

MEET THE 2016/2017 UofMOSAIC FELLOWS @ UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, ST. GEORGE CAMPUS



Anah Mirza

decolonization | engagement | mentorship

Anah Mirza is a 4th year student pursuing a double major in Ethics, Society & Law, and Peace, Conflict & Justice alongside a minor in Political Science at the **University of Toronto, St. George Campus**. Academically, her areas of interest are situated within development studies, comparative politics and foreign policy. Of particular interest to her are issues of migration and displacement, as they present a unique intersection between the realm of domestic policy and the international arena. On campus, she has involved herself in initiatives involving research, mentorship and student governance. Most prominently, she has served on the program team for the Global Ideas Institute, a year-long global innovation challenge aimed at high school students. Anah hopes the Fellowship will be an opportunity to render academic space on campus more accessible, so as to facilitate more nuanced dialogue. She looks forward to bringing attention to underserved perspectives and contextualizing them.



Naveeda Hussain

justice | conflict | globalization

Naveeda Hussain is a final year student at the **University of Toronto, St. George Campus** majoring in International Relations and Peace, Conflict and Justice Studies, and minoring in French. As a global citizen, her passion for human rights and international cooperation has manifested itself through her roles as a writer, researcher, and intern in Canada and abroad. She has blogged for an African media organization in Toronto; interned for a child rights organization in India, studied international criminal justice in the Netherlands, and served as the Political Intern at the Canadian Embassy in Myanmar while conducting research on the country's peace process. Through this Fellowship, Naveeda hopes to develop an understanding of the challenges and intricacies of building international coalitions to resolve conflict, while understanding how to constructively engage in dialogue to arrive at comprehensive and sustainable solutions



Milen Melles

history | Africa | community

Milen is entering her 2nd year at the **University of Toronto, St. George Campus** where she specializes in History and majors in Diaspora and Transnational Studies. As a child of Eritrean immigrants, she has grown a fondness for her heritage and the ways in which culture is expressed in her diaspora community. This passion of hers has transpired into her academic interests, which lean towards studying the identities of people like herself, and the complex histories of the Afro-descendant community. With such in mind, the issues which call her to action are those relating to topics of displacement, racism, xenophobia, post-colonial conflict, etc., and of these most are related to the global Afro diaspora. Besides academics, Milen also writes commentaries for her university paper, participates in Young Diplomats community youth group in Toronto, as well as being the education & outreach representative for her school Black Student Association.



Nishani Chankar

social | economic | global

Nish Chankar is a 3rd year student at the **University of Toronto St. George Campus**, and is currently working towards a double major in Economics and International Relations. With a focus in development economics, Nish has completed an internship with a local non-profit organization centred on resource accessibility within the City of Toronto, and has an ongoing independent research project at the University of Toronto on the Government of Ontario's recent basic income pilot project. Outside of the classroom, Nish is quite involved with both the University of Toronto Students' Union, serving as the Board's Women's Director, and with Trinity College, where she has been elected to serve as co-Head of College for the 2016-2017 academic year. With the hopes of unifying her university's diverse activist voices, Nish intends on spending her time as a Fellow with the Mosaic Institute on creating a better platform for both contribution and collaboration.



Matthew Lipton

conflict resolution | security studies | Middle East

Matthew Lipton is a final year student at the **University of Toronto, St. George Campus** majoring in Peace, Conflict and Justice Studies, with a double minor in Political Science and Buddhism, Psychology and Mental Health. His academic interests lie in Conflict Resolution, International Security Studies, Human Security, and the politics of the Middle East. Matthew recently returned from Israel, Palestine, and Turkey where he was researching the dynamics of intractable conflict as a barrier to peace. He also served as a national election observer in the June 2015 Turkish General Elections, and volunteered in Southeastern Turkey providing humanitarian aid to victims of displacement. Matthew is a strong believer in the power of creating meaningful discourse on divisive issues as a path to facilitate mutual understanding between divergent actors. Also working as a creative consultant, Matthew hopes to pursue his passion for music at the same time as his academic ambitions.