

2018-19 Fellows

Ellie Adelman



Ellie Adelman is a second year student in the Master's in Social Work program, with an emphasis in refugee mental health. For the past year she has been working with the African Community Center in Denver providing support to single mother refugee families as both a social work intern and a Chancellor's Global Innovation Fellow. Ellie comes to DU with over a decade of experience working in international community development and peacebuilding, including three and a half years as a women's and girls' leadership specialist with Peace Corps in The Gambia, and five years managing Women and Girls Lead, an initiative to spark conversation and action around vital gender equity issues using documentary film. Ellie earned her MA in International Peace Studies from University of Notre Dame and her BA in Spanish and in International Conflict Resolution from Salisbury University. Ellie loves to get outside whenever she gets the chance, whether biking, swimming, climbing or backpacking.

Bryce Anderson-Gregson



Bryce Anderson-Gregson is a second year MBA student in the Daniels College of Business at DU. She is originally from Boulder, CO and received her B.A. in Economics and Political Science from the University of Denver, where she first became interested in the dynamics of sustainability. Bryce worked for the YWCA of Boulder County, with projects focused on sustainability, compliance and risk management, and market analysis. She is pursuing her MBA with a focus on Corporate Social Responsibility and Global Governance. After graduation, she intends to continue working with sustainability and CSR. Bryce loves exploring stories and places, whether through a new country, a podcast or one of Denver's fantastic breweries.

Wala'a Bunaiyan



Wala'a Bunaiyan has more than a decade of experience in engaging with various organizations between Saudi Arabia and the USA. She has established expertise in dealing with complex issues related to Educational leadership field since 2015 when started study as a student of a master program of Educational leadership at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Currently, she is a doctoral student candidate in the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS) at the Morgridge College of Education, University of Denver, second-year. Wala'a's dissertation research project is planned to discuss how to support second language acquisition students based on the belief that this type of opportunity will serve equitable education for K-12 students, her research interest lies within the broad domains of Social Justice, Equity, and Transformative. She earned her bachelor degree from business school at King Saud University, but the reason behind shifting from business field and focusing on education field is the challenges that she faced in the past. During her eight years of work, in Saudi Arabia, in administration assistance level with lack of English proficiency, she couldn't make career development because of language while Saudi business market required the

fluency in English for Saudi students who received about nine years English curriculum but graduate with entry level. This point pushes her to study how to support language acquisition at k-12 Saudi public schools in order to reach equitable education and parallel with market requirements. Now, she is fluent in English and Arabic and would like to support students to reach out the second language proficiency that open door for more future chances.

Summer Downs



Summer Downs is a Sie Cheou-Kang Fellow and second-year MA candidate in International Development at the Korbel School of International Studies. She graduated summa cum laude with a BA in Global Development Studies from Seattle Pacific University, and she has extensive experience working with NGOs in sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, and southeast Asia. In addition to her role as a Social Enterprise Fellow, she is currently serving as a Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist at ForGood as well as External Relations Coordinator at Korbel's Immigrant and Refugee Colectivo. Her interests as an aspiring scholar-practitioner include building networks of community economic development and responding to sexual and gender-based violence, with a regional focus on East Africa. With this in mind, she is currently learning Swahili and will be working in eastern Congo in the summer of 2018. Ultimately, she envisions a career in connecting local leaders and social entrepreneurs to necessary resources and amplifying their voices, in order to expand their ability to impact their own communities.

Gideon Irving



Gideon is a second-year law student at DU's Sturm College of Law by way of CU-Boulder and Denver East High School. At the law school Gideon helped found the DU Law Outdoor Club (DULOC), serves on a scholarship board, and is a member of student government. His impetus to engage in social justice work came during a college semester abroad in Santiago, Chile, where he witnessed widespread student protests demanding better educational opportunities. His path to law school was circuitous after college: he worked in Colorado politics; volunteered one year in a youth homeless shelter in Anchorage, Alaska; led youth trips as an Outward Bound instructor; served in an orphanage in central Mexico; and ski patrolled in Utah. Gideon gets excited by finding solutions to problems that enable organizations to do better work for the people they serve. Gideon enjoys planning, talking about, and realizing trips to the mountains.

Dustin Littleton



Dustin is a second-year Denver MBA student concentrating in Business Analytics and working towards a certificate in Global Business & Corporate Social Responsibility. Most of his prior work experience consists of sales positions in the outdoor sports industry. Two notable companies Dustin had the pleasure of working for are Icelantic, a boutique ski company, and Newell Brands, a consumer goods company. While working as a Sales Associate in the Coleman Camping Division of Newell Brands, Dustin managed multiple client accounts

including VM Innovations, LL Bean, and Modell's. The portfolio he managed had over \$10 million in annual sales. When he is not working, Dustin spends as much time as he possibly can enjoying the outdoors and his favorite outdoor hobbies: hunting, fishing, biking, and skiing.

Charlee Ottersberg



Charlee comes to the Barton Institute from the Daniels College of Business at University of Denver where she is pursuing an MBA with a focus on global citizenship and sustainability. She is interested in community development, economic empowerment, and making the world a better place to live in. Charlee received her undergraduate degree in Advertising and Public Relations from Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio. Prior to moving back to her home state of Colorado, Charlee worked as an Associate Art Director for a city and regional magazine in Cleveland, Ohio. She is looking forward to participating in cross disciplinary teams and striving to make Denver a welcoming place for all.

Max Mershon



Max is a Masters in Business Analytics student with over five years experience in the technology industry. After starting his career at Accenture in Chicago, he moved to Denver and began working at a software startup serving private equity/venture capital firms while volunteering at a refugee resettlement agency on the side. It was through these various experiences that his eyes were opened the inequities in the world and is why he is interested in using his technical skills to address socioeconomic gaps. Max holds a Bachelors in General Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. When not working, volunteering, or studying, Max enjoys hiking, rock climbing, and photography. You can check out some of his photography and data projects on his website here: <http://www.maxmershon.com/>.

Hieu Pham



Hieu grew up in southern California and received his undergraduate degree from Purdue University. He began his career as a healthcare consultant, providing innovative solutions to healthcare systems and clinics nationwide. Hieu is currently an M.S. student in Healthcare Policy and works as a research assistant for GSSW, where his projects focus on social networking technology and its impact on health-risk behaviors among vulnerable and marginalized youth. He aspires to utilize his knowledge and experience to craft a link between socioeconomic diversity and quality healthcare services.

When Hieu is not occupied with work, school, or extracurricular activities, he can be found practicing the piano and the ukulele, playing tennis, or reading in his hammock. Hieu is honored to be a member of the QF Social Enterprise Fellowship, and is excited to collaborate with a cohort of DU's brightest minds and to transform his passion into purpose.

Tasia Poinatte



Tasia is a second year Masters student pursuing a degree in Global Finance, Trade and Economic Integration at the Korbel School of International Studies. During her first year at Korbel, she interned at the International Rescue Committee in Denver, where she helped refugee clients connect with employers and apply for jobs. Prior to starting her degree at DU, she worked as a financial editor in Chile, a school gardens coordinator in New York City and a project manager in Ghana. She is on the Board of Directors of the Friendship City Projects, a nonprofit that connects Boulder to Jalapa, Nicaragua and promotes development through potable water projects and academic scholarships. At DU, she is a research assistant with the Environment, Food and Conflict (ENFOCO) lab and is interested in economic and environmental policy, social impact investing and international education. In her free time, she loves riding her bike, hiking and playing soccer.

Byron Schuldt



Byron is a second-year M.S. student in the Geography Department studying Geographic Information Science (GIS). He is interested in using mapping and spatial analysis to help community organizations strategize and direct their efforts. Currently, he is developing a capstone project analyzing the vulnerability of Denver-area neighborhoods to excessive heat. Before coming to Denver, Byron served as an AmeriCorps volunteer with a land trust in Bath, Maine and taught English abroad. Stringed instruments, backpacking, and foreign languages occupy much of his leisure time.

Zach Thanasilangkul



Zach is a Masters student in Economics, though his previous education and future pursuits lie in the area of political philosophy. His current research focuses on worker cooperatives (self-directed enterprises collectively owned and managed by the workers themselves) in the context of community development and urban inequality. Growing up in Rockford, IL, a deindustrialized “rust belt” city in between Chicago and Milwaukee, is what gave Zach a heart for economic justice and continues to inspire his work. And as a teacher, business owner, and academic, he brings to the table strong skills in writing, research, tutoring, marketing, and public presentation. In those precious moments outside of his academic studies, you can find Zach training in Thai boxing, playing jazz piano, hosting dinner parties, and obsessing over specialty coffee.