

FALL 2021

HUMPHREY CONNECTIONS



BOSTON UNIVERSITY'S HUMPHREY FELLOWSHIP
PROGRAM NEWSLETTER



**Humphrey
Fellowship**
A Fulbright Exchange Program



THE HUMPHREY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Cohorts of Fellows specializing in designated fields are hosted by universities chosen for their academic excellence in those fields and for other support they offer. Fellows pursue an intensive, semi-structured program focused on:



Professional
Advancement



Collaboration with
U.S. Counterparts



Leadership
Development



Intercultural
Exchange

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program was established in 1978 by President Jimmy Carter to honor the late Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and his life-long commitment to international cooperation and public service. The program invites experienced professionals from designated countries to spend a year in the U.S. preparing to address several of the most compelling development issues in the world today. Humphrey Fellows are selected based on their leadership potential, commitment to public service, and professional expertise. Today's Humphrey Fellow alumni network comprises over 6,000 influential leaders worldwide. This is a Fulbright exchange activity, primarily funded by Congress and administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) at the U.S. Department of State, with administrative assistance provided by the Institute of International Education (IIE).

THE PROGRAM AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY



Boston University has operated as a host campus since the Program's inception in 1978. The Questrom School of Business serves as the program's administrative home at BU, where all eleven 2021-2022 fellows specialize in finance and economic development. Under the guidance of program coordinators and faculty advisors, fellows pursue individualized programs of non-degree, graduate level coursework, independent research, special seminars and colloquia, and six-week, professional affiliations related to their respective fields. The Humphrey Fellowship Program has contributed to BU's development into one of the world's most globally connected private universities, where more than 7,000 international students live and study. As of 2021, the BU Humphrey alumni network exceeds 500 members in over 125 countries

MEET THE 2021-22 HUMPHREY FELLOWS



AGHABAY ASADOV, AZERBAIJAN

Mr. Aghabay (Agha) Asadov is a Credit Group Lead at the Pasha Bank – Azerbaijan (Corporate and Institutionalized Banking). His responsibilities are to lead a group of Credit Analysts and manage a portfolio of the top corporate clients in his Bank. During his fellowship, Aghabay plans to study the involvement and approach of Governing and Regulatory system to the financial industry in US economy.

Mr. Asadov has completed his Postgraduate program in Finance and Investments from Aston University, UK. He also holds a MSc in Business Administration and BSc in World Economics from Qafqaz University in Azerbaijan.



PEDRO BISCAY, ARGENTINA

Mr. Pedro Biscay works at the Attorney General Office working in the investigations of financial and organized crimes, and has over 15 years of professional experience in public policy at various government agencies and civil society. During Pedro's Fellowship year, he hopes to strengthen his academic and professional skills on topics related with financial regulation policies, systemic risk measures, access to credit and anti-money laundering actions.

Mr. Biscay holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Law (University of Buenos Aires) and a Master's degree in Law and Finance (University of CEMA).



MUNGUNSHAGAI BORMAGNAI, MONGOLIA

Mr. Mungunshagai (Mungun) Bormagnai served as a Chief Retail Banking Officer of the Transport and Development Bank of Mongolia. Moreover, he has over nine years of experience in the Mongolian banking sector. As a Humphrey fellow, he will explore how financial institutions in the United States mobilize and contribute to sustainable financing for SMEs in emerging markets. Furthermore, he will expand his knowledge in investment analysis and portfolio management and deepen his understanding of the management of the international financial system.

Mr. Bormagnai earned a bachelor's in finance from the National University of Mongolia.

MEET THE 2021-22 HUMPHREY FELLOWS



FATIMA BOULADJOU, ALGERIA

Ms. Fatima Bouladjoul is currently working in Business Development at Azeemi Technologies, a Multinational Company specialized in Digitalization and IT advisory for Financial Institutions. She has ten years of experience in banking sectors within different departments and organizations (Branch management, Corporate Risk and International Trade). During her fellowship year, Fatima plans to gain academic knowledge as well as professional experience in the domain of Mobile Banking and Fintech.

Ms. Bouladjoul holds a Bachelor Degree from the Higher School of Banking, and a Corporate Risk Management Certificate from CFBP Group Paris.



TASHI DORJI P, BHUTAN

Mr. Tashi Dorji P currently serves as a Chief Program Officer at the Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC). He spearheads as the Head of the Civil service Reform Secretariat to directly help the Commission to translate His Majesty's vision of bringing Civil Service Reform in the entire civil service of Bhutan. During the Humphrey Fellowship Program, he hopes to develop his leadership prowess and expertise in the fields of money, markets and financial institutions.

Mr. P holds a Master of Public Policy specialization in Economics from the Australian National University.



MARIUS GNALIS-RAFAI, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Mr. Marius Gnalis-Rafai is a Financial and Business Development Advisor at Be-Africa Innovation Lab (Bailab) and a Senior auditor at Leas & Consultants International in Bangui, Central African Republic. During his fellowship year, he aims to enrich his academic and professional training with an emphasis on financial digitalization, small business development specifically in starting and financing business by exploring innovative and new trends in the field including design thinking, venture and angel capital, private equity or crowdfunding.

Mr. Gnalis-Rafai graduated in Sociology from the University of Bangui and in Banking and Finance from HEGC (Business School of Management and Accounting). He also holds a master's degree in Project management from the International Institute of Management of Bangui, Central African Republic.

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RIMA HASANAH, INDONESIA

Ms. Rima Hasanah has 10 years of experience working in Indonesian government ministries on a wide range of sectors; from socio-economic development to international migrations to maritime and investment. Currently, she is the Head of Subdivision at the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs, Republic of Indonesia. During her Fellowship year, Rima plans to enhance her understandings of economic development, sustainable development principles and strategies of implementation, as well as maritime and coastal management.

Ms. Hasanah graduated with B.Eng. in Industrial Engineering from Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia and M.A. in Development Studies from the University of Auckland, New Zealand.



MOHAMED ZAKARIA ISMAIL, EGYPT

Mr. Mohamed (Zack) Zakaria works as a Senior Deputy Manager in Foreign Currency funding Desk at Banque Misr, one of the largest state-owned banks in Egypt. During his fellowship year, Mr. Zakaria plans to acquire the academic knowledge related to Economics, Financial Institutions and Financial Markets and their relation to achieving sustainable development and growth in Developing countries such as Egypt.

Mr. Ismail graduated in 2007 from Faculty of Commerce, English section, at Benha University, and he is currently working on becoming a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).



TATSIANA MASIUK, BELARUS

Ms. Tatsiana (Tanya) Masiuk works as Head of Business Development, Financial Institutions, Belgazprombank. Her responsibilities include arrangement of loan facilities from foreign investors to finance SME, developing and maintaining customer relationship with financial institutions, and negotiating clean-basis limits to Belgazprombank. During her Fellowship year, Tatsiana plans to advance her knowledge of tailor-made financial instruments (for instance, special-purpose loans, greenfield investment, crowdfunding) used in the U.S. for SME support.

Ms. Masiuk graduated from the Academy of Public Administration under the aegis of the President of the Republic of Belarus and Belarusian National Technical University (Master of Economics).

MEET THE 2021-22 HUMPHREY FELLOWS



MARIAM MUBARAK, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Ms. Mariam Mubarak has over 10 years of experience leading projects both nationally and internationally in the UAE, France, Poland, and Australia. She has extensive knowledge in the oil and gas industry, startup projects, has worked in multinational companies, and help to gain a solid skillset in the area of stakeholder management, strategy, and in financial and organizational development.

Ms. Mubarak obtained her bachelor's degree in business information system in Melbourne, Australia and received an MBA in France.



MOHAMED AMINE ZAKARIA, MOROCCO

Mr. Mohamed Amine Zakaria is a senior executive of the procurement department at RAMSA, a company that supplies fresh water and manages the sewage system in the region of Agadir (South of Morocco). During his fellowship year, Amine aims to be more knowledgeable about using statistical models and machine learning algorithms in order to optimize the decision making within the procurement department, in particular to reduce the gas consumption of the company fleet and plants.

Mr. Amine earned his master's degree in accounting and financial management at the national school of management and commerce in Agadir, Morocco.

HUMPHREY FELLOW'S ORIENTATION WEEK



On August 16 - September 1, we welcomed the 2021-2022 cohort of BU Humphrey Fellows! During our two and a half week orientation, we focused on familiarizing the fellows with the BU Charles River Campus and all the resources available around Boston!



Dr. Yoo Jin Chung kicked off our orientation by introducing Questrom School of Business, including a brief history and the types of resources the fellows could utilize during their time at BU.

Other highlights include Fellows virtually meeting our wonderful group of host families for the first time over Zoom, touring the city of Boston with the Boston Duck Tours, and holding our team-building exercise with Dr. Paul Hutchinson at the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA)!



FALL 2021

HUMPHREY SEMINARS



On September 7, fellows participated in a group community service activity with the Esplanade Association to clean up the Charles River Esplanade! The Esplanade Association is a 20 year old non-profit dedicated to revitalizing, enhancing, and maintaining the historic Charles River Esplanade in downtown Boston. Fellows cleaned up the Esplanade and Charles River to keep BU's backyard clean!

On September 9, fellows had their first Humphrey Seminar with our Faculty Director, Dr. Yoo Jin Chung. Topics discussed were about various motivation theories and what motivates each fellow. Also introduced was their first assignment: My Humphrey Year Presentation.



MY HUMPHREY YEAR PRESENTATIONS

On September 16, fellows had their first presentation to present "My Humphrey Year". These presentations allows fellows to share their personal leadership goals during their Humphrey year to their cohort and coordinators. Special guest, Esteban Coello, 2012-13 BU Humphrey Alum from Ecuador joined our session! Esteban graciously shared his experience to the current fellows about his time in Boston and how the fellowship helped his career. Thank you for joining us, Esteban!



MY HUMPHREY YEAR PRESENTATIONS



On September 14, fellows met with Professor Vicky Rayel, Adjunct Faculty for Graduate and Undergraduate Career Programs at the Questrom School of Business. Fellows were taken step by step on how to build their resumes. This workshop is a key seminar to help improve fellow's resumes for their professional development!



On September 21, Professor Vicky Rayel discussed how to network in the U.S. specifically focusing on utilizing LinkedIn for cold contacts. The fellows had an opportunity to receive feedback on their LinkedIn profiles and discussed how to improve their search to increase the matchability for the PA.



September 30, the fellows attended a virtual site visit with the BU Global Development Policy Center. Dr. Bill Kring introduced the research initiatives led by the GDP center and projects Humphrey Alumni have collaborated on in the past.

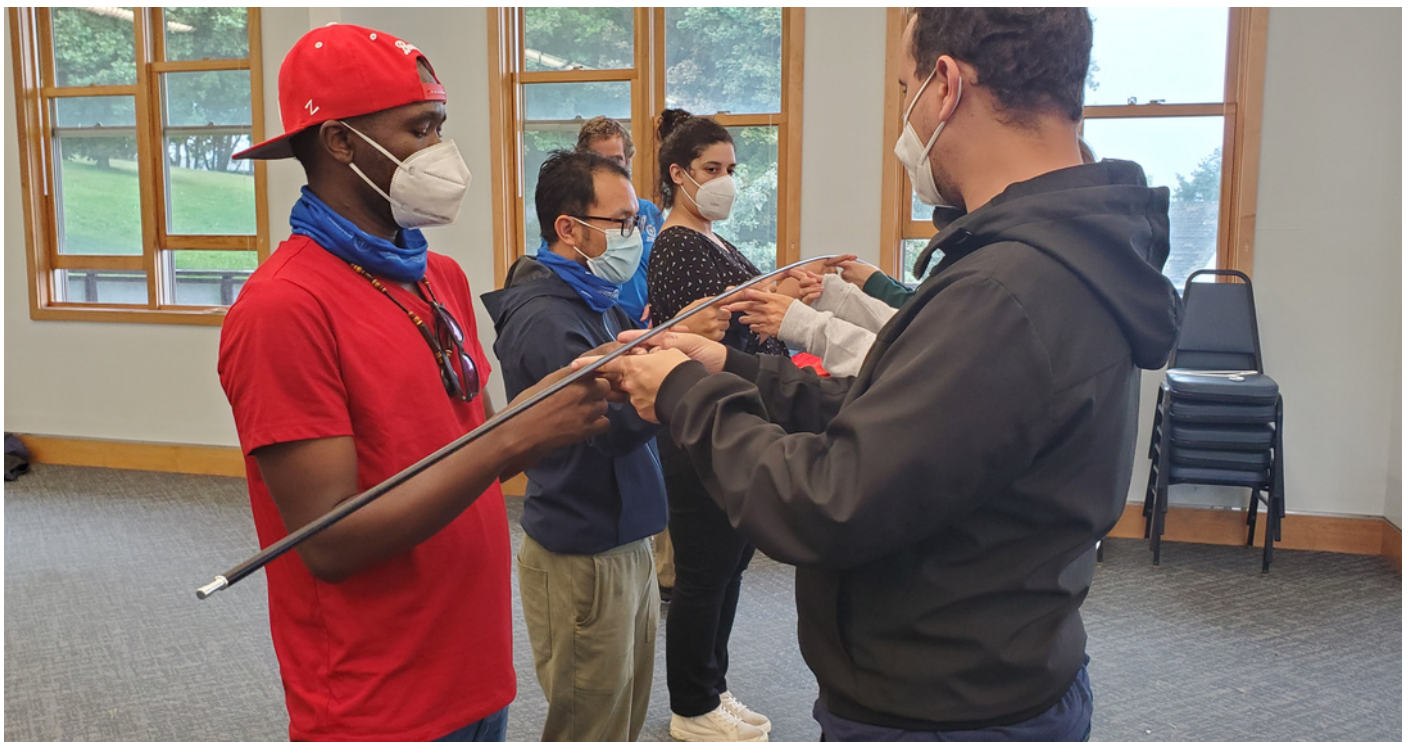




OUTWARD BOUND PROFESSIONALS



Fellows enjoyed a team-building retreat at the Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center, led by Ellen Harris, Director and Facilitator at Thompson Island. Facilitators took the fellows (and staff!) through a series of challenges, including problem-solving initiatives and reflection tools. Each task stimulated creativity, fostered innovation, and developed the cohort as a team through active learning.



Hanson's Farm

BU and MIT Humphrey Fellows Social Outing

On October 2, the BU Humphrey Fellow, staff, and their families were joined by a few MIT fellows at Hanson's Farm in Framingham, MA! Fellows were able to experience a true New England activity riding on a hay ride, walking through a corn maze, and picking pumpkins! It was a beautiful afternoon enjoying the sights outside the city!



On October 5, fellows learned about entrepreneurial leadership with Prof. Ian Mashiter and Prof. Li Liang. Introduced was Boston University's BUild Lab, a co-working space on campus that teaches innovation, communication, and collaboration skills through experiential learning programs.



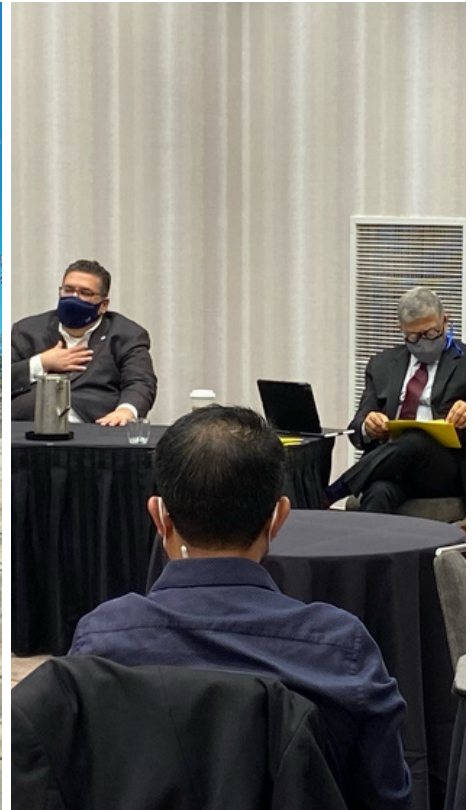
On October 7, as part of the discussion on strategic communication, Prof. Jennifer Mandolese introduced the techniques of storytelling and helped develop effective presentation skills. Each fellow had an opportunity to practice a TED Talk styled pitch and receive feedback from Prof. Mandolese and their cohort.

On October 12, fellows virtually met with Dr. Kathleen O'Neal, the Director of Single Stop USA at BHCC, to learn about how the program has helped students move toward economic mobility to end cycles of poverty. We were also joined by Professor Wissal Nouchrif and her class to discuss topics regarding financial literacy, financial inclusion, and entrepreneurship.



WASHINGTON, DC

The Global Leadership Forum



Monday, October 18 - Friday, October 22

From October 18 – 22, fellows attended the Global Leadership Forum in Washington, DC. Fellows participated in a number of sessions around the shared theme of Global Leadership for a Resilient and Inclusive World.

On Monday afternoon, fellows had the opportunity to tour the Capitol and Washington, DC! From Tuesday through Thursday, Fellows participated in several workshops; attended regional breakout sessions; and heard from a wide variety of distinguished speakers on important topics such as Human Rights, Economic Development, and Press Freedom.

On Friday, the BU team invited the World Bank and IMF to meet the Humphrey Fellows. Mahesh Uttamchandani, Practice Manager at the WB, and Udaibir Das, Advisor and Assistant Director at the IMF, spoke about their organizations and the projects they are currently working on. Udaibir also returns as a 1988-1989 Boston University Humphrey Alumnus from India.

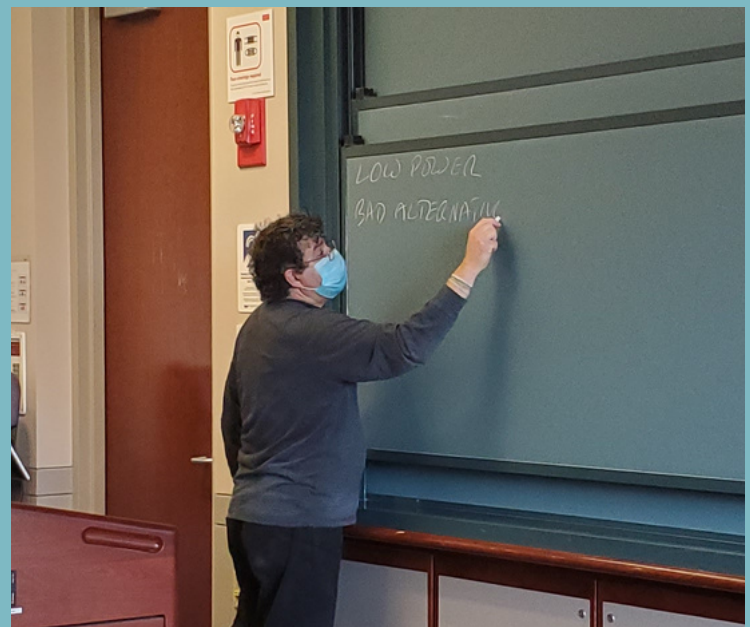


On October 14, Fellows discussed challenges and opportunities in cross-cultural communication. Fellows also heard from Kristyn Dempsey to learn how to apply the skills they have gained so far to their PA search.



October 28, Fellows had the opportunity to debrief on their experience at the GLF. Dr. Yoo Jin Chung discussed the concept of value creation and the role of leadership in making impactful decisions. The seminar was also dedicated to preparing for fellow's class visit to MO460: The Leadership Challenge.

On November 18, Prof. Moshe Cohen led an experiential workshop on Negotiation and Conflict Resolution. The fellows were engaged in role plays to practice their negotiation tactics. The session provided the fellows with an opportunity to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses when it comes to negotiation and conflict resolution.



CLASS VISIT

MO460: The Leadership Challenge



FELLOWS OPENED THE PANEL WITH AN ICEBREAKER TO THE ENTIRE CLASS



PANEL ONE: CULTURAL COMPETENCIES IN LEADERSHIP



PANEL TWO: LEADERSHIP IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BU Humphrey Fellows surprised undergraduate students in the MO460: The Leadership Challenge class at Questrom to speak as global leaders representatives. Fellows organized and coordinated two panels to discuss cultural competencies in leadership and leadership in economic development. It was an extremely engaging conversation among global leaders and future leaders of the world!

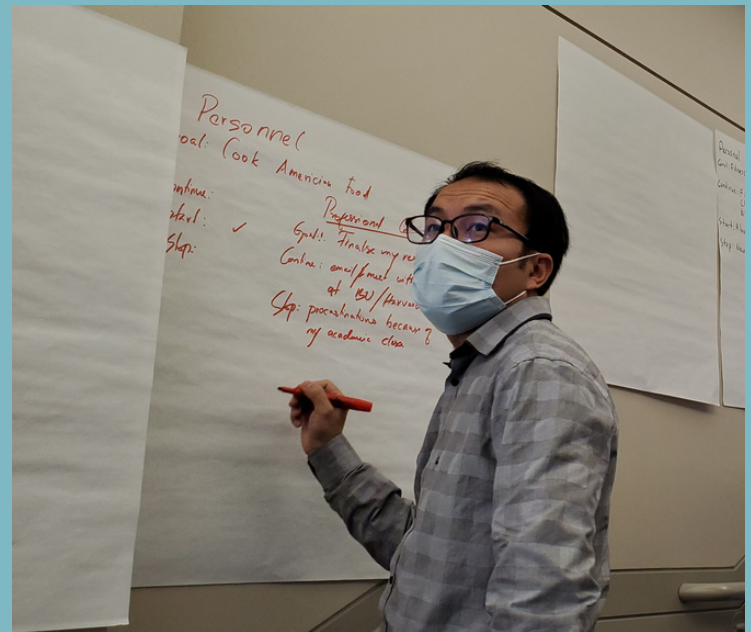




On December 2, fellows discussed the importance of After Action Review (AAR), and how it will improve individual and group performance back in everyone's home country. Fellows were then given the assignment to apply the concept to our experience working on the leadership panel for MO460.

On December 9, Fellows reflected on their fall semester and discussed personal and professional goals they would like to achieve for the rest of the fellowship.

Some goals included reaching out to PA organizations, learning how to cook, and strengthening the cohort's relationship.



December 8, 2021

HOLIDAY PARTY



On December 8, the BU Humphrey Fellowship Program hosted the annual Humphrey Holiday Lunch Party! Fellows enjoyed a buffet lunch at the BU Castle, an extraordinary Tudor Revival mansion on campus. Following lunch, fellows and coordinators participated in a white elephant gift exchange.

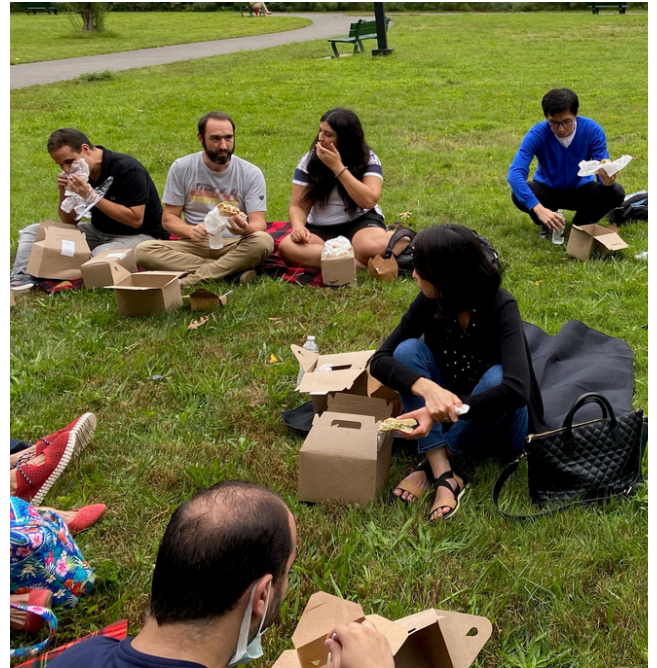
The highlight of the gift exchange was Rima receiving the same BU tumbler mug, twice!





HOST FAMILY

Sharing highlights from host family and fellow's activities this semester!



HOST FAMILY PICNIC

Coordinators, fellows, and host families got together for a picnic on the Charles River Esplanade. This was the first in-person meeting between fellows and host families this year, and marked a very special occasion of celebrating Doris Kellom, our long time host family leader. Thank you Doris for all your hard work and dedication!



SPOOKY HALLOWEEN

Host Family Linda Cravens invited Agha and his family to the Halloween Children's Celebration at Harbor Towers! Linda, her grand-daughter, and Maryam attempted to turn Agha into a "scary" mummy!

RHODE ISLAND TRIP

Host Family Michelle and Gary Levy took Fatima and Amine to Newport, Rhode Island! It was a beautiful sunny day to see the town, mansions, and to learn about the American Gilded Age!



THANKSGIVING PARTY

Host Families Doug and Kelly Larson hosted a Thanksgiving party for Pedro and his family! In the photo is the Larson's son and his wife with Pedro's baby, Leon! After a traditional Turkey dinner, the entire family went on a hike!

FESTIVE DINNER

Host Family Carmen Aldinger and Darrel Hartwick hosted Zack at their home for dinner! Because Christmas decorations were up in the house, it was a very festive dinner and experience! After dinner, everyone took a stroll through Newton, MA to enjoy the sights.



HIKING A MOUNTAIN

Host Family Carmen Aldinger and Darrel Hartwick took Zack to New Hampshire to hike Mount Monadnock! It provided an opportunity to get away from the city, and experience some "wilderness."



PUMPKIN CARVING

Host families Kelly and Doug Larson; and Matt and Abbey Leon invited Pedro and his family to carve some Pumpkins! It was a first time experience for Pedro and his family, and one they will never forget!



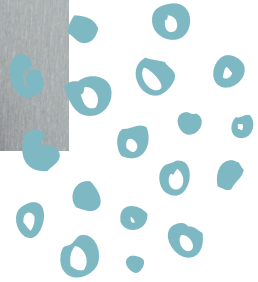
Alumni News

UPDATES FROM BU HUMPHREY ALUM

DUANGHATHAI PENTRAKON

2020-2021, Thailand

Ms. Pla Pentrakoon is currently a lecturer at the Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. She [published her paper](#) with Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator (CARB-X) at Boston University, i.e. one of professional affiliation organizations, during her Humphrey year.



OLGA MELNICIUC

2018-2019, Moldova

Ms. Olga Melniciuc is currently an entrepreneur and investor at Investitii.md. She initiated the creation of the first Business Angels Group in Moldova. As of December 2021, they are officially registered and have implemented a number of activities: trainings for investors (Investors' Academy), pitching events (as seen in the US), and hosting online workshops (on various investment-related topics). They already have a team of 15 individuals - local investors - who joined the [Business Angels Moldova \(BAM\)](#).



ARNALDO GODOY

2002-2003, Brazil

Mr. Arnaldo Godoy is currently a lawyer for Hage & Navarro and teaches law. He has published several books on American Law for Brazilian readers, which was inspired by his experience as a Humphrey Fellow at BU.

ABHILAKSH LIKHI

2004-2005, India

Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi IAS is currently the Additional Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare for the Government of India. He [published an article](#) on agriculture in India.



ITBAR KHAN

2009-2010, Pakistan

Mr. Itbar Khan is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Malakand in Pakistan. He established the first alumni association at his University and will hold their first gathering very soon!





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