



It's a wrap for 2021-2022 Syracuse Humphrey fellows

Humphrey Leadership professor Catherine Gerard summed up the Year End Celebration with the only word possible- bittersweet.

The following pages provide reflections and images of the evening, as fellows, friends, faculty, and host families celebrated the year and marveled at how quickly it passed. We look forward to them joining the 135+ other fellows who've called Maxwell home since 2009!



**Humphrey
Fellowship**
A Fulbright Exchange Program



Maxwell School

Table of Contents

1-6	Farewell Celebration and Reflections	16	Fellow Publications
3	Greetings	17	Multi-campus Seminars
7	Crisis Workshop	18	New York City
8-9	Professional Affiliations	19	Service Learning
10	Alum Update: Anton Schevchenko	20	Alumni Updates
11	Alum Update: Laura Dittel	21	2022-2023 Cohort
12	Alum Update: Barabara Barrios		
13	Alum Update: Mirjahhon Turdiyev		
14-15	Engaging in the Classroom and Community		



Greetings!

For 15 years, the Maxwell School has been a Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program campus. The ideals of the Athenian Oath mesh seamlessly with the goals of the Humphrey Program— to make the world a better place.

As we prepare to welcome our newest cohort, we know that you'll also welcome them and help expand their networks.

The pandemic has shifted many things, but has also taught us the value of interconnectedness, the importance of resilience and the necessity of leadership through change. With recent and current global events, this has never been more critical.

We hope that as we continue to forge ahead you'll continue to inspire and stay connected- with each other, with us and with future Humphrey fellows! You can always catch the latest on our [Facebook page](#) or reach out to me directly.

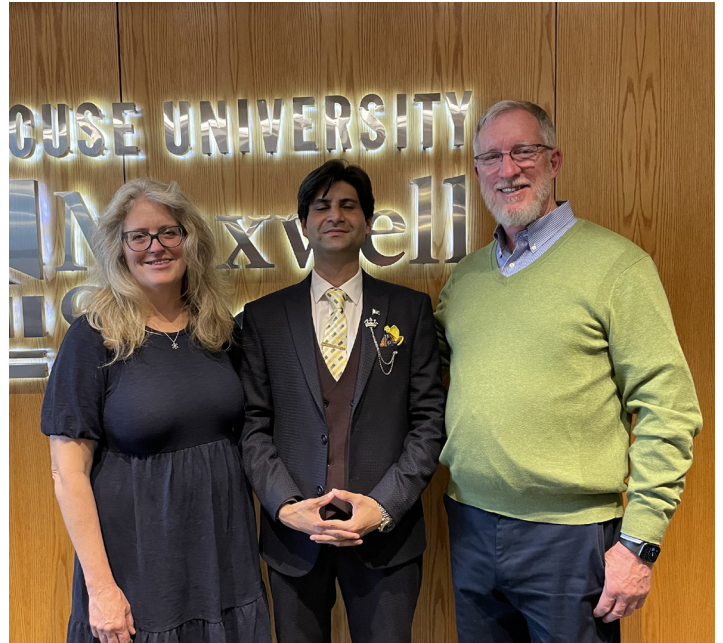
Margaret Lane



Margaret Lane

Director, Humphrey Fellowship Program
Executive Education Program
The Maxwell School of Citizenship and
Public Affairs

melane02@syr.edu





Fellow Offers Year End Reflections on Behalf of His Colleagues

Juan Gowland (Argentina) was selected by his peers to offer remarks at the fellows' year end celebration

Dear Orange Family:

It is a special day for our Humphrey fellows' group, and hopefully for all our university. Yesterday, we all expected to have a sunny day at this moment, and God or life gave us today this unique present. I think we deserve it. But, now, talking seriously we are all very emotional to say "see you soon" because you all probably know, at this moment, that we are going to stay connected.

Our first meeting was on August 4th. We all remember that day: 11 different people from 9 different countries in a new environment with our names and our flags in the room that then become "our room," Maxwell 204. We all came with our different backgrounds, and I knew from that first second that I was surrounded by serious guys, with outstanding and challenging careers. I felt embarrassed of how little I knew from the world, and I committed to myself to talk and learn from them.

Syracuse Humphrey fellows are specialists in mostly all the major challenges of our world. They have suffered, studied, and worked on migration, anti-terrorism policies, peace and conflict resolution, gender policies, digital transformation, defense, anti-corruption, among others. And the beauty is that all of us have expanded our knowledge and network thanks to the outstanding quality of Maxwell. Every Humphrey fellow experienced interaction with the best faculty in the world, and they have been

the best not only for the professional skills but mostly for their personal capacities.

To give you all an example, during these months, I received professional mentorship, letters of recommendation, and academic advice from all the professors I have taken courses with. This fact expresses the commitment and purpose that Syracuse University has to foster leadership. As we learned from Catherine Gerard's class, leadership is about relationship and relationships are built by having true and intense conversations. During these months, we all have been part of formal and informal conversations that have evolved our mindset, making us better persons and leaders.

Our experiences here have been led by the Education Executive Team. Please give an applause to Steve, Margaret, Susan, Martha, and Jess who have been taking care of us since we were preparing ourselves to come to Syracuse. They have always been available to answer our questions, to celebrate our birthdays with special cakes, to give us advice to buy winter clothing, to advise us in academic aspects, above others. Thank you so much for what you all have done for us. We will always remember it.

Our Humphrey experience has also been challenging. Many of our team members travelled without their family. Some have significant family loss. Others have fallen sick; in other words, all of us have made major efforts to fulfill our dreams. And I think (maybe we don't acknowledge it now) that it was worth it. All of us are better professionals, better leaders, and better people thanks to our experience here. These nine months have transformed us into new people. It depends on us what we are going to do with that.

Also, I want to acknowledge all our families back home who, despite not being physically present, have been supporting and helping us to become better leaders. From my personal aside, thank you Caro and Nachito for your unconditional love and patience.

We all dream with a more economically inclusive world where your opportunities do not depend on the place you were born. We all dream of a peaceful world, with no unjust wars that make innocent suffer, we all dream of a more sustainable world, where we care about our planet, and we recognize it as the source of life.

During these months, we all have gained skills and tools to become successful leaders that can make this world a better place. I am completely sure that each of these fellows will fight with all their energy to accomplish this purpose and their dreams, and I know that our Orange community will be there to support us; to fight the good fight. Thanks again to all the professors that support us. Thank you to all the friends that are here with us. Thank you all.

*"we all have gained skills and tools
to become successful leaders that
can make this world a better place"*

-Juan Gowland

Alumnus Reflects on His Humphrey Year During Year-end Celebration

Marco Konopacki (Brazil) was a 2019-2020 Humphrey fellow. He happened to be in the U.S. during our April Year End Celebration and traveled to Syracuse to honor the 2021-2022 fellows. These are his remarks from that evening.

Thank you, Margaret, Martha, Susan, and all the staff for the opportunity to be here.

I was expecting some spring weather in Syracuse, but I could find some snow yesterday. CLASSIC SYRACUSE!

Two years ago, we did not have this remarkable moment in person. The pandemic brought us a lot of uncertainty. It told us apart from the strong relationships we built during our Humphrey year.

We learned a lot about leadership, but we also learned about friendship and making connections that endure. Those connections will be essential to transforming the world that is getting more complex, facing challenging issues such as pandemics, climate change, etc.

While I was coming back to my home country, I had so many ideas and expectations for my future career. I was also trying to realize what has happened to my understanding of the world through those new lenses that the Humphrey fellowship gave me.

Despite the classes and formal education, I could harness all of Syracuse University's excellence by having the opportunity to get a Certificate. Nonetheless, what real change my self-perspective was the cultural experience that made me deepen into America culture. And not only the American culture but also my fellow Humphreys, who taught me a lot in our shared activities. I hope you could go to Minnowbrook, which was really, really remarkable to us.

If I can give you some advice?? When you get back to your country, don't feel anxious about changing a lot about your life or career. Things will happen at the time that they have to take place. Be prepared to harness good opportunities and apply all the skills you get from this Humphrey year. Keep the connections



you built, especially with the other fellows. Create excuses to keep talking to your friends. Our cohort is still very connected. We also created a support system to provide any help anyone could need worldwide. It is important because we don't know which one of us could be an ambassador, a minister, or take some critical role that can be useful to promote the values that we strengthened during this experience.

Finally, I want to thank once again to Margaret, Martha, Susan, Steve, and all Maxwell Humphrey's staff. You have constantly been so supportive before, during, and after our term. I would like to thank the Institute of International Education, Fulbright, the Department of State, and the organizations that make the Humphrey fellowship possible.

I cannot finish without being grateful to Syracuse University and to the Onondaga Nation, that, along with history, built the strong pillars that we are seated in now.

“Be prepared to harness good opportunities and apply all the skills you get from this Humphrey year.”

-Marco Konopacki

Workshop Outlines Handling Crises with Skills and Grace

To Marius Gnalis-Rafai, each session of a spring workshop on crisis management offered a piece of a broader leadership puzzle. “Some sessions were more academic to provide the framework,” he said. “Other sessions were more practical, while others shared concrete experiences of crisis situations.”

Perhaps the most relevant presentation, though, was the session on crisis communications, said Gnalis-Rafai, a financial consultant from the Central African Republic spending his Humphrey Fellowship at Boston University. “This presentation gave very practical tools to prepare and deliver a suitable message,” he said.

He was among 44 Humphrey fellows representing 41 countries and 13 host campuses who participated in Leadership and Governance During Times of Crisis, sponsored by Syracuse University’s Maxwell School and administered by Executive Education.

“This workshop adds another dimension to the Humphrey fellows’ leadership experience,” said Keli Perrin, faculty lead and managing director of the Institute for Security Policy and Law at the Syracuse University College of Law. “Whether the crisis is global, local, or somewhere in between, the frameworks and expertise shared by faculty and practitioners enable fellows to better respond as leaders using these newly honed skills and perspectives.”

This year, two sessions of the workshop were offered to provide participants with the option of either a virtual or on-campus experience. It was the 10th year Maxwell offered the workshop, reflecting the perennial interest of the leadership skills necessary during crises. Fellows reflect a wide range of academic interests, including education, media, health care, economics, politics, and public policy. They are among the year’s 160 scholars from 93 countries.

Participants in the virtual session were welcomed by Kelsi Ward, Branch Chief, Humphrey Fellowship and Institutional Linkages, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

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

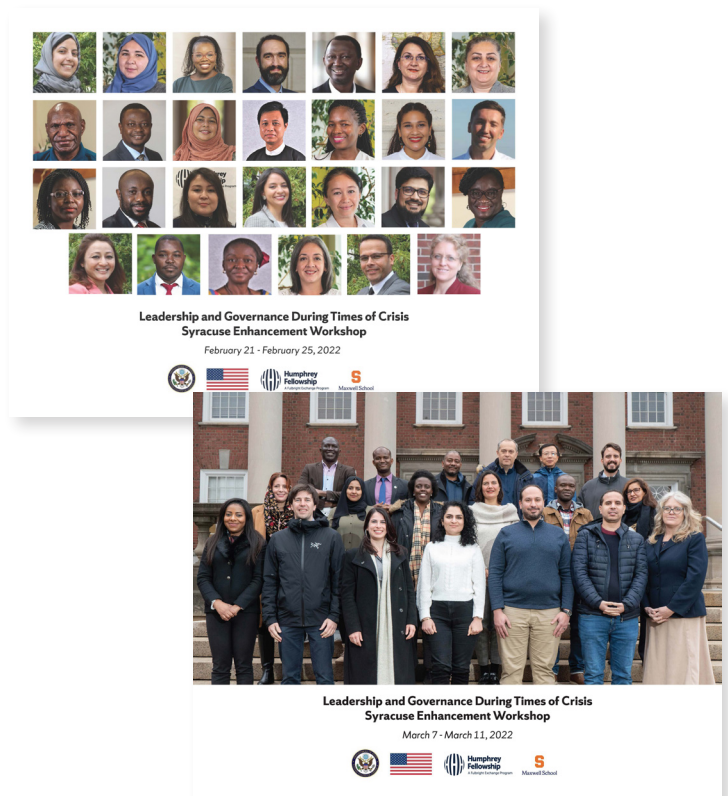
importance of reputations and trust.

“Although all crises are different, they unfold in similar ways,” Perrin said.

The workshop featured Maxwell faculty and Syracuse faculty with relevant expertise, including sessions on cultural sensitivity, crisis communications, national security and public health. University Professor Sean O’Keefe shared insights from his experience as NASA administrator, and Vice Chancellor J. Michael Haynie, who led Syracuse University’s response to Covid-19, reflected on leadership during a public health crisis. Other speakers included Arjen Boin, professor of public institutions and governance at Leiden University in the Netherlands and author of “The Politics of Crisis Management,” the textbook Perrin used to frame the workshop and Stephen Hagerty, former mayor of Evanston, Illinois, and founder and CEO of Hagerty Consulting and a member of Maxwell’s advisory board.

“Although I come from a country that has endured many crises, I have not been in leadership positions and I tend to be very critical of decisions made by officials when the rationale is not communicated,” Gnalis-Rafai said. One puzzle piece he’ll carry with him came from Haynie, who led Syracuse University’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic: “Be willing to take the arrows on behalf of others, and as much as possible with grace.”

(<https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/news/article/workshop-outlines-handling-crises-with-skills-and-grace>)



Humphrey Fellows Engage in an Array of Professional Affiliations

Each year, the culminating experience for fellows is the professional affiliation. The 2021-2022 fellows participated in PAs in Syracuse and Washington, D.C.

2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Ahmad Noor
Pakistan

Professional Affiliation host
Institute for Development Impact (I4DI)
Program Operations

During his professional affiliation, Ahmad will collaborate with the project management staff in the implementation of several projects, provide technical support to staff and consultants, assist in business development activities and support the Chief Strategy and Growth Officer with several high-priority internal initiatives.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Aleksei Karnaukhov
RUSSIA

Professional Affiliation host
World Bank
Integrity Vice Presidency

During his professional affiliation, Aleksei works with a team on international investigations and sanctions related to allegations of fraud and corruption in World Bank-funded projects. He is also developing a proposal for his future Ph.D. thesis.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Burhan Rasool
PAKISTAN

Professional Affiliation host
World Bank
GovTech Team

During his professional affiliation, Burhan analyzed and updated the World Bank Group's GovTech Projects Database, that presents the details of all Bank-funded investments supporting the development of large digital solutions for various sector reforms since 1995.

Earlier in the program Burhan also conducted two other PAs: one with the Program Management Office at Aspen Dental Management Inc., and the other with the Supply Chain Management Product Team at Visionet Systems Inc.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Dramane Chabi Bouko
BENIN

Professional Affiliation host
National Democratic Institute (NDI)
Central and West Africa team

During his professional affiliation, Dramane is producing briefs and reports within the Francophone Cone, conducting background research and contributing to special projects, team newsletters and blogs, and keeping informed of developments in the region as well as maintaining online resources and databases.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Fawad Hassan
PAKISTAN

Professional Affiliation host
Onondaga County
Department of Water Environment Protection (CODWEF)

During his professional affiliation, Fawad is providing an overview of the Water Environment Protection Department including operations, responsibilities, implementation mechanism, evaluation criteria and feedback; evaluate project proposals; and touring the CODWEF facilities.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Juan Gowland
Argentina

Professional Affiliation host
Inter-American Development Bank
Data and Digital Development Coordinator

During his professional affiliation, Juan will collaborate on how to make a business and political case for digital government projects. He'll also develop a research policy paper in digital talent in public administration.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Khalisa Shahverdiyeva
AZERBAIJAN

Professional Affiliation host
World Bank
Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice

During her professional affiliation, Khalisa is developing components for the Azerbaijan Smart Villages Program and IDP Livelihoods Project. These include gender analysis and strategy for both initiatives, how best to engage the private sector in the implementation of the Azerbaijan Smart Villages Program, and recommendations of strategic actions for the Citizen Engagement component of the IDP livelihoods project, among other research and analysis.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Marien Alvarado Franco
GUATEMALA

Professional Affiliation host
World Bank
Agriculture and Food Global Practice

Professional Affiliation host
DAI
Green Fiscal Policy Analysis

During her professional affiliation at the World Bank, Marien is drafting policy notes on agrologist and digital innovations to reduce food loss and waste and analyzing digital technology to improve market access.

During her professional affiliation at DAI, Marien is showing fiscal policy makers their current or potential role in climate action in relation to international commitment and responsiveness to national risks, opportunities and strategies including an analysis against comparable countries.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Sunghae Cho
SOUTH KOREA

Professional Affiliation host
Onondaga County
Department of Personnel

During her professional affiliation, Sunghae is researching Onondaga County ethics policies and analyzing the public budget to compare to the system used in South Korea.



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Mphatso Vanessa Gunda
MALAWI

Professional Affiliation host
Internet Society Foundation



2021-2022 Professional Affiliations



Wendpanga Dipama
BURKINA FASO

Professional Affiliation host
American University

During his professional affiliation, Dipama is conducting research on the US policy towards the Sahel region of Burkina Faso to better understand how this policy contributes towards the region's security and its political and humanitarian issues.





Anton Shevchenko volunteering to support the emergency responders marking explosive hazards left from Russian invasion in the Hostomel community near Kyiv; May 2022

Alum Facilitates Aid in Eastern and Southern Ukraine

In recent months, 2018-2019 alum Anton Shevchenko (Ukraine) has been extensively applying the experience he gained upon returning to Ukraine in the summer of 2019. He engaged in building an emergency preparedness inventory for the eastern and southern regions, rolling out women's self-help groups in the frontline areas, facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid from friendly governments, and conducting community projects for emergency response in the Kyiv region.

Currently, Anton continues work in Ukraine leading a disaster preparedness and civil protection program under 3P (Prevent Prepare Protect) consortium of humanitarian NGOs and Red Cross entities.

Humphrey Alumna Engages with First Lady Dr. Jill Biden on Response to the Crisis in Ukraine

(this feature appeared in Humphrey Fellowship Program Weekly Newsletter May, 2022)

Humphrey alumna and Director of the NGO **Carpathian Foundation Laura Dittel** met with Dr. Jill Biden on her recent visit to Slovakia and Ukraine. As a non-governmental organization actively helping Ukrainian refugees, Ms. Dittel spoke with Dr. Biden directly and informed her about the Carpathian Foundation programs. Operating in Eastern Slovakia, which directly borders Ukraine, the Foundation immediately responded to the crisis in Ukraine. They launched a rapid grant project, “We Love Ukraine,” through which they have supported more than 60 initiatives to help more than 30,000 people who have fled Ukraine. Ms. Dittel has also worked closely with local NGOs, schools, and local governments in Eastern Slovakia to support adult women, mothers with children, and seniors. In particular, they are engaging with six organizations that focus on helping LGBT+ refugees, **Roma minorities**, and people with health disabilities. Carpathian Foundation has mobilized to coordinate volunteers and help provide accommodation, food, toiletries, cleaning products, and transportation for refugees. They also offer nonformal education and activities for refugee children and support their integration into local schools, including recruiting teacher assistants who speak Ukrainian. They are actively working to identify employment opportunities, create jobs, and provide psychological and social services for Ukrainian refugees. Ms. Dittel has also organized several **humanitarian convoys** directly into Uzhhorod and Kyiv, Ukraine, delivering food, clothes, and other items, particularly for internally displaced orphan children.

Originally from Slovakia, Laura Dittel was a Humphrey Fellow at Syracuse University from 2014-2015. She has been the Director of the Carpathian Foundation for the past 27 years. She has gathered extensive knowledge and expertise in civil society organizations, community and regional development programs, corporate social responsibility, and philanthropy development.





Humphrey Alumna Represents Panama Delegation at the NAFSA 2022 Annual Conference & Expo

(this feature appeared in the Humphrey Fellowship Program Weekly Newsletter June, 2022)

Humphrey alumna Barbara Barrios was appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama to be part of the Panamanian delegation at this year's **NAFSA Conference**. As the Director of International Affairs and Agreements at Santa María La Antigua University, where she facilitates exchanges with different international universities and streamlines finding common ground for collaboration, she was excited to attend the international education event of the year. Exploring all aspects of the NAFSA 2022 theme, "Building Our Sustainable Future," Ms. Barrios participated in discussions on design strategies for sustainable future success at this critical time of re-emergence. Ms. Barrios also engaged with numerous international organizations, including the International Association for the Exchange of

Students for Technical Experience, with whom she is now collaborating to create an internship program for students at Santa María La Antigua University.

Ms. Barrios was a Humphrey Fellow from 2019-2020, focused on technology policy and management at Syracuse University. During her fellowship, she quickly saw the importance of **virtual learning** as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded. She led training sessions on creating online courses and worked with other Humphrey Fellows to organize an event on remote learning in science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM) education.



Mirjahon was an invited speaker at the Conference on the Development Strategy of Uzbekistan for 2022 - 2025, hosted by the Academy of Public Administration of Uzbekistan in February, 2022.

New Problem Is a New Opportunity: COVID Pandemic's Positive Outcome

Mirjahon Turdiyev is a 2014-2015 Humphrey alumni from Uzbekistan

The COVID pandemic has undoubtedly presented enormous challenges to the entire world and humanity in different shapes and ranges. As every situation has both dark sides and bright sides, the rapid growth of digital literacy of people around the world is recognized as the positive consequence of the pandemic by the international community. The popularization of the digital platforms during the pandemic accelerated the globalization process, knowledge exchange, and better access to the traditionally inaccessible resources which usually required physical relocation of people from one country to another or sometimes intercontinental transportation.

In my case, it definitely offered new opportunities for making productive contributions in my professional and academic fields. It has been a privilege to consult the government and non-government actors on disability policies and administration in Uzbekistan remotely through training, research, and policy reviews. Among all the research and knowledge development activities, the development of the e-course on disability rights stood out vividly. Over the period of one year in 2021-2022, I was able to attract and mobilize the financial and technical resources of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to develop a new e-course

On the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to incorporate into the E-learning platform of the OSCE. Achieving the commitment of the OSCE to support this new e-course project, I consolidated the team of four international disability rights experts, including three of Syracuse University's current and former faculty and researchers. Notably, the collaboration with one of the team members, Professor Michael Schwartz, a faculty from Syracuse University's College of Law, to promote the disability rights-related knowledge internationally was enlisted as one of the planned activities in my Individual Program Plan (IPP) of my Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship program in 2014-2015. Completion of this plan provided huge relief and confidence for the next more ambitious plans.

The e-course was launched in May 2022. It is developed in English and Uzbek languages. It is free of charge and a self-paced course that can be taken within two years depending on one's availability and preference. At the completion of the e-course—answering at least 70% of the test questions correctly—the course participants receive an official certificate of the OSCE signed by the OSCE officials. The course contents and structure are based on the principles and contents of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Specifically, the e-course covers the following major themes in connection to disability:

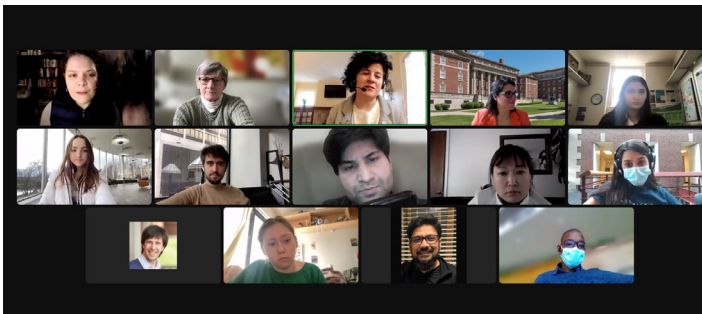
1. Introduction to Disability Equality
2. Politico-military Dimension
3. Human Dimension
4. Economic and Environmental Dimension

The e-course in English can be accessed at: https://elearning.osce.org/courses/course-v1:OSCE+HD-RPD-EN+2021_09/about

Fellows Engage in the Classroom and Community

Syracuse fellows were highly engaged in the spring, creating opportunities to provide perspectives on many topics. Some, like Peer to Peer, are long-standing series. Others took advantage of the intersection of faculty research and fellow expertise.

Khalisa Shahverdiyeva (Azerbaijan) was the inaugural speaker for a new initiative with Maxwell's Citizenship and Civic Engagement (CCE) program for undergraduates. During the virtual coffee hour, students learned about her career and focus on gender policy in Azerbaijan.

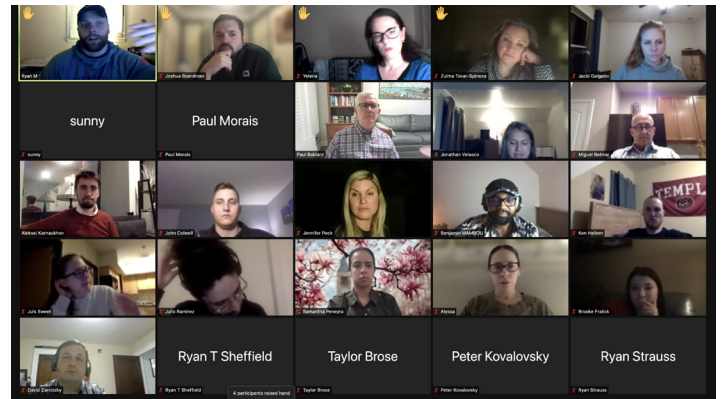


Wendpanga Dipama (Burkina Faso), Dramane Chabi Bouko (Benin) and Ahmad Noor (Pakistan) participated in a UN Organizations graduate course taught by Catherine Bertini, former Executive Director of UN World Food Programme and Professor Emeritus at the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. As part of a class exercise, they attended a mock security council meeting concerning to topic of UN security council reform. In the exercise, Dipama represented the Republic of Gabon and defended the position of the African Union to get more representation for African countries. Ahmad acted as UN secretary General, and Chabi performed the role of the Ukraine representative, who was invited to the council meeting.



Wendpanga Dipama (Burkina Faso) also spoke to the Syracuse Sunrise rotary about "Burkina Faso: a Challenging Path to Democratic Governance."

Aleksei Karnaukhov (Russia) met with international business students at our associate campus, SUNY Oswego in mid-February. His presentation, "Such a Distant and Close Russia: People, Economy, Politics, Culture: Comprehension of Everyday Life and the Hidden Concept of Russian Exceptionalism" provided a wide understanding of Russia. He also presented to the Syracuse Sunrise Rotary and then spoke in Professor Brian Taylor's undergraduate class, Politics of Russia, where he discussed the current state of Russian politics, the Yabloko party, and potential future scenarios after Putin's regime. This talk was after Russia had invaded Ukraine.



Marien Alvarado (Guatemala) participated in the School of Information Studies (iSchool) Research Symposium 2022, as part of her professional affiliation with two professors at the School.

They presented the Internet Backpack project, which is currently implemented in Costa Rica, with future sights set on Guatemala and Honduras. The presentation was conducted in both Spanish and English.

Fellows Speak at Peer to Peer



Wendpanga Dipama (Burkina Faso) reflected on his experience in the “United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in the Central African Republic: Achievements and Challenges” during Peer to Peer.



Juan Gowland (Argentina) discussed “How to Drive a Digital Transformation Strategy? The Case of Argentina.”



Marien Alvarado (Guatemala) provided an update on “The Migrant Caravans, the Humanitarian Crisis and Development Challenges.”



Dramane Bouko (Benin) offered a look at the “United Nations Peacekeeping Missions in Resolving the India-Pakistan Conflict: An Impossible Mission?”

Fellows Continue Connections in Washington, DC

Being able to connect with Washington, DC-based fellows during professional affiliations made the farewells just a bit easier! Wendpanga Dipama (Burkina Faso) and Juan Gowland (Argentina) met Margaret Lane and Martha Ketcham for dinner during the Humphrey Coordinator's Conference.

Ahmad Noor (Pakistan) joined 2020-2021 Syracuse Humphrey alum Jovana Bulatovic (Montenegro) at I4DI, where they both conducted their PAs in two different program years.

During the final week of the Humphrey Fellowship program, some Syracuse fellows based in Washington, D.C. for their professional affiliations had a final meet-up during one of many farewells in June. Khalisa Shahverdiyeva (Azerbaijan) showed her World Bank professional affiliation office to Wendpanga Dipama (Burkina Faso) and Juan Ignacio Gowland (Argentina).

Towards the end of the fellowship, Juan Gowland (Argentina) and his

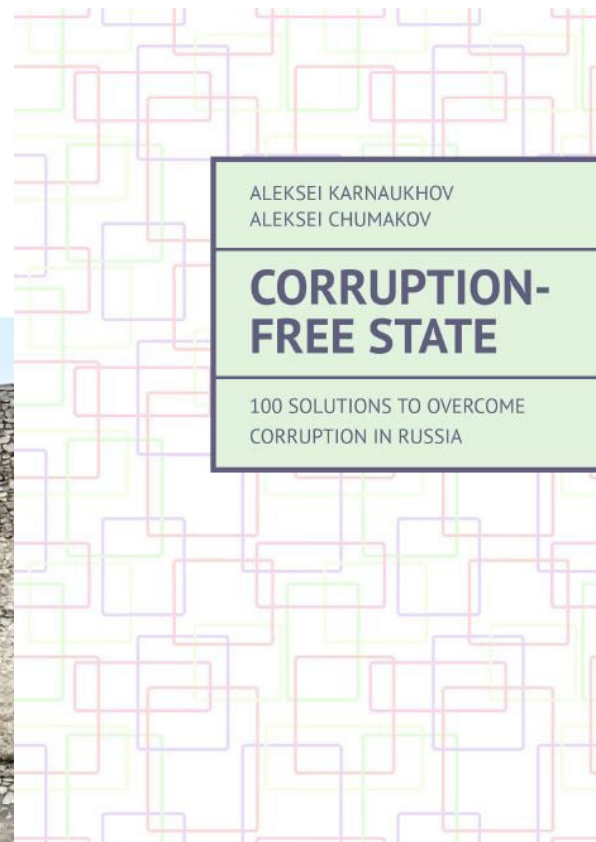
professional affiliation host, Roberto de Michele, Division Chief at the Inter-American Development Bank, joined other Washington, D.C.-area PA hosts and Humphrey fellows for the Professional Affiliation Host Appreciation Breakfast. Juan remarked, “Thank you, U.S. Department of State, for hosting us in one of my last experiences of my Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship... I was lucky to have Roberto, Miguel A Porrúa and all the division team of Inter-American Development Bank. They have been excellent hostess during my professional affiliation.”

(additional images courtesy Khalisa Shahverdiyeva, Juan Gowland and Ahmed Noor)



Opinion: A Private-Public Partnership focusing on digital skills can help in the rebuilding of Karabakh

23-APR-2022 KHALISA SHAHVERDIYEVA
JEANENE MITCHELL

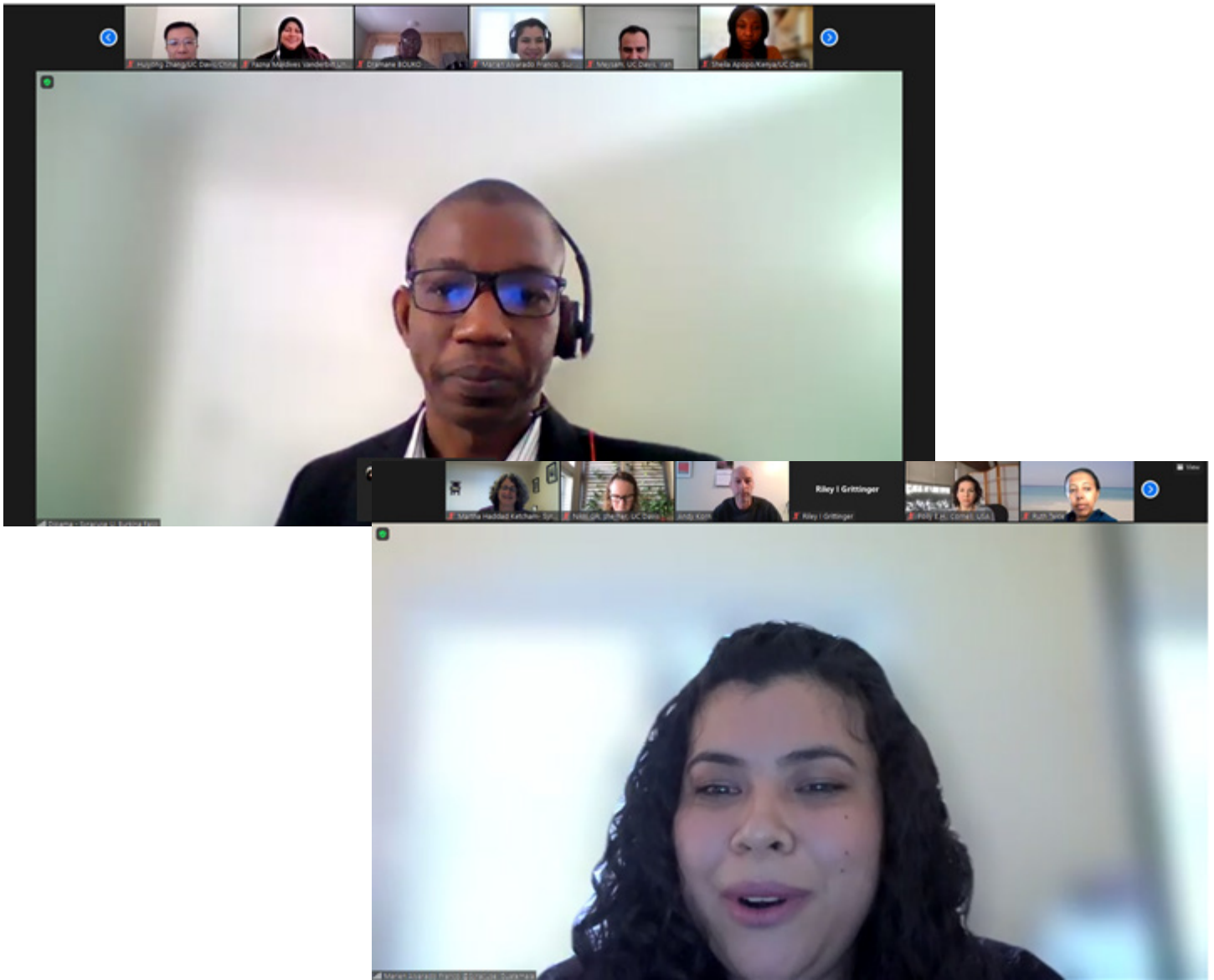


Fellows Publish Reports on Anti-corruption, Internally Displaced Persons

Aleksei Karnaukhov (Russia) co-authored “Corruption-Free State: 100 Solutions to Overcome Corruption in Russia.” The program is a unique example of a special political anti-corruption plan in Russia and how to build an efficient system. His co-author is Aleksei Chumakov, deputy head of the Anti-corruption Policy Center of the Yabloko Party and a Chevening Scholar at Glasgow University. The program now is the anti-corruption platform of the Yabloko party, the only liberal party really opposing Putin’s regime in today’s Russia.

Syracuse Humphrey fellow Khalisa Shahverdiyeva (Azerbaijan), along with Jeanene Mitchell, co-authored an opinion piece on **public-private partnerships** and how they can be effective in promoting digital literacy of internally displaced persons in Karabakh. She also wrote a report, **“IDP women: needs assessment for post-conflict life, including expectations for safe return home.”**





Syracuse Fellows Connect during Multi-campus Seminars

Five Humphrey campuses collaborated on a multi-campus seminar in the spring, with each campus tapping into their campus' expertise for professional development topics. Maxwell professor Catherine Gerard presented an interactive session on "Managing for Diversity." Fellows from Cornell University, University of California Davis, University of Minnesota, Vanderbilt University, and Syracuse University engaged in thoughtful breakout sessions to consider unconscious bias, implicit bias, microaggressions and more. Special focus was on the workplace and what fellows can do as leaders. Catherine Gerard is professor of practice at the Maxwell School and

longtime faculty of the Humphrey Leadership Seminar.

Syracuse fellow Wendpanga Dipama (Burkina Faso) served as session host, introducing Catherine and facilitating questions. The following week Syracuse fellow Marien Alvarado (Guatemala) served as host and facilitator for the Cross-Cultural Communication session with Syracuse University Anthropology Ph.D. candidate Andy Korn. He offered fellows an anthropological consideration of culture and engaged fellows in small group discussions about surface behaviors and the underlying assumptions of culture. He also offered perspectives of power and culture and that cultural sensitivity needs to be nurtured.



Gaining New Perspectives in New York City

Syracuse Humphrey fellows travelled to New York City where they met with representatives of UNICEF who work in public partnerships, communications, and advocacy. The group included 3 Maxwell School alumni. The conversation touched on many SDGs and the impacts of the pandemic on children including the setbacks they experienced, the digital divide, evaluation systems and the basic structure of UNICEF that enables them to meet its mission.

The following day they met former New York City assistant parks commissioner Jack Linn, who offered a global perspective on wide-ranging topics including a view of world history through the lens of conquerors and resisters, the importance of fellows as leaders to understand human nature, and how urban parks are democratic inventions and drivers of economic development. He then led the fellows on a walking tour of Central Park, providing history of the area, development of the park and notable features.

Fellows also gathered for a group dinner at a neighborhood restaurant where the conversation turned reflective as their time on campus was winding down.





Fellow Participates in a Service Learning Experience in Rural West Virginia

Marien Alvarado (Guatemala) was a 2021-2022 Syracuse Humphrey fellow

One important part of the Hubert H. Humphrey program is for fellows to experience the culture of the United States, to engage in the community or another state for that purpose, and what better way to engage in the culture and get to know people than to volunteer.

I've always been interested in learning more about people and their views of the world around them so when the Syracuse University Catholic Center offered a different spring break experience to go and do volunteer work at a farm in West Virginia, I knew this program was for me.

Nazareth Farms is located the rural Appalachia region of West Virginia, a sustainable farm that is like the motto of the state "Almost Heaven." It is undeniable the feeling of being in nature surrounded by mountains, the creek, and the sky full of stars.

The farm host volunteers to help people in need in the region, mainly building houses that will create a safe and accessible environment for their inhabitants.

They practice four corner principles that we as volunteers lived through the weeklong volunteer experience: simplicity, community, service, and prayer. The group was comprised of young volunteers from four different universities of the United States: Dayton, Salve Regina, SUNY Oswego and Syracuse. We were 24 volunteers willing to make the most of the experience, helping others, connecting with nature, and living a modest life but full of meaning.

The experience taught me lot of things— how I can live with simplicity and yet live a life full of good experiences, how can we help each other and in helping we shape ourselves in the process, how prayers and meditation create an environment of trust and openness, and how the youth of the US is involved in creating these spaces of inclusion and acceptance. This gave me a lot of hope for the future of the country and got me thinking how can I take these ideas back home and to implement something similar that will create a positive impact and allow me to continue with this type of volunteer experience.

I am grateful for the Humphrey Fellowship and the US Department of State for giving us the opportunity to be part of these kinds of experiences, to the Syracuse University Catholic Center for creating opportunities like this to learn more about the culture in the US, to Nazareth Farms, for all the hard work that they do and for the positive impact that they create for the people of West Virginia and the rest of the world, to the young participants that openly embraced a foreigner and made her feel welcome and at home far away from home, and to the people of West Virginia, who shared so much with us. I will never forget their kindness in every worksite, I truly recommend this kind of experience for future Humphrey Fellows.



Alumni Updates

2011-2012

Elena Marchan

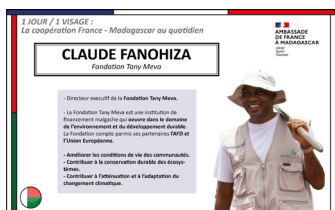
Elena Marchan (Ecuador) was part of the International Anti-corruption Academy (IACA) delegation to the ninth Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held at the international Congress Centre in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt in December 2021. She attended virtually due to the omicron Covid-19 variant. Elena said it was an honor to participate as part of this delegation. The **Conference** adopted one declaration and nine resolutions and decisions for the implementation of the Convention, as well as for awareness raising on anti-corruption related topics.



2015-2016

Claude Fanohzia

Claude Fanohzia (Madagascar) was recognized by the French Embassy in Madagascar in May. He is executive director of the Tany Meva Foundation.”



Islam Zaib

Islam Zaib (Pakistan) is now Director General at Directorate General of Immigration & Passports [DGI&P] Ministry of Interior Government of Pakistan.

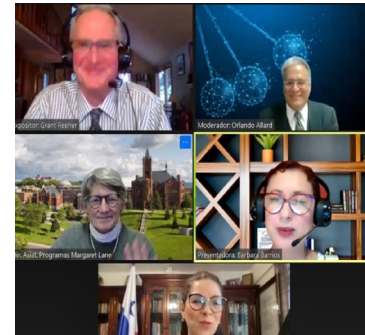


2019-2020

Barbara Barrios Dumanoir

As part of her ongoing connection with the Maxwell School, Barbara Barrios Dumanoir (Panama) hosted a webinar at her institution, Universidad Católica Santa María La Antigua (USMA), where she is Director of International Affairs and Agreements. It featured Grant Reeher, Professor of Political Science and director of the Campbell Public Affairs Institute at the Maxwell School. During the webinar, Prof. Reeher talked about American political systems and perspective of democracy. These topics are always popular sessions during orientation for Syracuse fellows.

(image courtesy Barbara Barrios Dumanoir and USMA Instagram)



Imran Hamid Sheikh

Imran Hamid Sheikh (Pakistan) authored a research paper that was selected for inclusion in the Pakistan Administration Journal of the National School of Public Policy. “Analysis of Development Administration at District Level in KP” discussed the salient features of development administration in districts of the Pakistani province Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, its legal and capacity-related challenges and how federal, provincial and district governments can work together for smooth implementation of their developmental projects. A research paper is a mandatory requirement of Mid Career Management Course in Pakistan- of the more than 180 papers, just 9 were selected for publication. He credits lessons of team building taught by Professor Catherine Gerard during Humphrey Leadership Seminar in helping to achieve this milestone.



2022-2023 Syracuse Humphrey Fellows Represent 13 Countries



Syracuse Humphrey Program by the Numbers:



First cohort
2009



Alumni
147



Countries
75



Incoming cohort
14