Host Family and Friends Handbook

Humphrey International Fellowship Programs

2010 - 2011

Executive Education Program
The Maxwell School of Syracuse University
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Dear Host Family and Friend:

WELCOME to the Hubert H. Humphrey International Fellowship Program (IFP) at The Maxwell School of Syracuse University!

The Humphrey Fellowship staff at the Executive Education Program at Maxwell sincerely hopes your participation in this program will be a meaningful and exciting experience for you and your family.

This handbook is designed to assist the host families and friends in understanding the programs in which the Fellows are involved and to provide guidelines for how they can be most helpful to the University and the Fellows.

We very much appreciate the families that serve as hosts and friends for these International Fellows who come to the University for extended periods of time. Past Fellows at other member universities have also expressed their gratitude for the generous hospitality and assistance they received from collaborating families.

Thank you for your partnership in welcoming Humphrey Fellows to Syracuse University and Central New York- we look forward to a wonderful year together!

Please note that this handbook and other helpful documents are available on our website at: http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/exed/sites/About_Humphrey/.

Warm Regards,

Margaret Lane
Program Coordinator, Humphrey International Fellowship Programs
Executive Education Program
The Maxwell School at Syracuse University
HOST FAMILY AND FRIENDS PROGRAM MISSION

The mission of the host family program is two-fold:

1. To assist the Humphrey Fellows in adjusting to life in the United States and Central New York and;

2. To provide an opportunity for cultural sharing between the host families, the community, and the Humphrey Fellows.

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program was initiated in 1978 to honor the late Senator and Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and his life-long commitment to international cooperation and public service. The program brings accomplished mid-career professionals from designated developing nations and emerging democracies to the United States for an academic year (ten months) of study, related professional experience, and cultural exchange. The program provides a basis for lasting ties between United States citizens and the Fellows and strengthens the global exchange of knowledge and experience. This program is administered through the Institute of International Education (IIE) in Washington D.C. and Syracuse University Humphrey Fellows are hosted by the Executive Education Program at the Maxwell School.

More about this program can be found at the following website: http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/exed/sites/About_Humphrey/.
THE MAXWELL SCHOOL OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

Syracuse University was the first in the nation to offer graduate professional education in public administration, beginning in 1924, and the program has been unwaveringly strong ever since. The School’s number-one ranking — awarded by U.S. News & World Report for as long as rankings in public affairs have been offered — reflects the strength of the School’s public administration program and M.P.A. degree. Sitting alongside public administration is a well-regarded interdisciplinary program in international relations, offering both a graduate professional degree and undergraduate majors. Maxwell’s I.R. master’s program was recently ranked among the nation’s top ten by Foreign Policy magazine.

And, in an arrangement that is unique among major colleges and universities, Maxwell is also home to Syracuse University’s scholarly programs in the social sciences — anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, social science, and sociology. The co-mingling of these scholarly programs with Maxwell’s professional degrees creates rich, compounding benefits for both students and faculty members alike. Scholarly research is tested by the “real-world” perspective of the professional programs. Meanwhile, career preparation in P.A. and I.R. is informed by a broader understanding born of the social sciences.

Maxwell’s high esteem draws in large part from the unfettered cross-propagation of theory, policy, and practice — apparent in the classroom and in Maxwell’s eight interdisciplinary institutes (some of them co-sponsored with other Syracuse University departments). In the institutes, scholars work side-by-side with practitioners on matters of domestic public policy, global affairs, citizenship and public affairs, environmental policy, conflict resolution and collaborative management, and national and international security, among others.
INTERIM DEAN MICHAEL WASYLENKO

Michael Wasylenko, interim dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, is a professor of economics and a past chair of the Department of Economics. He has been on the Maxwell School faculty since 1986, and began serving as the Maxwell School’s senior associate dean for academic affairs and administration in 2003.

In addition, Wasylenko has been an active participant in and a leader of numerous University committees and councils related to graduate and undergraduate programs and has served as the University’s faculty representative to the NCAA for 10 years. Reporting to the Chancellor, he works closely with the Department of Athletics on compliance with new areas of NCAA legislation, legislative enforcement and student-athlete welfare.

As an academic, Wasylenko specializes in public finance issues and has taught and published extensively on state and local finance, firm location, tax incentives and population decentralization within metropolitan areas. Instructing and advising both undergraduate and graduate students, Wasylenko was the 1994 recipient of the College of Arts and Sciences William Wasserstrom Prize for Outstanding Graduate Teaching. He is co-author of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States: Issues, Magnitudes, and Location Choice of New Manufacturing Plants; author or co-author of over 70 journal articles, book chapters, technical papers, and invited reviews; and a current or past member of the editorial boards of Land Economics, the Journal of Regional Science, the National Tax Journal, and Urban Affairs Quarterly. Wasylenko has been a fiscal policy advisor to the states of Arizona, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and his international work has taken him to more than a dozen countries, including Egypt, Hungary, Jamaica, Kenya, the Philippines, South Africa, and Thailand.

Wasylenko received a B.S. degree in mathematics from St. Joseph’s University of Philadelphia. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the Maxwell School in 1975 and held faculty positions at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Pennsylvania State University before returning to Maxwell.
CONTACT LIST: PROGRAM FACULTY AND STAFF

The Humphrey Fellowship Program at The Maxwell School at Syracuse University is supported by academic faculty and staff who work as a team to assist Fellows in achieving the goals of their fellowship year.

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HOST FAMILY AND FRIENDS PROGRAM PERSPECTIVE & ACTIVITIES

The Host Family Program contributes to the wealth of experience of each Fellow. It is often through the host families that the first personal contact with U.S. culture is established. We anticipate that this contact will provide a long-lasting link to Central New York and the United States. The host families are true ambassadors of the United States and carry on the legacy of Hubert H. Humphrey.

There are tremendous rewards for participating as a host family. The learning is definitely reciprocal and many lifetime friendships can be developed. Not only do host families learn about the country or region of their Fellow, they can develop a whole new appreciation for international affairs.

The relationship you have with the Fellow will be most rewarding if you develop a mutually open and friendly manner of communication. At the same time, keep in mind that U.S. society and culture tends to be more open/direct than that of other cultures.

In some cases, the Fellows will experience a shock as they transition from their own country and culture to that of the United States. This will tend to ease with the passage of time. A contributing factor to this is the reality that the Fellows are living away from their families and friends for an extended period of time.

During the year, Fellows will be away from campus for extended periods of time. Program elements include trips to New York City and Washington, D.C. Moreover, some of the Fellows will be away from campus as they pursue their professional affiliations in the spring.

Keep in mind that no guidelines meet all purposes and situations. Flexibility is usually required. If you experience difficulties in the relationship between your family and the Fellow, please contact our staff as soon as possible. We are here to support you and we are always willing to do what we can to foster your relationship with the Fellows.
RESPONSIBILITIES & GUIDELINES FOR HOST FAMILIES

The following are general guidelines to help host families welcome the international Fellows to the United States and to assist in building a rewarding relationship between the host families and the Fellows. These guidelines are intended to be helpful for both the Fellows and the host families. If you find that you are unable to assist with any of the following, notify Margaret Lane, Martha Ketcham or Tammy Salisbury so that other arrangements can be made.

1. AIRPORT ARRIVALS: Greet and pick-up the Fellow at the airport. You will be informed of the Fellow’s exact arrival schedule and email address.

2. OPTIONAL ARRIVAL OVERNIGHT STAY AT YOUR HOME: Host the Fellow in your home for the first night, or up to three nights. Many of the Fellows will have spent many hours, if not days, traveling and will need some rest in a comfortable environment. OR, your Fellow may decide to go directly to his or her residence.

3. Bring your Fellow to the first day of orientation Thursday August, 12 at 9a.m. at Maxwell on the Syracuse University campus. Please help them find room 204 in Maxwell. You do not need to stay. Parking will be available in the Irving Garage. To make parking arrangements please contact Tammy Salisbury, Assistant Coordinator, at mtsalisb@maxwell.syr.edu. A campus and parking map can be accessed here: http://parking.syr.edu/Parking/uploads/NorthSouthCampus032008.pdf

4. There will be a Humphrey Program BBQ following the Fellows’ orientation session on Friday August 13th at 5:30p.m. at the Inn Complete on Skytop Road on South Campus. It will be a casual gathering where Humphrey Fellows, host families and friends as well as program staff can meet and mingle.

5. BANKING: Assistance in understanding the US banking system is appreciated. Staff will help them open an initial account so they can have immediate access to their funds, but they may want to change later if they have need of specific services. Fellows have to have a bank account to deposit their first check. This money may be required to pay their deposit for housing.

6. OPTIONAL: FURNISHINGS: Assist the Fellow to find furnishings for their residence. Depending on their housing selection, Fellows may or may not have a furnished apartment. Either way, they may wish to add their own personal touch. In the past, Fellows have purchased items off of online sites such as Craig’s List (www.craigslist.org), visited local second-hand stores, or borrowed items from host families. We do have some items that previous Fellows have left and they are stored “off-season” by a host family member. Host families, with your local
knowledge, can be especially helpful is assisting Fellows making their house a home.

7. SHOPPING: Once the Fellow has located their housing, we would suggest taking them to the nearest grocery store, such as P&C/Tops, Wegmans, Price Chopper, Aldi or other areas shops and stores to help orient them to orient them to shopping systems in the United States. Keep in mind the various ethnic grocery stores in the area as well- these can offer specialty items not generally available at the larger, mainstream grocery stores. It is also advisable to help Fellows in understanding the bus routes which they can take to get to the grocery store. This SU Parking website offers various links to CENTRO Bus services and schedules: http://parking.syr.edu/Parking/display.cfm?content_ID=%23%28%

- Area Farmer’s Markets (in season) can also be an especially nice trip to take together. They provide fresh, local, reasonably-priced produce and other food items. In particular, the CNY Regional Market offers a kaleidoscope of produce and people. Here is a link to some area markets- click on ‘Markets & Farmers’ and then search on ‘Onondaga’. This will generate a list of area markets: http://www.nyfarmersmarket.com/index.htm.

SUGGESTED HOST FAMILY ACTIVITIES

The following are offered as ideas for building a relationship with the Humphrey Fellows, as a means of extending hospitality, and as a way to introduce the Fellows to United States culture.

♦ Host the Fellow and their family for lunch or dinner during significant holidays such as Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas, Eid Il Fitr or New Year’s.

♦ Invite the Fellow and their family to cultural events such as picnics, theater outings, museums, festivals, orchestra concerts, sporting events, or dinner out (explain, as this may not be a cultural norm for them). Please be sure to let the Fellow know what they may expect to pay for the outing. The Fellows receive a stipend that allows them to consider budgeting to pay for their own expenses at such events.

♦ Invite the Fellow and their family on a trip to a lake, park, and Upstate New York or out-of-state cities.

♦ Similarly, when the Fellow invites you to attend an event with them, please inquire about the cost and reassure them that it is okay for you each to pay your own expenses. They are typically quite reluctant to suggest this option. There may also be times when they wish to host you as their guest.
♦ Please note that while we are a daytrip away from some great locations in Ontario and Quebec, Canada, Fellows may require special travel documents or visas to leave the United States. Please check with Humphrey staff (Margaret Lane or Tammy Salisbury) in Executive Education before making these plans.

Each time you extend an invitation, please be sure to emphasize that an invitation is a request and not an obligation; emphasize that your relationship with the Fellow will not be hurt if they refuse the invitation; let them know that if they accept they will be expected to let you know if they later are unable to attend; and advise them of the expected arrival time for the event. It may be helpful to extend invitations as a multiple choice, such as, “would you rather attend a theatre performance or a sporting event?” This can help you get a better sense of a Fellows’ interests in a way that is culturally neutral.

Some possible activities for Host Families and Fellows and family:

- Museum of Science and Technology
- Syracuse Stage or other regional theater
- Green Lakes State Park, Beaver Lake Nature Center, Onondaga Lake Park
- Ice skating at Tenny Ice Pavilion, Clinton Square or other area rinks
- SU Football, Basketball, Lacrosse or other Carrier Dome sporting event
- Visit a farm or somewhere with an agricultural focus such as Critz Farm in Cazenovia
- Hiking
- Horseback riding
- Burnet Park Zoo
- A family wedding
- A book club
- Go to any of the numerous parks in CNY
- Fairs and festivals—NYS State Fair
- Finger Lakes/Lake Ontario
- Musicals, plays or concerts at area high schools
- Skiing- downhill or cross-country (XC at Beaver Lake or Highland Forest)
- For families: Playing in the snow- building snowmen, sledding, etc.
- Erie Canal Museum, Onondaga Historical Association
- Local eatery landmarks: Heid’s, Peter’s Polar Parlor, Sno-Top, Dinosaur BBQ
- Farmers’ Markets- see information above
- Sporting events- Syracuse Chiefs, Syracuse Crunch, International Sport Horse Tournament, SU sports
- Fall colors—take a drive along Route 20 or your favorite leaf-peeping route
- Pick-your-own locations: apples, pumpkins, strawberries, blueberries, etc.
• Think spring! Maple syrup festivals and events
• Different neighborhoods and villages of CNY
• Neighborhood gatherings, including some of the ethnic festivals
• Some activity around elections
• Simple walks or picnics- we are blessed with wonderful parks!
• Go to the movies
• Daytrips to Albany, Ithaca, Buffalo, Rochester

Heid’s of Liverpool  Green Lakes State Park

Skaneateles Lake
**THINGS HOST FAMILIES SHOULD NOT TAKE ON**

- Don’t host the Fellow in your home for extended periods of time. Usually, three nights is sufficient time for them to find adequate housing and get moved in.

- Never give or lend money to the Fellows. The Fellows have scholarship funds that should provide sufficient resources to cover ordinary expenses.

- Do not give advice to the Fellows regarding immigration, work, medical, or legal issues. They must comply with complex, frequently changing policies and it is important that these issues be handled in accordance with current laws.

- You should not assume the responsibility of disposing of or shipping Fellows’ boxes at the end of their stay in the United States when the Fellow has departed for home. The Fellows are advised to take care of shipping their items with sufficient time allotted in advance of their departure.

**EMERGENCY SITUATIONS**

Occasionally, Fellows experience difficult times during their stay in the United States. Some of these difficulties are common aspects of life and living in another culture. However, some of these can become serious threats to a Fellow’s wellbeing. While we understand the desire to assist them, *it is important that the program staff be aware of any potential problems in the Fellows’ lives.* It is much easier to deal with a potential problem than to deal with a crisis. You will be provided with a list of contact information for Fellowship staff. Please contact us if you feel there is something we should know about. We would rather error on the side of caution. In an emergency situation, please contact Margaret Lane or Tammy Salisbury.

**RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION**

As part of a public university, the International Fellowship Programs does not promote or sanction any particular religion. Both our cultural host families and the fellows come from many different cultural and religious backgrounds. Because we do not match fellows with hosts based on religious affiliation, you may well find that your Fellows’ religious affiliation or beliefs differ from yours. It is important that we demonstrate respect for all religions and belief systems, and we hope that this will enhance greater understanding of diversity for the group as a whole.

Making, accepting, and declining invitations is closely tied to a person’s culture. Some Fellows come from societies where to decline a host’s invitation would be very uncomfortable and disrespectful. If you would like to invite a Fellow to a religious event, be
sure it is clear that he or she has the option to decline. Also, please make it clear if the focus of an invitation is primarily religious.

**FOOD & DIETS**

Please ask what food restrictions your Fellow might observe. As a general rule, Muslim Fellows avoid pork products and Buddhist Fellows avoid beef products. Many Asian Fellows also consider rice to be an essential element of every meal. Some Fellows may be vegetarian or vegan. However, as each Fellow is unique in food preferences, it is best to ask each individual about their specific food preferences rather than make any assumptions.
**Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program Participants at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University 2010-2011**

Fatih Akbulut, Turkey

Mr. Akbulut’s focus of his studies is on best practices in decision-making at the federal, state and local levels, especially within national resource allocation. Effective and efficient implementation of democratic governance policies is also an area of concentration. Most recently Mr. Akbulut was Governor of Gumusova District. As part of his responsibilities, he organized community initiatives, activated local resources for better social, cultural and economical welfare of citizens, and oversaw department ministers and civil servants.

Khaled Al-Ajmi, Saudi Arabia

Mr. Al-Ajmi is focussing on information and communication technology policy and practices and how the society can maximize its benefits. He is interested in the intersection of ICT policy acceptance and integration into government and private sectors, with an emphasis on the banking sectors. A focus of Mr. Al-Ajmi is also exploring successful methods, models, and practices to encourage Saudi citizens to more consistently adopt emerging banking technologies. Most recently, Mr. Al-Ajmi was the head of IT development department in AlRajhi Bank where he was responsible for information technology support and delivery activities.

Jungwook Auh, South Korea

Ms. Auh is focusing her studies on the analysis of best practices of U.S. information technology policy, especially in the area of standardization. In the process, she is also placing an emphasis on public policy implementation, analysis and evaluation. Ms. Auh comes from the Korea Communications Commission as a Deputy Director where she is responsible for developing long-term strategies for public and private ICT technology standards.
Samuel B. Cole, Liberia

Mr. Cole’s focus is on public administration and public policy with an emphasis on leadership, domestic and foreign development policies, election administration and peaceful, democratic political transitions. He is also interested in the role of women to feel empowered to participate in the electoral process as voters, candidates and elected officials. Most recently Mr. Cole was Director of Civic and Voter Education for the National Elections Commission in Liberia where he oversaw the commission’s civic and voter education programs across the country.

Nicolas Hernandez, Colombia

Mr. Hernandez is focusing his studies on civil society, public policy and transparency, especially in regards to anti-corruption. He also is emphasizing leadership and non-profit management, ethics and governance. He has been a senior advisor for Corporación Ocasa, a non-profit that focuses on transparent democracy and youth development in Colombia. At Ocasa, Mr. Hernandez has worked on cross-sector collaboration, especially in the area of corporate social responsibility and fund development.

Mutriba Latypova, Tajikistan

Ms. Latypova is concentrating her studies on public administration, urban planning, policy analysis, economics and U.S. foreign policy. Her focus will also include democratic pillars such as governance and civic participation. Ms. Latypova comes from a civil society background and most recently was a public information specialist for the Urban Institute in its local governance and citizen participation project, providing program support and coordination.

Saidal Luni, Pakistan

Mr. Luni is continuing his focus of previous study in the area of decentralization of governments- the transfer of administrative and fiscal authority from national to state and district governance. His work emphasizes both academic and practical experiences and knowledge in order to more fully integrate theory and practice. Mr. Luni was District Coordination Officer for the District Government of Pishin where he was responsible for establishing effective and efficient coordination and working relationships between departments in providing public services to its citizens.

Shahla Mahmudova, Azerbaijan

Ms. Mahmudova is focusing her studies on policy analysis, public administration in developing countries, public sector reform and financial management in state and local governance. She has a keen interest in best practices of election administration. Most
recently, Ms. Mahmudova was a Project Coordinator for IFES, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems in Azerbaijan where she developed and implemented professional development training activities for elected officials and acted as a liaison between her organization and other civil society, international community, political and government groups.

### Baloko Makala, Rwanda

Ms. Makala is concentrating on information and communication technology policy development and implementation with a specific emphasis on how new policies can not only be implemented but regulation can also be monitored. Her interest also focuses on IT policy management within both the public and private sectors. Most recently, Ms. Makala was Director of Information and Communication Technology in the Ministry of Infrastructure in Rwanda where she oversaw ICT infrastructure and served as an ICT advisor to various public sector stakeholders.

### Mary-Jane Ncube, Zimbabwe

Ms. Ncube is focussing on public administration, public policy, governance and democracy with an emphasis on the equitable distribution of resources. She has an interest in combining academic theory, peer learning and practical experience in order to expand her experiential learning opportunities. Ms. Ncube was most recently the Executive Director for Transparency International Zimbabwe, where she advanced advocacy opportunities aimed at raising public awareness and promoting institutional and legislative reforms.

### Nampoiniaina Rabenasolo, Madagascar

Mr. Rabenasolo’s area of focus is governance, capacity building and corruption with an emphasis on sustainable development best practices. He also is exploring public service reforms, e-governance and public finance and has interest in strengthening watchdog activities in reform measure adherence. Mr. Rabenasolo was Communication Director at BIANCO Independent Office Against Corruption where he was responsible for anti-corruption media messages and news releases relating to his organization’s endeavors.

### Umar Riaz, Pakistan

Mr. Riaz is undertaking the study of public administration, policy development and implementation with a focus on best practices, governance and capacity building. Mr. Riaz is a civil servant and belongs to Police Service of Pakistan, a group of officers responsible for law enforcement in federal and provincial governments. He has served in National Accountability Bureau, Frontier Constabulary and Police Department in KPK(NWFP). He was most recently working as supervisory Police Officer in Peshawar responsible for law enforcement, investigation and personnel management.
Loday Tsheten, Bhutan

Mr. Tsheten is emphasizing studies in public policy analysis and administration in context to good governance. He has interest in learning both the theoretical and practical aspects of public policy analysis and administration in order to best parlay these experiences into his professional duty of preventing corruption. Most recently, Mr. Tsheten was Senior Systems Analyst in the Prevention Division for the Anti-Corruption Commission where he was involved with analyzing policy, reviewing systems, and recommending anti-corruption measures. He was also responsible for conducting research and formulating National Anti-Corruption Strategy for Bhutan.
A FINAL NOTE

We look forward to having you participate as a Host Family for our Humphrey Fellows. The cultural exchange will be rewarding for everyone involved. It’s an opportunity to be an ambassador for The Maxwell School at Syracuse University, Central New York and the United States. Thank you!

2010-2011 Humphrey Fellows of the Maxwell School

(Special thanks to International Fellowship Program, HHH Institute of Public Affairs University of Minnesota for handbook guidance)