

FALL 2024

HUMPHREY CONNECTIONS

QUESTROM
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

RAFIK B. HARIRI BUILDING

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 2024-2025 fellows specialize in banking & finance, economic development, and law & human rights. 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 2024, the BU Humphrey alumni network exceeds 500 members in over 125 countries

MEET THE 2024-2025 HUMPHREY FELLOWS



Etsri Amen Eklou-Takpani
Togo
Finance & Banking



Assad Farman
Pakistan
Finance & Banking



Alexis Cordova Araujo
Ecuador
Finance & Banking



Besart Grabanica
Kosovo
Finance & Banking



Diana Chobanyan
Armenia
Economic Development



Yohy Jose
Mozambique
Finance & Banking



CLICK ON THE FELLOWS' NAMES TO READ THEIR BIOS AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM!



Vija Kalnina
Latvia
Law and Human Rights



Manizha Tojidinova
Tajikistan
Finance & Banking



Muhammad Umar Khan
Pakistan
Finance & Banking



Mostafa Mohamed Tawfik
Egypt
Finance & Banking

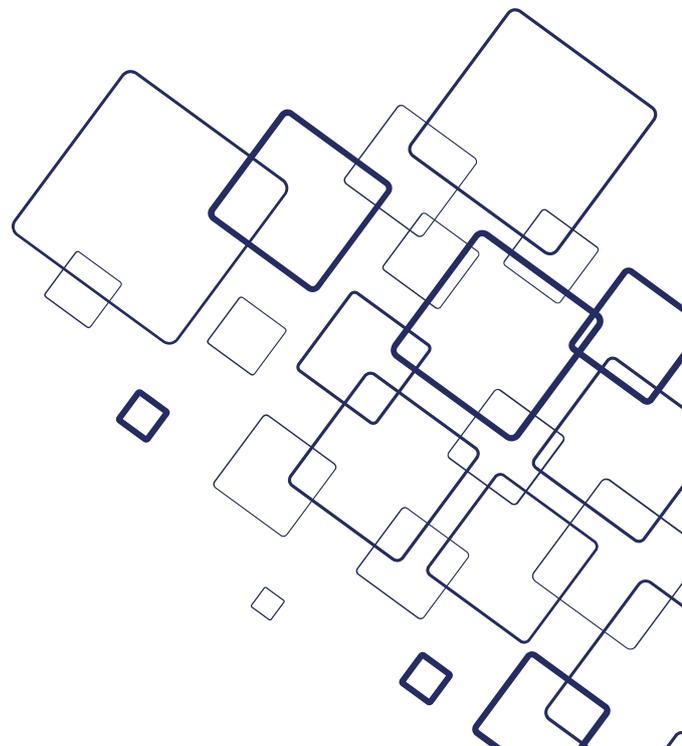


Ochgerel Lkhagva
Mongolia
Finance & Banking

HUMPHREY FELLOW'S ORIENTATION



From Sunday, August 11 - Friday, August 30, we welcomed the 2024-2025 cohort of BU Humphrey Fellows to Boston! During our three week orientation, we focused on familiarizing the fellows with the BU Charles River Campus and all the resources available around the city.





Dr. Yoo Jin Chung kicked off our orientation by introducing the Questrom School of Business, including a brief history and the types of resources the fellows could utilize during their time at BU. On a beautiful summer day, our wonderful group of host families met the new cohort for the first time at the Charles River Esplanade! Other highlights include touring the city of Boston with the Boston Duck Tours with MIT fellows, cleaning up the Charles River Esplanade with the Esplanade Association, and holding our team-building exercise with Dr. Paul Hutchinson at the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA)!





OUTWARD BOUND PROFESSIONALS



On August 28, fellows enjoyed an all day 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.



FALL 2024

HUMPHREY SEMINARS



On September 3, fellows had their first Humphrey Seminar with our Faculty Director, Dr. Yoo Jin Chung. Fellows discussed cultural identity, perceptions, and how diversity makes us smarter. After a fruitful discussion, Yoo Jin introduced their first assignment: My Humphrey Year Presentation.

On September 10, fellows were introduced to resources in order to create a resume within the U.S. standards. Misty Start, Senior Director of Career Services and Strategy at Questrom, took fellows through a workshop to help discover skillsets they can utilize to improve their current resumes.



On September 11, fellows visited the BUild Lab IDG Capital Student Innovation Center. Ian Mashiter, Director of Curriculum, spoke to the fellows and has been a longstanding partner of the program by supervising many fellow's PAs.



On September 18, the fellows visited 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. The GDP Center are long-term partners of the partners and have hosted several Humphrey fellows in the past for PAs.



MY HUMPHREY YEAR PRESENTATIONS

On September 17 and 24, fellows had their very first presentation opportunity to present "My Humphrey Year". These short and creative presentations allow fellows to share their personal leadership goals during their Humphrey fellowship program as well as receive feedback from their cohort and coordinators!



2024-2025 WELCOME RECEPTION



On September 23, we held our annual Welcome Reception on campus. Dr. Susan Fournier, Dean of the Questrom School of Business, officially welcomed the 2024-2025 cohort to Boston University. In attendance were fellows' professors, advisors, BU staff, MIT Humphrey Fellows, orientation speakers, Humphrey Seminar speakers, and host families. Fellows individually introduced themselves to the audience to share their program goals with our partners. It was a beautiful and eventful night!

On October 1, Misty Start returned to provide fellows a workshop on LinkedIn and Networking in the U.S.! The seminar took fellows step by step on how to curate their LinkedIn profiles to best attract people's attention when browsing through their profiles.



On October 4, as part of the discussion on strategic communication, Prof. Jennifer Mandolese introduced the techniques of storytelling and helped develop effective presentation skills. Fellows had an opportunity to practice a TED Talk styled pitch and receive feedback from Prof. Mandolese and the cohort.

On October 8, Fellows met with Susan Murphy, Executive Director of IMAP at Boston University. Fellows learned about research projects that are ongoing at the center.



Allandale Farm

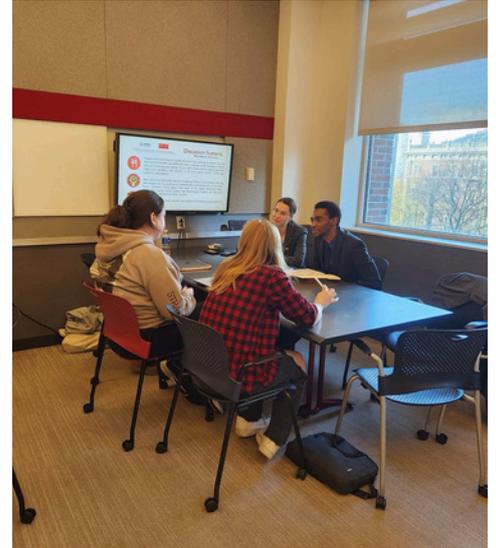
BU Humphrey Fellows Potluck Party

On October 18, BU Humphrey Fellows, staff, and host families came together for a fun gathering at Allandale Farm in Brookline, MA! Fellows were able to experience a true New England activity riding on a hay ride, as well as enjoying a cultural potluck! It was a beautiful late-afternoon enjoying great company outside the city!

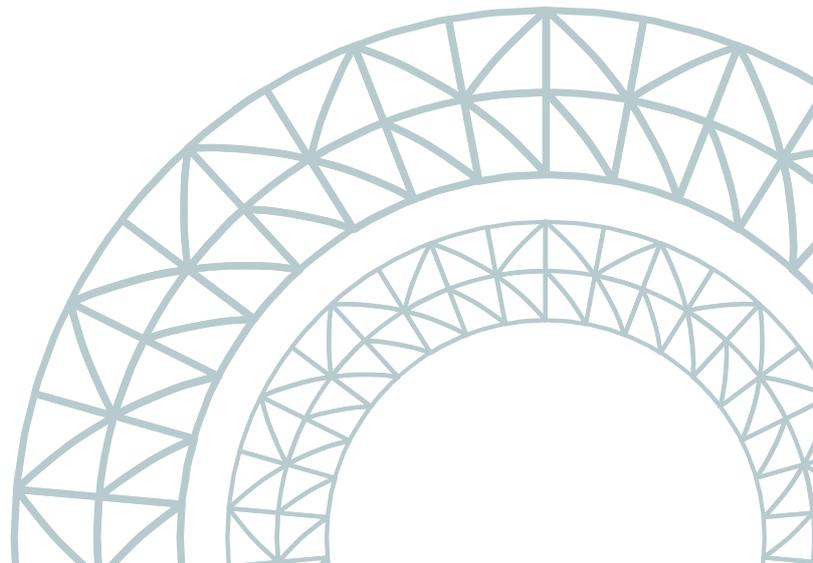


CLASS VISIT

MO460: The Leadership Challenge



On November 7, 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 presentations and breakouts to discuss different challenges when becoming a global leader. It was an extremely engaging conversation among global leaders and future leaders of the world!



BUNKER HILL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



BHCC has been the Associate Campus partner to the BU Humphrey Fellowship program since 2012. The Associate Campus Partnership is a component of HFP which establishes alliances between existing Humphrey host campuses and community colleges. These alliances benefit both institutions, offering Humphrey Fellows opportunities to engage with faculty, students, and Americans beyond those of their host campuses.

On November 18, fellows spent the morning off campus at Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC), the Associate Campus Partner of the BU Humphrey Fellowship Program! Dr. Kathleen O'Neill, Director of the BHCC Single Stop program, led fellows on a tour of the campus, giving fellows the opportunity to meet with different BHCC faculty and staff. Some fellows had fun seeing their home countries represented in the study abroad office! Then fellows were able to learn more about the Single Stop program, which focuses on connecting BHCC students to financial resources to help them move toward economic mobility and end cycles of poverty. Fellows then moved to Dr. Wissal Nouchrif's Intro to Business class to speak with students!

On November 12, Yoo Jin held a seminar on providing effective feedback. The session put a specific emphasis on how to manage difficult conversations at work. The fellows were engaged in case studies to critically assess their own feedback skills and discussed how to create transparent feedback culture.



On November 19, Yoo Jin held a seminar on fostering positive organizational culture and discussing how to create a safe space in the workplace. The concept of After Action Review was introduced to get fellows to think about how to improve processes for future projects.



Capstone Presentations

Tuesday, December 3

Towards the beginning of the program, fellows were asked to form capstone teams to identify an organizational problem or global pressing issue and work on a plan to implement a feasible solution. While this is a year-long project, the fellows presented their preliminary findings in December to get feedback from the Coordinators and other fellows.



December 3, 2024

HOLIDAY PARTY



On December 3, the BU Humphrey Fellowship Program hosted the annual Humphrey Holiday Lunch Party! Fellows, dependents, and staff enjoyed a buffet lunch at the BU Castle, an extraordinary Tudor Revival mansion on campus. Following lunch, everyone participated in a white elephant gift exchange.



HOST FAMILIES & FELLOWS

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



Host Family Carmen Aldinger invited Amen and his family to Mount Auburn Cemetery Washington Tower!



Umar and Assad visiting the Isabella Stewart Gardner museum with Barbara!



Vija, Diana, her husband, and Barbara enjoying a night stroll in Boston!



Carmen Aldinger and Darrell Hartwick brought Amen to the Blue Hills Weather Observatory!



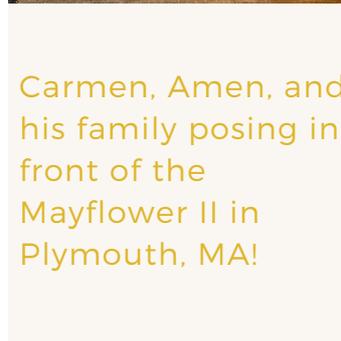
Host Families organized an outing with fellows to enjoy dim sum in Boston Chinatown!



Celebrating Vija's birthday with family, fellows, and host families at Lucky Strike in Somerville!



Assad and Umar enjoying a Thanksgiving meal with Host Family Barbara Wilhelm!



Carmen, Amen, and his family posing in front of the Mayflower II in Plymouth, MA!



Alumni News

UPDATES FROM BU HUMPHREY ALUM



RUSLAN ARYKOV

2022-2023, Kyrgyzstan

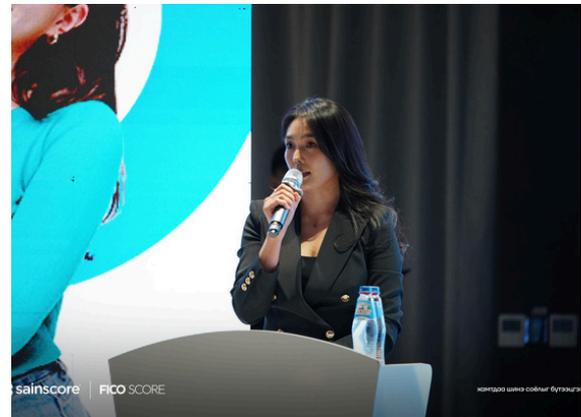
Humphrey Alum Ruslan Arykov is Financial Sector Analyst at CGAP, the World Bank Group. He previously served as Chief Economist of the Central Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic. He first joined the World Bank in 2023

through the Humphrey Fellowship Program of Fulbright Exchange activity. With a background in central banking, macroprudential, and monetary policy, he is poised to make a lasting impact on promoting financial inclusion in developing countries. From analyzing financial sector conditions in emerging markets to providing policy guidelines for decision-makers, his work reflects his commitment to empowering under-resourced communities in developing countries.

ENKHTSATSRAL DAMBIINYAM

2018-2019, Mongolia

Enkhtsatsral, CEO of SainScore and a proud Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program alumna, played a pivotal role in introducing the internationally acclaimed FICO Score credit rating system to Mongolia. At the launch event, she delivered a compelling opening speech, highlighting the profound impact of the FICO Score on lenders, borrowers, and the nation's economy. This ground breaking milestone, achieved in collaboration with FICO, elevates Mongolia's financial practices to global standards, fostering trust, enhancing transparency, and paving the way for sustainable economic growth. Enkhtsatsral's leadership exemplifies the transformative power of vision and action.



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