



# Fostering our Global Community:

Institutions, Knowledge,  
Practice, and People

Yale MACMILLAN CENTER  
*Fox International Fellowship*

*“Once a Fox Fellow,  
Always a Fox Fellow.”*

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2024-2025





## Yale MACMILLAN CENTER *Fox International Fellowship*



### 35 YEARS OF IMPACT

The Fox International Fellowship has completed the first comprehensive assessment of the long-term impact of the Fellowship on the careers of its Fellows. Over the past 35 years, the Fox Fellowship has been instrumental in fostering peace and prosperity by cultivating cohorts and communities of global leaders.

The findings reveal that the support provided by the Fox Fellowship has a lasting and magnifying effect over time. For many Fellows, the Fellowship is a pivotal moment that propels them toward a life of greater impact and ambition. The Fellows reported that the Fellowship facilitated the expansion of their research horizons, enhanced their academic expertise, and helped them build robust networks of professional and scholarly support. The relationships forged during the Fellowship span the globe and often last a lifetime. A copy of the report has been published on our website.



*Dear Reader,*

I am delighted to introduce the Fox International Fellowship annual report for the year 2024-25. Each year of the fellowship is a renewed delight, filled with new faces, relationships, and stunning research into the most pressing issues of our time. Our 2024-25 cohort was no exception to this rule and I could not be prouder of their many accomplishments – as well as their dedication to understanding the roots of our present turmoil and uncovering ways to make the world a safer, healthier, and more peaceful and flourishing place for all people. We continue to pursue our three intertwined goals of knowledge, practice, and community.

One of the highlights of the year was an enormously successful conference at Cambridge University. Hosted by Head Martin Burton of Sidney Sussex College and the Fox Fellowship, we brought in sixteen former fellows for a day of intense conversation about global challenges and solutions. The event strengthened the relationships between fellows, bolstered the alumni community, and reaffirmed the Yale partnership with Cambridge.

The event was so popular that we have adopted a new model of partner alumni conferences celebrating the various anniversaries of our exchange relationships. We expect this model to fortify our institutional collaborations and strengthen the network of relations between Fox Fellow alumni. A particular benefit has been connecting more recent fellows with earlier alumni, many of whom have advanced to prestigious positions in the policy and research world.

As we welcome a new cohort, we turn to new ways of strengthening the fellowship. Foremost in my mind as director will be finding ways to advocate for international exchange and education at the university and beyond and considering new solutions for housing our expanding group of incoming fellows.

I hope you enjoy reading about the incredible accomplishments of our 2024-25 fellows.

Warmly,

*Emily Erikson*  
*Joseph C. Fox Academic Director*  
*Chair of Sociology*







## PROGRAMMATIC HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2024–2025

Throughout the 2024–25 academic year, the incoming Fox Fellows fully embraced their time at Yale—conducting original research in both local and national archives, engaging actively in academic conferences and advancing their dissertations and publications. Equally importantly, they cultivated meaningful relationships within their cohort and across the broader Yale community, forming connections with faculty, staff, and peers that not only enriched their research but will continue to shape their careers and contribute to global progress.

Through innovative scholarship, dynamic intellectual exchange, and bold exploration of new ideas and themes, the Fellows advanced the core mission of the Fox Fellowship: fostering mutual understanding and strengthening international collaboration. They returned to their home institutions empowered—grateful for a deeper connection to the global academic community and better prepared to face future challenges.

*The following is a snapshot of the wide-ranging activities the Fellows pursued over the past year.*







*Pictured:* Fox Fellows about to embark on a trip on the Sabino down the Mystic River for a tour during their orientation in August 2024. Notice they are doing the Yale ‘Y’ with their hands, a Yale tradition.

## FOX FELLOWSHIP OUTING TO HISTORIC MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

On August 20th, 2024, as part of their orientation, the incoming Fox Fellows and the Fellowships team from the MacMillan Center engaged with the rich history of New England and Connecticut at the Mystic Seaport Museum. The day included explorations of historic home replicas and the Charles Morgan whaling ship, along with a scenic boat tour of the Mystic River, and the opportunity to learn to navigate paddles and oars.





COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP SERIES

From October to December 2024, the Fox International Fellowship hosted a Communication Workshop Series at Yale’s Watson Center, led by Dr. William Vance and Executive Voice coaches. Designed to enhance Fellows’ communication in academic and professional settings, the series combined plenary sessions, targeted workshops, and personalized coaching. Fellows developed skills in public speaking, academic presentations, negotiation across cultures, and effective participation in meetings and conferences. The program concluded with individual coaching and action plans, equipping Fellows with practical tools to communicate clearly, confidently, and persuasively in global contexts.

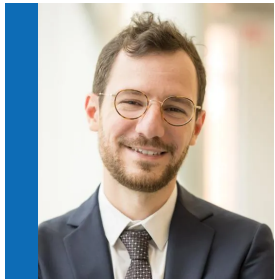
## Fox International Fellowship Communication Workshops

October - December 2024

- Plenary Session on Communication Practices
- Academic Presentations or Job Interview
- Meeting and Conference Participation
- Diplomatic Language and Negotiation
- Personal Coaching Session
- Public Speaking



POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATE WITH THE FOX INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP



As a Postdoctoral Associate for the 2024-2025 academic year, Bastien Charaudeau Santomauro supported the Program’s leadership by mentoring incoming Fox Fellows, leading the weekly seminar, and advising prospective applicants. He also served on the Selection Committee and collaborated with the Academic Director on convening the Spring 2025 Fox Alumni Conference in Cambridge. In addition to his work for the Program, Bastien presented his research on migration, borders and human rights in four conferences in the US and Canada and published five journal articles.



FOX FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL  
THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

Each fall, the Fox family graciously hosts the incoming Fox International Fellows and their families for a Thanksgiving luncheon at their Connecticut home—a cherished tradition and highlight of the fellowship year.

This year, 22 Fellows from 18 countries gathered for a day of reflection, cultural exchange, and community. The event began with a serene lakeside walk and heartfelt remarks from the Fox family, who spoke about the Fellowship’s mission of global understanding and the shared values embedded in Thanksgiving traditions around the world.

The celebration continued with a traditional feast and lively conversations, where Fellows shared stories, expressed gratitude, and deepened connections with one another. For many, it was their first experience of an American Thanksgiving—made unforgettable by the warmth and hospitality of the Fox family.

More than just a meal, the luncheon embodied the spirit of the Fox Fellowship: fostering lasting, cross-cultural bonds that extend far beyond Yale.







**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP: SPRING 2025**  
**ALUMNI CONFERENCE AT SIDNEY SUSSEX**

On March 15, 2025, the Fox International Fellowship hosted a successful Alumni Conference and Reunion at Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge, bringing together Fellows, alumni, and friends from around the world. The event marked a milestone – the 30th anniversary of the Yale MacMillan Center–Cambridge partnership – and centered around a timely theme: *Global Challenges: Interdisciplinary Voices Across the World*.

Through dynamic panels, meaningful dialogue, and renewed connections, participants explored pressing global issues from diverse academic and professional perspectives. The conference reaffirmed the value of interdisciplinary collaboration and the lasting impact of the Fox Fellowship network.

As we always say, “Once a Fox Fellow, always a Fox Fellow.” We look forward to building on the ideas sparked at this special gathering.

**EVENT SCHEDULE**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025**

**Panel 1: Democracy and its Discontents**  
Democracy Without Parties: Global Challenges of Political Representation in the 21st Century  
**Veronica Hurtado Lozada**, Assistant Professor, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (Chile)  
2021–22 Fox Fellow from the University of British Columbia, Canada

Economic Inequality and the Erosion of Democracy in the Twenty-First Century  
**Eli Rau**, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico  
2019–20 Fox Fellow to the University of San Andrés, Argentina

Energy Burden and Satisfaction with Democracy: Political Consequences of Market Risk  
**Laura Kettel**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Dept. of Political Science, Aarhus University, Denmark  
2021–22 from Freie University of Berlin, Germany

Politicians Against the Supreme Court: Anti-Establishment Populism from Within the Establishment  
**Erez Seri-Levy**, PhD Candidate, Tel Aviv University, Israel  
2023–24 Fox Fellow from Tel Aviv University, Israel

**Panel 2: The Multifaceted Challenges behind Climate Change**  
Is free movement bad for the environment? A critique of the “ecosovereignist” argument  
**Benjamin Boudou**, Professor of Political Theory at the University of Rennes (France)  
2010–11 Fox Fellow from Institut d’Études de Politiques de Paris, France

Climate Change and Risk Management for Sustainable Global Health and Security from the Perspective of Futures Disaster Studies  
**Young-Geun Kim**, Professor, Global Institute for Japanese Studies, Korea University  
1999–2000 Fox Fellow from The University of Tokyo, Japan

Climate Change and Conflict in the Indian Ocean Region: An Interdisciplinary Approach  
**Avinash Godbole**, Professor, O P Jindal Global University, India  
2007–08 Fox Fellow from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Panel 3: Colonialism and Empire across Space and Time**  
The transient history Chinese convict workers in southern India: an appraisal of key contributions to plantation history and infrastructure-building in the Nilgiris (mid-19th century)

**Joe Thomas Karackattu**, Associate Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, India  
2008–09 Fox Fellow from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

Empire and the Slum: Why Numbers of People Living in Slum Conditions Persist and Grow in the 21st Century  
**Singumbe Muyeba**, Assistant Professor, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, USA  
2011–12 Fox Fellow from University of Cape Town, South Africa

“As near part of the United States as any land could possibly be:” The Federal Reserve in Cuba and the boundaries of the American economy, 1923–1938  
**Mikael Omstedt**, PhD Candidate, University of British Columbia, Canada  
2021–22 Fox Fellow from University of British Columbia, Canada

An Indian Virginia in Britain: Empire Commodities, Colonial Development, and the Making of a Globalised Tobacco  
**CJ Kuncheria**, Deputy Editor, The India Forum  
2015–16 Fox Fellow from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

**Panel 4: Insights from Fox Alumni across the World**  
From 10 Downing St to Hollywood, from Trump to Psychedelics: Lessons from Unlikely Collaborations for an Insane World  
**Jonathan Reynaga**, Special Advisor, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change  
2001–02 Fox Fellow from the University of Cambridge

Navigating Climate Change Risk: Leveraging NGFS Framework for Effective Decision-Making in Banking Industry  
**Kanakaraj Arangasamy**, Vice President - HSBC Bank  
2006–07 Fox Fellow from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

Addressing the intersection of climate change and non-communicable diseases in maternal health: a global health perspective  
**Jenny Jung**, WHO Consultant (Maternal health and non-communicable diseases), Research assistant at Burnet Institute  
2017–18 Fox Fellow from The University of Tokyo

Unlivable Cities  
**Megha Mukim**, Senior Economist, World Bank  
2006–07 Fox Fellow from University of Cambridge, England





**TRIP TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

On April 4, 2025, Fox International Fellows and staff, along with the MacMillan Center’s Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants, participated in a guided tour of the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. Situated along the East River on Manhattan’s eastern shore, the UN Headquarters stands as a symbol of peace and a beacon of hope. This 18-acre complex serves as a meeting place for representatives from around the world to deliberate on critical issues of peace, justice, and sustainable development.

Guided by UN interns from diverse countries, the tour offered participants an opportunity to explore the workings of one of the world’s most important diplomatic institutions. Fellows and FLTAs gained insight into the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and ongoing global initiatives to achieve them, leaving with renewed commitment to promoting a more equitable and sustainable world — in alignment with the mission of the Fox Fellowship.



**ANNUAL ALUMNI SPEAKER SERIES:  
EXPLORING RUSSIA’S GLOBAL ROLE WITH  
DR. JEFFREY MANKOFF**

On May 14, 2025, the Fox International Fellowship hosted a timely and thought-provoking lecture at Yale’s Kline Tower, featuring Dr. Jeffrey Mankoff, a 2003–2004 Fox Fellow (Yale to Moscow State University) and Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

Dr. Mankoff, an expert in Russian foreign policy and Eurasian geopolitics, led a compelling discussion on Russia’s Role in Shaping the Global Order, drawing on themes from his recent publications, including *Empires of Eurasia* (Yale University Press, 2022) and *Russian Foreign Policy: The Return of Great Power Politics* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2011).

The event welcomed members of the Yale community and underscored the Fellowship’s commitment to fostering dialogue on pressing international issues through the insights of its global alumni network.





## PROFILES OF FOX FELLOWS



2024-2025 Incoming & Outgoing Fox International Fellows ➤

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*Pictured: Morse College, Yale University – photo taken on a tour during the fellows' on-campus orientation in August 2024.*



2024-2025 Incoming Fox International Fellows



EVANS ABAKAH

*PhD Candidate in Economics. From: University of Ghana*  
*Project: A Digital Approach to Improving Health Outcomes in Developing Countries: Evidence from Ghana*

Evans advanced his dissertation on digital technologies and health outcomes in Ghana, auditing an Empirical Economics class and regularly attending Development Workshops at the Economic Growth Center. Leadership, communication, and Graduate Writing Lab workshops strengthened his publishing and collaboration skills. He finalized two empirical chapters of his dissertation and framed a third on digital exclusion in rural health systems. Highlights include exchanges with Tarek Mouganie, entrepreneur and 2024 Jackson School World Fellow, the UN visit, and the Achebe Conference. This latter stressed for him the importance of storytelling, identity, and cultural heritage in driving policy change and institutional reform. As a Graduate Student Assembly representative for the MacMillan Center, he advocated for visiting fellows’ inclusion. In sum, the year deepened his analytical toolkit and global network. Next, he plans to complete his dissertation, release a working paper on Ghana’s National Health Insurance Scheme mobile renewal impact, and pursue policy roles with international organizations while building a digital development policy lab in Ghana.



OR ASHER

*PhD Candidate in Political Science. From: Tel Aviv University*  
*Project: Civil Society Organizations’ Involvement in Constitution-Making Processes*

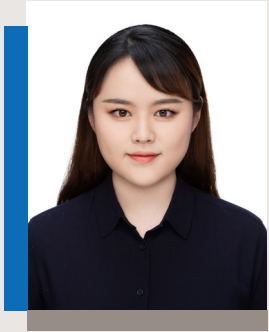
Or deepened his work in democratic theory and comparative politics, auditing Hélène Landemore’s seminar on deliberative democracy and meeting with scholars including Samuel Moyn, Ashl Bâli, and Reuven Hazan. He significantly advanced on his dissertation, completing his empirical chapter on Israel and his theoretical chapter, and launching his last case study on Sri Lanka by conducting interviews with researchers and legislators. He co-authored an article at Perspectives on Politics and published an op-ed in Haaretz on Israeli democracy. Experiencing the US for the first time, he and his family built close ties within the Fox community and adapted to American culture. He aims to finish his dissertation by October 2025 and apply for postdoctoral and early-career positions in comparative politics, constitutionalism, and democratic theory.



MARIANNE (JADE) BUFFAT

*PhD Candidate in Law. From: Copenhagen Business School*  
*Project: Governance in the digital economy: assessing EU data regulation and its impact on data commodification business strategies*

Marianne advanced research on European data governance through graduate courses at Yale Law School and the School of Management, combining legal, strategic, and policy perspectives. During her stay, she made concrete progress on data collection, conducting new expert interviews to diversify the empirical basis of her project. She also drafted an article now under review, and refined her dissertation’s methodological direction. Meetings with Yale faculty working at the intersection of law, technology, and governance opened collaboration avenues and confirmed the value of policy-relevant legal analysis. Beyond academics, she engaged with the international Fox cohort and explored New York’s cultural scene, experiences that strengthened independence and adaptability. In the future, she plans to publish additional articles, present at conferences, and sustain international collaborations initiated during the fellowship, consolidating her contribution to digital governance scholarship.



YIFAN CHEN

*Master Student in Business. From: Waseda University*  
*Project: The Extended Web of Control: The impact of Subsidiary Autonomy on Local Strategies and Organizational Structuring*

Yifan examined how institutional contexts shape subsidiary autonomy in multinational firms. At Yale, she refined her thesis framework using institutional theory and transaction-cost economics, presented a seminar for interdisciplinary feedback, and attended graduate seminars and School of Management events on strategy, governance, and innovation. An online course on financial markets and environmental social governance broadened her perspective on financing and corporate behavior. Cultural immersion through Yale’s museums broadened her appreciation for art, history, and the social forces that shape cultural production. The Fox fellows’ community fostered lasting friendships and confidence in cross-cultural academic dialogue. She now returns to Waseda to complete her master’s and apply to PhD programs in management and organizational theory, aiming to bridge research and practice on how local subsidiary agency shapes global strategy.



STEFANO CHESSA ALTIERI

*PhD Candidate in History. From: Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris*  
*Project: Rethinking Beijing. The Awakening of US Congress in the Making of Post-Cold War China Policy, 1989-1994*

Stefano focused on completing his dissertation while engaging weekly with International Security Studies and Fox seminars. He revised and resubmitted an article to Diplomatic History, advanced on a five-chapter book on US-China relations under contract with the Italian academic publisher Carocci, and presented at the Consortium of America in the World’s Young Scholars Conference at UT Austin. Archival work at the Library of Congress, including the American Council of Learned Societies Records and Zbigniew Brzezinski’s papers, enriched his sources. The Fox cohort’s diversity and time in the US sharpened his transatlantic perspective. He has applied broadly to postdoctoral and teaching positions and aims to defend his dissertation and finalize his book manuscript, continuing an academic trajectory on history and foreign policy.



WILLIAM HOPKINSON

*PhD Candidate in Political Science. From: University of Melbourne*  
*Project: Accelerating Climate Ambition: Domestic Political Challenges and Opportunities*

William advanced his dissertation on climate politics, submitting two articles for peer review and enrolling in Comparative Politics II to deepen methodological grounding. He participated in the Comparative Politics Workshop and benefitted from faculty feedback, including from Professor Luke Sanford. He presented at the Southern Political Science Association (San Juan), the International Studies Association (Chicago), and Yale’s Graduate Student Conference for European and Eurasian Studies, expanding networks and sharpening arguments. Cultural immersion in the US broadened comparative insights valuable to his research focusing on variations between OECD countries. He developed close friendships with both American and international students at Yale, forming a supportive and inspiring community that became central to his experience. He now plans to complete and defend his dissertation by 2026, revise and resubmit his articles, and pursue academic positions while sustaining collaborations formed at Yale.





### RIDDHI KALSI

*PhD Candidate in Economics. From: Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris*

*Project: Dynamics of Disparity: Public Sector Lifetime Premiums by Race and Gender*

Riddhi made significant progress on her dissertation in labor economics and applied econometrics, presenting at the Fox seminar and the Department of Economics' Labor/Public Workshop. She served as a Teaching Fellow for Microeconomics courses with Professors Cormac O'Dea and Pinelopi Goldberg, gaining classroom and mentoring experience. Regular participation in reading groups and courses kept her current with the latest developments in the field. Mentorship from Costas Meghir was especially formative for research positioning and design. Beyond academics, she built friendships within the Fox cohort and beyond, and enjoyed Yale's arts scene. Her stay at Yale reinforced her commitment to an academic career. She plans to enter the job market in 2025-2026, leveraging strengthened skills, networks, and pedagogical experience she gained at Yale.



### VANDITA KHANNA

*PhD Candidate in Law. From: Cambridge University*

*Project: Racialized Poverty and Equality Law*

Vandita advanced her research on racialized poverty and equality law under Article 14 ECHR, placing it in dialogue with the Equal Protection jurisprudence in the US. She received substantive feedback from Yale Law faculty (including Ashi Bâli, Owen Fiss, Issa Kohler-Hausmann, Monica Bell, Reva Siegel, Elizabeth Hinton, Samuel Moyn, and Dina Francesca Haynes) and engaged with Sociology and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration scholars such as Elijah Anderson and Fatima El-Tayeb. Reading groups and writing resources were particularly valuable for developing elements of her thesis, including the conceptualization of racial capitalism, the climate of race-neutrality in Europe, and the limitations of human rights law. The Fox community and New Haven's cultural life fostered confidence and connection. She is on track to submit in June 2025 and will start a postdoctoral position at the University of Cologne's Academy for European Human Rights Protection with Prof. Dr. Angelika Nußberger.

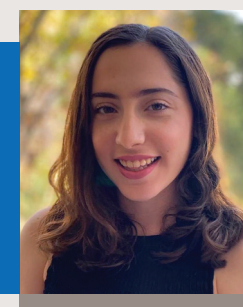


### ATTAY KREMER

*PhD Candidate in Philosophy. From: Tel Aviv University*

*Project: Models of Life: Materialism and the Philosophical Genealogy of the Computer*

Attay's research in post-Kantian philosophy advanced significantly: he completed three dissertation papers on Kant's reflective judgment, the Anthropocene and "deep history," and Schelling's philosophy of evil. Thanks to the research and writing he accomplished this year, Attay is now on track to complete my dissertation more than a year earlier than planned. He presented in Europe and the US, responded to a paper by Prof. Gregory Moss at the New School, and contributed to Yale's Post-Kantian Working Group. Mentorship from Paul Franks and participation in the German Philosophy Reading Group provided sustained, in-depth engagement with texts central to his research. Immersion in Yale's philosophical community balanced focused writing with collegial exchange. He now aims to finish his dissertation ahead of schedule, submit additional papers for publication, and seek academic positions while maintaining collaborations initiated during the fellowship.



### MIRIAM MALAMENT

*Master Student in Economics. From: Universidad de San Andres*

*Project: Compulsory or Committed? Decoding Youth Voting Patterns in Argentina*

Miriam advanced her thesis on the political economy of youth voting in Argentina, reframing her core question from voter turnout to legal compliance with voting laws and norm internalization. She took Labor Economics with Costas Meghir, participated in Labor/Public workshops and interdisciplinary seminars, and drew on Graduate Writing Lab support to fully rewrite her paper with clearer framing and robustness checks. She received valuable feedback from faculty including Costas Meghir, Rohini Pande, Alan Gerber, Gregory Huber, and Ana de la O, whose insights helped refine her theoretical framing and empirical design. A research trip to Oxford's Ellison Institute broadened her network and opened future collaboration. She engaged policy audiences at Columbia Business School and visited the UN, Harvard, MIT, and the World Bank. The Fox cohort and Economics Department provided community and feedback. In 2025-2026, she joins the Ellison Institute as a pre-doctoral fellow while preparing PhD applications.



### NIKHITHA MARY MATHEW

*PhD Candidate in Public Policy and Education. From: University of Singapore*

*Project: Education Policies and Social Inequality in India*

Nikhitha wrote two dissertation papers in education and development economics: one on reserved schools for tribal students (nearing submission) and a job-market paper on school rationalization. She presented across disciplines at NEUDC (one of the most prestigious development economics conferences in the US), the Association of Education Policy and Finance and the Royal Economics Society PhD Conference (United Kingdom), integrating feedback into revised designs. At Yale, mentorship from Christopher Nielsen, Costas Meghir, and Joseph Altonji, and participation in Nielsen's course on education policy in developing countries, sharpened Nikhitha's methods and helped her build community. The international Fox cohort eased cultural transition and broadened her perspectives. She returns to NUS for her final PhD year, planning to submit her thesis by year-end and enter the upcoming job market for postdoctoral and academic roles.



### HECTOR MENDOZA

*PhD Candidate in Economics. From: El Colegio de México*

*Project: Political Cycles and Child Health: Evidence from Mexican Local Elections*

Hector's work sits at the intersection of economics, public health, and machine learning, a positioning he was able to refine thanks to the mentorship of Pr. David Argente from the Economics Department. Hector presented at the 2025 Pacific Conference for Development Economics, receiving valuable feedback and building a strong network. At Yale, he attended economics and management seminars, took advanced training in causal inference and programming, and improved workflows in R, Python, and SQL. These courses allowed him to develop an organized, cloud-based data repository using Microsoft Azure, which now serves as the backbone for managing his research datasets. He also created data products that democratized access to robust, transparent and reproducible research outputs. He combined various technologies (LLMs, LangChain, and Shiny/Streamlit) to build solutions that help study challenges in low- and middle-income countries. Communication workshops and the Center for Language Study strengthened his academic English. Looking forward, Hector plans to pursue roles as a researcher or policy advisor, leveraging AI for public sector analysis and social impact.





### MWITI MUGAMBI

*Master Student in Development Economics. From: University of Cape Town*  
*Project: Investigating the Socio-economic Impacts of Gold Mining in Kenya: Case Study of Nandi County.*

Mwiti focused on sustainability, climate policy, and innovation for Sub-Saharan Africa during his year at Yale. As a Fox Fellow, he deepened training through Jackson School courses on development, climate policy, trade, and governance. He attended New York Climate Week and the Yale Clean Energy Conference and volunteered at Hack Summit NYC, exploring digital transformation for equitable policy. Small-group dialogues with diplomats and practitioners broadened his perspectives on policy. Beyond academia, he built community in New Haven, engaged local initiatives, and exhibited artwork at the Queer Centre, experiences that underscore Mwiti's inclusion and belonging. He plans to apply the skills and networks gained to advance food systems reform, climate adaptation, and resource governance across Sub-Saharan Africa.



### ZIŞAN ÖZDEMİR

*Master Student in Environmental Sciences. From: Bogaziçi University*  
*Project: Challenges and Considerations in the Adoption of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) Technologies in Developing Countries*

Zişan examined CCUS deployment in developing countries, focusing on Türkiye. She followed courses on carbon removal, the politics of climate solutions, and financing green technologies, connecting with scholars and practitioners. She presented her study at the Gordon Research Conference on CCUS, gaining valuable feedback and building connections. Culturally, she engaged climate-tech communities through HackSummit NYC and Yale Climate Week, joined the Green Innovator Cohort, and explored US cities while participating in New Haven's climate ecosystem. These experiences solidified her policy orientation. After the fellowship, she relocates to Brussels to join the Zero Emissions Platform as a Policy Assistant, supporting CCUS in Europe's net-zero pathway and translating research insights into advocacy and implementation.



### AYELEN PARDO

*Master Student in Economics. From: Universidad de San Andres*  
*Project: Gain for Today, Gain for Tomorrow. An Analysis on Environment, Social, and Governance Programs Working on the Inclusion to the Labor Market of Economically Marginalized Populations.*

Ayelen researches the integration of economically marginalized populations into labor markets, engaging Environmental Social and Governance economics-related debates. She strengthened communication and writing via the Fox fellowship and the Graduate Writing Lab workshops. Courses in Business Strategy and Sustainability (by Daniel Esty) and Impact Measurement in the Social Sector (by Raphael Duguay) deepened her analytic toolkit. Mentorship at the School of Management, including meetings with Pr. Todd Cort, and expanded access to specialized business publications refined her bibliographic base. She presented at the Latin American Sociology Association Congress and developed contacts linked to the World Economic Forum, informing forthcoming fieldwork. Relocating to New Haven with her family fostered resilience and cross-cultural understanding. She is now assisting an Argentine NGO on impact measurement, preparing funding proposals, and reassessing international academic opportunities inspired by her year at Yale.



### DYAH PRITADRAJATI

*PhD Candidate in Economics. From: Australian National University*  
*Project: Care, Careers, and Kinship: Kindergarten Enrollment and Women's Employment in Co-residential Extended Families*

Prita advanced her dissertation Essays on Labor and Family Economics, completing two empirical chapters and refining identification strategies. She engaged with the Economic Growth Center, Inclusion Economics, and MacMillan seminars. Connecting with researchers from these centers helped her re-situate her findings within broader debates on labour markets, social norms, and public policy in low- and middle-income countries. Prita also joined a Gender and Development reading group and audited Applied Empirical Methods. Workshops on policy research communication, GIS training, and a Graduate Writing Lab retreat provided her with technical skills and structure during the year. She presented at three conferences (North-East Universities Gender Day at Yale; East-West Center International Graduate Student Conference in Hawai'i; and Pacific Trade and Development in DC, where she also helped organize). Her cultural immersion through arts, traditions, and travel, as well as the supportive Fox cohort, deepened her perspective and confidence. Returning to Australia, she aims to connect rigorous research with policy impact on labor, gender, and development.



### PRASHANT RATHOR

*PhD Candidate in International Studies. From: Jawaharlal Nehru University*  
*Project: Cybersecurity Legislations and Regulatory Agencies in China: An Analysis of their Impact on Global Institutions and Global Norms Since 2014*

Prashant made progress on his research on China's cybersecurity strategy, presenting a paper in Chicago (his first US conference presentation) and revising a manuscript with guidance from Pr. Jamie Horsley at the Paul Tsai China Center. He broadened his methodological skills through seminars and workshops, emphasizing quantitative tools. The Fox cohort's diversity and Yale's inclusive culture fostered cross-cultural dialogue and personal growth. This year was also an opportunity to strengthen his English fluency and to become familiar with everyday American norms. Looking ahead, Prashant plans an academic career as an assistant professor and will continue improving his Chinese language skills while pursuing research on the global implications of China's cybersecurity policies.



### OCTAVIO SAMPAIO DE MOURA AZEVEDO

*PhD Candidate in Law. From: University of São Paulo*  
*Project: Free speech and role obligations: a theory of free speech or the Judiciary*

During his year at Yale, Octavio substantially advanced his dissertation in constitutional law. Meeting longtime mentor Robert Post at Yale Law School, and auditing his free speech course, represented a milestone in his academic life and helped him reshape core arguments of his doctoral work. He discussed his work with Pr. Brian Leiter in Chicago, whose work he had been translating in Portuguese, and presented at the 2025 Law and Society Annual Meeting. Octavio gained exposure to the teaching culture in American colleges through the undergraduate classes he audited. Cultural experiences, from joining a local boxing gym to visiting Philadelphia and Boston, broadened his perspective on the US and deepened his friendships within Yale Law and the Fox cohort. Next year he will participate in NYU's Colloquium in Legal, Political, and Social Philosophy while completing his dissertation and pursuing roles that combine teaching, constitutional law, and civil society engagement.





**JINGYUAN WU**

*PhD Candidate in International Studies. From: The University of Tokyo*  
*Project: Arrested Institutionalization: The Durable Yet Fragile China-Japan Environmental Cooperation from the 1970s to Today*

Jingyuan worked on her research on Japan-China environmental cooperation, publishing three articles, submitting two manuscripts, and presenting at seven conferences across the US, Europe, and Asia. At Yale, she engaged with courses and seminars in the School of the Environment, the Jackson School of Global Affairs, and the Political Science department, strengthening methods and networks. Culturally, she embraced the fellowship’s diversity, traveled widely in the US, and reflected on development models and internationalism, including a formative visit to the UN with the Fox fellowship. She plans to complete her PhD by 2026, publish the dissertation as a book, and pursue roles with international organizations focused on sustainability and global governance.



**SHUCHENG (TORI) YANG**

*PhD Candidate in Sociology. From: University of British Columbia*  
*Project: Shifting In/Visibilities: Chinese LGBTQ+ Migrants in North America*

Tori advanced and almost finished her dissertation and built two significant collaborations: a project on friendship and queer migration with a professor at UBC and a study of Chinese migrants with disabilities in the US with a researcher at Brandeis University, MA (18 interviews collected). She published in Gender & Society, submitted a co-authored manuscript, and presented at the Eastern and Pacific Sociological Association conferences. Tori was able to practice her job talk at Yale, across forums and workshops, including the Fox seminar. She strengthened her presentation skills and scholarly community ties. Culturally, she valued friendships across the Fox cohort and reconnection with activist networks, while Yale’s scholarly intensity inspired her to explore new directions beyond her initial research interests. She will pursue tenure-track or postdoctoral roles in North America and continue collaborative, community-engaged scholarship.



**RUOZHEN ZHAO**

*PhD Candidate in International Relations and Public Affairs. From: Fudan University*  
*Project: Power, Institution, and Relationality: Rethinking UN-NGO Collaboration in the Context of Global Governance*

Ruozhen significantly advanced her research on UN-NGO collaboration. She presented at two international conferences (the Barcelona Workshop on Global Governance and the Midwest Political Science Association), and submitted two journal articles to reputable Chinese academic journals, now under review. She received a home-university scholarship for what she was able to achieve academically while at Yale in 2024-2025. Yale’s libraries, workshops, and lectures, along with collaboration across the Fox cohort, strengthened analytical methods and enriched her research. Cultural exchange with fellows and travel to Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, and Los Angeles deepening her appreciation for the complexities and nuances of cross-cultural dialogue and global cooperation. She plans to complete her dissertation by 2026 and pursue a career in international cooperation and development, sustaining the networks built during the fellowship.



**TOBIAS ZIMMERMANN**

*PhD Candidate in Business & Economics. From: Freie University of Berlin*  
*Project: A Just Transition for Auto Workers? Employment and Restructuring in Transatlantic Comparison*

While at Yale, Tobias connected closely with the Center for Business and the Environment, joining the “2050 Fellows,” and attended seminars across the Yale School of Environment, the MacMillan Center, and the Political Science department. He presented his project at the Fox seminar and delivered two conference papers on the electric vehicles transition and labor in Québec, Canada and NYC, US. He also developed three working papers now under review or in edited volumes. During his time at Yale, Tobias received fruitful feedback from Pr. Kenneth Gillingham and Pr. Robert J. Klee (both at Yale School of Environment). The Fox cohort’s diversity and a year in the US deepened his transatlantic perspective amid shifting political contexts. He will finalize his PhD in 2025 and decide between a purely academic path or a hybrid career combining research with policy work in international or civil society organizations.



*The newly renovated Humanities Quadrangle (HQ), formerly known as the Hall of Graduate Studies, has been transformed from a historic building into a modern center for the humanities. The project added underground space, new classrooms, and collaborative lounges while preserving its Collegiate Gothic exterior.*



2024-2025 Outgoing Fox International Fellows



MICHAELA BAUMAN

*Yale College Graduate (Major: Global Affairs). To: University of São Paulo*  
*Project: US-Brazilian Security Cooperation in the Era of Great Power Competition*  
Michaela focused her research on US-Brazilian defense cooperation, engaging with Brazilian academics, military officials, and institutions such as the Escola de Comando e Estado-Maior do Exército and the Southeast Military Command. She audited courses at USP, assisted in teaching a graduate seminar on Great Power competition, and contributed to scholarly outputs, including an op-ed and a forthcoming chapter on Illicit Markets and Transnational Organized Crime in Latin America. To complement her academic work, Michaela interned with the American Chamber of Commerce in Brazil, where she supported bilateral business initiatives and organized an AI-focused delegation of Brazilian CEOs to the US. Beyond her research, Michaela immersed herself in Brazilian culture, traveled widely across the country, and deepened her Portuguese proficiency. Looking ahead, she plans to remain in Brazil, working in education consulting, pursuing short-term policy projects, and applying to USP’s master’s program beginning in 2026.



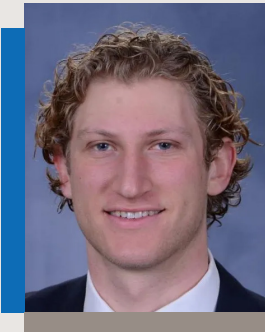
AYSE CICEK UNAL

*PhD Candidate in History. To: Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris*  
*Project: Exploring the Interplay of Maritime Warfare and Diplomacy in the Early Modern Mediterranean*  
Ayse advanced her dissertation research during her fellowship at Sciences Po, drawing on rich archival collections at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Archives nationales, and the Archives de Pierrefitte. She focused on correspondence between Algerian rulers and French officials as well as unpublished diplomatic reports from French consuls in Constantinople, shedding light on North African-European relations in the late seventeenth century. She participated actively in Parisian academic life, including events organized by the Center for History (notably the Islamic Manuscripts Codicology Week), Collège de France, Université Paris Cité, and École Pratique des Hautes Études. The city’s central position in Europe also allowed her to organize short research trips to major European archives. Beyond research, she immersed herself in Parisian cultural and academic institutions, exploring its museums, historic sites, and multicultural heritage. Looking ahead, she will continue writing her dissertation and pursue postdoctoral opportunities, including Marie Skłodowska-Curie and ERC projects, to build a long-term academic career.



LAUREN CRAWFORD

*PhD Candidate in Modern European History. To: Freie University of Berlin*  
*Project: Building “Fortress Europe:” 1979-2005*  
Lauren spent her fellowship year in Berlin advancing her dissertation research and strengthening her academic network. She attended colloquia at Freie Universität and other public institutions, presented her work in German for the first time, and participated in conferences including the German Studies Association and Yale’s Modern Europe Colloquium. She made extensive use of Berlin’s archives and libraries, drafting three dissertation chapters and preparing for further archival trips to Koblenz (Germany) and Florence (Italy). Alongside her research, she integrated into Berlin’s cultural life, improving her German through classes and language exchanges, joining a local food cooperative, and taking ceramics lessons. All of these experiences have enabled her to feel part of a community in Berlin. She will remain in Berlin through the end of 2025 to continue research and writing, aiming to submit her dissertation in 2026 and pursue an academic career, ideally through a postdoctoral fellowship and a book publication.



BEN FINKEL

*Yale College Graduate (Major: Environmental Studies) and Fox-Zucker Fellow. To: Copenhagen Business School*  
*Project: Wasted Wind: Feasibility and benefits of utilizing Denmark’s excess wind power generation to create Green Hydrogen via Hydrolysis.*  
During his fellowship year in Copenhagen, Ben worked on three major research projects on clean energy and shipping. He developed an economic model to assess optimal fuel choices for medium and small shipping companies, examined the implications of decentralized electricity markets for renewable integration, and explored links between shipping rate volatility and strategic transactions. He attended several impactful conferences including SustainED and the Maritime Research Alliance’s “AI disruption in chartering,” gaining valuable feedback and connections. Ben also audited courses on energy modeling and global economic transitions that enriched his interdisciplinary perspective. Beyond academics, Ben immersed himself in Copenhagen’s international environment and volunteered as head coach of a local high school football team, building lasting friendships and cultural ties. Looking ahead, he plans to stay in Scandinavia to play professional football in the Swedish SuperSerien Football League, before pursuing a career in clean energy through work in finance, an MA program and the development of a startup.



XIANDA HUANG

*Master Student at GSAS (Major: East Asian Studies). To: Australian National University*  
*Project: Exploring Politics and Popular Music in Modern Chinese History*  
At the Australian National University (ANU), Xianda advanced his research on Sino-Australian relations and the cultural history of modern China. He co-organized a reading group with faculty, participated in the ANU China Seminar Series, and presented at the Global China Conference in Melbourne. His archival research included work with the Morrison Collection the State Library of New South Wales, tracing Australia’s historical engagement with China, and culminated in an article in the ANU Reporter on the role of grassroots exchanges in bilateral relations. Beyond academics, Xianda integrated into the Graduate House community (a vibrant community of Ph.D. students and early-career scholars), celebrated Lunar New Year, and forged friendships through badminton and other shared cultural activities. Looking ahead, he will begin his PhD in Asian Languages and Cultures at UCLA, continuing his exploration of modern Chinese social and cultural history, with particular attention on popular culture and cinematic studies, with the goal of pursuing an academic career.



ALEXIS LUJAN ESPINOZA

*LLM Student. To: University of Melbourne*  
*Project: Reassessing Tax Advisors’ Ethical Duties in Light of the New Global Tax Agreement*  
During his year at the University of Melbourne, Alexis deepened his research on tax law under the mentorship of Pr. Miranda Stewart, whose multidisciplinary approach shaped his academic perspective. He presented his work at two leading Australian tax conferences in Canberra and Sydney, gaining feedback and professional exposure, and audited advanced courses in comparative taxation with visiting professors from Cambridge (Peter Harris) and Georgetown (Karen Brown). The supportive environment of Melbourne Law School enriched his academic development through exchanges with distinguished faculty, such as Sunita Jogarajan, Christine Parker, Julian Webb, Kathryn James, and Dale Smith. Beyond research, living in Melbourne provided important lessons in independence and adaptation. Through immersion in the city’s vibrant multicultural community, Alexis learned the differences and similarities in modern life in countries such as Australia, China, India, and Indonesia. Alexis will continue this trajectory as a JSD candidate at Yale Law School, advancing scholarship at the intersection of international taxation, professional ethics, and statutory interpretation.





## CLARA MARTNER SOTA

*LLM Student. To: University of San Andrés  
Project: Moral Luck and Criminal Procedure*

During her Fox Fellowship at Universidad de San Andrés, Clara advanced her dissertation project on the legal and moral foundations of hate crime legislation. Aside from her dissertation, she developed two complementary papers on transitional justice in Chile and Argentina and the problem of false negatives in the criminal justice system. She enriched her research through courses on gender and criminal law (by Ivana Bloch and María Luisa Piqué), participation in reading groups, and close exchanges with leading Argentinian scholars (including Marcelo Ferrante, Martín Bohmer, Ezequiel Monti, Alejandro Chehtman, Paola Bergallo, Luz Hornle, Ivana Bloch, and Ezequiel Malarino), which sharpened her theoretical grounding. She presented her work at major conferences in Argentina and Chile, gaining critical feedback and strengthening comparative dimensions of her research. Living in Buenos Aires during a turbulent political period gave Clara profound insights into the intersection of law, democracy, and social inequality, while also offering opportunities to connect with vibrant intellectual and civic communities at the university. Clara will continue this work in a DPhil program in Law at the University of Oxford, with the long-term goal of pursuing an academic career in Latin America.



## JAVIER PORRAS MADERO

*PhD Candidate in History. To: El Colegio de México  
Project: Revolution on the Line: State and Nation at the Mexico-Guatemala Border, 1931-1984*

As a Fox Fellow at El Colegio de México, Javier worked on his dissertation which deals with the formation of the Mexico-Guatemala border across the twentieth century by conducting extensive archival research. At the Foreign Relations Archive, he explored diplomatic correspondence and border commission records, while at the National General Archive he examined newly declassified intelligence documents, uncovering fresh perspectives on surveillance, migration, and smuggling. He also joined a graduate seminar on Central American revolutions, which enriched his methodological approach and built lasting connections with Mexican and Central American scholars. Beyond his academic work, Javier immersed himself in Mexico City's political and cultural life, attending rallies, university conferences, and the city's renowned book fair. These experiences deepened his understanding of Mexican society and its role in regional dynamics. Looking ahead, Javier will continue his archival research in Guatemala while beginning to draft his dissertation.



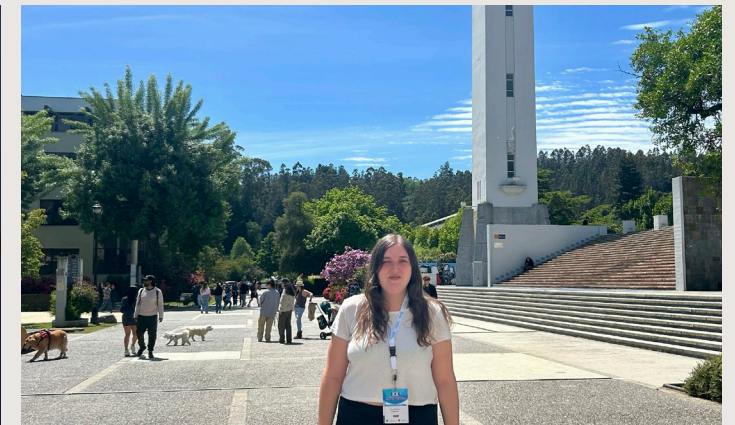
## XU ZHANG

*Master Student (Major: African Studies). To: University of Cape Town  
Project: Claiming the Waste: History, Precarity, and Community of Slag Dump in South Africa*

Xu's research examines informal mining in southern Africa, focusing on the precarious labor and social dynamics of Zama Zamas in South Africa. At the University of Cape Town, he collaborated with the Environmental Humanities South program, attending seminars, auditing courses, and engaging with leading African scholars whose work bridges social and natural sciences. He conducted impactful fieldwork in Stilfontein (a mining township in North West Province), documenting community responses to the "Close the Hole" operation, which caused the death of at least 87 Zama Zamas, and connecting with activists through the NGO MACUA (Mining Affected Communities United in Action). Beyond his academic pursuits, Xu immersed himself in South African culture, exploring Cape Town's historical landmarks, traveling to Johannesburg and Durban, strengthening his isiZulu, and sharing his Chinese heritage at cultural events. Looking ahead, he intends to pursue a PhD in African Studies and Anthropology, while first seeking experience in NGOs and policy-related institutions focused on mining, migration, and labor.



*Outgoing Fox Fellow, Xianda Huang, giving a presentation at the Australian National University*



*Outgoing Fellow Clara Martner Sota explored the campus before presenting at the XX Jornadas Nacionales de Derecho Penal y Ciencias Penales conference in Concepción, Chile, during her exchange at the University of San Andrés, Argentina.*

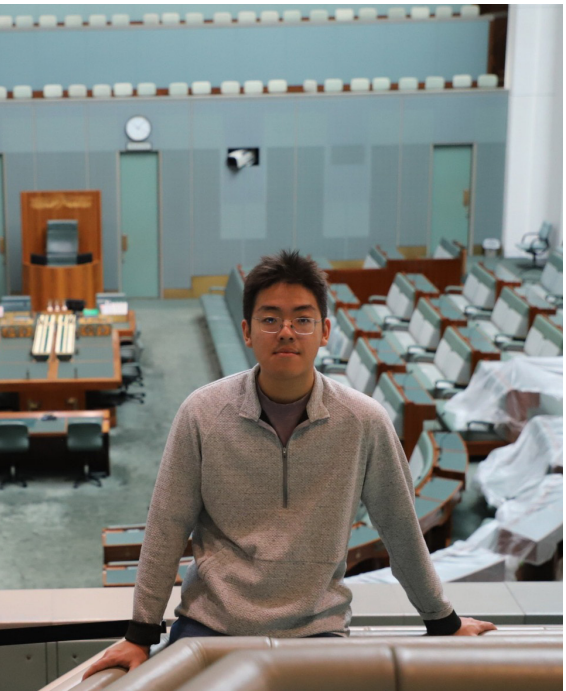


*Outgoing Fellow, Alexis Lujan Espinoza, completed a 20-page paper titled "Reexamining the Role of Tax Advisors: The Need for Global Standards in the Post-BEPS Era," which he presented in January 2025 at the ATTA Conference in Canberra during his exchange to the University of Melbourne.*



*Outgoing Fellow, Ayse Cicek Unal, on a guided tour of Versailles during her exchange at Sciences Po in Paris, France.*







# Yale MACMILLAN CENTER

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