History of the Humphrey Program

The Humphrey Program was initiated in 1978 in honor of the late senator and vice president Hubert H. Humphrey. Since then, more than 4,000 fellows have participated. In the 2009-10 year, 187 Humphrey Fellows from 94 countries are placed at 17 universities in the United States. The program is a Fulbright exchange activity with primary funding from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is administered by:

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Lucinda S. Fleeson, Director
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About the Humphrey Program

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program brings accomplished mid-career journalists and others from various fields to 17 American campuses for a year of study and professional pursuits. Fellows are selected for their national leadership potential from developing nations in Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Eurasia, Near East, South and Central Asia and the Western Hemisphere. The program exposes Fellows to state-of-the-art approaches in their fields, to encourage ties between them and their United States counterparts.

For 17 years, Fellows have come to the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism, a leading center for journalism education. Notable faculty encompass both research and professional experience. Each year, hundreds of working journalists participate in professional programs affiliated with the College, including those sponsored by the Knight Center for Specialized Journalism and the Journalism Center for Children and Families. The American Journalism Review, also based at the College, publishes news and analysis of print and broadcast performances on a bi-monthly basis.

The university's central location enables Fellows to draw on the rich resources of the Washington-Baltimore area.

The 2009-10 Humphrey Fellows docking on Smith Island:

Award-winning journalist Lucinda Fleeson, formerly with the Philadelphia Inquirer, leads the Humphrey program at Maryland. Deputy Director Serap Rada, Ph.D serves as academic advisor for Fellows.

With guidance from the Humphrey staff, each Fellow undertakes an individualized, non-degree program of academic coursework, professional affiliations, field trips, and consultations with experts.

The Humphrey fellows in journalism provide a valuable resource for the College Park community. The Merrill College has proudly hosted 209 Fellows from more than 80 countries over the last 17 years.

Organizations that have provided Professional Activities for Maryland's Humphrey Fellows:


University of Maryland

Philip Merrill College of Journalism

Fulbright

University of Maryland

Philip Merrill College of Journalism

Launching the Next Era of News
Ana Maria Avila is a senior analyst for the Institute for Security and Democracy in Mexico, which focuses on media, violence and human rights. She also contributes to the state TV channel and national newspaper on issues of politics, organized crime and security issues. She wants to focus on journalism ethics and investigative reporting.

Daphne Cassar is a reporter, editor and newscaster for Maltese National TV and Radio. She wants to focus on immigration issues, television production and investigative reporting.

Maggie Michael Ghabrial works for Associated Press News Agency in Egypt where she covers Middle East politics, social and religious conflicts. She wants to study investigative journalism.

Paul Hills is a lecturer at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa. He would like to investigate the development and use of community and campus television stations as well as focus on environmental and development journalism.

Stefan Hudec of Slovak Republic writes for the foreign news desk of SME newspaper. During his Humphrey year he wants to improve his international reporting skills and discover new ways to increase foreign news readership.

Nadia Kussey serves as a communication and marketing advisor for Women Entrepreneurs in Togo. She is interested in the use of communication and media as a tool for economic development.

Nada Kratci works as an editor in the Serbian Government’s Department of Media Relations. In her Humphrey year she hopes to explore the theory and practice of effective communication strategies between the government and the public.

Claudia Andrea Montecinos is a political reporter for the prime time newscast at Television Nacional de Chile. She would like to explore how elections campaigns are built and how electoral behavior is determined by communication strategies.

Racheal Nakitare is a senior producer for Kenya Broadcasting Corporation in Kenya. She is interested in new media, and the use of television as a medium for community development and citizens empowerment. As a board member of International Association of Women in Radio and Television, Racheal wants to monitor women’s portrayal in and their use of media.

Anduela Nika is the editor of Klan Magazine in Albania. She wants to study investigative journalism, political and economic issues, as well new media technologies.

Maggie Michael Ghabrial

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Nadia Kussey - Togo

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Nada Kratci - Serbia

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Stefan Hudec - Slovakia

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Claudia Andrea Montecinos - Chile

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Racheal Nakitare - Kenya

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Anuradha Sivagunrathan

E-mail: ane_nathan@hotmail.com

Jaroslav Valuch

E-mail: j.valuch@gmail.com

Qi Wu

E-mail: wuq@lifeweek.com.cn

Qi Wu is chief reporter and editor of political, economic and social news for Sanlian Lifeweek Magazine, Beijing. She would like to improve her research skills in journalism and mass communication.

Jaroslav Valuch is a program coordinator for People in need, an international relief, development and human rights organization based in the Czech Republic. He wants to gain expertise in the use of new communication technologies for human rights and new media literacy projects with a focus on young people, NGO workers and activists.

Anuradha Sivagunrathan works as a copy editor with The Star newspaper in Malaysia and as a freelance media producer. She is interested in the dynamics between citizen journalism and traditional media, with a focus on new media and business reporting.