Greetings!

Dear Humphrey Alumni, Supporters, and Friends,

I hope this note finds you healthy and happy!

Here in Nashville, we are enjoying the transition to Fall. The leaves on the trees are turning from the beautiful green shades of Summer to the vibrant yellows, oranges, and reds which define Fall here in Middle Tennessee. While enjoying this change, I can’t help but think of our Fellows transforming from educational leaders of individual host countries to international Agents of Change right before our eyes! In just 3 months, we have been privileged to learn and grow with our 10 Humphrey Fellows from 9 different countries. Each day the Fellows share their experiences and expertise with our community while they build capacities and gain knowledge that will be used to transform the lives of children and youth around the globe. Although the year has really just begun, it promises to be filled with hard work, challenges, and fun. We certainly hope that you are all able to turn over a new leaf with us this year!

Additionally, I would like to officially welcome Drew Webster, our new Associate Director of the Humphrey Fellowship here at Vanderbilt, to the Humphrey Team!

Sincerely,

Nancy Dickson
We asked the 2012 Fellows: How are you turning over a new leaf?

Bushra Jamal (Pakistan)
Globalization presents tremendous opportunities as well as increasing complexity for leaders across the world and I was presented with such a challenge in August 2012, when Nancy asked me to lead 9 extraordinary leaders from across the globe. My leadership experience here taught me that success can largely be achieved by a bottom-up approach contrary to the top-down approach adopted in my homeland Pakistan for the past sixty years.

Wow what an opportunity! But the question was leading individuals who are already leaders in their respective countries and communities? I decided to lead by collaborative leadership model where followers are more important than the leader, which was a great learning experience for me. Definitely the group of individuals was very diverse but there was one thing common and that was “passion”, which they demonstrated in each and every step. We celebrated Eid-ul-fitr and Nancy’s birthday in August which provided us an opportunity to demonstrate our team work and I think we did a great job.

At the cross roads of my career I learnt that leader is only the facilitator and success of team depends on teamwork. Go Team Vandy Humphrey!!!!!!!!!!!!

~Bushra

Iyke Chukwu (Nigeria)

Now an argument arose amongst the disciples of Jesus as to which of them was the greatest...and Jesus said to them “unlike the general or acceptable norm, he who desires to be the greatest among you should become like the youngest, and he who leads should become like the one who serves” (Luke 22:24, paraphrased).

This scripture has always defined for me what true leadership is, a position of service to the people. My experience in the Humphrey Program so far has in many ways reinforced this notion.

From all the leadership seminars, site visits and lectures, it has been unequivocally demonstrated that leadership is only meaningful and impactful if it has service as its fulcrum. I, therefore, no longer see leadership as a means to an end but a rare opportunity to be of service to the followers. As a potential leader, therefore, I commit to dedicating my time, energy and resources into community service-oriented projects when I return to my home country, and here in Nashville, as much as can be accommodated within the Humphrey Calendar. So help me God.

~Iyke
Upcoming Events

Friday, November 19th, 12 pm to 1 pm:
Fellow Mar Mar Thwin & Humphrey Graduate Assistant Anna Van Windekens present at Peabody International Learning Series on The Role of Minority Language in Education.
Location: Home Economics Building, Room 104, Peabody Campus, Vanderbilt

Wednesday, November 28th, 12 pm to 1 pm:
Fellow Iyke Chukwu presents at World on Wednesdays on Nigerian History, Culture, and Education
Location: Lower Level Meeting Rooms, Student Life Center,
Vanderbilt Main Campus, 25th Ave. S.

Tuesday, December 4th, 8:30 am - 11:45 am:
Fellows’ IPP & Institute II Summary Presentations
Location:
Home Economics Building, Room 104,
Peabody Campus, Vanderbilt
Hey, Humphrey Alumni! How are you turning over a new leaf in your home countries?

Khin Ma Ma Latt (Myanmar)
I am working with UN-Habitat (United Nations for Human Settlements Program) in Myanmar as a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Program Associate. Our program is mainly working with the human settlement and urbanization program through mainstreaming the DRR activities. We work closely with the community and township level, providing DRR awareness training in accordance with Disaster Management Law. We are also working with the program of environmental conservation to protect natural resources, important structures and buildings, especially from the damaging effects of human activity. We have produced the manual on multiple hazards such as floods, tsunamis, landslides, earthquakes, storm surges and droughts in both an English and Myanmar (local) version. The day I am writing this (12 October) is the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction, celebrated nationwide in our country. We, the UN-Habitat are one of the task force members of this celebration activity.

~Khin

Aye Myint Than Huay (Myanmar)
"Nowhere to avoid changes and challenges, just accept it and seek the ways to deal with for a success life"

"Home sweet home" but I really miss my 379-day life in the USA which is still alive in my mind as well as in my family’s, although it is like a dream. I spent more than a year away from my hometown, which is not a long time but I made many changes at different levels internally and externally. For example, my position was due to a change in the global organization of Save the Children. Regarding with my work-related landscape, the comprehensive education sector reform and education childhood care and development policies are being carried out due to my country’s political agenda also being changed. I suspect that even the way I think and perhaps look at many other things has also been changed intentionally.

As soon as I resumed my day job at my organization, I tried to regulate myself first in order to accept and align with all these new situations. Now after almost 2 months at my workplace, I feel that I fully dissolved in the stream of changes. I have found the best ways to deal with my old colleges and to collaborate with all of my working partners through my belief that “Leadership plays a crucial role to support the organization’s successes, employee satisfaction and retention, customer satisfaction” which I have learnt from Humphrey Seminar at Home Eco. I bear in mind that the role and responsibility of my position does not matter, as I always only see myself as a leader. I find the ways to support my program, staff and organization to have a huge program achievement and great impact on the children that we have targeted. Today, I just finished conducting a 3-day workshop for 20 staff and 120 community members from 40 local community-based organizations on strategic planning development by adapting my knowledge what I learnt through AMA workshop on Strategic Planning Foundation at Atlanta.

With regards,

Aye
Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship

Fall 2012

The Humphrey Fellowship Program would like to say:

Thank you!

We wish to extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to the following individuals and groups for your participation in and contribution to our Fellows’ incredible experience thus far at Peabody, Vanderbilt, in Nashville, and beyond.

August Orientation at Vanderbilt University and Peabody College

English Language Center
Information Technology Services (Hill Center)
International Student and Scholar Services
Owen Graduate School of Management: Richard Daft
Peabody Academic Departments: HOD, LPO, Psychology and Human Development, Special Education, Teaching and Learning
Peabody Administration: Camilla Benbow, Xiu Cravens and Ellen Goldring
Peabody Admissions: Rosie Moody
Peabody Career Services: Jeff Henley
Peabody Library: Sue Ericson and Lee Ann Lannom
Peabody Technology Support Center: Matt Chumley
Student Health Center
Writing Center

Speakers

Paul Fleming, TN Dept. of Ed Deputy Asst. Commissioner & Executive Director of Leader Effectiveness
Doug Ruhls, Professor of Special Education; Nicholas Hobbs Chair in Special Education and Human Development
Brian Hamer, Asst. Professor of the Practice, Dept. of Leadership, Policy & Organizations
Steve Heyneman, Professor of International Ed, Policy, Dept. of Leadership, Policy & Organizations
Yolma Murray, Director, Center for Research on Rural Families & Communities, Professor, Dept. of Human & Organizational Development
Kristen Neale, Lecturer, Dept. of Teaching & Learning
Claire Smrekor, Associate Professor, Dept. of Leadership, Policy & Organizations
Jay Steele, MNPS Associate Superintendent for High Schools
Barbara Stengel, Professor of the Practice & Director of Secondary Ed., Dept. of Teaching & Learning
Andy Van Schaack, Asst. Professor of the Practice, Dept. of Human & Organizational Development
And those from the Southern Regional Education Board

Site visits

Alignment Nashville
Discovery Assessment
Edwin Elementary
Martin Professional Development Center
MNPS Reading Clinic (McKissack Middle School)
Nashville Chamber of Commerce
STEM Preparatory Academy
Susan Gray School
Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health (IGH)
Volunteer State Community College
Youth Opportunity Center (YOC)
Southern Regional Education Board

Humphrey Advisors

Marina Cannata
Wendy Davis
Kathy Gruhn
Joy Hammersberg
Steve Heyneman
Leona Schauble
Pearl Sims
Claire Smrekor
Dob Tobey
Andy Van Schaack

Our Fellows say “thank you” in their native languages

Aamadi from the Maldives: Shukriya (Shukriya)
Ali from Bahrain: عُمَّ ن شُكْرَا (Arabic)
Eshara from Pakistan: Shukria (Urdu)
Gu from Brazil: Muito obrigado (Portuguese)
Hiril from India: Abhar tamaro (Hindi)
Tale from Nigeria: Du Ali (Hausa)
Mar Ma from Myanmar: Kyaw Zu Bar (Myanmar)
Nana from Niger: Naa-Gode (Hausa)
Roseline from Liberia: Zou ba ba baa (Bara)
Yusuf from Myanmar: Me bhir ba a (Rohingya)