

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019



THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC



Presidential
Fellowship

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Greetings from PRESIDENT LeBLANC



Dear Presidential Fellowship Alumni, Fellows, and Friends:

In my second year as GW's President, I have had the pleasure of working directly with two Presidential Fellows and it is clear that this program has been an excellent investment for GW.

I had the opportunity to meet with the current Presidential Fellow cohort in September to discuss my vision and priorities for GW and hear their perspectives as students who have a rich history at GW and a unique perspective as undergraduates and now as graduate students and staff. We had an engaging conversation and an exchange of ideas about GW.

This year, our Fellows have made significant contributions to their placement departments as well as to the GW community's public service efforts, research initiatives, and alumni engagement, while excelling academically and participating in signature university service projects. As ambassadors, I appreciated that several Fellows served on GW's Leadership Council. The Fellows also joined me at the beginning of the school year to meet first-year students and their families at the F Street House lemonade stand.

The Fellow placed in my office has been instrumental, as the student liaison, in helping my team better understand the needs of students at the core of my strategic initiative that is focused on enhancing the **student experience**. I am also pleased that Fellows are engaged in providing feedback as members of a number of working groups dedicated to the Student Experience Strategic Initiative Task Force.

With this year's graduating cohort, the Presidential Fellowship stands proudly at 150 alumni and I appreciate your dedication in mentoring and networking with the Fellows and the GW Community as well as providing philanthropic support.

As you review this annual report, which reflects the dedication and work not only of the Fellows this year, but of their 'village'—which includes Preceptors, the Advising Team, and countless other stakeholders—I know you will be most proud that the legacy continues.

Thomas J. LeBlanc

Thomas J. LeBlanc

Letter from the PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIP ADVISING TEAM

Dear Presidential Fellowship Alumni, Fellows, and Friends:

A little over seven months ago, the Presidential Fellowship was transitioned to report to the Center for Career Services when the **Enrollment and the Student Experience** Unit was created. This transition supports President LeBlanc's student experience initiative and provides valuable linkages to enhance the development of the Fellowship.

As a member of the PAF Selection Committee from the early years and the PAF 2020 Task Force, I was delighted to be asked to serve as director of the program and member of the **Advising Team (AT)**. Rachel Brown, associate vice provost for University Career Services, joined me as the other AT 'newbie,' with veterans Kathy Newcomer, Academic Advisor; Mae Cooper, Professional Development Advisor; and Toby Davidow, Program Coordinator, in rounding out the team.

This has been a marvelous year of supporting a wonderful cohort of 10 Fellows and gaining a solid understanding of the operational, professional development, placement, service, academic, and ambassadorial sides of the fellowship. The highlights are numerous, but meeting the PAF alumni from my selection committee years, interacting with the Preceptors who provide crucial career-building experience, and participating in service and other university efforts are certainly noteworthy. This year also provided the opportunity to look critically at ways to make program enhancements aligned with enrollment and the student experience.

As we approach the 30th anniversary of the Fellowship in 2020, I am appreciative of GW's long-standing commitment and investment in the program and invite alumni, preceptors, and supporters to contribute and participate in our celebration and efforts to continue shaping the fellowship.

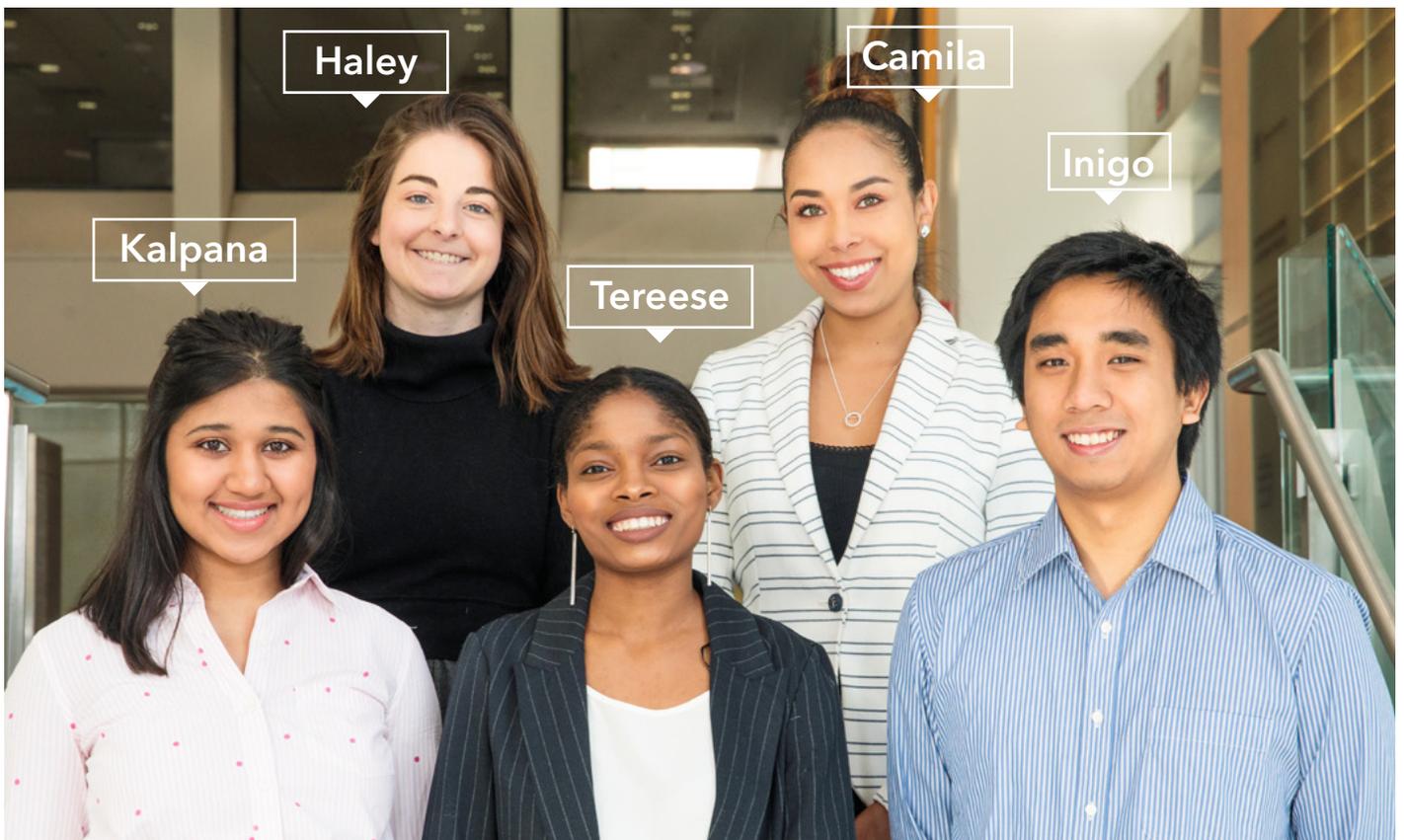
Together, We Raise High!



Marva Gumbs Jennings, M.A. Education, GSEHD '83
Program Director, Presidential Fellowship
Managing Director, Interdisciplinary Career Initiatives
Center for Career Services (CCS)
Enrollment and the Student Experience (ESE)

Meet the FELLOWSHIP

FIRST-YEAR FELLOWS



Kalpana Vissa

is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree in community-oriented primary care with a placement at the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Haley Gray

is pursuing a Master of Accountancy degree with a placement at the Business Management and Analysis Group.

Tereese Smith

is pursuing a Master of Public Policy degree and a certificate in nonprofit management with a placement at the Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service.

Camila Tapias

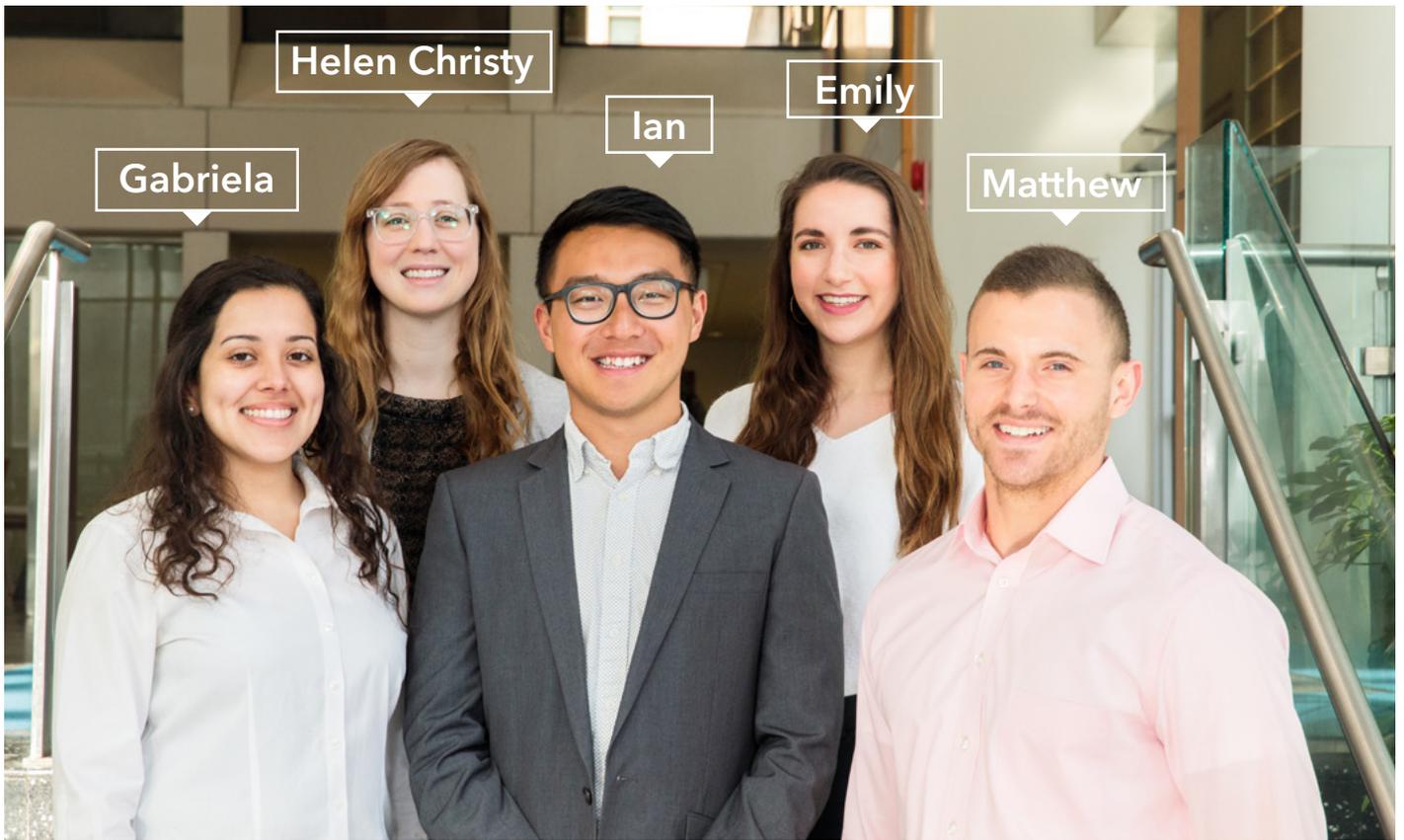
is pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree with a placement at the Office of the President.

Inigo Acosta

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

Meet the FELLOWSHIP

SECOND-YEAR FELLOWS



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.

Ian Tang

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

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 Division of Development and Alumni Relations.

Meet the FELLOWSHIP

ADVISING TEAM



Dr. Toby Davidow

serves as the Presidential Fellowship Program Coordinator. She is on the Interdisciplinary Career Services Initiatives team in the Center for Career Services.

Dr. Kathy Newcomer

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

Ms. Marva Gumbs Jennings

serves as the Presidential Fellowship Program Director. She is the Managing Director of Interdisciplinary Career Services Initiatives in the Center for Career Services.

Ms. Mae Cooper

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

Ms. Rachel Brown

serves as the Presidential Fellowship Administrative Advisor. She is the Associate Vice Provost for University Career Services.

With Thanks

The Presidential Fellowship program is deeply grateful to Dr. Robert Snyder for his leadership and involvement with the program, most recently as the Program Director. Generations of current and alumni Fellows have benefited greatly from Robert's expertise, advice, and connections—we wish him all the best.

Serving our NEIGHBORS



ALTERNATIVE BREAKS

Learning Partners are GW staff and faculty who are invited to join Alternative Breaks service trips, while also serving in a leadership capacity for trip participants. After participating in the Alternative Breaks program as an undergraduate, **Inigo** was excited to volunteer as a Learning Partner to further his passion for service and learning. Over winter break, he traveled with 12 undergraduate students to the capital of the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Throughout the week, the group served with the local Head Start program while concurrently engaging in cultural and educational activities to learn about Cherokee history, culture, and society. It was an incredible experience being able to learn more about this fascinating community with fellow GW undergraduate peers and discuss ways to implement those lessons in his academic and professional pursuits.



LEMONADE STAND

During Fall Move-In, the Fellows hosted a lemonade stand in front of President LeBlanc's F Street House residence. This beloved tradition started last year as a way to welcome new members of the GW community and their families. In addition to lemonade, the Fellows passed out snacks and danced on the front lawn. The "Cupid Shuffle" is always a big hit and, this year, several university administrators joined in. The new Dean of the Student Experience, Cissy Petty, President LeBlanc, and others were on hand to greet first-years moving in to Thurston and Potomac Halls. The Fellows look forward to finding ways to continue to engage with the undergraduate community.



VOLUNTEERING WITH THE PRESIDENT

On September 10, 2018, GW's tenth annual Welcome Day of Service took place. This was the university's largest Convocation and Welcome Day of Service, which featured service activities at more than 40 sites in the D.C. area. At the Convocation, students were able to hear encouraging words from President LeBlanc, Provost Maltzman, and Crystal Sylvester, the student speaker for the event. The atmosphere at the Smith Center was energizing. The class of 2022 filled the arena with their bright green T-shirts. They also had an opportunity to show pride for their individual schools and colleges, with cheers after introductions from their respective deans. Towards the end of the Convocation, students were encouraged to learn the GW Fight Song.

For the day of service, **Camila** volunteered alongside President LeBlanc, his wife, Mark Diaz (EVP and CFO), and Aristide Collins (Chief of Staff, VP, and Secretary). They started at the Gap Community Child Center in Northwest D.C., where they removed paint from the walls and helped organize toys and supplies from different classrooms. From here, they traveled to the Armed Forces Retirement Home and the Lincoln Cottage. Camila and President LeBlanc interacted with many veterans and learned about their experiences. One of the highlights of serving at this site was to watch the veterans, students, and Mrs. LeBlanc bowl together. Bringing joy to these amazing people was transformative and humbling.

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS



A WIDER CIRCLE

- During Summer Training, Fellows and Advising Team volunteered at a Wider Circle and continued the strong relationship with the organization that was first established.
- For Welcome Day of Service, Presidential Fellows served alongside 40 first-year students at the D.C. Diaper Bank.
- **Camila** volunteered multiple times during the fall semester at the Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition (CAIR Coalition) and staffed the detention hotline to provide information for detained immigrants in MD and VA detention centers.



- During winter break, **Camila** and her mother's basketball academy provided more than 80 gifts to children who live in a disadvantaged neighborhood in Bogota, Colombia.
- Furthermore, **Camila** spoke to about 30 kids who play basketball in Colombia about her experiences at GW after playing 4 years of Division I basketball. She encouraged them to keep working hard to achieve their goals as she did, and stays in contact with many of them to assist them with anything they need.
- **Haley** unpacked deliveries and organized shelves at the GW Store's pantry at least twice a month with Business Management and Analysis Group (BMAG) co-workers.
- **Haley** supported the GW Diversity Summit by helping with setup and check-in.
- Together as a Presidential Fellowship, the Advising Team and Fellows pooled resources and purchased gifts for families in support of Give-a-Gift, a GW holiday tradition.
- For Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, Fellows and Advising Team volunteered to read and comment on poems from incarcerated youth with Free Minds.

- **Helen Christy** virtually edited résumés and cover letters for military wives in the Fort Bragg community.
- Fellows, Advising Team, and alum **Zunara Naeem**, BA '16, MPA '17, helped the Rock Creek Conservancy pick up waste from the Rock Creek Park area in Washington, D.C.
- Continuing a strong relationship between Presidential Fellows and School Without Walls (SWW), **Tereese** helped SWW with editing senior theses and paper grading.
- **Tereese** volunteered as a Spanish teacher at Garrison Elementary School.
- **Kalpna** volunteered for Whitman-Walker Health, where she educated D.C. community members about HIV, HIV testing and care, and best sexual health practices.
- **Kalpna** edited and provided feedback on several research projects of seniors at School Without Walls over winter break.
- **Kalpna** served as an interviewer on the Center for Student Engagement's 2019 Resident Advisor Carousel Day.

Strengthening the GW COMMUNITY



PRESIDENTIAL FELLOW PROGRAM VIDEO

As we approach the program's 30th anniversary and the university's bicentennial, the Fellows and Advising Team began looking for more innovative ways to share the story of the Fellowship with the wider community. One of the latest efforts is a completely revamped program video, which was last updated in 2012. The new spot puts the focus on the various pillars of the Fellowship, highlighting unique experiences like **Kalpana's** transition into graduate school, **Camila's** relationship with President LeBlanc, Mr. Tapscott's mentorship of many Fellows placed at MSSC, and even **Titi Williams-Davies'**, BBA '07, MBA '09, reflections as an alumna. The Fellows are grateful to the friends of the program, including Marketing & Creative Services, that made this video possible. Watch it now on the Presidential Fellowship website.



MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Gina Fernandes, BA '08, MA '10, approached the Fellows with an idea in fall 2018, proposing that her Class of 2010 pilot a mentor program with the Presidential Fellowship Class of 2020. The program allows alumni to give support and guidance about the Fellowship, professional development, academics, and placement. Each first-year Fellow was paired with at least one alumnus from the Presidential Fellowship class of 2010 who best matched their career and academic interests. At meetings throughout the semester, Fellows got together with their mentors. **Tereese** received résumé and career guidance through her mentors, **Kelly Leon**, BA '08, MA '10, and **Ryan Evans**, BA '08, MA '10, while **Haley** met with **Alyscia Eisen**, BBA '08, MBA '10, and gained insight about navigating her placement at the Business Management and Analysis Group. Thanks to continued and strong engagement from the entire Fellowship alumni network, the mentorship program has fostered even deeper relations between the current cohort and the Fellowship alumni with vast wealth of knowledge and experience.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



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

■ Gabriela and Zunara Naeem, BA '16, MPA '18, got lunch together on campus to discuss future goals.

■ Shakir Cannon-Moye, BBA '10, MBA '12, Meredith (Waters) Barnes, BS '13, MHA '15, and Angela Sako, BA '15, MPP '17, gave career advice to Gabriela regarding consulting and the hiring process.

■ Kalpana met with Brian Engel, BA '10, MA '12, and Paul Biba, BA '11, MA '13, to learn about their experiences with the Fellowship and gained insight on how to make the most of the two years.

■ Emily and Kalpana worked alongside JP Blackford, BS '95, MS '97, and Chris Diaz, BA '09, M.Ed '11, during the final round of interviews for the 2019-2021 Presidential Fellowship cohort.

■ Fellows hosted a Trivia Night with Adam Bethke, BA '13, MPA '15, Allison Rhodes, BA '12, MPP '14, and Gina Fernandes, BA '08, MA '10, at Roofers Union in Adams Morgan. One of the teams even won the night!

■ Inigo assisted Presidential Fellowship alumnus Rodney Salinas, BA '97, MA '99, in the selection process for the outstanding achievement awards in the student organization they were both a part of, the Philippine Cultural Society.

■ Inigo invited alumna Emannuela (DuPlessy) Greene, BA '02, MA '04, to join the Fellows for a discussion on female leadership and mentoring rising leaders.

■ Led by Natalie Craver, BA '09, MPA '11, the Fellows and Advising Team took part in a Mindful Yoga session.

■ Alex Wang, BS '16, MA '18, and Gina Fernandes, BA '08, MA '10, cheered on the GW Men's Basketball Team with current fellows in February 2019.

■ Shakir Cannon-Moye, BBA '10, MBA '12, Meredith (Waters) Barnes, BS '13, MHSA '15, Chelsea Lenhart, BA '14, MPA '16, and Ashlynn Profit, BA '14, MPA '16, participated in the annual Fall Training.

■ During her time home from Guatemala, Ian caught up with Marisa Cordon, BA '16, MPH '18, and Zunara Naeem, BA '16, MPA '18. Additionally, Ian had lunch with Max Tingle, BA '15, MPP '17, and brought him to their shared placement, Marketing & Creative Services, when he visited D.C. in the spring 2019 semester.



COMMUNITY & DIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS



LATINX EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Latinx Excellence Awards is an event to celebrate the accomplishments of leaders from the Latinx community. This year, the Multicultural Student Services Center and the Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute co-hosted the Awards with Fellows **Emily** and **Gabriela** taking the lead on planning the event. The event took place at the President's House, thanks to help from Fellow **Camila**. Having the Awards hosted at the President's House was significant because it showed the students that their work was being recognized and appreciated by higher administration. Furthermore, it was exciting for Fellows from different offices to come together and plan such an important event!



OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS FOCUS GROUPS

As part of his placement in the Division of Development & Alumni Relations' Annual Giving Team, **Matthew** convened a series of student focus groups centered on the student experience, GW traditions, and role of alumni in the GW community. Matthew developed a series of surveys and discussion questions intended to identify challenges to inspiring students, the alumni of tomorrow, and towards lifelong loyalty to GW. Current fellows **Camila**, **Gabriela**, **Haley**, **Helen Christy**, **Inigo**, and **Kalpana** participated in the focus groups and provided their feedback. After reviewing the results, Matthew categorized the responses and provided a number of recommendations.

COMMUNITY & DIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS



- **Camila** has been working with Dean Petty and the new Enrollment and Student Experience unit (ESE) to develop a strategic way to interact with more students on campus and improve the student experience. The project stemmed from the goal of making sure that President LeBlanc continues his constant engagement with all types of students at the university.
- During the fall 2018 semester, **Camila** secured over \$25,000 in scholarship funds for the wider GW community through correspondence with key donors at the university.
- At her placement, **Camila** developed a tracking system for student follow-ups after events such as Round Tables and Student Office Hours with President LeBlanc.
- **Camila** helped organize the new “Leaders-2-Leaders” series of events at the President’s house by working on the logistics of the event and choosing the leadership questions that were asked at each table of staff/faculty and student leaders. **Inigo** also participated in one of these sessions, helping to continue foster strong relationships between student leaders and senior administrators.
- **Camila** successfully organized nine students’ Round Tables with President LeBlanc and each of GW’s schools/departments, a place for diverse groups of students to share their experiences with the president and talk about university matters.

- The Fellows attended the 12th Annual Lindsey Ferris Invitational and reception, which celebrates the life and legacy of this PAF alumna.
- **Emily** facilitated the planning for the South Asian Heritage Celebration and the Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration, including coordinating Tan France, the keynote speaker.
- **Gabriela** participated, for the first time, in the Women’s March and she feels that she grew more comfortable in her activism because of the experience.
- **Gabriela** and **Tereese** participated on a panel about graduate school for an event hosted by GW League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).
- **Gabriela** assisted with the coordination of volunteers for the second annual Endocares Diabetes Health Fair at the Mexican and Peruvian consulates, an event she also helped coordinate last year.
- At an event hosted by her sorority, Theta Chapter of Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc., **Gabriela** co-led a healthy relationship conversation with Christian Franzino, the Assistant Director for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response from the Title IX Office.

COMMUNITY & DIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS



■ In his placement, **Ian** coordinated GW's 2018 holiday video, featuring members of the community and the Presidential Fellowship. He worked with GW departments, offices, and student organizations to bring out a wider audience of students than before.

■ **Ian, Camila, and Kalpana** attended Senator Kamala Harris' book tour event at Lisner Auditorium.

- **Ian** served as a member of the GW Students Rights & Responsibilities Grievance Board, a position many Presidential Fellows have been nominated for and held before.
- **Kalpana** served as a sexual violence prevention educator and staff member for all incoming first-year students during the mandatory in-person workshops.
- **Kalpana** served as the chair of the Prevention Committee in the Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, where she worked alongside students, staff, and faculty to develop effective prevention and response programs for students.
- **Kalpana** served as a co-chair of the GW Safety and Security Student Advisory Board to increase transparency and knowledge about safety among students at GW.
- **Kalpana** served as a graduate representative on the Board of Trustees Volunteer Task Force, where she collaborated with Board members to enhance our alumni engagement.
- **Matthew** served as an actor for the reading of American Airman, a GW senior thesis turned into a screenplay on the challenges of student veterans' reintegration into civilian life.
- **Matthew** served as the graduate student representative to the GW Career Service Council's philanthropy team and provided reviews for the Knowledge in Action Career Internship Fund (KACIF) award applications for the spring and summer terms.
- **Matthew** participated in the Military Mile Memorial March, an annual event to commemorate the national service of GW alumni and celebrate graduating military-affiliated students.
- **Tereese** advised the Black Women's Forum by suggesting event opportunities, generating fundraiser ideas, and providing general support for the current co-presidents. The organization, which Tereese was involved with throughout undergrad, works to create a sense of sisterhood and community for black women at GW.

■ **Kalpana, Matthew, and Inigo** learned some basketball skills from the Fellowship's champion, **Camila**, and have enjoyed playing together throughout the year.



Advancing our CAREERS



WORKING AT THE SMITHSONIAN

After interning with the Asian Cultural History Program (ACHP) at the Smithsonian Institution during his senior year, Inigo was excited to maintain his close relationships with his mentors, especially curator Dr. Paul Michael Taylor. From time to time, **Inigo** visits his colleagues to keep up with the program's projects and initiatives and assist with translation of documents from Thai to English. As a young anthropologist, Inigo has enjoyed learning more about his field and the many potential career opportunities from these esteemed professionals.



TSO PRESIDENT

The pillars of the Presidential Fellowship are fully integrated into the program, and many Fellows aim to use the pillars to guide their individual efforts outside of the Fellowship as well. GW's graduate community is thriving and provides many opportunities for Fellows to actively be involved in their school's activities. **Tereese** chose to run for President of the Trachtenberg Student Organization (TSO) this past fall and was elected to this crucial position. TSO is a student-run organization with the goal of enhancing the student experience at the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration (TSPPPA). As President, Tereese works to support students in the Trachtenberg community and help them form connections with the greater GW community. She uses her experiences with ambassadorship from the Fellowship to help her leverage the relationships that she has made through the Fellowship, and has not only helped host exciting events but also formed worthwhile connections with students, alumni, faculty, and administrators at GW. As Tereese's tenure continues, she plans on hosting more events over the summer and working with other graduate programs on panels, networking events, and alumni engagement opportunities. Tereese follows several Fellowship alumni who have served in this role, with mentorship from the director of TSPPPA and faculty advisor of the Presidential Fellowship, Kathy Newcomer.

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



■ **Gabriela** attended the Latino Leaders Network Tribute to Mayors, which honored Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner.

■ **Haley** attended a presentation from Rene Redzepi and David Zilber, who discussed fermentation and the world-famous restaurant Noma.

■ **Haley** went to the Presidential Distinguished Event Series with Ron Chernow.

■ **Haley** attended training on Facilitation Skills that focused on how to manage group discussions, brainstorming, and group dynamics.

■ **Helen Christy** guest-lectured at undergraduate counterterrorism classes at both Georgetown and GW this academic year.

■ **Helen Christy** briefed members of the Congressional Counter-Terrorism Caucus on Capitol Hill.

■ **Helen Christy** co-authored a report with Bennett Clifford with the Program on Extremism on Islamic State sympathizer activity on Telegram, a private messaging app.

■ **Ian** attended a range of personal and professional development coffee chats throughout the fall 2018 and spring 2019 semesters, including connections fostered through the networks of the Advising Team.

■ As part of his placement, **Inigo** co-lead the planning committee to organize GW Research Days 2019.

■ **Inigo** served as a liaison between student research organizations and senior administrators to enhance collaboration on events to promote research on campus.

■ **Inigo** attended the Thai National Day Celebration with his mentor, Dr. Paul Taylor, from the Smithsonian Institution.

■ **Kalpna** served as a notetaker at the Department of Health and Human Services' conference, **Partners in Hope: Strengthening the Role of Faith-Based Providers in the Continuum of Care for Addiction Recovery**.

■ **Kalpna** submitted her first paper as a second author to the Journal of American College Health with her preceptor, Dr. Robert Turner.

■ **Kalpna** co-taught an undergraduate course, Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Illness, with her preceptor, Dr. Leslie Davidson, during fall of 2018.

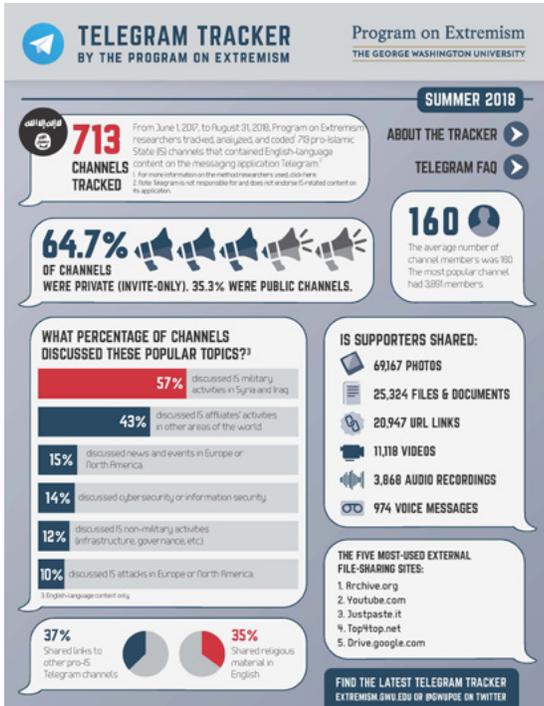
■ **Matthew** completed a cohort-based personal development class, offered by GW Career Services, based on the best-selling book *Design Your Life*.

■ **Tereese** was a member of the Minority Leadership Program.

■ **Tereese** attended several professional development events and employer site visits, including **Bizwomen Mentoring Monday Event, the World Bank, World Resources Institute, UN Foundation, and SID Washington Career Fair**.



PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



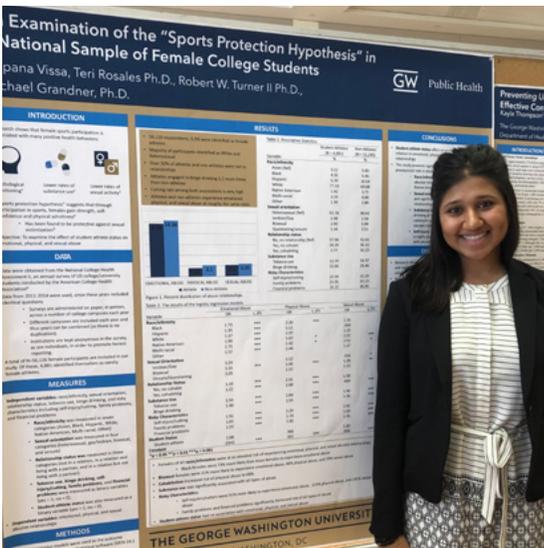
DOCUMENTING TERRORISM

This spring, **Helen Christy** published a report with co-author Bennett Clifford, detailing two years of research on Islamic State (IS) sympathizer activity on the encrypted communications application Telegram. When Helen Christy began at her placement at the Program on Extremism, she jumped onto the project, collecting channels and infiltrating networks of IS sympathizers on Telegram. After observing and coding the online ecosystem for two years, Helen Christy and Bennett offer their conclusions about how IS-sympathizers use Telegram as a communications tool. Additionally, original data is supplemented through the international case studies of Karen Hamidon, Ashraf al-Safuo and Husnain Raschid. These individuals were arrested in relation to their pro-IS activities on Telegram during data collection, some of which was observed and captured in the sample. The report explores issues such as Telegram's takedown policy, the rise of grassroots actors and propaganda groups, and the proliferation of operational material on Telegram.



ANTHRO+

On March 9th, **Emily** presented her thesis research, titled "Changing Landscapes of Art & Politics in Aubervilliers," at the University of Maryland, College Park's 10th Annual Anthro+ Conference. The conference, produced by the Practicing Anthropology Student Association, featured a variety of undergraduate and graduate research presentations from universities and colleges. The theme of this year's Anthro+ Conference was "Moving Forward: Interdisciplinarity and the Future of Anthropology," and Emily's research embraced interdisciplinarity accordingly in her session titled "Machines, Animals, and Landscapes: Anthropological Approaches to Changing Environments." Emily's presentation stemmed from her summer 2018 fieldwork in Aubervilliers, a northern suburb of Paris. After she presented, Emily answered questions from faculty and students, and received valuable feedback to guide her work.



RESEARCH DAYS

As part of her placement at the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), **Kalpna** submitted an abstract to present some of her ongoing research at GW Research Days in spring 2019. Kalpna collaborates closely with Dr. Robert Turner and fellow research scholars from all over the country to write manuscripts for publication. Most of this work focuses on athletes' health. She works with Dr. Michael Grandner, the Director of Sleep Health at the University of Arizona, to study how sleep affects collegiate athletes in terms of their health, academics, behavior, and more. She also studies athletes' health with Dr. Teri Rosales at the University of Michigan. Her interest in sexual violence response and prevention inspired her to examine sexual violence among collegiate athletes. Her poster presentation for GW Research Days examines the effect of athlete status on female college students and their experiences with abusive relationships. The benefits of being a female athlete are well-documented and even highlight the protective factors associated with sports participation. Kalpna was interested in seeing if this protection hypothesis applied to females in abusive relationships. Her findings from this study suggest that female athletes experience no protection from abusive relationships and that there is a much larger problem at hand. She is excited to continue examining the risk factors of abusive relationships and determine ways to address this problem.

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



- **Camila** and her team worked with an external nonprofit in D.C. during Kathy Newcomer's Program Evaluation class, where they produced an evaluation report that included a proposal for the client's Diversity & Inclusion program.
- During the fall 2018 semester, **Camila** gave an academic presentation about Child Trafficking in Southeast Asia during a Presidential Fellowship weekly meeting.
- **Emily** presented her thesis research, titled "Changing Landscapes of Art & Politics in Aubervilliers," at the University of Maryland's 2019 Anthro+ Conference, which features students and scholarship from across the country.
- **Emily** organized and served as the lead host for the GW Anthropology Department's Anthropocinema event series. In her role, she selected which ethnographic films to screen and worked to bring in directors and creators to discuss how visual anthropology and film engages with the broader discipline.
- For her culminating experience, **Gabriela** conducted a secondary data analysis to describe the perceived mental health of community responders, both on the Island and in the United States, in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.
- **Gabriela** had the opportunity to meet Justice Sonia Sotomayor and Eva Longoria before their event in which the Justice spoke about her children's books.
- **Gabriela** attended the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's Capitol Hill Policy Briefing on Advancing Health Equity.
- **Gabriela** completed a training in Youth Mental Health First Aid, which made her feel more confident in fulfilling her role as program manager at the Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute and in promoting mental health.
- **Haley** took a Government and Nonprofit Accounting and Auditing Standards course, which focused on teaching her the fundamentals vital for her future career path.
- **Haley** completed a financial statement project that required utilizing Excel functions to roll up over 1,000 journal entries into 3 of the 4 main financial statements.
- For her Capstone project, **Helen Christy** produced a report with policy options with solutions to reintegrate children radicalized by ISIS in Iraq.
- **Helen Christy** took the course "Insurgency & Counterinsurgency."
- In his second year in the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration (TSPPPA), **Ian** was able to take several courses he chose for his self-built "technology policy" concentration, including a one-credit Mobile Phones for International Development. He also took a course with the former Commissioner of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Dr. Allison Macfarlane.
- For his Capstone project, **Ian** worked with D.C.'s Office of the Chief Technology Officer and the Connect.DC department to evaluate promising practices in launching a program for digital literacy and inclusion.
- **Inigo** wrote several papers in his Anthropology courses related to the history and effects of ethnic-based violence in Mindanao, Philippines.



- **Inigo** conducted qualitative interviews with participants of GW Innovation and Entrepreneurship Programs to gain feedback and ways to improve the GW I-Corps program.
- **Kalpana** presented her research on abusive relationships among female collegiate athletes at Research Days in April.
- **Kalpana** created a robust program design involving planning and implementation for her public health class to address maternal morbidity and mortality in D.C.
- At her placement, **Kalpana** helped manage the logistics of a five-year longitudinal study that will begin in June 2019, examining the cognitive functioning of former NFL players and former Division I athletes.
- For his capstone project, **Matthew** investigated federal government funding mechanisms and authorities related to stability operations, developing a series of recommendations for future whole-of-government resourcing plans.
- **Matthew** surveyed a history of U.S.-Iraqi security cooperation since 2003 and developed a policy proposal for countering Iranian IRGC influence in the Iraqi security apparatus.
- **Matthew** analyzed the PKK insurgency in Turkey and developed a counterinsurgency strategy proposal.
- **Terese** attended the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA)-Batten Student Simulation Competition and competed with fellow Trachtenberg students.
- For the spring 2019 semester, **Terese** took a class entitled Private Sector Development with a professor who worked at the World Bank for over 20 years.

Key Partners

AND RELATIONSHIPS

A core pillar of the Presidential Fellowship is professional development. Much of this work happens within each Fellow's placement within the university. Our program would not be possible without the mentorship and support of the preceptors, many of whom have an existing and strong relationship with the Fellowship.



David M. Anderson
Executive Director, Annual Giving



Jon Hussey
Director of Digital Marketing Strategy,
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Aristide J. Collins, Jr.
Vice President, Chief of Staff and
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Jovanni Mahonez
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Analysis Group



Dr. Robert Turner
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Department of Clinical Research
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Michael Tapscott
Director, Multicultural Student Services Center



Megan Dieleman
Project Manager,
Office of the Vice President for Research



Dr. Elizabeth Vaquera
Director, Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute



Seamus Hughes
Deputy Director, Program on Extremism

Alumni REFLECTIONS



"The Presidential Fellowship was instrumental in helping me with the launch of my career. The professional guidance, mentorship, work opportunities, and cohort of amazing friends left a lasting impression on me. I will always be grateful for the Presidential Fellowship experience."

—**Kyle Farmbry**, BA '92, MPA '94



"The PAF program had a huge impact on the trajectory of my career. In addition to getting a first-class education, working in two interesting jobs (in communications and development), and living and working with a wonderful group of Fellows, it allowed me the—debt-free—freedom to mature over an additional two years before entering the world of full-time work. I will forever be grateful to GW for believing in me and for providing me with so many tangible resources."

—**Heather Malkin Nesle**, BA '97, MA '99



"The impacts of the Presidential Fellowship program for me extend well beyond the two-year fellowship and have impacted the direction of my career and personal life. The program opened up opportunities to work with university leaders, who became mentors—and some, I am now lucky to call friends. The program provided exposure that shaped my career path—a journey that has drawn me to continue to work at GW and contribute to the university's growth and evolution over the past fifteen plus years (which admittedly makes me feel a little old). And last, but not least, my work at GW led me to meet my husband (yes, we met at work!), which has shaped my life as a wife and step-mother, and then a mother."

—**Alicia (O'Neil) Knight**, BBA '02, MBA '04



"PAF was a key turning point in my life. Because of PAF, I started working with the Global Women's Institute, which has guided me into a career conducting research on violence against women and girls all over the world. PAF also allowed me to pursue my MA at the Trachtenberg School, and I've continued on at Trachtenberg to receive my PhD. Perhaps most importantly, I made lifelong, cherished friends through the program. I can't imagine life without PAF, and I don't want to. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity!"

—**Chelsea Ullman**, BA '12, MPP '14

BECAUSE OF PAF

The Presidential Fellowship is a unique experience. That's why we decided to ask alumni, preceptors, family, and friends of the program what the Presidential Fellowship has meant to them over the years. Here are some of the things we heard.

"I am still at GW supporting faculty, students, and staff."

"Our office has been greatly enriched by the student perspective!"

"The fellows inspire me to think differently and dream big for GW!"
—Leslie Davidson, Preceptor, Department of Clinical Research and Leadership

"I am all-in on postsecondary student success!"

"I have gained the professional development that I would not have gotten anywhere.
The Business Management and Analysis Group is an amazing placement with great people."
—Haley Gray, BA '18, MAcc '20

"GW is a better place!"
—Aristide Collins, Preceptor, Office of the President

"I refined my passion for public health and psychology and made great, lasting friendships!"
—Marisa Cordon, BA '16, MPH '18

"It put me on a path to my career! I am a few steps closer to designing GW's next campus plan!"
—Gina Fernandes, BA '08, MA '10

"I have met change-makers!"
—Emily Somberg, BA '17, MA '19

"We got Helen Christy Powell as a great researcher!"
—Audrey Alexander, Preceptor, Program on Extremism

"This program gives me the opportunity to mentor a great GW student, something I love doing, and connects me in a direct way to the GW mission. Also, Haley is really fun to be around!"
—Don Reagan, Preceptor, Business Management and Analysis Group

"I learned how to advocate for myself!"

"I mentor the great leaders of our future!"

"I have gained invaluable professional development experience and am earning a master's degree in a subject area I love, all at the same time!"
—Kalpana Vissa, BS '18, MPH '20

"I have the opportunity to meet amazing people everyday!"

"I love John Ralls!"

"I fulfilled my educational goals!"

"I am prepared for tough situations at work."

ALUMNI HONOR ROLL

Thank you to the following Presidential Fellowship alumni who have been engaged with the program during the 2018-2019 academic year. The following list is current as of April 11, 2019, with special recognition for those who have supported the program through philanthropic contributions. We apologize to anyone we missed—we are grateful to those who join our engagement efforts between now and the end of the academic year.

Ravindran Alfreds, BA '06, MA '08

Marcus Andrews, BA '15, MPH '17
Lauren (Shenfeld) Baker, BA '13, MA '15
Meredith (Waters) Barnes, BS '13, MHSA '15
Daniel Bernstein, BA '09, MBA '11
Adam Bethke, BA '13, MPA '15
JP Blackford, BS '95, MS '97

Joseph Bondi, BA '01, MA '03

Edward D. Burt, BBA '01, MS '03

Samantha Byrd, BA '99, MA '01
Caitlin Carroll, BA '07, MA '09
Kenan Cole, BS '07, MS '09

Blythe Compton, BS '04, MS '06

Natalie (Kaplan) Craver, BA '09, MPA '11
Chris Diaz, BA '09, MEd '11
Alyscia Eisen, BBA '08, MA '10
Ryan Evans, BA '08, MA '10
Gina Fernandes, BA '08, MA '10
Austin Frizzell, BA '13, MPH '15
Elizabeth (Barnett) Glidden, BA '11, MPH '13
Emmanuella (DuPlessy) Greene, BA '02, MPA '04
Jacqueline Hackett, BA '08, MA '10
Dor Hirsh Gai Bar, BS '16, BA '16, MS '18

Kelsey Johnston, BA '14, MA '16

Darrin M. Kayser, BA '98, MA '00

Sarah-Jo Lawrence, BA '08, MA '10
Chelsea Lenhart, BA '14, MPP '16

Kelly Leon, BA '08, MA '10

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

John Morris, BA '90, MPA '92

Shakir Cannon-Moye, BBA '10, MBA '12
Alec Nadeau, BA '15, MPA '17
Zunara Naeem, BA '16, MPA '17

Heather Lindsay Nesle, BA '97, MA '99

Alicia O'Neil Knight, BBA '02, MBA '04
Carrie Potter, BBA '99, MBA '01
Ashlynn Profit, BA '14, MPA '16
Steve Roche, BA '06, MA '08
Allison Rohde, BA '12, MPP '14
Rodney Salinas, BA '97, MA '99
Cameron Smither, BA '12, MPP '14
Chelsea Ullman, BA '12, MPP '14
Alex Wang, BS '16, MA '18

Titi Williams-Davies, BBA '07, MBA '09

Katie Wynne, BA '15, MPS '17

The Presidential Fellowship would also like to provide additional thanks to family and friends of the program for their generous support:

Jessica A. Bondi
Kristin M. Chambliss Burt
Christopher Compton
Hillary B. Debenport
Janet Neice
Madeleine M. Shaw

Enid C. Smith
Tiffany A. Smith
New York Life Foundation
Schwab Charitable Fund

Meet the 30TH CLASS



Halea

Halea Kerr-Layton

will pursue a Master of Arts degree in global communication.

Jacqueline

Jacqueline Baños

will pursue a Master of Public Health degree in health policy.

Carolina

Carolina Fuentes

will pursue a Master of Arts degree in sociocultural anthropology.

Rebecca

Rebecca Bizzarri

will pursue a Master of Public Administration degree.

Renea

Renea Williams

will pursue a Master of Arts degree in international development studies.

With much gratitude to current Fellows, alumni Fellows, faculty, and staff who spent innumerable hours during the 2019 recruitment and selection process, the Presidential Fellowship welcomes the 2019-2021 incoming cohort.

WHAT WE MAKE
IS HISTORY.

Before You **LEARN** How To
RUN The WORLD.
You Have To Learn **HOW**
The World Runs.

THE ONLY PLACE *More Impressive*
THAN WHERE YOU STAND *Today,*
IS WHERE YOU'LL STAND
Tomorrow.

26,000
BRIGHT STUDENTS

Great
Minds
DON'T ALWAYS
THINK ALIKE.

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