as provost of the University of Miami. The Presidential Fellows have had the opportunity to engage with the new president a number of times throughout the year. President LeBlanc joined the fellows in mid-August for their Summer Training, during which they informed him about the history and purpose of the program and learned more about him and his goals for the university. This is when the fellows first learned of his goal for GW to “aspire to preeminence as a comprehensive, global, research university.”

Since then, the Presidential Fellows have sought to support the president in this goal. During Freshman Move-In, the fellows hosted a lemonade stand in front of the president’s F Street House residence, helping to welcome new Colonials and their families with snacks and cold beverages. Later in the fall semester, President LeBlanc joined the PAFamily at their annual Colonials Weekend Alumni Reception. While speaking at the reception, President LeBlanc discussed the positive experiences he has had with the Presidential Fellows thus far. He told the audience, “Though I did not think of this program, I wish I had.” President LeBlanc is clearly enthusiastic about the Presidential Fellow program, and the fellows have sought to match his enthusiasm with support and engagement of their own. For example, during his inaugural celebration in November, the fellows coordinated other volunteers and facilitated some of the high-profile events celebrating the presidential transition.

Their work and engagement with the president continued in the spring semester. In January, as part of a day when *The Washington Post* shadowed the president, the fellows had the opportunity to have lunch with President LeBlanc and talk about a number of issues, from rising tuition costs to campus culture, as well as some of the things that have surprised President LeBlanc since arriving at GW, such as the diversity of food options in Foggy Bottom and the challenges of an urban campus. Later in the month, the president and Mrs. LeBlanc graciously hosted current fellows, alumni fellows, and the Advising Team at a reception capping off the Presidential Fellowship Spring Training.

President LeBlanc has gone above-and-beyond to support the Presidential Fellows. From hosting and mentoring a fellow in his office to continually engaging with fellows and alumni throughout the year, it is clear the president sees the value of this program. For their part, the Presidential Fellows are eager to continue building a strong relationship with President LeBlanc throughout his tenure. They look forward to supporting his goals and sharing their insights as he leads GW into the future.

Serving our NEIGHBORS



ALTERNATIVE BREAKS

Learning partners are GW staff and faculty who are invited to join Alternative Breaks service trips as participants, while also being available in a leadership capacity as resources for participants and the leaders. As a Presidential Fellow, **Zunara** had the opportunity to serve as a learning partner for two trips during her tenure as a Fellow.

As a learning partner during spring break 2017, she traveled with 11 GW undergraduate students to New York City, where they focused on the issue areas of homelessness and LGBTQ youth. Then, on her second trip as a learning partner during spring break 2018, she traveled with 51 students and members of the GW community to New Orleans, focusing their learning on disaster relief and the experience and response of Hurricane Katrina on the New Orleans community.

Her experience with the program has been transformative. And, it has been a popular experience for other Presidential Fellows as well—this past academic year, **Ian**, **Marisa**, and **Matthew** all served as Winter Alternative Breaks Learning Partners in Atlanta, El Paso, and Los Angeles, respectively. Their trips focused on issue areas ranging from refugee resettlement, immigration rights, and border issues to youth empowerment, incarceration, poverty, and homelessness.



ENDOCARES

Gabriela volunteered with EndoCares, GW medical students, and Dr. Nicole Ehrhardt from GW Medical Faculty Associates to host a diabetes health fair at the Peruvian Embassy. She did some preliminary work by translating health information resources from English to Spanish. Her work was then distributed at the health fair for families to take home. Diabetes prevention and treatment is one of the topics she is passionate about in public health because it is highly prevalent in the Hispanic/Latinx community.



MENTORSHIP

For several years, GW community members, including several fellows and Advising Team members have helped School Without Walls (SWW) seniors on their research papers, providing reviews and guidance and serving as judges of the final presentations. **Dor**, **Grace**, **Zunara**, and **Robert** had the privilege of experiencing this meaningful collaborative effort, which is coordinated by a close friend of this program and a current preceptor, John Ralls.

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS



- During Summer Training, Presidential Fellows volunteered at the Capital Area Food Bank.
- **Emily** mentored School Without Walls students in their senior project. The students' project focused on the outcomes of diversity trainings and how diversity trainings have been incorporated in high schools.
- **Gabriela** served as the Organization of Latino American Students (OLAS) Spring Alternative Breaks' Learning Partner in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic.
- **Grace** volunteered with Jeremiah Lowery's campaign for At-Large D.C. Councilmember.
- **Grace** volunteered at the annual D.C. Day of Archaeology, a celebration of the local history and archaeology in the D.C. area that aims to educate residents.
- **Grace** volunteered at the Taste of 8th event, an annual event that highlights local restaurants in the Barracks Row neighborhood.
- As part of her placement within the Office of the President, **Grace** coordinated her colleagues' participation in GW's Give-a-Gift initiative, in which the current fellows and Advising Team also participated as a group.
- **Grace** joined a Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration's Giving Circle, a form of participatory philanthropy where individuals donate money and time to a pooled fund, decide together how to donate these, and, in doing so, seek to increase their awareness of and engagement in community issues.
- **Helen-Christy** volunteered at the annual "Walk This Way" fashion show in support of Becky's Fund, a nonprofit that aims to end domestic violence.
- **Helen-Christy** spoke with the Women's Leadership Program about professional development and research opportunities at GW.
- **The current fellows and Advising Team participated in a variety of service events as a cohort, including Freshman Day of Service (FDOS), MLK Day of Service, and Veterans Day of Service, as well as assisting President LeBlanc during Fall Move-In by distributing lemonade outside the F Street House. During FDOS, Matthew served alongside GW Veterans and forty freshmen at Fort Stanton Park to beautify and restore a recreational area.**
- **Marisa** continued to mentor and be a resource to the students planning this year's Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta Day.
- **Matthew** served alongside D.C. community members and the Mission Continues on Veterans Day at Langston Terrace.

Strengthening the GW COMMUNITY



RECRUITMENT & SELECTION COMMITTEE

This year, the Presidential Fellowship program streamlined its recruitment and selection efforts by combining the two committees into one that focuses on the lifecycle of these activities. The fellows continued to host well-attended informational sessions throughout the fall semester and participated in various community events to find the best candidates. The committee introduced new strategies, including scaling back paper use and posterage, emphasizing digital techniques instead. The committee also began the recruitment of the 2019-2021 cohort with outreach to current juniors to support the growth of the program.



ALUMNI SPRING TRAINING

This year, alumni fellows **Darrin Kayser**, BA '98, MA '00, **Samantha Byrd**, BA '99, MA '01, and **Meredith (Waters) Barnes**, BS '13, MHSA '15, concluded Spring Training by sharing their perspectives and advice on how to communicate the Presidential Fellowship experience on résumés and during interviews. Current fellows extend their deepest gratitude to them and all alumni fellows for their continued support and involvement. In addition to this event, alumni fellows have made other important contributions to support the program this year. Through the Community Outreach committee's work, such as the new Alumni Champion program, alumni involvement increased to record levels this year as we make significant progress toward achieving the current fellows' goals of 75% of alumni being engaged with the program and the university, as well as 50% of alumni fellows making philanthropic gifts to the university. The panel was yet another powerful demonstration of alumni commitment to the program through sustained engagement.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



■ **During Spring Training, Presidential Fellows enjoyed networking with alumni at the President's reception at the F Street House.**

■ **Alex**, as a member of the Community Outreach committee, created a visualization to showcase engagement and giving data to attract attention from alumni and promote competition among cohorts.

■ **Alex, Gabriela, Grace, Helen-Christy, Ian,** and **Matthew** joined Presidential Fellow alumni **Rodney Salinas**, BA '97, MA '99, **J.P. Blackford**, BS '95, MS '97, and **Chelsea Lenhart**, BA '14, MPA '16, at the GW vs. VCU men's basketball game.

■ **Alex helped plan, organize, and execute the first-ever Potomac River hike and clean-up this fall with current and alumni fellows and the Advising Team.**

■ **Dor, Emily, Gabriela, Grace, Helen-Christy, Ian, Marissa,** and **Matthew** joined the Advising Team in attending the annual GW Lindsey Ferris Gymnastics Invitational and Reception to celebrate the Gymnastics Team and honor Lindsey's legacy.

■ **Emily** connected with alumni fellow **Zinhle Essamuah**, BA '15, MA '17, multiple times to discuss documentary filmmaking. Zinhle provided key advice and guidance that informed how Emily plans to work on her film project over the next few years.

■ **Gabriela** and **Grace** represented their respective cohorts in the final round interviews for the 2018-2020 cohort. They interacted with alumni fellows **Alan Elias**, BA '00, MA '02, and **Michelle Suarez**, BA '12, MA '14, members of the Advising Team, and university leaders to select the next cohort.

■ **Grace and Matthew organized and hosted the annual Presidential Fellowship Alumni Reception during GW's Colonials Weekend, which welcomed dozens of alumni and featured remarks by President LeBlanc.**

■ Through the Division of Development and Alumni Relations, **Grace** authored a letter to GW alumni discussing her experience at GW and what she values about the university, seeking to increase alumni engagement with the university.

■ **Grace** connected with several alumni fellows in New York City, who graciously offered her career advice and guidance.

■ **Grace** managed Alumni Milestones for the Communications Committee, reaching out to dozens of alumni fellows in order to highlight their achievements in the quarterly newsletter.

■ **Helen-Christy, Ian, Marisa,** and **Matthew joined alumni fellows Ross Mankuta**, BA '06, MA '08, and **Steve Roche**, BA '06, MA '08, for lunch during President LeBlanc's inauguration.



■ **Marisa** connected with alumni fellow **Cameron Smither**, BA '12, MPP '14, for advice on career opportunities, since his partner works in the International Development Field.

■ **Zunara** connected with alumni to discuss her interests in homelessness and in medicine.

COMMUNITY & DIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY PRESENTS
BLACK HERITAGE
CELEBRATION 2018

**MAKE _____
BLACK AGAIN**

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS:
ANGELA RYE**

7pm | Marvin Center,
Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre
Doors open at 6:30pm.

THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

BLACK HERITAGE CELEBRATION

The Community Outreach committee encouraged fellows to prioritize attending the Black Heritage Celebration Keynote. Angela Rye was the keynote speaker, and in the event she spoke directly to students about race relations on campus. One student disclosed that in her music ethnology class, a professor used inappropriate language in class. This rightfully sparked an uproar from the crowd. The following week, during a weekly meeting, **Gabriela** led a discussion and reflection on the event and fellows were inspired to action. The fellows are currently exploring how to write and implement a clause in all syllabi that explains to students how to report concerning behavior in the classroom. They chose to prioritize this because it serves as a contract between professors and students, and sets the standard for the classroom environment. They hope to utilize their position as ambassadors between students and the university to improve the undergraduate experience, especially for students of color.



EVERYDAY ENGLISH

Alex and **Matthew** served as weekly facilitators for the Language Center's Everyday English program, which alumni fellow Yuxuan Shen, BA '13, MA '16, founded while she was a current fellow. This is the second year **Alex** is leading the weekly Everyday English Workshops by helping design material, manage volunteers, and seek feedback to improve the program. The program convenes every Wednesday in the Marvin Center from 11:30am-1:00pm, and sessions cover a variety of topics, ranging from job seeking, travel tips, pop culture, health, and well-being, to academic success tips. Weekly participation has grown from around 10 people to over 30 people weekly.

COMMUNITY & DIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS



- **Dor** guided an engineering student organization, Association of Energy Engineers (AEE), with which he was formerly a student member. Dor's sustainability projects for his placement in the Division of Operations had student involvement components, and AEE has become a partner in those.

- **Emily, Gabriela, Ian, Marisa, and Zunara** welcomed guests at President LeBlanc's Inauguration Dinner at the U.S. Supreme Court building.

- At her placement with the Multicultural Student Services Center, **Emily** facilitated bi-weekly Mind Meld diversity Dialogues, where groups of 15–20 students met to tackle and engage around topics of race, gender, sexuality, and identity.

- **Gabriela** remains involved in the organization she founded while an undergraduate, First Generation to College (FG2C). She served on the programming committee for the Alliance for Low Income and First Generation College Student Network (AL1GN) Conference at GW.

- **Gabriela** served on the Student Grievance Review Committee for the Student Association.

- In order for President LeBlanc to learn more about the undergraduate academic experience, **Grace** initiated, organized, and facilitated undergraduate round tables with students in every GW school and the president. Grace also recruited and organized nearly 100 volunteers that helped make President LeBlanc's inauguration run smoothly. Further, she expanded the frequency and length of student office hours with President LeBlanc.

- Through her summer internship with the D.C. Office of Planning, **Grace** helped to organize a community place-making event at the Anacostia Community Museum, emphasizing the rich history of early black residents in the area.

- **Marisa** invited Dr. Maranda Ward to speak about the history of D.C. during the Summer Training.

- **Matthew** served as an evaluator for the Honey W. Nashman Center's first Projects for Peace grant proposal competition.

- **Matthew** served on the interview committee to evaluate candidates for a program manager position with the Office of Military and Veteran Student Services.



Advancing our CAREERS



THE STATE OF NATIONAL SECURITY

As part of her placement at the GW Center for Cyber and Homeland Security, **Helen-Christy** executed an event, “The State of National Security,” with U.S. Representatives McCaul (TX-10), Gallagher (WI-8), Hurd (TX-23), and Katko (NY-24). Helen-Christy managed the event planning with the Jack Morton Auditorium staff, organized media attendance, including a livestream on CSPAN, and worked with the staff of the House Homeland Security Committee to coordinate with the Representative’s teams. In his remarks, Congressman McCaul highlighted several thematic and regional threats, and stressed that global engagement is necessary to U.S. national security. After Representative McCaul’s speech, Representatives Gallagher, Hurd, and Katko joined Frank Cilluffo (Director of the GW Center for Cyber and Homeland Security) on stage to discuss the current U.S. national security strategy. Helen-Christy also organized a VIP reception after the event for the Representatives, Center for Cyber and Homeland Security Senior Fellows and Board Members, and key stakeholders in the D.C. national security realm.



POSSEPLUS RETREAT

A Posse Scholar and co-worker at the Multicultural Student Services Center (MSSC) invited **Emily** to attend the PossePlus annual retreat this past spring. This annual, three-day event was coordinated through the Posse Foundation with the planning and leadership of GW Posse Scholars. The retreat was open to GW undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, and staff (collectively known as “PossePlussers”). This year’s theme, developed by Posse students, was “Hope, Hate, and Race in the United States.” The retreat’s events were incredibly well-designed to create dialogue around race, identities, and experiences. Working and talking through topics in her core “family group,” Emily listened and contributed as everyone in the group generated ideas for how GW’s campus and communities can better tackle the issues students, faculty, and staff spoke out about regarding race to provide meaningful solutions. Emily’s experience at the PossePlus retreat informed the topics she discussed at her weekly Mind Meld dialogues at the MSSC.

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



■ **Emily and Gabriela** attended BizWoman Mentoring Monday with the Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute director and current preceptor, Elizabeth Vaquera, and the Cisneros scholars. At the event, they had the opportunity to network with businesswomen who are presidents of companies, CEOs, partners at firms, etc. in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area.

- **Emily** attended the Black Heritage Celebration Finale and facilitated the MLK Week: Power and Privilege discussion.
- **Gabriela** attended the Aspen Institute Summit on Inequality and Opportunity.
- Over the summer, **Grace** interned with the D.C. Office of Planning through the District Leadership Program.
- **Helen-Christy** helped her placement at the Center for Cyber and Homeland Security host the CIA's annual conference at GW: Ethos and Professionalism.
- **Ian** attended Google's annual Top Contributor Summit in Mountain View, CA, where he learned more about Google's existing products and development roadmap.
- **Ian** attended the Center for Democracy and Technology's Future of Speech Online, a one-day symposium focused on conversation about the most pressing issues regarding free expression and policy today.
- **Matthew**, as part of his placement, served as a research assistant to the dean of the Elliott School of International Affairs, Ambassador Reuben Brigety II, in support of a book project on U.S. global and domestic political leadership.
- **Marisa** spent the summer of 2017 at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health (Johns Hopkins University), working on her Master's of Public Health degree practicum. She assisted with reviewing and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data from four countries (Zambia, Kenya, Cambodia, and Guatemala) on the impact of an integrated intervention on maternal and child health.



- **Marisa** took part in a semester-long evaluation project in which she, along with three other colleagues, evaluated an actual prenatal care proposal by Mary's Center in Adelphi, MD. The proposal was aimed at ensuring increased availability of comprehensive women's health services to low-income, uninsured, or underinsured women in Prince George's County, Maryland.
- **Marisa** attended and facilitated logistics at the third International Conference on Systems and Complexity Sciences for Health.
- **Marisa** took multiple global health courses in order to be better prepared to work in the global health/international development field.

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



TEACHING ASSISTANT

As part of her placement in the Department for Clinical Research and Leadership at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), **Marisa** served as a teaching assistant for an online global women's health course. This was an 8-week online one-credit course offered to undergraduate students that was piloted in fall 2017. The course covered the top ten issues for women's health delineated by the World Health Organization, and was designed with a global human rights framework. This course was innovative because there is currently no other course at GW like this one offered to undergraduates, and it was also the first one-credit elective course offered in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Marisa helped to build the content for the course, coordinated logistics of the Blackboard learning portal, and graded student assignments. Marisa submitted an abstract to showcase the findings from the pilot course for a presentation at GW Research Days in spring 2018.



ALEX'S OPEN LETTER ON WEEKLY MEETINGS

Because I study economics, I tend to think of myself as an economy where my unemployment rate measures how much time I spent wastefully and my GDP measures how much time I spent productively. It is in every economy's goal—including mine—to minimize the former and maximize the latter. As much as we like to be productive, things happen (in economic terms, "exogenous shocks") that could disturb the economy's productivity. Such shocks include a bad night of sleep, a personal relationship crisis, or even weather, all of which can have sizable impact on one's productivity.

The value of the Presidential Fellowship weekly meetings to my economy is sort of like that of the Federal Reserve to the U.S. economy: they help mitigate shocks and boost productivity. I often walked (ran) into the meeting feeling defeated by my overwhelming responsibilities. But at the end, after listening to my peer's interesting presentations, learning lessons from university leadership such as the deans, or just simply knowing that my peers are walking in the same shoes as mine, I walked out every Tuesday feeling calmer and more confident than when I walked in to the meetings.

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



■ **Due to Alex's interest in locational analysis, and after participating in a year-long doctoral-level class in regional and urban economics with Professor Yezer, he worked with Dr. Yezer to understand Wal-Mart's impact on supermarkets in cities.**

- As part of classes on sustainable energy and mega cities, **Dor** examined Mexico City's climate change challenges and opportunities to mitigate and adapt to secure a resilient future.
- **Emily** continued her research on Parisian suburbs and how they fit into the French political landscape. She also extensively researched the transnational history and reality of how raï, Algerian folk music, is used in Paris and its suburbs. She is hoping to use this research to create a short film about the topic over the next two summers.
- **Emily** took two courses during the spring semester at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (NMNH): Museums and the Body and the Anthropology of History. Both courses allowed her to go behind the scenes at NMNH, explore collections not on display, and connect with Smithsonian curators.
- **Gabriela** researched how mentorship improves the undergraduate experience for Hispanic/Latinx students at her placement with the Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute.
- **Gabriela** entered the GW New Venture Competition to develop a web-based resource to help first generation college students with their transition into college.
- **Grace** and her capstone project team in the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration worked with the D.C. Department of Transportation to identify and analyze parking problems associated with D.C.'s dockless bike program.
- **Grace** worked with Professor Hillary Silver to match Continuums of Care (federally mandated units that administer services to homeless populations) to counties, in order to correlate county traits and programs with rates of homelessness.
- **Helen-Christy** took classes such as Counterterrorism, Cross-Cultural Communication, and Care of Children in Complex Emergencies as part of the Security Policy Studies program in the Elliott School of International Affairs.
- **Helen-Christy** served as a lead drafter on a joint issue brief authored by the directors of Europol and the Center for Cyber and Homeland Security.
- **Ian** is completing an evaluation for the "I Have A Dream" Foundation, a nonprofit organization assisting youth in low-income areas. The program incentivizes youth on their path to college by providing dollar rewards for various milestones they take and by opening savings accounts for them.

■ **Marisa was part of a semester-long quantitative research project for an Advanced Research methods course to explore men's attitudes towards women's reproductive health in the United States. Marisa contributed to literature reviews at her placement with the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership to inform a federal proposal regarding Medicaid community-based long-term services and supports.**



- **Marisa** was part of a four-person team conducting a pro-bono consultancy for Social Impact and USAID, completing a systematic review of the literature on gender-based violence in Ethiopia. Marisa submitted an abstract for GW Research Days regarding a pilot course on Global Women's Health that she helped develop and facilitate at her placement.
- **Marisa** was a research team member for an NIH-funded study aimed at exploring the Motivation, Threat, and Engagement Intensity in Cross-Disciplinary Health, Biomedical, Policy, and Education Teams at her placement. Marisa's "Culminating Experience" for her Master of Public Health degree focused on a mixed-methods study aimed at understanding how the current administration's immigration policies are affecting the mental health of Latino families in Langley Park.
- **Matthew** dedicated a semester to researching Jordanian defense policy and civilian-military relations in Turkey and Egypt.
- **Matthew** completed courses on negotiation skills, project management, and evaluation for security in the Elliott School of International Affairs. He applied these skills when he facilitated a mock negotiation on gun control legislation for a negotiation class' capstone exercise.
- **Zunara** researched opportunities for funding by Medicaid for homelessness as part of a course she completed in fall 2017. She then utilized econometric principles to analyze data about democratic participation for an econometrics course in spring 2018.
- **Zunara** researched health equity for a staff-training program at her placement with the Dean's Office at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Zunara also researched market basket schools' best practices and student engagement in health sciences to improve academic programming at her placement.

Alumni REFLECTIONS



"Upon reflecting on my Presidential Fellowship, I am most grateful for my cohort. They are some of the most intelligent, caring, and supportive people that I have had the opportunity to surround myself with. I'm honored and humbled to be able to call them life-long friends. Special shoutout to the #SixPack!" "

- Shakir Cannon-Moye, BBA '10, MBA '12



"The Presidential Fellowship truly set me on a course that has directly impacted nearly all aspects of my life. The ability to work for two years in the GW Admissions Office has impacted each job I have had thereafter, and has contributed to who I have become and where I live my life, ten years later. Some of the greatest friendships I have to this day are ones that were forged during this time and I know how lucky I am to have had the experience."

- Ross D. Mankuta, BA '06, MA '08

Alumni HONOR ROLL

Thank you to the following Presidential Fellowship alumni who have been engaged with the program and the university during the 2018-2019 academic year. The following list is current as of May 1, 2018, and we apologize to anyone we missed and are grateful to those who join our engagement efforts between now and the end of the academic year. Contact us at paf@gwu.edu to discuss opportunities to get engaged with the program and the university now or in the future.

Will Alexander, BS '04, MBA '06

Ravi Alfreds, BA '06, MA '08

Marcus Andrews, AA '13, BA '15, MPH '17

Lauren (Shenfeld) Baker, BA '13, MA '15

Meredith (Waters) Barnes, BA '13, MPH '15

Angela Williams Bartee, BA '93, M.Ed '95

Daniel Bernstein, BA '09, MBA '11

Jessica (Fern) Bernstein, BA '12, MPP '14

Adam Bethke, BA '13, MPA '15

J.P. Blackford, BS '95, MS '97

Joe Bondi, BA '01, MA '03

Chris Brooks, BA '08, MA '10

Samantha Byrd, BA '99, MA '01

Darnell Cadette, BA '10, MPP '12

Shakir Cannon-Moye, BBA '10, MBA '12

Carol Capece, BA '00, MBA '02

Blythe (Debenport) Compton, BS '04, MS '06

Fiona Conroy, BA '04, MA '06

Amanda (Harding) Eidshaug, BA '04, MA '06

Alyscia Eisen, BBA '08, MBA '10

Alan Elias, BA '00, MA '02

Brian Engel, BA '10, MA '12

Zinhle Essamuah, BA '15, MA '17

Ryan Evans, BA '08, MA '10

Jordan Evert, BA '08, MA '10

Kyle Farmbry, BA '92, MPA '94

Gina Fernandes, BA '08, MA '10

Family of Lindsey Ferris, BA '01, MA '03

Alyson (Rappaport) Fieldman, BBA '99, MBA '01

Sara (Holmes) Flowers, BA '01, MPH '03

Stacey Fried-Kane, BA '91, MPA '93

Elizabeth (Barnett) Glidden, BA '11, MPH '13

Emmanuella (DuPlessy) Greene, BA '02, MPA '04

Jacqueline Hackett, BA '08, MPP '10

Sara (Jimmy) Hamilton, BA '07, BS '07, MA '09

Titi (Williams-Davies) Harley, BBA '07, MBA '09

Brian Hawthorne, BA '10, MA '12

Shirley Hsieh, BA '13, MA '15

Kelsey Johnston, BA '14, MA '16

Natalie Kaplan, BA '09, MPA '11

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Christopher Kim, BA '13, MPP '15

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Josh Lasky, BA '07, MPA '09

Sarah-Jo Lawrence, BA '08, MA '10

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Paul Mamalian, BA '90, JD '93

Ross Mankuta, BA '06, MA '08

Jeffrey Marootian, BA '01, MA '03

John Morris, BA '90, MPA '92

Alec Nadeau, BA '15, MPA '17

Heather Malkin Nesle, BA '97, MA '99

Philip Ng, BBA '04, MPA '06

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Kristy (McDonnell) Ortiz, BA '99, MA '01

Anna Phillips, BA '09, MA '11

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Angela Sako, BA '15, MPP '17

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Dr. Robert Snyder

serves as the Presidential Fellowship Program Director. He is the Executive Director of Planning and Outreach in Student Affairs.

Dr. Toby Davidow

serves as the Presidential Fellowship Program Coordinator. She is the Coordinator of Planning and Outreach in Student Affairs.

Mae Cooper

serves as the Presidential Fellowship Professional Development Advisor. She is the Learning and Development Manager in Development and Alumni Relations.

Dr. Kathy Newcomer

serves as the Presidential Fellowship Faculty Advisor. She is Professor of Public Administration and the Director of the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration.

With Thanks

The Presidential Fellowship program is deeply grateful to **Dr. Peter Konwerski** for his leadership and involvement with the program, initially as the Program Director and, most recently, as the Administrative Advisor. Generations of current and alumni fellows have benefited greatly from Peter's expertise, advice, and connections. We wish him all the best as he concludes his involvement with the program and his role as GW's Vice Provost and Dean of Student Affairs.

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