Dear Humphrey Alumni and Supporters,

In 1959 Hubert H. Humphrey said, “Instead of thinking that every task is beyond our means, let us measure the greatness of our capacity. Instead of filling the air with fear, let us fill men’s hearts with hope. Instead of being overwhelmed by the dangers of the world, let us be inspired by the challenges to surmount these dangers. Instead of worrying about the future, let us labor to create it.” Yet in 2014 his words are still pertinent and powerful.

Over the last five years, Vanderbilt has been fortunate enough to host over 50 dynamic educational leaders from 25 countries. (Humphrey Interactive Map Link) They are now home snowing their best and spreading the Humphrey spirit through workshops, policy development, and programing as well as in their daily lives and interactions. Throughout this newsletter, we have included a few of their stories of hard work and dedication as they turn Humphrey’s words into action. Please be proud of their accomplishments, as your encouragement has directly supported each of our Fellows to do their best!

I also want to take a minute to thank Drew for snowing his best to the Humphrey Fellowship and Fellows for the last year and half! We would also like to congratulate him on his new position at Georgia State University as an International Student Advisor. We will certainly miss you!

Happy 2014,
Nancy Dickson and the Humphrey Team
We asked the 2013-2014 Fellows: “What are your highlights from the year so far?”

My time in Nashville so far was the most intensive, academically and socially. I had so many meetings, visits and hangouts, sometimes it is hard to keep track with! People are really friendly and fun to be with.

As for the Humphrey program, it was the most intensive learning period I have been through so far. The program has offered me a very clear picture on how the US education system functions, its challenges and hopes for the future.

~Esat Mazreku, Kosovo

I feel that my experience in Nashville and the Humphrey Fellowship Program is shaping my life every day. The interactions and relations with different people here, from the classes, the Humphrey team at Vanderbilt and colleagues, the friendship families, the advisors, the ambassadors, and others, continue to build confidence and trust in my personality. I believe, that their support will help me face the challenges of the future with great self-esteem. The academic materiel, the site visits, and the different professional meetings and community services have significant meaning in my future projects. “The smiling faces of Nashville makes my future a brighter morning”!

~Amadou Diallo, Mauritania
Studying at Peabody is a new stage of my life journey, where I enriched my knowledge and skills but also conceives my dreams for next stage. Every day I was enlightened, encouraged, supported or inspired by different things and wonderful people around me. I cannot believe that I have traveled half of the journey and believe that rest of it will be more meaningful and fruitful.

~Akina Shen, China

All the time spent here since my arrival has been a learning curve from meeting with the Humphrey team at the airport, my Fellow colleagues, Friendship Families, AmbassaDores, Heads of Houses, Advisor, etc. The support and wonder that you all have been! I have learned so much from my classes; I cannot wait to share with my colleagues and fellow teachers during workshops at home! I have also learned a lot from our site visits about the way of life of the people of Nashville. Above all, I have learned that collaboration is important for success.

I've learned that, as Maya Angelou said, "people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

~Fikile Mdluli, Swaziland
Upcoming Events

February 6th from 5pm-7pm
Valentine's Day Potluck for all Supporters.
Wyatt Center, Atrium

February 21st from 12-1pm
Syed Akbar presents at
Peabody International Lunch Series
“The challenge of educating children in Pak-Afghan borderlands”
Location: Wyatt Center TBD. Lunch will be served.

March 12th from 12pm-1pm
Amadou Diallo presents at
World on Wednesdays
“Inside the Desert: Slavery in Mauritania.”
Location: Student Life Center, Lower Level Meeting Rooms. Lunch will be served.

March 14th from 12-1pm
Zaoro Bimou presents at
Peabody International Lunch Series
“Development vs. Aid”
Location: Wyatt Center TBD. Lunch will be served.

April 2nd from 12pm-1pm
Lu Sam presents at
World on Wednesdays
“Myanmar: Culture and Education.”
Location: Student Life Center, Lower Level Meeting Rooms. Lunch will be served.

April 17th from 5:30pm-7:30pm
Humphrey End of Year Celebration
Location TBA
We asked the Vanderbilt Humphrey Alumni: “What has been a highlight for you since returning home?”

“I managed to send a group to visit Vol State Community College. They are leaving on January 8, 2014. This is the first exchange group to visit the U.S. There is one faculty member and five students in the group. I hope they will enjoy the program.”
~Dolgorma Jamiyan, Mongolia, 2009-2010

“I am in charge of two teams of directive faculty for evaluating academic programs from the universities nationwide in my country. I have been very happy with the results.

I was invited to be faculty for two courses in graduate programs. The first one, in charge of Public Policies in the Master Program of Administrative Law; and the second one in charge of the course of Educational Policies in the graduate program of Higher Education Faculty.”
~Wilson Vazquez-Calderon, Colombia, 2009-2010

“I became the CEO of CTEVT in Nepal which has 500 technical schools across the country and produces about 50,000 graduates in different levels.”
~Ram Lamichhane, Nepal, 2010-2011

“The one I’m most proud of is a formal partnership with Coursera and UC Irvine. With the help of the US Embassy, I’ve initiated a blended version of a MOOC on technologies in the classroom. There were some 500 applicants but I could choose only 130 in Mauritius divided in two groups. I was expecting 35 or so. :) It is said that dropout rates in a MOOC amounts to 90% but that is about the completion rate of my group.

Finally my project recently got at the national ICT Awards a special jury award for its contribution to a learning society from the ministry of ICT.”
~Margaret Li Yin, Mauritius, 2011-2012
Appreciation:
The Humphrey Fellowship Program would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Friendship Families and AmbassaDores. Both are integral to our program and we do not know what we would do without them!

THANK YOU!

Humphrey Friendship Families
- Kathy and Harvey Bennett
- Barb Brown
- Laura Chambers
- Aurora Daniels and Chris McKee
- Sheila and Halsey Fischer
- Jaco Hamman
- Heath, Gunnhild, Jack, and Ezra Henley
- Kelly Hill
- DeeGee Lester
- Meg Little
- Melissa McKinney
- Cathy Miller
- Sally Nance
- Emily, Josh, and Kat Pendergrass
- Linda Ragsdale
- Jakayla Robbins
- Priscilla Tatarsky
- Pete and Pat Toth
- Alyssa Van Camp
- Heidi, David, Reid, and John Wendling

Humphrey AmbassaDores
- Megan Ames
- Katie Barcy
- Alexis Barge
- Amanda Blewitt
- Dorothy Buckner
- Monica Cates
- Sunanna Chand
- Leigh Cummins
- Jessica Edwards
- Maegen Endert
- Alex Foust
- Jeff Jorge
- Camryn Krause
- Erika Larson
- Hui Liu
- Paulo Martinez Burali-Forti
- Tim Novara
- Elyssse Sadeghi
- Eunice Shin
- Ali Sipra
- Omega Tennant
- Brandie Vanorder
- Wenting Wang
- Kate Warach
- Yu-Chia Wu