

2020-2021 Humphrey Fellows: Then and Now



January 2021



June 2021

This year's Humphrey fellows began their program year at the end of November. It was upwards of a month before they could meet as a cohort at Maxwell. By the end for their year, they were able to celebrate the conclusion of their program in-person with Humphrey family & friends, after a trip to New York City which served as a culmination of their fellowship.



The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by the Institute of International Education

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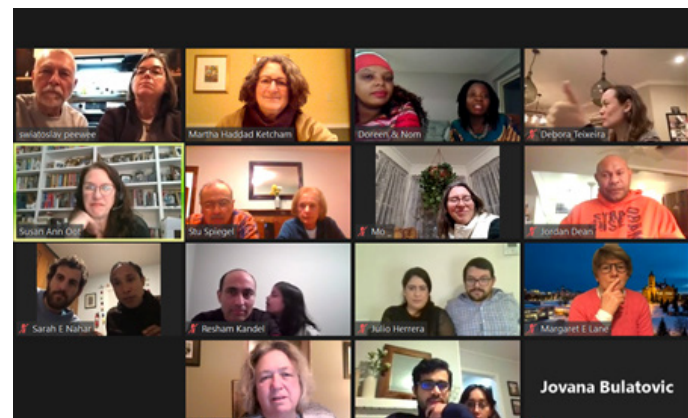
Humphrey Family & Friends Help Connect Fellows to the U.S. and CNY Region

Humphrey Family & Friends once again served an invaluable role in the lives of the Humphrey fellows. Some pitched in during the settling in (and furniture moving time!). Others offered weekly trips shopping, especially to the CNY Regional Market. Others connected for outdoor walks in winter and more face-to-face activities as restrictions eased throughout the spring.

Our annual international potluck had to be virtual, tapping into the creativity of fellows, families and friends alike. Fellows cooked, made videos, shared recipes, and provided informative presentations. Some host families also shared some dishes (and a first-ever host family lamb made a cameo appearance). While it wasn't a substitute for seeing each other in person and sharing a meal together, it provided an evening of cultural exchange during a time when groups were unable to meet in person.

March did provide an opportunity to finally meet outside as a group while celebrating maple syrup season. Fellows learned the importance of the maple syrup business (NYS is #2 in U.S. production), how trees are tapped, sap collected, and boiled down to make syrup. The sap flows for only a few weeks in late winter and the process is heavily dependent on the weather.

Yet more important than learning about maple syrup production on this cool but sunny morning was learning about each other. Being outside enabled everyone to gather safely, share stories and stave off cabin fever. In June, Humphrey families and friends gathered with fellows as they were recognized for their accomplishments and have one final celebration together.





Barbara Barrios was a 2019-2020 Syracuse Humphrey fellow from Panama.

Reflections Upon Being Home One Year: Barbara Barrios

Winning the Hubert Humphrey Scholarship and traveling to the US to study at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University gave me the opportunity of building relationships with colleagues and professionals from different countries. It was an inflection point in my life that made me reflect on my role to help improve society in my country.

Studying, volunteering, and working in the US showed me ways of collaboration and gave me ideas to solve issues existing in my country, mainly in the Education field. It was one of the reasons that made me decide to work completely in the higher education area when I returned to Panama. Working for an educational institution full time, I would be able to reach more people.

Working currently as the Director of International Affairs and Agreements at Santa Maria La Antigua University has given me an opportunity to contribute to the creation and consolidation of relations with other universities and organizations that can cooperate and work with us in different projects and investigations. Also, it is a chance for students and professors to have international experiences.

Furthermore, I am proud to have served as a liaison between the Maxwell School and Santa Maria La Antigua University to start a Memorandum of Understanding that will serve as a tool that will help us reach the goal of improving our societies and learning from each other.



August 2019



April 2020

2019-2020 Fellows Adapt to Remote Conclusion to Their Program Year

In the spring of 2020 the Humphrey fellowship (and Syracuse University), shifted to a remote modality in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Within 2 weeks of their professional development trip to New York City, 2019-2020 Fellows shifted to remote participation for courses, professional development, and even professional affiliations. Even the year-end celebration was conducted on Zoom, which at least enabled fellows to have family and friends from around the globe attend the celebration.

Some returned early while some were detained until a return flight could be arranged. Many entered quarantine as they touched ground in their countries. Many of the adaptations what were so novel in March 2020 are now second nature as countries continually adjust to current (and varied) conditions.

Humphrey Fellows Volunteer in the Central New York Community

Volunteering is one of the many components of the Humphrey fellowship. This year's activities had a decidedly COVID influence. Given the accommodations made due to the pandemic, a couple of virtual site visits were woven into the volunteer opportunities to help provide context.

In February, Piyabelan Bouyo (Togo), Doreen Bangapi Mwanyama (Tanzania), Nompumelelo Radebe (South Africa) and Débora Targino Teixeira (Brazil) volunteered at the City of Syracuse asymptomatic COVID-19 testing site. It was open to all city, county and municipal employees in Onondaga County on a weekly basis. This followed a virtual site visit with the COVID response team comprised of members of the city's fire and police departments in addition to members of Mayor Ben Walsh's staff. While volunteering at the test site, Fellows also had the opportunity for informal conversations with members of these agencies and to learn about the Syracuse Department of Public Works, where the drive-up testing facility was located.

Later in the spring fellows rolled up their sleeves to pack 175 boxes with fresh fruit and vegetables while volunteering at the Food Bank of Central New York. The boxes (each containing about 20 pounds of fresh food) were distributed the following day through the food bank's mobile distribution program. A couple weeks later fellows met the food bank's chief development officer during a virtual site visit to further learn how the food bank serves 11 New York State counties, providing 20 million pounds of food annually to the region.

Besides program-organized activities, fellows were encouraged to organize their own volunteering in the community. Four fellows volunteered with Hopeprint, a refugee empowerment nonprofit organization in April, spending a Saturday morning beautifying North Side neighborhoods, picking up trash along the sidewalks. They joined refugee families and other Hopeprint volunteers to experience another way volunteers are so integral in the U.S. Nompumelelo Radebe (South Africa), who facilitated the connection, reflected, "All of us appreciated the opportunity to participate as it gave us insight on why the US has such a strong volunteer culture (kids get taught about volunteering while they are still young). It was also an opportunity to get to see the refugee neighborhood and meet some of them. It was a rainy Saturday but we are glad we could participate in the event."

Along with Nompumelelo, volunteers included Piyabelan Bouyo and her son (Togo), Débora Teixeira along with her daughter and husband Gabriel (Brazil), and Doreen Bangapi (Tanzania).



Enhancement Workshop

“Prepare for crises,”

speakers tell Humphrey Fellows. The global pandemic kept Humphrey Fellows from gathering at Syracuse University for an annual workshop on crisis management. But a virtual program taught lessons relevant to the ongoing public health crisis as well as strategies to prepare for future crises.

“While the exact circumstances vary, there are patterns in the way crises unfold. The goal of the workshop was to learn about these patterns and explore best practices in crisis management,” said Keli Perrin, faculty lead of Leadership and Governance During Times of Crisis, sponsored by Syracuse University’s Maxwell School and administered by Executive Education. Perrin is managing director of the Institute for Security Policy and Law at the Syracuse University College of Law.

The workshop, the ninth Maxwell has hosted, took place in nine two-hour remote sessions over three weeks rather than one week. Twenty-one Humphrey Fellows representing 19 countries and 11 host campuses participated in the program. Fellows reflect a wide range of academic interests, including education, media, health care, economics, politics and public policy. They are among the year’s approximately 127 scholars from 81 countries.

“The workshop was not only an opportunity for Humphrey fellows to gain perspective on leadership during crisis from faculty experts with real-world experience, but also to learn from each other, which is especially critical during this program year during the pandemic,” said Margaret Lane, director of Syracuse University’s Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program. “Providing a platform for them to connect with fellows at campuses across the country and discovering key skills regardless of the crisis is immeasurably beneficial.”

Speakers included Bruce Dayton, associate professor, Peace-building & Conflict Transformation, School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont; Stephen Haggerty, mayor of Evanston, Illinois, and a member of Maxwell’s advisory board; and Margaret Hermann, professor of political science at Maxwell’s Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs.

Sean O’Keefe, University Professor and Howard G. and S. Louise Phanstiel Chair of Strategic Management and Leadership at Maxwell, shared insights from his experience as NASA administrator. Also participating were Michael Meath, former interim chair and professor of public relations at the Newhouse School,

and an expert on crisis communications; Hon. James Baker, professor of public administration and international affairs and professor of law, and an expert on national security; and Thomas Dennison, emeritus professor of public administration and international affairs, and an expert on public health. The workshop included case studies that demonstrate real-world crisis management strategies. Strategies included preparation, media relations on sensitive issues, tracking issues that may evolve into crises, and the importance of reputations and trust.

Doreen Bangapi Mwanyama of Tanzania, a Maxwell Humphrey Fellow, said the workshop underscored the importance of developing a risk management plan. “I also learned the importance of having role models for different kinds of crises because they help you think of what they would do in the same situation,” she said.

Bangapi is head of research and learning for BBC Media Action in Tanzania. She hopes to use her fellowship experience to use data and policy analysis to improve adolescent health and increase opportunities for farmers. She came away from the workshop with more practical lessons. “It is important to be able to manage stress, because some levels of stress are important for enhancing performance, but too much stress is bad for performance,” she said. “Effective communication in crisis is vital to avoid fake news and misinformation.”

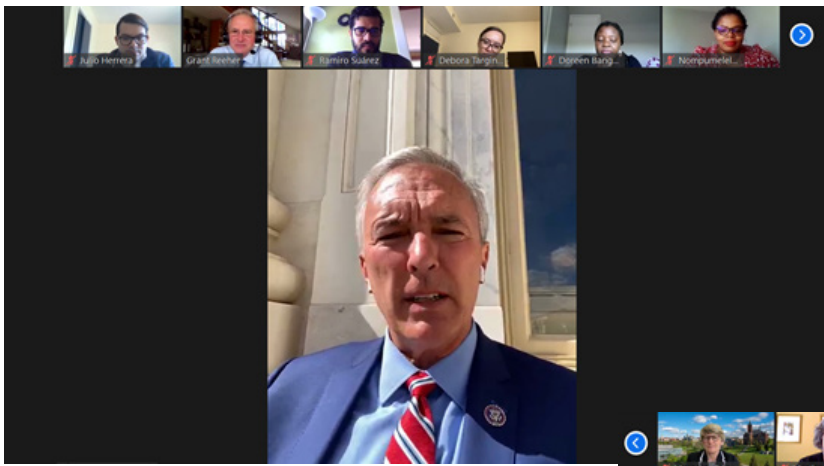
Bangapi appreciated the workshop’s interactive structure and the chance to network with fellows from other campuses. “So many opportunities came with every morning breakout room,” she said. “I got to meet fellows from other continents and countries and other fields of study and learn from them.”

The workshop prepared her to manage crises. “I now understand that not every leader is a good leader during crises and that some leaders emerge during crisis and others fall,” she said. “It takes good crisis management skills to be a good leader during a crisis.”



Leadership and Governance During Times of Crisis
Syracuse Enhancement Workshop
February 22 – March 12, 2021





U.S. Representative John Katko



Ann Marie Buerkle

Current and Former Congressional Representatives Discuss Experiences in Washington, D.C.

Syracuse Humphrey fellows had the opportunity to meet U.S. Representative John Katko of the 24th district of New York State this week. Humphrey program director Margaret Lane offered an appreciation to Rep. Katko for his stalwart support of Fulbright programs including the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship program.

The wide-ranging conversation covered the dynamics of leadership, power and politics, the congressman's involvement in the Problem Solver's Caucus and how infrastructure is interconnected with the economy.

The fellows also met Ann Marie Buerkle, former U.S. Representative and commissioner and acting chair of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. She is currently an advocate for a Washington, DC law firm. She spoke about the lobbying process from these varied roles in addition to her perspectives of being a female leader.

The conversation was facilitated by Professor Grant Reeher, director of Maxwell's Moynihan Institute for Public Affairs. He has played a key role this year in the fellows' understanding of federalism, elections and American exceptionalism.



Tour of Downtown Syracuse Provides Economic Development Innovations

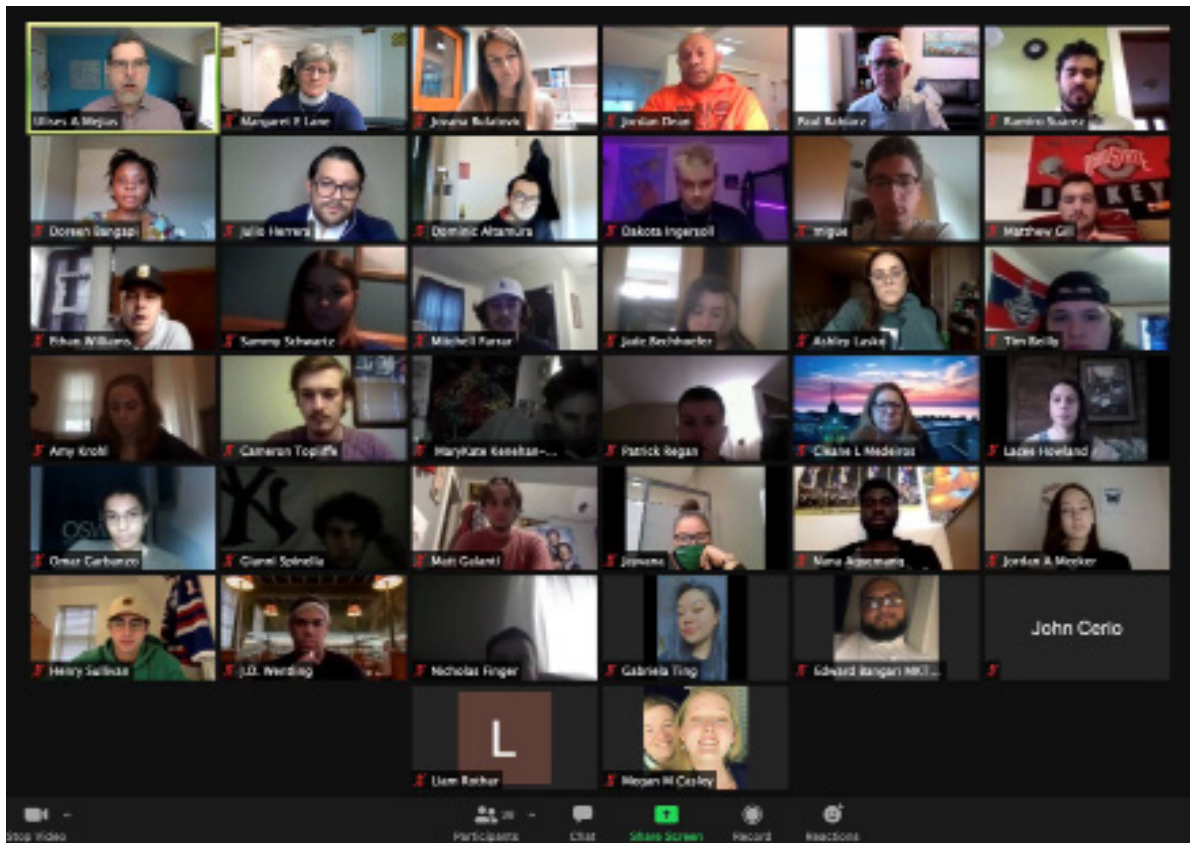
Fellows toured downtown Syracuse to see economic development projects first-hand. This was a follow-up to a virtual meeting during orientation. The stops included a pocket park that displays a piece of the Berlin Wall. The tour ended at an example of innovative projects, the Salt City Market, an international food hall recently opened that empowers entrepreneurs and celebrates the diversity of Syracuse and Onondaga County.



County Executive Discusses Mission of County Government

Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon along the deputy county executive, chief fiscal officer and head of personnel joined fellows in a virtual meeting to discuss the role of county government, how it interacts with other levels of government, how it is funded and differences between elected, appointed and civil service professionals.

Fellows Meet SUNY Oswego Students



Virtual speed meetings offered an opportunity for international business students in Prof. Paul Babiarcz's class at our associate campus at the State University of New York at Oswego to engage with fellows.

During short rounds in breakout rooms, students asked questions on a wide range of topics, helping them gain a greater understanding of fellows' countries, cultures, COVID-19, the role of women, corruption and more. Ulises Mejias, director of SUNY Oswego's Institute for Global Engagement, hosted the event.





Fellow Reflections:

Nompumelelo Radebe

Nompumelelo Radebe was a 2020-2021 Humphrey fellow from South Africa.

“Personal mastery is the discipline of continually clarifying and deepening our personal vision, of focusing our energies, of developing patience, and of seeing reality objectively” - Peter Senge. This quote from Peter Senge’s book titled: *The Fifth Discipline: The Art & Practice of the Learning Organization*, which also happens to be one of our prescribed books for managerial leadership, best sums up my Humphrey Fellowship experience. If there is one MAIN skill set that I would say I acquired throughout the fellowship, it would have to be personal mastery. This journey for me was about consistently clarifying and aligning my personal vision to the reality that was before me. It was about focusing my energies to those things that were developmental for me whilst acknowledging the realities that COVID-19 presented. It was not always easy but through all the challenges, I was still able to achieve most of the professional development goals that I had set for myself.

Coming to Syracuse University in the midst of a pandemic to pursue my professional development goals probably ranks as the bravest and yet most selfish decision I have ever taken. I say this because while some people close to me had advised that I should probably reconsider my decision to accept the fellowship given the pandemic and the increasing number of positive cases for COVID in the US, I decided to be brave and think only about myself and what this opportunity means to me in making the decision to come. Seven months later, everyone back home now agrees with me that undertaking the fellowship was the best decision for me given everything that I have achieved during this period.

The fact that the fellowship was essentially reduced to 6 months had both advantages and disadvantages for me. The main disadvantage was that I was not able to explore campus life as much as I had hoped I would and I also did not get the opportunity to fully engage with the broader US community as I would

have loved to. On the positive side, knowing that I only had 6 months pushed me to take advantage of every opportunity that was presented to me. Whether it was volunteering, participating in a workshop, leading a Peer to Peer session or exploring the hidden beauty that Syracuse has to offer, I made sure that I grabbed those opportunities because I knew my time here was very limited and I wanted to make the most of this opportunity.

It was not always easy and I don’t think any group of fellows will ever experience the challenges we faced but through it all, we conquered both individually and collectively as a group. Personally, this experience for me was about both personal and professional growth and I must say I have achieved both. I write this in the middle of doing a professional affiliation with the International Monetary Fund which was one of the professional goals I had set for myself. In fact, I ended up having two affiliations, the other with the Center for Global Development which has enabled me to fulfil another professional goal I had of publishing an article or similar in a prominent platform based on my studies and professional background. In addition to volunteer and other professional development opportunities that I have had, I am also thankful that I had the opportunity for cross-campus collaboration where I partnered with two fellows from Vanderbilt University on an event to celebrate the occasion of Africa Day in collaboration with the African Union. On the academic side, I undertook 4 academic courses and the Humphrey project all in one semester. While I had many sleepless nights in the process, it is such moments that I look back on and realize what a joyful but sometimes rollercoaster ride this experience has been. I cherish every moment because this is what has helped me to learn more about myself and capabilities. Personal mastery was the ultimate personal victory for me and continues to be a learning process. As I reflect on my experience over the past 7 months and realise how much I have accomplished in such a short space of time, I can only pat myself on the back and say ‘brave Zulu girl, you have done it, uphumelele’. Thank you to the Humphrey Program and the US community for this life-changing opportunity.



Fellow Reflections:

Resham Kandel

Resham Kandel was a 2020-2021 Syracuse Humphrey fellow from Nepal.

I believe the Humphrey Fellowship was one of the best opportunities in my professional life. It was a great experience for me and my family from multiple facets. I expanded my learning and deepened my knowledge on academic, professional, and cultural aspects.

This year remained a compressed and very special year in the history of HHH program due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Despite all these challenges, I succeeded in concluding the program with high motivation and confidence in the Maxwell School. It was a wonderful opportunity becoming a part of Syracuse University as a Humphrey fellow of 2020-2021.

I enjoyed the academic sessions and received Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS), a special program at Maxwell School. During the academic and other sessions emotional intelligence, understanding power structure, and development aid dynamics remained the most interesting and useful contents in enhancing my leadership skills as a midcareer professional. Another important notion of leadership that I realized is leadership is not a position; it is all about the performance that helps the organization or the society at large to ascertain positive changes, inspiration and hope.

In addition, I got opportunities to participate in various professional workshops and seminars. Although all the events were in distant mode, I found them very effective and useful in establishing global professional networks. Likewise, I was involved in different volunteering activities as well.

The Humphrey program was an avenue to become a member of global society by establishing connections with the US counterparts, as well as with academia, professionals, and leaders across the globe. These networks are valuable assets in my professional life- both my career growth in particular and development of my country in general. I experienced and shared multiple cultures with my cohort as well as the culture of American people through host families and friends. The most fascinating element of this program that I found is the concept of a host family. They are the great resources to get any kind of support, exchanging cultures, and establishing family relationships in very informal settings. The most interesting fact I realized is that the United States is a most diverse country where you cannot generalize the American culture based on a single individual or a community.

I highly appreciate the Maxwell Humphrey team, led by the visionary leadership of Ms. Margaret Lane, very active and helpful officials Martha Ketcham and Susan Ann Oot who made relentless efforts and provided immense support throughout the program. I am highly indebted with the faculties and professors at Syracuse University, host families and friends who extended their hands to provide all kinds of guidance and assistance during my program at Maxwell.

Rotary Club Provides Speaking Engagements for Fellows

The Syracuse Sunrise Rotary Club offered opportunities for fellows to present at their virtual meetings. The fellows provided insights on a wide array of topics throughout the spring.



“Greetings (Namaste) From Nepal”

Resham Kandel (Nepal) was the first presenter of the year to the Sunrise Rotary Club in Syracuse. He talked about his country’s cultures, religions, government and geography.



“Brasil Diversity”

Débora Teixeira (Brazil) spoke about the diversity of the five regions of her country.



“Welcome to Tanzania”

Doreen Bangapi Mwanyama (Tanzania) spoke about her country and the land of Kilimanjaro. Among the aspects Rotarians learned about were the rich culture, natural beauty and government structure of Tanzania.



“The Evolution of the Rainbow Nation”

Nompumelelo Radebe (South Africa) continued the Humphrey fellow speaker series with a talk on “The Evolution of the Rainbow Nation.”



“Transparency and Accountability in Guatemala”

Julio Herrera (Guatemala) presented about transparency and accountability in his country including the work his organization, Red Ciudadana, is focused on in this area.



“The Brightest Spots of the Black Mountain”

Jovana Bulatovic (Montenegro) talked about the natural beauty and ecological focus of her country with a talk entitled “The Brightest Spots of the Black Mountain.”



“México”

Ramiro Suárez Galán’s (Mexico) presentation discussed some key elements of his country’s history, the complex and inter-dependent relationship with the U.S. especially in regards to trade, and highlighted Oaxaca as a tourist and cultural destination.



“Unity in Diversity: Bridging Cultural and Linguistic Barriers in Papua New Guinea”

Jordan Dean (Papua New Guinea) spoke of how they are able to unite around common elements in a country with about 860 indigenous languages.



“Togo: Time for Hope”

Piya Belan Bouyo’s (Togo) talk, Togo: Time for Hope, addressed the myriad of challenges facing her country and where there are areas of optimism especially in its education strategy and national development plan.

Fellows Helps to Spearhead Africa Day Symposium

One outcome of the regional discussions Humphrey fellows attended was an Africa Day webinar, “Celebrate Africa: Reframing the Narrative About the Continent”, convened by a group of fellows from the Africa discussion group.



Syracuse fellow Nompumelelo Radebe (South Africa) was on the steering committee and provided closing remarks. Vanderbilt University served as the webinar host.



Fellows Present During Virtual Peer to Peer Talks

Peer to Peer shifted to a virtual format for the year, offering fellows and the Maxwell school community an opportunity to connect.

Racism: Endemic or Systemic?

The Case of South Africa

Nompumelelo Radebe – 2020/2021 Humphrey Fellow

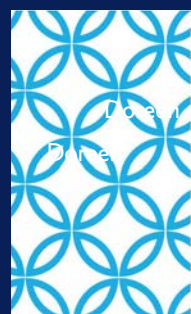
Nompumelelo Radebe

Local Government Institutional Self Assessment (LISA)

A tool of performance tracking in LGs of Nepal

Resham Kandel
Humphrey Fellow (2020/2021)
Syracuse University

Resham Kandel



INFLUENCING MALE INVOLVEMENT IN REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH IN TANZANIA

Why it matters

Doreen Bangapi Mwanyama

Small Business | Brazil

Definition



Débora Teixeira



Fellows Take a Wintry Spring Daytrip to Niagara Falls

Some intrepid fellows visited Niagara Falls on a snowy day in mid-April to marvel at the falls. With less than ideal weather, the park was wide open for great views. It was the first time fellows were able to get out and explore one small part of NYS.



Humphrey Fellows Return Home with Proposals to Lead Change

Ramiro Suárez Galán plans to spend the next six months pitching a plan for a financial oversight office in his home state of Oaxaca, Mexico.

“We don’t have checks and balances,” said Suárez Galán, a 2020 Humphrey fellow at the Maxwell School. “What the governor wants is done. Once [a project] is approved, the governor can allocate wherever he wants. He can modify as he likes.”

That means government decisions often do not favor Oaxaca, among the three poorest of Mexico’s 32 states. “There are a lot of decisions that are harming the financial situation of my home state,” Suárez Galán said. “We are spending more in salaries, materials, and there aren’t any congresswomen or congressmen watching that. We don’t have the tools to stop the desires of the governor.”

As part of the new Humphrey Impact Project, he developed a proposal modeled on the U.S. nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) for Oaxaca’s legislative branch. He presented “Strengthening the Oversight of the Oaxaca State Congress in the State Budget Performance,” in late spring. He and other fellows presented their projects, which Executive Education created as a culminating project like its Executive Master of Public Administration and Executive Master of International Relations capstone course.

“We used the capstone as a model,” said Margaret Lane, Humphrey Fellowship Program director and Executive Education assistant director. “We provide a rigorous but simple process to create an individual action plan from a policy perspective.”



During their Humphrey year, fellows “can look at a burning issue from a different vantage point,” Lane said. “We wanted to give them some time to think about the problem: What is the issue? Why do we care about this problem? What are the root causes? How can we solve this problem and make some recommendations?”

Fellows incorporated what they learned in their coursework and their individual research. “A critical part of developing a credible recommendation is asking the fellows to analyze what implementation challenges they will face back home and describing a leadership approach to overcome those challenges,” said Executive Education Director Steve Lux, who served as faculty lead for the project. “It was a collaborative process where fellows gained key insights from each other. Analyzing the issue from a distance enabled these new perspectives.”

Fellows met biweekly with Lux and Lane to discuss the projects. “We got to sit around in a group and talk about the problems they were analyzing,” Lane said. “They go home with a tangible project they can present to key players and make a big difference. It allows them to know themselves as leaders and apply the Humphrey mission to lead change.”

Program topics included exclusion of pregnant girls and young mothers from public schools in Tanzania, school preparedness in South Africa, opportunities for Togolese engineers in government projects, foreign research governance in Papua New Guinea, and coordination between local governments in Nepal.

Executive Education plans to offer the Humphrey Impact Project next year. “This has been a really positive experience and a good way of getting us together in a pandemic year,” Lane said.

The timing works out well for Suárez Galán as well. Mexico held elections June 6; newly elected legislators will take office in November. “This is the moment when I am going to start lobbying with new congressional representatives to present a draft for creation of an institution like the CBO in my state,” he said. “I will be working with media and social media to get this issue out to discuss the need for checks and balances.”





Discovering NYC and Central Park

As the U.S. opened up and within NYS and University guidelines, Syracuse fellows made a brief trip to NYC. Jack Linn, former NYC Assistant Parks Commissioner provided a walking tour and some historical context of Central Park and how to this day influences the city, encourages democracy and its economic development.

Jack served under 4 NYC mayors and provided examples of what he considers an essential skill in public service: understanding human nature.

The fellows also gathered for a group dinner to celebrate 3 birthdays and to reflect on their rapidly concluding fellowship.

Alumni Updates

2009-2010

Ronnie Amorado

Ronnie Amorado (Philippines) presented a webinar series, "Leadership Challenges in the Time of Pandemic" last summer. He also was the featured speaker on "Remote Integrity & Accountability" in August as part of CHED XI's webinar series in addition to participating in "Academic Management & Leadership Challenges in the Pandemic and Post-Pandemic Era" that week. The webinar was hosted by Inter Asian International Education.

In October, Ronnie was the Plenary Speaker of the American Chamber of Commerce's Learning Session for Opportunities and Constraints of Distance Education: Remote Teaching and Learning (DE/RTL) Among Philippine Schools" in October.

Nimrod Goren

This past winter Nimrod Goren (Israel) co-edited an e-book published by Mitvim, "Israel's Relations with Arab Countries: The Unfulfilled Potential. Nimrod is the founder and president of Mitvim- the Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies. Nimrod was also a featured speaker in March during the "Conversations in Conflict Studies", a series sponsored by the Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration at the Maxwell School. His talk, "Israel's Foreign Policy Toward the Middle East," explored how the country's relations with the Middle East are changing.

The think tank was also recognized by the University of Pennsylvania's annual global ranking of think tanks. The index ranked Mitvim 20th in the world in "Think Tanks with the Most Innovative Policy Ideas/Proposals"; 23rd in "Best Regional Studies Centers"; 31st in "Top Think Tanks in Middle East and North Africa"; and 64th in "Think Tanks to Watch".

https://repository.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1019&context=think_tanks&fbclid=IwAR2umD-vgo0rtSw4ESEifU7NHJDrfy1wHwUrk-F491mF58O1SHFpgihtNxlU

Roxana Silva Chicaiza

In Ecuador, the Open Government Academic Network was created in the past year with support the Organization Citizen Movement for Democracy. Roxana Silva Chicaiza (Ecuador) is the co-coordinator, working to increase civic participation and social engagement in public areas her country. Recently she and a consultancy group finished the Toolbox to Access Information Public Right and Transparency for the Office of the Ombudsman of Ecuador. Roxana was also selected as Principal Counselor Ad Hoc (2021-2023) Open Government Council, Municipality of the Metropolitan District of Quito. As background, in 2009, the Obama administration promoted the concept of open government. It was a starting point that generated a new philosophy in Latin America.

In 2015, the Open Government Academic Network (Red Académica de Gobierno Abierto) was created in

Argentina to advance social research in transparency, participation, and collaboration. It improves cooperation at local, regional, and global levels in the academic sector in order to research, teach, and publish about open data. Along with civil society and governments the network co-creates proposals for institutional and citizen opening, transparency, access to public information, and accountability.



Red Académica
de Gobierno Abierto

 Ecuador



2012-2013

Andrijana Vojnovic

Andrijana Vojnovic (Serbia) received a 2020 Humphrey Alumni Professional Development Grant award to attend an online training offered by BOND UK entitled "Good Safeguarding Practice," which offered practical guidance on how to undertake risk assessments and meet donor requirements.



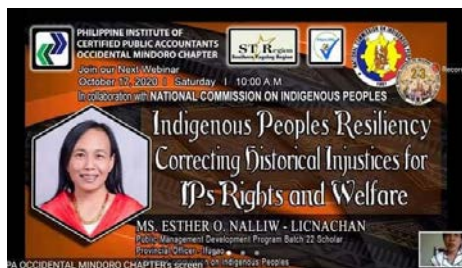
2013-2014

Esther O. Nalliw-Linachan

Esther O. Nalliw-Linachan (Philippines) was the featured speaker during "Indigenous Peoples Resiliency Correcting Historical Injustices for IPs Rights and Welfare" webinar in October.

Karla Dominguez Gonzalez

Karla Dominguez Gonzalez (Mexico) was a featured presenter at the World Bank's Open Learning Campus WBx Talks webinar, "Freedom to Move - Part I: What Factors Shape Women's Mobility?" last November.



2014-2015 Qurrat ul Ain Rasheed

The United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan featured Qurrat ul Ain Rasheed (Pakistan) on Facebook in May:

"Qurrat ul Ain Rasheed uses her exchange experience and management skills to empower marginalized and small agricultural communities in 13 districts of Punjab. As Chief of the Agency for Barani Areas Development (ABAD), she oversees water-related development projects and helps farmers have access to water storage, irrigation, and skill-development resources. In addition to her current projects, Rasheed is working on proposals to promote financial independence and empowerment of underprivileged women in her region."

<https://www.facebook.com/USEFP>



César Pérez

César Pérez (Guatemala) is a national UN Expert Volunteer with United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Guatemala and was featured as part of its UN Volunteers success stories in December.

https://www.unv.org/Success-stories/Bringing-non-traditional-background-OHCHR-Guatemala-context-COVID-19?fbclid=IwAR2Kmlp9Q3g7IH4JZPNybu_zPJzlic1GnY_RiTR-7J7fgoVbNKsO9YPuLc6s

Last October he also wrote an e-book guide on social project management, with a graphics-based content providing a step-by-step outline. It is free, written in Spanish, and can be down-

loaded here: <https://cesarlp.com/>.

In April 2020, 2014-2015 Syracuse Humphrey alum Cesar Perez (Guatemala) presented the Open Data Index 2019 in his role as lead researcher for the civil society organization "Red Ciudadana" (Citizens Network). This is an initiative that evaluates the level of information openness of 30 institutions of the Guatemalan government and is the first in the country. The initiative is part of the larger effort of civil society to promote open government, open parliament, open justice and open data in Guatemala.

Cesar's specialty as a fellow was governance and technology, demonstrating impact of his Humphrey fellowship year and subsequent contributions to Guatemala.

The Index is publicly available in Spanish:

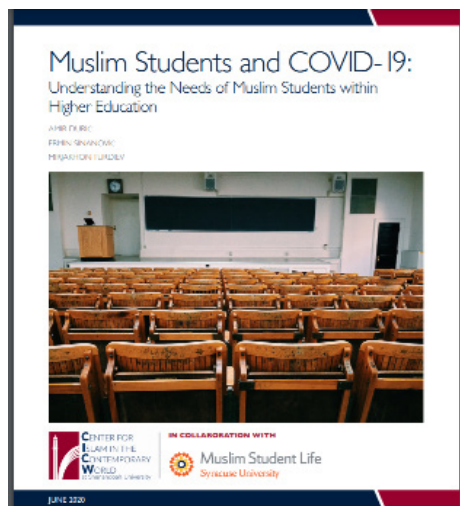
https://redciudadana.org/presentacion-del-indice-de-datos-abiertos-2019?fbclid=IwAR2J1DtBDyQAhdJ8oco1Pjgrj-fYBWkly_3d6_dh0nsEO5fxo1isZgya7LBc

Mirjahon Turdiyev

Mirjahon Turdiyev (Uzbekistan) is co-author of a report detailing survey results from "Muslim Students and Covid-19 Pandemic: Understanding the Needs of Muslim Students within Higher Education." It was designed to understand the impact of COVID-19 on Muslim students enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities during the earlier days of the pandemic, late March- mid-April 2020.

The effort was a collaboration between the Center for Islam in the Contemporary World at Shenandoah University (CICW) and the Muslim Student Life at Syracuse University (MSL).

https://www.contemporaryislam.org/covid-survey.html?fbclid=IwAR0O-2V0OGZVPFiSxiYIAahR0T6OEHfUZo-jsp8-DOjiZ_2mjXx8fPI7HgSz8



2015-2016

Temitope Aladesanmi

Temitope Aladesanmi (Nigeria) was awarded the Social Transformation Service Award by the United States Government Exchanges Alumni Association in collaboration with the U.S. Consulate in Lagos, Nigeria for his efforts on mentoring and building the IT capacity of young women through the Mobile Apps Summer School Initiative (MASSI), which he founded. The award recognizes his commitment and contributions to positive social change in his country.

Temitope also was the alumni speaker at the year end celebration for fellows in June.

2016-2017

Pierre El Haddad

Pierre El Haddad (Lebanon) is chair of the RISE 2021 Conference this November. RISE is the first annual conference organized by Saint Joseph

University in Beirut in partnership with the Academy of Management, Management Consulting division and ISEOR Research Center. Many of the tracks concern citizenship and public affairs. Details on

<http://node-sept.org/rise.fgmusj/>



The conference is peer reviewed with proceedings, and themed “Rejuvenating the relation of scholarship and practice.” Several tracks focus on areas of interest to citizenship and public affairs researchers, as well as management researchers including: Transformational Change and Development in Crisis; Sustainable Development, Non-profits and Public Management; Performance Indicators, Quality and Compliance, Accounting, and Managerial Finance; Healthcare Effectiveness, Crisis-readiness, and Responsive Competency Development; Leadership, Innovation, and Improvisation in Times of Crisis; Workspace Technologies, ICT and AI implementation; Women, Gender, and Inclusivity in Decision-Making; Human Resources in Age of Disruption; Engineering in the service of society and a General Track.

Last winter he co-authored an article on organizational agility published in OD Journal. He is also chairing the newly formed Network of Organizational Development Experts (NODE), the exclusive affiliate of ISODC

www.isodc.org.

Pierre has also continued a collaboration with his **Olga (Grishina) Forić** (Russia), who also was part of the Syracuse 2016-2017 cohort. They co-authored a paper with Professor Jean-Pierre Auffret (George Mason University), “Public Administration Reform in Lebanon from the Leadership Perspective” analyzes the challenges and prospects of public administration reform in Lebanon from the lens of the organizational leader, exploring the role of information and communications technology, and digital transformation.



https://www.researchgate.net/publication/344267152_Public_Administration_Reform_in_Lebanon_from_the_Leadership_Perspective?fbclid=IwAR3ID9swDy-7qcaHNuvb74EYk-7VqRccvI_GSQP-pJIPYILvKp8bUuns3pMS4

Pierre and Olga also co-authored along with Alexandre Bachkirov a paper in the International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management “Comparative CSR decision-making in the Middle East: An exploratory study.” It explores the commonalities and differences of corporate social responsibility (CSR) perceptions among business leaders in Oman and Lebanon. The findings provide empirical evidence that CSR is a powerful factor in managerial decision-making in the Middle East with the national cultures of Oman and

Lebanon exerting partially differing effects on CSR decision-making.

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/IMEFM-01-2020-0017/full/html?fbclid=IwAR2-ZU3spjOihawrfV9ZjKYd4Y-h0tiFYfxxCJMgazfSCyy2gm1ddjkRxdZo>

Akuete Giana Mathey-Apossan



Akuete Giana Mathey-Apossan (Togo) is now the Deputy Project Manager of the implementation of the ITAS (Integrated Tax Administration System) in Liberia, a three-year, \$5.3 million project. He previously was part of the UN System in South Sudan, where he led the designing and implementation of automation of the Revenue Authorities at both the states and national levels for the past 3 years. He Prior to that, Giana assisted the 1st Director of Information Systems of the Togolese Revenue Authority in Togo and was one of the pioneers of the digitalization of this administration for seven years. Giana holds four degrees and 21 certifications in Public Administration, Program/Project Management (Agile, Waterfall), Information Systems, Business Administration, Change Management, and Data Science, applying his digital transformation expertise in international public finance.

2017-2018

Samir Akhundov



Samir Akhundov (Azerbaijan) was a recipient of an Alumni Impact Award for his proposal "Supporting the Development of Weaving Skills in Young Girls." The following was an update from IIE's weekly dispatch with details:

"Humphrey alumnus Samir Akhundov has set up weaving workshops in Azerbaijan to increase financial opportunities for women and girls in the region, in addition to preserving a local cultural artform. Mr. Akhundov won a 2020 Alumni Impact Award to implement this project, which will continue through the end of this year, with more workshops to reach a total of 120 women. Despite difficulties due to the current political and public health situation in Azerbaijan, the project taught over 40 women how to weave. They have also acquired business skills to sell their products and as a result, the women have set up WhatsApp groups and an Instagram page to market and sell their products. Mr. Akhundov is the Director of "Intellect" Boundless Educational Youth Organization in Azerbaijan and was a 2017-2018 Fellow at Syracuse University."



Nazla Mariza



Last summer Nazla Mariza (Indonesia) partnered with recent Humphrey alum Sri Mulyani (Indonesia) to talk about the Humphrey Fellowship experience. They first met when Sri was an outgoing fellow headed to Cornell University for her Humphrey year. Nazla also participated in this year's gathering of 2021 fellows to talk about her experience during a webinar sponsored by American Indonesian Exchange Foundation, Fulbright Indonesia and Coachcircle.id. She also participated in a video with other 2017-2018 fellows that highlighted their work in their countries during COVID-19.

<https://fb.watch/6tCTluk9VQ/>

Binta Baldé

This past winter Binta Baldé (Guinea) spoke with Charge d'Affaires Steven Koutsis to discuss the importance of exchange programs.

<https://fb.watch/6tCJLahPCO/>



Binta Baldé

2018-2019

Mavrick Boejoekoe

In the fall, Mavrick Boejoekoe (Suriname) was a speaker during the Good Governance and Corruption in the Caribbean conference. In his role as Indigenous Tribal Peoples and Stakeholders Engagement Specialist at the National Institute for Environment in Suriname, he helped coordinate the conference “Indigenous Rights and Extractive Industries in the Amazon,” a two-day virtual conference on human rights and environmental issues in the Amazon. Funding was provided by the United States Embassy in Suriname and sponsored by the Youth Education and Leadership Foundation and Global Americans.

Among the featured speakers was Mavrick’s 2018-2019 Syracuse Humphrey colleague, **Magda Montez** (Panama), Strategic Planning Specialist, Panamanian Ministry of Government.

Mavrick also co-edited an e-book published as a result of the webinar, co-authoring the introduction. It is available here:

https://theglobalamericans.org/good-governance-in-the-caribbean-obstacles-and-opportunities/?fbclid=IwAR3xOCRZfh_ex-4WGx5PHP6VKD2kzOYyePws3huDaFYgZUcKAERK25_rCLc

Members of the 2018-2019 cohort

also found other ways to maintain networks established during their Humphrey year. Magda, Mavrick, and **Lala Zinkevych** (Ukraine) and Vanderbilt University Humphrey alum Jenny Urrutia (Chile), met with Tosca Bruno-van Vijfeijken to discuss best practices in leading and managing virtual teams.

The Syracuse fellows worked with Tosca in her role as director of the TNGO Initiative at the Maxwell School. She now heads her own consulting firm and offered a coaching session to discuss how to recreate the office environment and establish an atmosphere of collaboration and trust and to effectively manage expectations, among other topics.



Serge Adouaka



Serge Adouaka (Central African Republic) continues his connection with professional affiliation host Jean-Pierre Auffret, director of the Center for Assurance Research and Engineering (CARE) at George Ma-

son University. The Central African Republic (CAR) Technology Entrepreneurship and ICT Leadership Accelerator is geared towards start-up and early-stage technology company founders and managers in the Bangui region of the Central African Republic. Mentors from CAR and the US will provide guidance and insight. The initial pilot program in May will include 20-25 participants and is funded as part of an Internal Exchange Alumni grant Serge was awarded by the U.S. Embassy Bangui.

Lala Zinkevych

Lala Zinkevych (Ukraine) is a project manager in the United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA Ukraine and has been implementing a project aimed to empower gender-based violence (GBV) survivors through helping them acquire new skills in IT, namely in software engineering, UI/UX web design, QA engineering and project management.

The economic cost of violence against women in Ukraine amounts \$208 million (USD) annually. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the lockdown restrictions and the financial pressure created favorable conditions for domestic violence. One of the reasons that often prevents women from getting out of the abusive cycle of violence is the economic dependence on the perpetrator.

Ukraine, supported by the Government of Sweden, conducts IT courses that help to expand employment opportunities for women who suffer from domestic violence. During the pilot project, 350 women will be certified in one of the above-mentioned IT professions and will get a chance to start a new chapter in the career development.



Lala Zinkevych is pictured during the launch of the project with the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine and the Ambassador of Sweden.



2019-2020

Barbara Barrios Dumanoir



Barbara Barrios (Panama) reflected on her Humphrey year as she concluded her fellowship in April 2020 in an article on Executive Educations website.

https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/news/stories/In_COVID_crisis_Humphrey_fellow_sees_opportunity_for_educators/?fbclid=I-

wAR1o6nqRr5DSBCH-sWDWxFiQuH-QGvNIF3kY2CTBQhiRsulixlHYje6X341s

Since Barbara Barrios Dumanoir's (Panama) return, she coordinated a three-day multi-national conference, "International Congress: Reality Facing COVID-19," which included a slate of speakers including Executive Education Director Steven J. Lux. He reflected on the impact the pandemic has had on public policy. About 500 people viewed the event.

She also was named Director of International Relations and Agreements at Santa Maria La Antigua University and served as moderator in one of the webinars organized by the Pact of the Bicentennial and the Board of Governors of Panamanian Universities. The topic was "Closing the Gap in Education: A Responsibility for All."

Rodolphe Peguwinde Bance



Rodolphe Peguwinde Bance (Burkina Faso) was appointed Head of the Office of Quality, Innovation, and Reforms within the Department of Treasury.

He states, "It is a great opportunity to practice all the experience and skills I got from Humphrey Program as well as a great challenge to modernize this great administration. I know I have been empowered to face these challenges and to make change happen."

Maxim Glagolev



Maxim Glagolev (Russia) is a recipient of an Alumni Impact Award for an initiative called "Coding for All." He was also featured on Syracuse University Blackstone Launchpad's website where he discusses a venture he and colleagues founded while a Humphrey fellow.

<https://launchpad.syr.edu/maxim-glagolev>

Imran Hamid



Imran Hamid (Pakistan) joined the Health Department of KP as Additional Secretary on return from his fellowship where he's been responsible for management of his province's response to COVID-19.



Humphrey Fellows Leave With New Tools and Many Memories

At least one Maxwell School Hubert H. Humphrey fellow closed her Syracuse University chapter with good-natured relief at navigating logistical challenges of the program, truncated because of the COVID-19 pandemic. “Failure was not an option,” Piyabelan Bouyo of Togo said during the Humphrey year-end celebration. Others praised professors, leadership lessons, host families and opportunities to learn with and from each other. “At the end of the day it is all about people, people that will be in our hearts, in our minds and are the ones who make the memories,” said Débora Teixeira of Brazil.

Syracuse’s 2020-21 Humphrey fellows, Maxwell’s 12th cohort, built relationships over six months at Maxwell, where they engaged in academic study, professional development and cultural exchange. The midcareer professionals hail from Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, Montenegro, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Tanzania and Togo.

The fellows completed “an impressive journey in very uncertain times,” said Margaret Lane, Humphrey Fellowship Program director and Executive Education assistant director.

She praised the fellows for mirroring the personal and political courage and optimism of the late Senator and Vice President Humphrey, in whose honor the program was created in 1978. “You, like Hubert Humphrey, have taught us that people from all nations have more in common than we have differences and you have inspired us with your commitment to expanding international understanding, education, cooperation and development to ensure our mutual goal of a more just, equitable and peaceful world,” she said.

Catherine Gerard, associate director of Executive Education and Maxwell professor of practice who teaches the Humphrey leadership course, spoke briefly about leadership and American values. “We hope as you leave here and think about implementing change that we’ve given you just a few tools and concepts to add to your toolkit to make you more effective as a leader,” she said.

She noted that the international visitors witnessed an unprecedented attack on American democracy when supporters of the former president stormed the U.S. Capitol in an attempt to overturn the October 2020 election. “I hope what you’ve learned is the fact that democracy is a fragile thing,” Gerard said. “And you have to fight for it.”

Here, she continued, “We talk about [the problems]. We try to address them. We try to be better over time. ... That’s the story of America and the story of leadership, which is to make those changes to try to make things better.”

The fellowship program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. government and administered by the Institute of International Education. Maxwell’s fellows are among the year’s approximately 127 scholars from 81 countries. Syracuse University is one of 13 campuses across the country to host Humphrey Fellows. Approximately 135 fellows from 72 countries have called the Maxwell School and Syracuse University home during their fellowship year since 2009. The 2021-22 cohort will arrive Aug. 3 for a 10-month fellowship at Maxwell.

The personal and global challenges of the pandemic and growing racial and partisan tension underscore the need for Humphrey fellows’ talent and commitment, said Temitope Aladesanmi, a 2015-16 Humphrey fellow from Nigeria.

“The world therefore needs a new class of leaders,” he said, “men and women who are able to commit themselves to social changes that reduce hatred and build a just society not only based on laws and norms, but also in love and equity. To me, this is the core and essence of leadership.”

Maxwell’s newest Humphrey alumni are “eager to employ skills and knowledge thus far acquired to help a sick world,” Aladesanmi said. “I do not have any doubt that this cohort will go ahead and champion positive changes in their various communities.”

Getting Ready to Welcome Our **13th Cohort**

As of publication time, we are getting ready to welcome 11 new Humphrey fellows to campus in early August for the 2021-2022 program year.



Guatemala



Benin



South Korea



Argentina



Malawi



Burkina Faso



Azerbaijan



Russia



Pakistan