

ISSUE N.04



FALL 2024

INTERN HIGHLIGHTS



**Wilson
Center**

Class Overview

The Wilson Center takes pride in the contributions of our staff assistant and research assistant interns. Among our intern class of Fall 2024, we hosted a total of..



INTERN EVENTS

In Fall 2024, interns had the opportunity to attend a variety of professional, social, and networking activities. Staff and scholars from around the Wilson Center shared their talents in wisdom in events like Networking 101, Writing Policy Briefs, and a resume workshop. We were also lucky to participate in an Intern Roundtable with President and CEO, Ambassador Mark Green.

A special highlight was the end-of-semester Intern Showcase, where interns presented on their work and accomplishments. It was great to hear about their diverse array of experiences and see just what a difference interns make at the Wilson Center.



Intern Roundtable with Amb. Green



Autumn Festival



Intern Showcase



Serious Games Initiative Event

Intern Accomplishments

Adjo Evonlah

Staff Assistant Intern, Scholars & Academic Relations

Adjo assisted in the compilation of data for the Global Fellows database and fall 2024 scholar orientation. She was able to hone her HR, graphic design, and event planning abilities and develop an introductory understanding of monitoring, evaluation and learning. Some of her favorite experiences with the Wilson Center include lunch with the scholars at Old Ebbitt Grill, the Kaleidoscope Binational Film Festival Screening, visiting the Library of Congress, and sharing her accomplishments at the end of semester Intern Showcase!



Bryden Sandifer

Staff Assistant Intern, Latin America Program

Bryden has had the opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge about policy issues across Latin America, examine the relationships between Latin American countries and the United States, and collaborate with regional leaders on a wide range of topics. She has also been able to explore her own interests, which align with the work the center does. Bryden has interviewed experts on [the recent elections in Uruguay](#), created content about [Latin American leaders at UNGA](#), co-written an article for an Argentine publication on regional integration in Latin America, and is currently working on an op-ed about gender-based violence in Argentina. Additionally, she is responsible for managing the program's social media, including their weekly series that highlights the latest news from the region. This experience has deepened her understanding of regional dynamics and helped her refine both her academic and career interests.



Intern Accomplishments

Chelsea Acheampong

Executive Assistant Intern, Office of President and CEO

Chelsea conducted research and assisted in drafting 9+ of the CEO's blog *Stubborn Things*, spanning regions such as Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, Russia/Ukraine, and sub-Saharan Africa, and topics such as global governance, refugees and forced displacement, democracy, and global trade, critical minerals.



Corinn Olson

Research Assistant Intern to Scholar Molly O'Toole

Corinn assisted with a project on arts initiatives by refugees through transcribing interviews, correcting fieldnotes, and conducting literature reviews. Corinn also crafted a blog post on the power of individual relationships for peacebuilding, which is in the final stages of review.



Julia Davatzes

Staff Assistant Intern, Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative

Julia wrote an article titled "Catastrophic Flooding and Its Impact on Displaced People in Chad". She supported numerous events for RAFDI and is continuing to work on research about disaster-resilient sheltering for refugees.



Intern Accomplishments

Helena Hanson

Staff Assistant Intern, Social Media

Helena worked on a social media project that increased events promotion on Instagram. Additionally, she designed several graphics that were posted across the Wilson Center social media accounts and created "evergreen content" for future use by the external relations team.



Hadiza Musa

Research Assistant Intern to Scholar Angela Ajodo-Adebanjoko

Hadiza Musa had the incredible opportunity to work alongside Professor Angela Ajodo-Adebanjoko on the Voice of the Vulnerable: Women Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Nigeria project. This experience not only deepened her understanding of the complexities surrounding violent extremism but also enriched her research and communication skills in profound ways. Key Highlights of Her Contributions: In-Depth Research: Compiled and analyzed over 30 scholarly pieces of literature on the Boko Haram conflict, focusing on the roles and resilience of women in preventing and countering violent extremism. Qualitative Analysis: Transcribed and thematically analyzed audio interviews, transforming raw data into actionable insights for the project's ongoing research. Skill Development: Attended a media training workshop led by John Milewski, where she got advice on developing effective communication skills and learned strategies to share complex ideas with diverse audiences.

Intern Accomplishments

Kristen Marcinek

Staff Assistant Intern, Serious Games Initiative

Kristen worked for the Serious Games Initiative for all three semesters in 2024. Her work included blog posts entitled [Games Round Up: International Trade](#) and [Empowering Participation in Science: A Citizen Science Landscape](#), contributions to the design and research for [The Deepfake Files](#), and leadership of the Games Get Serious monthly program teaching the Wilson Center about serious games. Of particular note, Kristen created curriculum alignment for [The Plastic Pipeline](#), which [won several awards](#) at the 2024 Serious Games Festival.

Fall saw a lot of effort put towards the 20th Anniversary of the Serious Games Initiative, including interviewing experts in serious games and planning and hosting the anniversary arcade event. Kristen was a great asset, helping programs run some events, supporting the Serious Games Initiative's existing portfolio and seeing many of the games receive accolades, and supporting the Federal Games Guild.



Hyunseung Yu

Staff Assistant Intern, Korea Center

Hyunseung assisted staff research, administrative tasks, and event preparation. Hyunseung also conducted individual research about South Korea's pursuit of nuclear spent fuel reprocessing capability and its implications. He made weekly newsletter related to the Korean Peninsula affairs.



Intern Accomplishments

Neeraja Kulkarni

Staff Assistant Intern, Environmental Change and Security Program

Neeraja researched and wrote several articles which were published in the New Security Beat, including [Addressing Human-Wildlife Conflict in Ethiopia's Protected Lands](#), [War and Climate Change Intensify Global Water-related Conflicts](#), [Accelerating the Transition: Can the U.S. Support India's Path to Net Zero?](#), [Going Beyond "Conflict-free": Transition Minerals Governance in DRC and Rwanda](#), and ["Men Will be Men": Taints India's Approach to Safeguarding Women](#). She also had an article published with [The Diplomat](#).



Samantha Carrillo

Staff Assistant Intern, External Relations & Scholars and Academic Relations

Samantha engaged in a variety of impactful projects and events. She conducted multiple interviews with Wilson Scholars on topics such as the Peace Lab, Ukraine, the International Criminal Court system, and transnational organized crime in Central America and Mexico, producing [articles](#) and drafting social media content to highlight their work. Samantha participated in roundtables with Ambassador Green and scholars focused on gender, refugees, and hate crimes, and attended discussions on critical issues such as Russian disinformation and European security with distinguished speakers, including a former MI6 director and Finland's former foreign minister. Additionally, she contributed to the Scholar Profiles Project, helped create intern-focused events, evaluated staff intern applications, and worked on the development of the new Wilson Center website. Samantha's experience culminated in the Intern Showcase, where she presented her work and the skills she gained throughout this enriching internship.



Intern Accomplishments

Sophie Donnellan

Research Assistant Intern to Scholar Ruth Greenspan Bell

Sophie worked with scholar Ruth Greenspan Bell to research the intersection of climate change and behavioral science. She helped with a book proposal by developing a literature review that outlined relevant takeaways from comparable titles. Throughout the internship, Sophie's research explored topics ranging from individual decision-making for social good to the effectiveness of carbon tracking apps.



Man-Hsuan (Annie) Lin

Staff Assistant Intern, China Environment Forum

Annie supported the China Environment Forum's "China's Just Energy Transition in the Global South" project by organizing five events, both online and in person, including discussions on China's role in advancing clean energy transitions in countries like Indonesia. She also published blogs and conducted expert interviews on [China's offshore wind development and Vietnam's clean energy transition](#).





The Wilson Center hosts research assistant and staff assistant interns in the Spring, Summer, and Fall semesters.

For details, visit our website or contact internship program coordinator Claudia Del Pozo (claudia.delpozo@wilsoncenter.org)



www.wilsoncenter.org/internships



internships@wilsoncenter.org