

**BLOOMBERG
HARVARD**

City
Leadership
Initiative

Summer Fellows

Look Book 2023

cityleadership.harvard.edu



Pragn Aggarwal

AFFILIATION

Master in Public Policy
candidate
Harvard Kennedy School

FELLOWSHIP CITY

West of England, UK

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Unlocking Environmental
Action: Using Engagement
Insight to Shape Action

Pragn Aggarwal is a statistician turned public policy professional and comes from a multi-disciplinary background, having worked in consultancy, nonprofit, and state and local governments. He believes in good governance as a powerful lever of change to bridge social inequities and combat injustices. He has advised and aided the governments of Haryana and Delhi in India on issues including education, environment, COVID-19, and public service delivery. His work to combat female feticide and improve the Child Sex Ratio in Haryana was recognized by the Chief Minister of Haryana.

Away from school, Pragn likes to spend time in nature, going on long walks, trekking, reading, and at times cooking. He loves trying out new vegetarian dishes and hopes to find his Platform 9 3/4 one day to enter Hogwarts!



Tara Bassi

AFFILIATION

Master in Architecture I
candidate
Harvard Graduate School
of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Vancouver, WA

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Equity in Climate Action:
Establishing a Frontline
Communities Advisory Panel on
Climate Resilience and Mitigation

Tara Bassi is a third-year Master in Architecture I student at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. She spent the last year working at the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative with the City Hall Fellowship and the broader Initiative teams on program development, recruitment strategy, design research, and city and student engagement. She has also been involved with the Urban Legacy Lands Initiative in Indianapolis, a Cultural Heritage Development Corporation nonprofit focused on Black cultural heritage in community revitalization, real estate development, and place-making. Her work focuses on existing food systems in the Riverside neighborhood of Indianapolis, and involved strategies to move toward a well-being oriented future and a food-sovereign environment. She received her bachelor's degree from Pratt Institute in communications design. She enjoys playing chess and occasionally making earrings.



Robert Benner

AFFILIATION

Master in Urban Planning candidate
Harvard Graduate School of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Toledo, OH

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Crafting a Resident-Focused Smart City Strategy and Action Plan for Toledo

Rob Brenner is a Master in Urban Planning candidate at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He is dedicated to a public sector career where he can merge traditional urban planning methods with emerging technologies to create more equitable, sustainable, and healthy communities.

Before coming to Harvard, he worked for Transportation for America, a transportation policy and advocacy nonprofit, and Via, a public transit technology provider. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Vermont.



Alice Duncan-Graves

AFFILIATION

Master in Public Policy candidate
Harvard Kennedy School

FELLOWSHIP CITY

South Yorkshire, UK

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Net Zero by 2040: Using Data to Craft a Compelling Vision for a Sustainable Transition

Alice has been interested in local and regional government work for the last decade, because decisions made at this level have a direct impact on our daily lives. She spent the last five years working for the City of San Francisco in multiple positions from staff auditor to principal analyst, honing her management and analytic skills, confidence in her work, and developing an understanding of the importance of bringing people from different viewpoints together. She worked across two very different departments (the Housing Authority and the Controller's Office), and on projects that have touched over 10 agencies.

At the Harvard Kennedy School, Alice is improving her policy development and data analysis skills and is particularly interested in the intersection of data-informed decisions and policy implementation.



Alejandra Fernández

AFFILIATION

Master in Design Studies
Harvard Graduate School
of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Allentown, PA

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

City of Spanglish Speakers:
Solidifying Language Access
in Allentown

Alejandra is a Costa Rican architect with experience in the public and private sectors. She worked as a consultant for a government agency in her home country, where she was a part of a team developing a platform for innovation in participatory design and urban planning. She is the main editor of an award-winning research platform focusing on projects promoting spatial justice in Latin America. She is interested in exploring the intersection of design and public policy, with special emphasis on the Latin American region where she wants to build her career.

She is currently finishing her Master in Design Studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.



Mehvish Jamal

AFFILIATION

Master in Urban Planning
candidate
Harvard Graduate School
of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Lusaka, Zambia

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Improving Local Area Planning
Processes to be More Inclusive
and Replicable

Mehvish is an urban planner passionate about working with communities to leverage design, policy, and governance strategies, as well as heritage and culture, to strengthen citizens' sense of agency, identity, and power. Building on her background in equitable community development, she seeks to facilitate citizen-led human and urban development processes that foster new relationships of economic, social, and political power in cities globally. Mehvish is a Master in Urban Planning candidate from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and studied economics and international relations as a Frederick Douglass Distinguished Scholar at American University.

Previously, Mehvish worked with Building Bridges Across the River's 11th Street Bridge Park organization to transform an old highway bridge into a civic space connecting historically-divided communities. As grant and project manager, she oversaw the funding, implementation, and evaluation of community-generated equitable development strategies spanning affordable housing, workforce development, and small business investment.



Gabriel Kelvin

AFFILIATION

Master in Public Policy candidate
Harvard Kennedy School

FELLOWSHIP CITY

New Bedford, MA

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Permitting Process Improvements

Gabriel Kelvin is entering his second year as a Master of Public Policy candidate at Harvard Kennedy School and is originally from southern California. His work as a research assistant at HKS includes topics such as workforce development, cross-market economic concentration, and geospatial data analysis. His policy interests include economic development, job creation, and anti-poverty efforts.

Prior to HKS, he worked professionally as a research assistant in cyber defense and experimental wargaming, as a nonprofit development consultant, and as a news editor/reporter for local education and political topics. He received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California, Berkeley in 2022 and in 2021 was a recipient of the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award for Lifetime Achievement.



María José Milla Pavón

AFFILIATION

Master in Public Policy candidate
Harvard Kennedy School

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Durham, NC

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Equitable City Contracting: Increasing Participation of Minority and Women Underutilized Business Enterprises

María José was born and raised in Mexico. She is currently studying an MPP at HKS with a concentration in business and government. María has experience designing and implementing international development programs for the UK government in Mexico in policy areas such as urban sustainable mobility and net zero strategies for businesses and subnational governments. She also has experience and is passionate about working at the intersection of inclusive economic development and climate policy.



Alan Neider

AFFILIATION

Master in Business Administration candidate
Harvard Business School

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Cleveland, OH

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Creating Generational Wealth through Program Development for State Forfeiture Parcels

Alan grew up in New York and has since lived in Chicago and the Bay Area. He started his career at Accenture Strategy, where he developed experience across the healthcare system, enabling growth and innovation for governments, nonprofits, hospitals, and insurance companies. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Alan transitioned to a digital health startup, where he partnered with city departments of education and health to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools and communities.

He graduated from Northwestern University with a bachelor's degree in political science and is currently pursuing his MBA at Harvard Business School. In his spare time, you'll find him playing a racket sport or attempting to rock climb.



Olivia Novick

AFFILIATION

Master in Public Policy candidate
Harvard Kennedy School

FELLOWSHIP CITY

West Yorkshire, UK

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Engaging the Private Rented Sector in Retrofitting

Olivia has more than five years of consulting and public sector-oriented experience with a focus on financial and identity management, user coverage expansion, and direct service in homeless shelters. During this time, she developed expertise in cross-sector partnerships, clinical and policy research, team and project management, and process improvement. In her work as a public sector consultant at Boaz Allen Hamilton and as finance director at the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter, Olivia has tried to consistently orient herself at the intersection of multiple sectors with the goal of furthering public sector goals and positive social outcomes.

Olivia graduated cum laude from Harvard College in 2017, where she studied history of science and folklore and mythology. She is now pursuing a Master in Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School, with a concentration in social and urban policy and a focus on affordable housing and homelessness advocacy.



Oghenetega Ogodo

AFFILIATION

Master in Urban Planning candidate
Harvard Graduate School of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Rochester, NY

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Let's All Eat: Improving Access to Healthy Foods and Reducing Health Disparities

Oghenetega is a Master in Urban Planning candidate interested in social equity and international development. She has worked on projects focused on equitable access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene services (WASH) and supported advocacy campaigns for wetland protection in flood-prone communities in Nigeria. Oghenetega is currently exploring opportunities for food equity in vulnerable communities while using data to advocate for environmental and social justice in cities across the Global South.



Aundrey Page

AFFILIATION

Doctor in Education Leadership candidate
Harvard Graduate School of Education

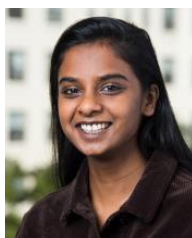
FELLOWSHIP CITY

Milwaukee, WI

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Establishing and Developing a Municipal Community Court

Aundrey Page is an award-winning executive coach, public speaker, education thought leader, and the founder of AD Page Consulting, a management consulting firm that strives to create anti-racist learning environments grounded in equity for all. A former high school principal, vice principal of instruction, and high school mathematics teacher, with experience across Georgia, California, and Massachusetts, Aundrey has a track record of success as one of his schools was named the #1 High School in the Bay Area according to U.S. News and World Report for its outstanding student academic achievement. Aundrey has expertise in strategic planning, cross-functional team collaboration, and developing equitable theories of change that support organizations in achieving equitable outcomes. He is currently working towards his doctorate in Education Leadership from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.



Jessica Shakesprere

AFFILIATION

Master in Urban Planning candidate
Harvard Graduate School of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Glasgow, Scotland

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Advancing Glasgow's GreenPrint for Investment and Green New Deal

Jess is a first-year Harvard Graduate School of Design candidate concentrating in urban design as well as environment, climate, and health planning. Before coming to graduate school, they worked at the Urban Institute, conducting quantitative and qualitative research and providing technical assistance on place-based initiatives to expand green space equity, affordable housing, and creative place-making.



Naman Sharma

AFFILIATION

Master in Urban Planning candidate
Harvard Graduate School of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Riverside, CA

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Supporting and Further Strengthening Civic Engagement Efforts in Riverside

Naman Sharma is a Master in Urban Planning candidate (2024) at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. His fundamental belief in making cities better places to live for all is guiding his mission of empowering communities to harness their full potential. His professional and academic work reflects his commitment towards improving the paradigms of urban growth by leveraging the amalgamation of design, policy, and technology.

Naman has worked extensively with the national and city governments in India, addressing issues in public sector design, data-driven governance, and evidence-based planning. He led the capacity building of urban leaders across 100 smart cities in India to augment their comprehension of child-friendly cities, healthy cities, urban mobility, and water security.

Naman holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Roorkee, India. An entrepreneur at heart, he has won the Open Innovation Challenge for Building Smart Cities by the University of California, Berkeley, and was featured among the top 30 innovators of 2020 by the government of India.



Sharon Welch

AFFILIATION

Master in Design Studies
Harvard Graduate School
of Design

FELLOWSHIP CITY

Monterrey, Mexico

FELLOWSHIP SCOPE

Government Digitalization:
Establishing the Data Foundations
for Monterrey's Smart City Agenda

Sharon holds a master's degree in design studies from the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Her work focuses on the intersections of design and policy, with a particular interest in how participatory design processes can create more just built environments and shift public policy to encompass all citizens' needs.

