



WILLIAM & MARY WASHINGTON CENTER

Summer 2020

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Hello there! My name is Mariana Eraña Salmerón and I am a rising senior majoring in Global Studies and minoring in French & Francophone Studies. I am originally from Mexico and after living in four countries, traveling to 23 others and studying abroad three times, I knew I wanted to be part of an international community, getting to know other peoples' cultures.



Since my freshman year I planned to study in D.C., and last summer I had the opportunity to participate in the Leadership & Community Engagement Institute. I appreciated deeply the experiential learning nature of this program as we went on visits all over the city and heard speakers of non-profits, media outlets, and branches of the government share about their leadership models and mission to better the community. I believe this program helped us transfer the skills we learned on campus to building our career paths during our internships and networking. In fact, during my internship with Generation Hope I was able to redirect my interest in podcasts and community outreach to create a podcast mini-series showcasing the inspirational stories of GH's scholars. My experience with the W&M Washington Center has been incredibly fruitful and I have since become a D.C. Peer Ambassador.

My interest in learning about people and in turn support them to accomplish their own goals have sparked my interest for education and non-profit work after graduation, particularly regarding student and career development. I am excited about all the possibilities this senior year has in store for me and the W&M community!

FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

William & Mary's future has always been illuminated by its past. In exploring that past too often our focus has been on the more noble elements of our history, ignoring or under-emphasizing the significant and very ugly chains that also bind our history. These last few months are a fresh and painful reminder that human history has never been an inexorable climb toward progress. Disease, injustice, and violence coexist with liberty, tolerance, and opportunity. If we don't truly recognize that historic and ongoing struggle for progress, and the numerous failures to achieve it, we will fail to gain the better understanding of our history necessary for a more inclusive and prosperous future.

I am so proud of the work William & Mary has committed to better understand and be reconciled to its past through efforts like the Lemon Project, and the construction of the Memorial to African Americans Enslaved by William & Mary. I am also very proud William & Mary is fully committed to the place at the center of our nation's struggle for a better future, Washington, D.C.

The William & Mary Washington Center is our foothold in the nation's capital where students live, learn, and work amidst the most important debates of our age. We are preparing them to be leaders our world so badly needs, and that mission is more vital now in 2020 than ever before. We hope you will join us in this important work by visiting the Center and participating in its programs, and by contributing to support scholarships so more students can come to D.C. to take their place as our shared future unfolds.



-Scott Wilkinson '94, M.B.A. '99

THE 2020 D.C. SUMMER INSTITUTES AT A GLANCE

We are excited that we were still able to run the D.C. Summer Institutes despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to our amazing faculty, staff, and alumni, students were able to have rewarding, transformative experiences.



35
students participating
in internships



15
alumni mentors



\$30,000
awarded in scholarship funds

THE WASHINGTON CENTER & THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Following university policies and protocols, the Washington Center pivoted and was able to modify operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Both our D.C. Summer Institutes and our D.C. Summer Session moved to a 100% remote model. Additionally, we were able to continue to offer wonderful event programming for W&M faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

With W&M employees shifting working remotely, many of our team members are now able to serve on a variety of campus-wide teams including the Unified Communications Team, Career Pathways Team and Staff Assembly.

We look forward to continuing to serve the entire W&M community when we're able to return to the office in person.

ONLINE EVENTS

To view recordings of any of our online events from spring and summer 2020, please visit www.wm.edu/dc/onlineevents

W&M D.C. LICENSE PLATE

Help W&M make a D.C. W&M license plate a reality! Visit tinyurl.com/DCplate to submit an interest form.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Follow us!



facebook.com/WMDCCenter



[@WMDCCenter](https://twitter.com/WMDCCenter)



[@wm_washington](https://www.instagram.com/wm_washington)



[wm.edu/dc/linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wm-edu-dc/)

Support the Study in D.C. Scholarship Fund

Support students studying in D.C. by visiting www.wm.edu/dc/giving

2019-2020 Annual Report

We invite you to explore our 2019-2020 Annual Report at www.wm.edu/dc/annualreport. In it, we discuss further the changes that we made in response to the current pandemic and highlight many of our accomplishments of the past year.

Strategic Plan

We look forward to sharing our first-ever Washington Center Strategic Plan with everyone in the W&M community. Stay tuned to your email for updates!