

جامعة الأخوين Presidential Internship Program

AL AKHAWAYN
UNIVERSITY

(2022-2023)



Yasmina NDYAYE
(2022)

Yasmina NDYAE is the presidential intern for the Hilary Clinton Center for women's empowerment and the housing department. She has graduated from the international university of Grand Bassam with a bachelor's degree in political science and international relations. Yasmina is passionate about the continent of Africa and gender equality, which has led her to apply to the HCC department in AUI in order to learn more about Moroccan culture and work towards women emancipation.



Alice AUERBACHER
(2022)

Alice AUERBACHER is the presidential intern for the Office of Development and Communication, then Mohamed VI Library originally from New York. She graduated from Kenyon College in Ohio with a bachelor's degree in international studies. Alice has first arrived in Morocco in 2020 for an exchange semester and enjoyed it so much, that she came back to AUI after graduating.





Sarah Samira BAMBA
(2022)

Sarah Samira BAMBA is the presidential intern for the Student Activities Office and the department of Student Affairs, originally from Cote d'Ivoire and recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance from the International University of Grand-Bassam. Sarah wanted to travel and get inspired which gave her the idea of applying to AUI Presidential Intern Program.



Nimbe VERMEER CRUZ
(2022)

Nimbe VERMEER CRUZ is the presidential intern for the University Honors Program then the Office of International Programs, she graduated from the university of Texas at Austin with a bachelor's degree in international relations and a minor in Arabic, she came to Morocco to live in an Arabic speaking country and continue her Arabic education.





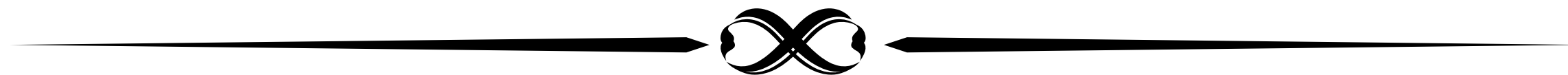
Levi-J KOUASSI
(2022)

Levi KOUASSI is the presidential intern for the International Program and Admission and Outreach Offices at AUI. He graduated from the American University of Grand-Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire, with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering with a concentration on Petroleum energy and a Master of sciences degree in Engineering Management from Greenwich University in London, United Kingdom. Levi has held various positions before coming to AUI such as Professor of Mechanical Engineering, President of the student office at the University of Grand-Bassam and head of Marketing and Communication for the company CHALIVAN. He is passionate about Travel which led him to AUI.



Hayley MARSHALL
(2022)

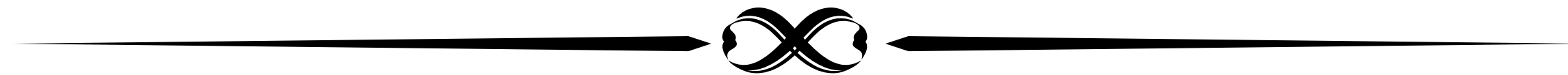
Hayley MARSHALL is the presidential intern for the-AVP-LI & QEC. She graduated from the University of Virginia with a Bachelor of science in Environmental sciences and a Bachelor of Arts in Global studies/sustainability with a minor in French. Hayley begins her graduate studies in Coastal science in Fall 2023, she strives to leave a positive impact on the academic and extra-curricular lives of students at AUI.



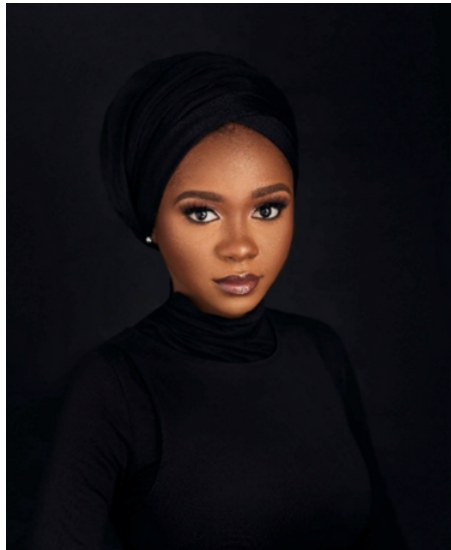


Leah SHUMAKER is the presidential intern of the VPAA-Quality Enhancement Cell under Dr Jawad ABRACHE. She graduated from Rollins College in Flo Rida with a bachelor's in psychology and international Affairs. She is also an Arabic language enthusiast where she did her exchange semester in Amman, Jordan and that experience has inspired her to come to Morocco before pursuing her graduate degree.

Leah SHUMAKER
(2022)



(2021-2022)



Hauwa Hamidu
(2021)

Hauwa Hamidu is the Presidential Intern for the Hillary Clinton Center for Women's Empowerment (HCC). She is from Adamawa State, Yola, Nigeria, but has also lived in the Netherlands and New York. Hauwa attended the American University of Nigeria, which she graduated from with a Bachelor of Laws (LL. B Hons). She is a film buff who loves adventure, travelling, and great conversations. This is her first time in Morocco, and it has been interesting so far. She hopes to make the most of her time at AUI and leave Morocco with rewarding experiences.



Carisa Villela
(2021)

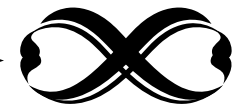
Carisa Villela is the Presidential Intern for the Office of Development and Communication. She is from Moreno Valley, California, USA, but has roots in Nuevo Casas Grandes, Chihuahua, Mexico. Carisa attended Franklin University Switzerland, where she majored in Literature and minored in Media Production and Publishing and Cross-Literary and Cultural Studies. She enjoys reading, journaling, and doing embroidery in her free time. During this internship, she hopes to learn more and develop the skills necessary for a career in publishing and writing, as well as leave a positive impact on the students and colleagues she engages with at AUI.





Clara Sanchez Cirvian
(2021)

Clara Sanchez Cirvian is the Presidential Intern for the Library. She is from Madrid, Spain. She completed her studies at Saint Louis University Madrid Campus. Clara majored in English and minored in Modern Languages and Communications. She enjoys reading, playing sports, and traveling. She loves the Arab culture and wanted to come to Morocco to experience it in person, from the inside, to challenge any ethnocentric notions. She hopes to contribute to the AUI community in a positive way, engaging as much as possible with its community.



Carmen-Irina Bulac
(2021)

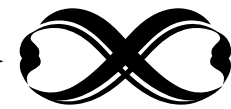
Carmen-Irina Bulac is the Presidential Intern for the Honors Program. Originally from Bucharest, Romania, she has lived abroad for the past 12 years. After many career changes, from actress to web designer and pastry chef in Barcelona and the French Alps, she moved to Copenhagen to study International Social Sciences with a focus on social research and Gender Studies. She first arrived in Morocco in January 2020 for an exchange semester at Al Akhawayn University, and enjoyed it so much, that she came back to AUI after graduating from Roskilde University. With this internship, she strives to leave a positive impact on the academic and extra-curricular lives of students at AUI.





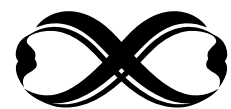
Frida Terrazas Carrillo
(2021)

Frida Terrazas Carrillo is the Presidential Intern for the Office of the Vice-President and Academic Affairs (VPAA). Originally from Durango, Mexico, she has lived abroad in countries like the UK, France, Switzerland, and now Morocco. Frida has a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and a minor in French from Franklin University Switzerland. She loves languages, traveling, and reading. With this internship, she hopes to help improve the student and faculty experience with the Office of the VPAA and learn more by working closely with the Academic Council at AUI.



Simon Bruns
(2021)

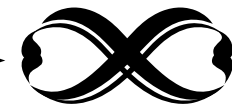
Simon Bruns is the Presidential Intern for the Accreditation Steering Committee. He is originally from Germany, but grew up in Yemen, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Thailand, and Switzerland. He graduated from Franklin University Switzerland in Lugano, with a double Major in History and Economics, with an Emphasis in Political Economy and a minor in Political Science. He hopes to travel around Morocco to see as much of the country as possible before the end of the internship. He wants to use the internship as an opportunity to better understand the inner workings of the university system.





Mafeni Odhegolo
(2021)

Mafeni Odhegolo is the Presidential Intern for the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE). He is from Delta State, Nigeria, but has also lived in Canada, Ireland, London, Boston, and Thailand. Mafeni attended the American University of Nigeria, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (B.Sc.). He is an active athlete who is well versed in many sports, but his passion lies in basketball. He also loves spontaneous adventures, travelling, and great conversations. This is his first time in the country, and he has been enjoying the experiences so far. He plans to take advantage of this opportunity to the fullest and grow both personally and professionally through his experience with this internship.



Meagan Hutte
(2021)

Meagan Hutte is the Presidential Intern for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. She graduated from Indiana State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education, for which she focused on teaching Social Sciences, Special Education, and English. She also is a Master's student at Al Akhawayn University in the North African and Middle Eastern Studies (NAMES) program. In her time outside of the internship, she teaches classes at Al Akhawayn's Language Center and is also teaching English Language Arts at the Al Akhawayn K-12 School.



(2020-2021)



Madeleine Zahn
(2020)

Madeleine Zahn is serving as the Presidential Intern for the Campus Life Office. She grew up in Missouri where she attended Missouri State University, graduating in 2020 with a degree in Geography and minors in French and Sustainability. She first visited Morocco on a weekend trip, and knew she wanted to return someday. During her time in Morocco, Madeleine hopes to improve her language skills in addition to experiencing the culture, cuisine, and history of Morocco. She looks forward to working with staff and students to build community and friendships at AUI this year.



Teresa Derr
(2020)

Teresa Derr is the intern for Residential Life, the DSA, and the VPAA. She grew up in the Seattle area and graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in human rights and culture. She loves getting to explore new cultures and perspectives, make new friends, and experience new things. She studied at AUI for a semester during her undergrad and decided it wasn't long enough, so she came back for this program. She is looking forward to learning Darija, getting to meet students, and hopefully take advantage of any opportunities for human rights works that come her way.





Ashley Jazayeri
(2020)

Ashley Jazayeri is the intern for the Chief Operating Officer and the President. A recent graduate with degrees in international relations and political science, she is excited to gain additional professional experience while improving her Arabic skills. Having spent nearly half of her undergraduate studies in Morocco, she is happy to have the opportunity to continue to learn about Moroccan culture, this time as a young professional. Ashley intends to use the opportunity provided by the AUI Presidential Internship Program to refine her research skills, improve her project management abilities, and further explore her interest in human rights, women's empowerment, and education in the MENA.



Nathan Lincoln
(2020)

Nathan Lincoln is an intern in the Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness (OIRE). He attended Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania, where he earned a degree in Environmental Science with an emphasis in geography and planning. His interests include anything outdoors as well as books, movies, and games with friends. During his time as an intern, he hopes to develop his skills in planning, management, and interpersonal communication, while widening his worldview by integrating with the AUI and international community.





Chloe-Kate Abel
(2020)

Chloe-Kate Abel is the Presidential Intern in the Center for Learning Excellence and Writing Center. She is originally from Brooklyn, NY but has been living between the US, Morocco, and the UK for the past five years. She recently graduated from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland with a Bachelor of Arts in Arabic and Persian Language, Literature, and Culture. Apart from learning languages, she is passionate about photography, music, and cinema.



Emily Wang
(2020)

Emily Wang is the Presidential Intern for the AUI Re-Accreditation Project. She grew up in New Jersey, then attended the University of Mississippi, studying international studies, Arabic, and Chinese. While studying abroad in college, Emily lived in Egypt, Jordan, the U.A.E., China, Singapore and Malaysia, and completed an exchange semester at AUI in Fall 2018. (These experiences inspired her senior graduation thesis on Uyghur Muslims - feel free to ask!) Despite Covid-19, Emily hopes for new adventures and travel soon, and she is super excited to return to and give back to the AUI community.



(2019-2020)



Melody Anthony
(2019)

The AUI Presidential Internship Program seemed to Melody to be a really great way to spend a gap year. New country, new culture, new experiences...plus courses providing the perfect opportunity to engage with Middle Eastern influences and North African Politics. She looks forward to mastering the Moroccan cuisine, exploring its stories, and at some point, overcoming the intricacies of Darija. Thanks to AUI's international outlook, Melody also thinks of these next few months as a window into the rest of the world.



Kseniya Autukhovich
(2019)

Kseniya Autukhovich is the Presidential Intern for the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane. Born and raised in Minsk, Belarus. Kseniya attended Minsk State Linguistic University where she received her bachelor's degree in Linguistics. She enjoys getting involved with volunteer programs when possible. Her aim is to make AUI better. In free time she enjoys discovering new places and learning Darija.





Sinclair Barbehenn
(2019)

Sinclair grew up in the Boston area but found her way to Ohio for undergraduate studies at Kenyon College, where she double majored in Psychology and French. When studying abroad in Paris spring of her junior year, she visited her best friend in Rabat. It was her first time in Morocco and she thoroughly enjoyed it, sparking an interest in the country and the people. As she returned to the states for her senior year she took a course on Moroccan history and culture, which lead her to AUI. She hopes to explore more Francophone countries and their cultures, starting with Morocco. She is looking forward to getting to know the AUI community by joining clubs and volunteering. She is also very excited to explore Morocco and hopes to meet many new people and create lasting friendships along the way.



Isabel Bonhomme
(2019)

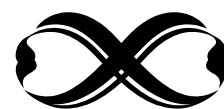
Isabel Bonhomme is serving as the Presidential Intern for the Hillary Clinton Center for Women's Empowerment, the No Violence Alliance (NoVA), and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Born in New York City, Isabel attended the College of Wooster where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. While at Wooster, Isabel was Co-President of the Sexual Respect Coalition, which prepared her for the advocacy and policy work she now does with NoVA. In the fall of 2017, Isabel had an impactful semester abroad in Rabat, leading her to shift her research focuses and look into post-graduate opportunities back in Morocco. Isabel is excited to begin her career in International Education at AUI, and is looking forward to working closely with students and faculty, learning more about Moroccan society, and strengthening her Darija.





Bryan Cleveland
(2019)

Bryan is currently serving as the Presidential Intern for the Health Center as well as the Interfaith Office. He grew up in Natick, Massachusetts outside of Boston and attended Tufts University, graduating in 2019 with a degree in International Relations and French as well as a music minor. During his stay at AUI, Bryan hopes to learn more about Moroccan culture (and hopefully some Darija). He is also looking forward to becoming involved in and contributing positively to the AUI community in any way he can. In the future, Bryan is interested in working in the field of sustainable development, so he is also hoping to take advantage of any volunteer opportunities at AUI to engage in education and human rights work.



Evelyn Cruz
(2019)

Evelyn Cruz is the Presidential Intern for the Office of Community Involvement and Student Activities. Evelyn studied abroad at AUI during the Spring of 2018 and fell in love with the country of Morocco. She chose PIP because it provides her with an opportunity to interact with students that are both vibrant and politically active. Evelyn hopes to have an enriching experience personally and intellectually. Her goal is to be a reliable asset to the Student Activities office and also be a person the students of AUI can rely on for any concerns or suggestions.





Rhea Iten
(2019)

Rhea Iten is the Presidential Intern for the First-Year Experience Program. She grew up in a small town near Lucerne, Switzerland and attended the University of Zurich where she received a Master's degree in French and Spanish Linguistics and Literature. Rhea has previously been to Al Akhawayn University as part of the Arabic and North African Studies Program, an intensive summer program that allowed her to focus on Arabic and explore Morocco for two months. Since she enjoyed her stay so much, she decided to come back to pursue her passion for language learning and get a deeper understanding of Moroccan culture. Besides learning more about the country, Rhea is looking forward to meeting new people and strengthening the First-Year Experience Program at AUI. She also hopes to improve her Arabic and learn some Darija.



Caroline Kimbro
(2019)

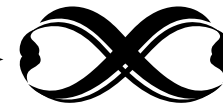
Caroline Kimbro is the Presidential Intern for the Department of Development and Communication. Originally from the Philadelphia area, she majored in Public Relations at Marshall University with minors in Constitutional Democracy and Music. Caroline first experienced the MENA region when teaching English in Tunisia, which encouraged her to concentrate her research on the area's socio-political dynamics while studying at Oxford University. She returned to North Africa in the spring of 2018 to study at Al Akhawayn University, where she quickly fell in love with the AUI community and Morocco as a whole. Caroline is excited to use the skills she gained in journalism, media relations, and graphic design during her undergraduate career to enhance communication and outreach efforts at Al Akhawayn. She looks forward to expanding her Arabic vocabulary this year and working closely with students and staff at AUI.





Jasmine Malone
(2019)

Having done a yearlong exchange program at AUI during her undergraduate career, Jasmine discovered that the unique opportunity to return and learn more about Moroccan culture and language presented itself with the PIP. She will pursue her Master of Arts in International Studies and Diplomacy at AUI, while simultaneously interning at the Azrou Center for Community Development. Given her passion for sustainable international development through education, being the intern for the Azrou Center will enable her to learn and partake in Moroccan educational and socio-political strategies - beyond the classroom

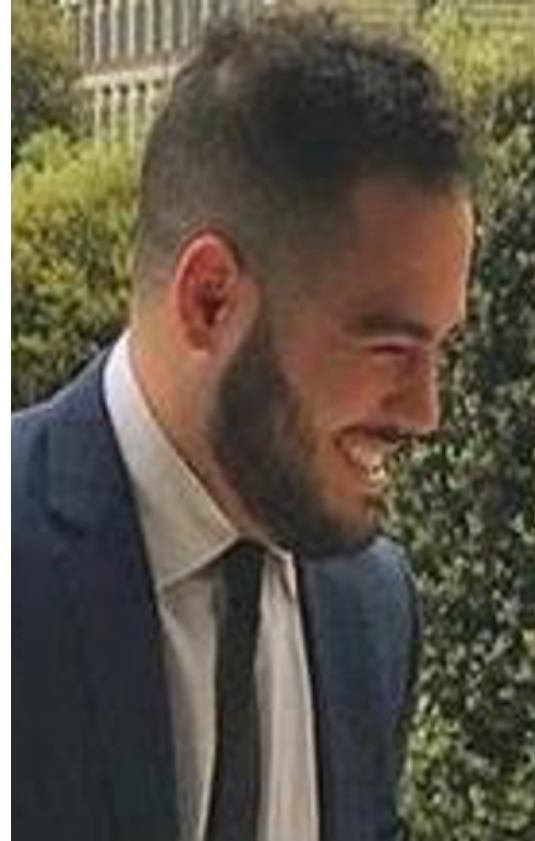


Syeda Khaula Saad
(2019)

Syeda Khaula Saad is the Presidential Intern for the Office of the President. Syeda was born and raised in Jersey City, New Jersey and comes from a Pakistani family. She graduated summa cum laude from Rutgers University where she received a dual bachelor's degree in English and Journalism and Media Studies. While studying at Rutgers, she served as the editor-in-chief of The Daily Targum, Rutgers' independent, student-run newspaper. She also worked with AmeriCorps, the Office of Middlesex County, and youth development programs in her hometown of Jersey City. Spending her whole life in New Jersey, Syeda is excited to be part of the AUI community in Morocco to expand her cultural thinking and to bring back a better understanding of others to her hometown.



(2018-2019)



Chris Aboukhaled
(2018)

Chris Aboukhaled was the presidential intern for the office of the president, as well as for the department of development and communication. Chris was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, and came from a Lebanese family. He attended college at Lorain county community college where he received an associate degree in electrical engineering and technology. After completing his engineering degree, he enrolled at the university of Akron where he received a bachelor's degree in political science with a focus on the MENA region. During his time at university, Chris interned at the summit county executive's office where he was involved in political, economic, social and administrative matters at the county level. During spring of 2018 he interned at the us mission to the un agencies in Rome, where he worked with organizations such as the world food program, the food and agricultural organization and the international development law organization through the us department of state. While at AUI Chris hoped to improve his Arabic language skills in both modern standard Arabic and in the Moroccan Darija dialect and experience the Moroccan culture to its fullest extent.





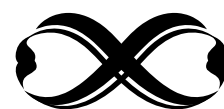
Gabrielle Leparik
(2018)

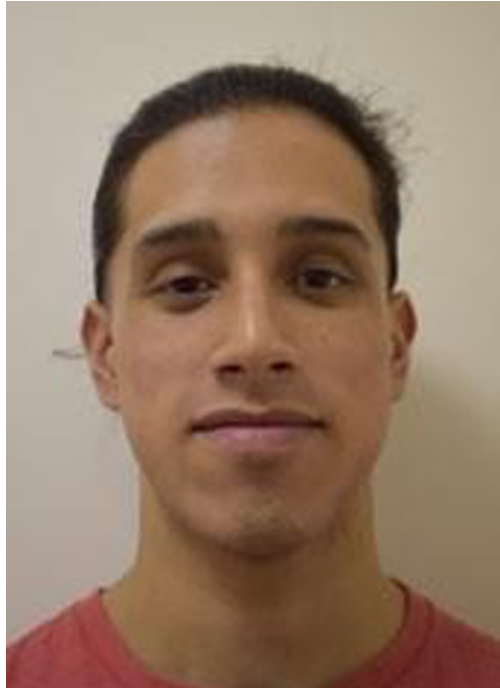
Gabrielle Leparik was the Presidential Intern for the Vice President of Academic Affairs during the 2018-19 school year. Born and raised in Long Island, New York, Gabrielle attended Hofstra University where she received her bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in Graphic Design. Following her college graduation, Gabrielle interned with the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations and served with AmeriCorps, completing over 1,000 hours of community service in New York City. Prior to relocating to Morocco, Gabrielle was a Case Manager at a non-profit mentoring agency (Big Brothers Big Sisters), where she coordinated mentoring programs at high schools and universities on the east end of Long Island. While at AUI, Gabrielle wants to develop her Arabic language skills and explore Morocco, especially Marrakech. Also, while working with VPAA, Gabrielle hoped to assist with developing more opportunities for AUI students to enhance their university experience.



LaTonya Jones
(2018)

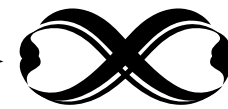
LaTonya was serving as the Presidential Intern for the Office of Internal Audit. She grew up in Hinesville, Georgia, but spent her early years in Panama. LaTonya graduated from Mercer University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics and a minor in Mathematics. She spent the spring semester of my senior year at AUI, which allowed her to do some volunteer work for ASI and do research with an AUI professor. LaTonya planned to spend the year at AUI learning more, gaining insight on the functions of the university, and positively contributing to the AUI community. She also really wanted to do a lot of traveling and learn some Arabic and French before she left.





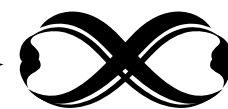
Kenneth Cruz
(2018)

Kenneth Cruz was a Presidential Intern working with the Interfaith Office and the Community Involvement Program (CIP). Originally from New York City and having graduated from DePauw University in Indiana with a major in French, Kenneth enjoyed exploring new environments and cultures. As alum of the Bonner Scholar and Posse Scholar programs, he enjoyed getting involved within the community, engaging in volunteer and social justice work when possible. While at AUI, Kenneth aimed to help facilitate students' understanding of community service and its impact, as well as strength the interfaith community at the University. He also looked forward to improving his French by taking French classes, interacting with students and traveling around the region of Morocco.



Jessica Borgert
(2018)

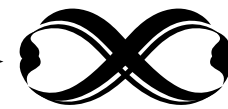
Jessica Borgert was serving as the Presidential Intern for the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs and the Office of Residential Life and Housing. Jessica is originally from Blaine, Minnesota and attended Franklin University Switzerland, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in both International Relations and Communication and Media Studies. Her undergraduate research focused on political communication, particularly studying social media posts and political cartoons, with her undergraduate thesis entitled "The Political Implications of US Presidential Twitter Use on Foreign Relations: A Political Discourse Analysis of the 'Twitter Presidency'". During her time at AUI Jessica hoped to learn basic Arabic and to see as much of Morocco as she could.





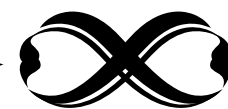
Sarina Leon
(2018)

Sarina Leon was the Presidential Intern for the Center for Learning Excellence at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane. Growing up in Seattle, Washington, she graduated from Franklin University Switzerland with a degree in History and a minor in Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies. Focusing on the development of Palestinian nationalism in the 1920's through various literatures in her undergraduate dissertation, Sarina planned on applying her passion for the Middle East and Northern Africa to her experience at AUI. Through working closely with students as well as staff and faculty, she was looking forward to immersing herself in the culture and studying Arabic. After her internship with AUI, Sarina planned to pursue a master degree in Gender and Women's Studies in the Middle East and Northern Africa and hoped to use her year in Ifrane to empower student voices and raise awareness of the issues all university campuses face.



Nabeelah Muhammad
(2018)

Nabeelah Muhammad was a Presidential Intern with the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness. She received her bachelor's degree in international Affairs and Arab World Studies from the American University in Washington. She hoped her background in non-profit M&E would allow her to help AUI prevail as a leading institution of education in Morocco. During her free time, she enjoyed exploring new cities, binge watching TV shows and learning new phrases in Arabic and French.



(2017-2018)



Erin Worden
(2017)

Erin Worden was excited to serve as the Presidential Intern for the Hillary Clinton Center for Women's Empowerment. Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Erin graduated from Denison University with dual degrees in English Literature and International Studies. Her undergraduate research focused on gender and forced migration, particularly studying sexual violence experienced by MENA-native refugee women in Greece. While at AUI, Erin especially looked forward to deepening her engagement with gendered displacement and strengthening the HCC's outreach programs. Erin also planned to expand her Arabic skills beyond 'yallah,' 'inshallah,' and 'habibi,' in addition to mastering the perfect tagine and traveling around Morocco



Liam Reilly
(2017)

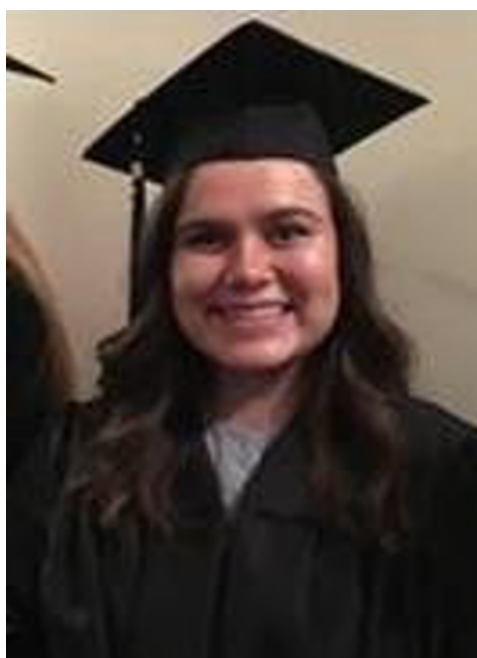
Liam Reilly was the Presidential Intern in the Office of Development and Communications. A native New Yorker, Liam studied Comparative Literature at Kenyon College with an onus on post-colonial Anglophone-Irish and Francophone literatures. From taking part in various initiatives at Al Akhawayn University, to travelling the country and meeting new people, Liam was very excited about his year in Morocco. A few things Liam chose to share about himself: his passions include writing, cooking, and listening to music (of all kinds— he appreciates recommendations if you have any); sometimes he likes to lounge about on Sundays; he appreciates all puns (especially the bad ones), and he loves movies. Liam looked forward to meeting everyone, so introduce yourself if you haven't!





Nanuka Chachibaia
(2017)

Nanuka Chachibaia was serving as the Presidential Intern for the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE). Nanuka is originally from Tbilisi, Georgia but has lived abroad most of her life in such places as England, Germany, Libya, the UAE, and Switzerland. Nanuka graduated from Franklin University Switzerland in 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Relations and a double minor in Communication & Media Studies and Germanic Studies. Nanuka's studies focused on Eastern Europe and her undergraduate thesis was entitled "A Discourse Analysis of Russia's Securitization of Georgia and its "Near-Abroad" Under the Leadership of Vladimir Putin." While at AUI, Nanuka hoped to continue working on OIRE's strategic plan and to ensure the perpetuation of excellence at the University, especially given its accreditation. Nanuka also hoped to learn basic French during her time in Morocco, and to make use of it while exploring the country.



Sara Stoke
(2017)

Sara Stokes was the Presidential Intern working in the Center for Learning Excellence. Born and raised in Decatur, Illinois, she attended the American University of Paris where she earned a degree in Literary Studies and the Creative Arts. Her final portfolio included analyses of texts by Dostoevsky, Dante, Wright, and Highsmith, as well as her own short fiction and prose poetry. Sara looked forward to growing professionally and personally, while indulging her love of travel and language.





Carrie Robinson
(2017)

Carrie Robinson was serving as the Presidential Intern for the Community Involvement Program and the Office of Interfaith Life. Carrie grew up in Dublin, Ohio and graduated from DePauw University with a double major in Anthropology and Religious Studies. Carrie's senior research focused on post 9/11 Islamophobia in the United States. Carrie hoped to spend her term at AUI traveling, continuing with Arabic classes, and helping to strengthen the relationships between various religious groups both on campus and in the local community. She was attempting to learn how to cook so please pass along some tips!

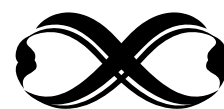


(2016-2017)



Alison Elder
(2017)

Alison Elder was the first Presidential Intern for the Hillary Clinton Center for Women's Empowerment (HCC). Prior to working at the Center she served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in southeastern Morocco for 2.5 years. Originally from Lubbock, Texas, Alison received her undergraduate degree in International Studies and English with a minor in Arabic Studies from Texas A&M University. Currently a graduate student in Geography at the University of Arizona, her research explores the nexus of irrigation agriculture, water sustainability, and economic opportunity for rural people in southeastern Morocco. Additionally, she is a Peace Corps Coverdell Fellow and graduate research assistant for a National Science Foundation Sustainable Water for Arid Communities project





Marina Lorenzini
(2016)

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Marina Lorenzini attended Franklin University Switzerland in Lugano, Switzerland where she majored in Art History with a double minor in History and Italian Studies. As an undergraduate student, Marina primarily focused on Modern and Contemporary Visual Art, Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean History, and International Antiquities Law. She also studied Italian, Latin, German, and Arabic, and has pursued the latter since graduating—she studied Arabic at the Qasid Institute in Amman, Jordan in May of 2016, and is currently studying part-time at the University of Pittsburgh in order to complete an Arabic Language & Linguistics Certificate. Since graduation, Marina decided to enter the nonprofit world, focusing her efforts on relations between the United States and the MENA region. She began her professional career at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane (AUI) as a member of the Presidential Internship Program’s (PiP) first cohort. Throughout the 2016-17 academic year, Marina worked in the Office of the President where she worked on various projects that contributed to AUI's NEASC accreditation. She also enrolled in three classes at AUI, while simultaneously serving as a TA for two additional classes. Upon the completion of her contract, Marina accepted a position as the Communication and Development Manager at the American Middle East Institute where she still currently works. There, she focuses on realizing international trade and development partnerships in the natural resources, technology, medical, and higher education fields. Looking forward, Marina hopes to study law in order to work with international policy pertaining to MENA Region antiquities.





Jessica Jasso
(2016)

Jessica Jasso was the Presidential Intern in the Office of Student Affairs during the 2016-17 academic year. Mexican- American, and born and raised in Dallas, Texas, Jessica attended John Cabot University in Rome, Italy, where she received a BA in International Business. During her time at AUI, Jessica served as a Resident Assistant where she was able to influence a variety of projects within the housing unit and resident assistant program. Prior to working at AUI, Jessica worked remotely for Paranoid Fan, a tech startup based out of Dallas that provides mapping services for different sports teams worldwide, as well as tools and data to partners that enables them to better understand their consumers so that they can then make informed business decisions based on real-time patterns and behaviors during sports events. Jessica is currently an Operations Associate at the Techstars HQ in Boulder, Colorado, a worldwide network in over 150 countries that helps entrepreneurs succeed through accelerator programs. Her current role involves assisting with the launch of the first fully virtual accelerator program, “Techstars Anywhere”. When she is not working, she is usually traveling as she enjoys learning about new cultures and trying new foods.





Khairunnisa Usman
(2016)

Khairunnisa Usman or Nisa was the Presidential Intern for the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE) during the 2016-17 academic year. Born and raised in Jakarta, Indonesia, Nisa received her undergraduate degree from The College of Wooster, Ohio, where she majored in Economics. Prior to working at OIRE, Nisa was a Research Intern for the Indonesian Embassy in Washington, D.C. Nisa is also an AFS Exchange Program alumna, having been a high school exchange student in Arlington, Virginia in 2010-11.

Nisa is currently a business consultant at AIP-Rural PRISMA, an economic development program that aims to increase Indonesian smallholder farmers' income by improving their competitiveness and access to new markets, better inputs, know-how, and technology. Despite the "business consultant" title, Nisa spent most of her days puttering around in undeveloped, rural, parts of Indonesia. She chats with pigs and cattle farmers, feed retailers, livestock traders, and many other market actors to develop financially beneficial and sustainable business models not only for farmers but also for all market actors involved.

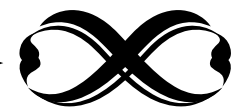




Olivia Snow
(2016)

Born in the golden age of cassette tapes and Disney on VHS, Aladdin was one of Olivia Snow's favorite movies growing up. She knows what you're thinking—no, no Olivia, don't go down that rabbit hole! Aladdin is a Disney-fied, completely inaccurate, stereotype-creating, poor rendition of Middle Eastern folk tales from One Thousand and One Nights! She hears you. However, despite the less-than-idyllic founding for her intrigue, it developed into a greater passion for Islam's influence on art, culture, and food in the MENA region.

During the course of her time at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane (AUI) with the Presidential Internship Program (PiP), she worked to make improvements to the school website, both in content and in formatting. The Office of Development and Communication was truly wonderful in allowing her to get involved in this process, along with the efforts behind the University's internal and external communications. The best part of the program for her was that it gave her the ability to truly explore Morocco. From surfing trips with the AUI Nautical Club to sheep shopping with coworkers for Eid al-Adha, AUI's PiP gave Olivia a tangible connection to the amazing country that Morocco is. Since leaving AUI, Olivia has been working for a travel group that allows her to come back and visit Morocco whenever she can!





Sarah Taylor
(2016)

Sarah Taylor completed her BA at Davidson College where she double majored in Political Science and French. During her time as a Presidential Intern at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane (AUI), Sarah completed entrepreneurship and annual report projects for the Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA), assisted with events for the Hillary Rodham Clinton Center for Women's Empowerment (HCC), and conducted development research for then-AUI professor Dr. Heffner.

Since returning to the United States, Sarah has been working at a girls' empowerment nonprofit (Ruling Our eXperiences), producing content for the international wellness nonprofit Global Women 4 Wellness, and contributing to women's rights advocacy research for Innovation Ohio's Women's Public Policy Network (WPPN).

When she's not working and volunteering, Sarah travels the world (24 countries and counting), bakes, and reads voraciously. By June 2018 she will become a certified yoga teacher. Post-June Sarah hopes to work in women's rights advocacy and ultimately to attend a JD/MPP program in the United States.

