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The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program was initiated in 1978 by President Jimmy Carter to honor the late senator and vice president, a long-time advocate of international cooperation and understanding. The program brings accomplished mid-career professionals from designated countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Europe, and Eurasia to the United States for one year of non-degree graduate study and related practical professional experience.

Fellowships are granted competitively to professional candidates with a commitment to public service in both the public and private sectors. Applications are made in the applicant's country where the first-level screenings are conducted. Fellows are nominated by the United States Embassy or Fulbright Commission, based on their potential for leadership. Final selection is made in the U.S. by a panel of experts and the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board.

Since 1979, close to 4,274 professionals representing more than 157 countries have participated in the Humphrey Program. This year, 220 Humphrey Fellows from 94 different countries are spending the academic year at 18 universities across the United States. UC Davis hosted the Humphrey Program from 1986 until 1996, and again since 2001. The UC Davis Humphrey Fellows will concentrate on agricultural development, environmental science and economic development. In addition to the individual coursework, research, and co-curricular activities, a series of seminars on topics of mutual interest to the participants is offered to the Fellows, providing an opportunity to share new perspectives with U.S. colleagues and specialists. With the assistance of UC Davis faculty mentors, the Fellows undertake individualized programs of academic coursework, professional development and leadership skills.

The Fellows also travel throughout the U.S. to visit public and private agencies related to their professional fields, attend meetings, and network with colleagues.

By providing these future leaders with a shared experience of U.S. society and culture and of current U.S. approaches to the fields in which they work, the Humphrey Program provides a basis for lasting ties between the citizens of the U.S. and their counterparts in other countries. The Humphrey Program fosters the exchange of knowledge and mutual understanding. The U.S. joins developing countries in a significant partnership through this program.

University Outreach and International Programs

Established in 1998, the Vice-Provost Office of University Outreach and International Programs (UOIP) provides campus leadership and coordination for two increasingly important academic program areas: continuing and life-long learning, and international research and educational activities. The mission of UOIP is to facilitate, coordinate, stimulate and provide leadership for the UC Davis faculty, students, and staff to pursue educational outreach and international programs and activities. The office has primary responsibility for all international institutional cooperative agreements and official international visits, Services for International Students and Scholars (in conjunction with the Office of Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs), the Summer Sessions and University Extension International Programs. It also works collaboratively with many other international programs on campus such as the Education Abroad Center, Internships and Career Center, and the colleges' international programs. University Outreach and International Programs, International Programs Office of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and University Extension, jointly administer the Humphrey Fellowship Program.

Email Contact for 2010–2011 Humphrey Fellows

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Mr. Wilbens Cesaire
Academic Dean
American University of the Caribbean
Port-de-Paix, Haiti

Mr. Cesaire completed a B.S. in Forest Engineering from the National University, Dominican Republic. He received his first Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of the West Indies in Dominican Republic and his second one in Environmental Economics from Los Andes/Maryland University. In his current position he develops agriculture policy proposals for rural communities, acts as a representative for agricultural extension, and teaches economics, forestry, agroforestry and statistics. He volunteers with the Organization for the Protection of Forests and Wildlife (OPFW) during his Hemisphere year he plans to do extension and farm visits to learn more about sustainable agriculture, agroforestry, and coordination of projects with a focus on international trade and development.

Mr. Lee Wakalala Hantembe
District Water Officer
Ministry of Energy and Water Development
Livingstone, Zambia

Mr. Hantembe is a University of Zambia graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Sciences. In his current position he coordinates projects and activities related to water resources management and development. He previously worked for the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives where he was actively involved in promoting gender responsive agricultural extension services. During his fellowship year Mr. Hantembe wants to pursue training in GIS and water resource modeling.

Dr. Myo Aung Kyaw
Secretary General
Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association
Port-de-Paix, Haiti

Dr. Kyaw is currently responsible for training demonstrations for rice production technologies and post harvest technology aimed at reducing losses to improve the quality of rice. He collaborates with the International Rice Research Institute and Nong Delta. He has a B.S. in Agriculture, a M.S. in Agricultural Economics and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics. In his current position he will focus on the role of improved rice technologies and international marketing of rice to both poor soil fertility and the yield of organic products. He is currently pursuing specialization in this area during his Hemisphere year at UC Davis.

Ms. Carol Kyomukama Murekezi
Senior Agricultural Inspector
Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry & Fisheries
Kampala, Uganda

Ms. Murekezi received her Bachelor's degree in Agriculture at Makerere University, Uganda and later a Master's degree in Tropical Agricultural Development at Reading University United Kingdom. She is currently working in the Department of Crop Protection in the Phytosanitary and Quarantine Inspection section where she works with a team on pest risk analysis, dealing specifically with different plants and plant product imports into Uganda. Ms. Murekezi has also been involved in setting up the National Pest List database in Uganda. During her fellowship year her goal is to become more instrumental in setting Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regulations for the East African region.

Mr. Samson T. Ngwuta
Assistant Director of Cabinet Services
Office of the President and Cabinet
Lilongwe, Malawi

Mr. Ngwuta holds a Master's degree in Development Practice from the University of Queensland, Australia and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration from the University of Malawi. Mr. Ngwuta is responsible for facilitating Cabinet business and coordinating the implementation of government policies. He previously served as a Desk Officer for various key Cabinet Committees including Economy and Public Sector Reforms, Agriculture and Food Security and Local Government and Rural Transformation. In addition to concentrating on land use and management during his Hemisphere year, he hopes to hone his communication and presentation skills, while building connections with professionals and agencies working with underserved communities.

Ms. Ana Rodriguez Lepure
Environmental researcher
El Colegio de la Frontera Norte
Tijuana, Mexico

Ms. Rodriguez Lepure has a Master's degree in Environmental Management. Her work involves designing of environmental programs and policies for the local and federal government. In her most recent position, she was involved with projects related to bi-national waste management with funds from Cal-EP&A and BECC and participated in the development of the strategic guidelines for the border region between the US and Mexico. In 2010, she received an award from the Public Administration National Institute (INAP) for her work in local governments and solid waste management.

Dr. Abdoulaye Sereme
Agronomist and Botanist
National Scientific & Technological Research Center
Kabacan, North Cotabato, Philippines

Dr. Sereme holds a Master's degree in Agriculture and a Ph.D. in Plant Biology and Ecology. He teaches Plant Biology at the University of Southern Mindanao. His research activities are focused on plant horticulture, with a specific focus to fight against the deserting insect Burkea Faso. This involves collecting endangered, overexploited wild plant species and finding suitable techniques to domesticate and commercialize through the country. In addition he is working on organic fertilizers for sustainable agriculture, to increase both poor soil fertility and the yield of organic vegetables. During his Hemisphere year he would like to research molecular marker-based (PCR/RAPD) approaches to genetic characterization of genetic diversity.

Mr. Taposok, Dr.
Project Manager, Management Consultant
Ethiopia Commodity Exchange
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Ms. Taposok has a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Management from the University of Cambridge, UK and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management Information Systems: Change & Development from the University of Management and Development at UC Davis. She has a Bachelors degree in Management from Addis Ababa University. In her current position she manages projects aimed at introducing new commodities into the market and developing new markets. She also works as Special Assistant to the CEO and assisted the CEO in strategies and planning, creating databases and coordinating the activities of the Exchange. During her Hemisphere fellowship year, Ms. Taposok would like to gain economic and development skills that would make her proficient in project management and an effective leader.

Dr. Luz Alcarde Taposok
Project Director, Planning and Development Office
University of Southern Mindanao
Kabacan, North Cotabato, Philippines

Dr. Taposok has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Education from the University of the Philippines Los Banos, Laguna. She finished both a Master's and a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education from the University of Southern Mindanao, University of the Philippines Los Banos, and an effective leader. During her year as a Humphrey Fellow she will study rural and agricultural development, while improving her leadership and management skills.

Mr. Md. Ekram Ullah
Senior Scientific Officer
Water Resources Planning Organization
Ministry of Water Resources
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Mr. Ullah holds a Master's degree in Marine Sciences from the University of Chittagong, Bangladesh and a second Master’s degree from Fisheries Management from the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand. He has also conducted research in agricultural education and community extension programs. During her year as a Humphrey Fellow she will study rural and agricultural development, while improving her leadership and management skills.

Dr. H.A. Van Vo
Researcher
Meohong Delta Development Research Institute
Can Tho University
Can Tho, Vietnam

Dr. Vo received a Master's degree in Agriculture Science at Can Tho University. In his research, he publishes reports on the role of rice-based farming for poverty alleviation, focusing on the impacts of agricultural policies in Vietnamese livelihood and environmental sustainability in the Mekong Delta. Dr. Vo aims to develop assessment criteria to show hazard prevention potential of the ultimate goal is to learn about and initiate educational programs to reduce both vulnerabilities and their impact in the Mekong Delta.