



ASIAN UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

Annex I: JKSK Scholar Profiles

Azra Jawaid | Class of 2018 | Bihar, India | Environmental Sciences

Azra joined AUW from Bihar, India in 2014 and is majoring in Environmental Science. Although her courses have been intensive and tiring, Azra has found an effective pace for her studies, and manages to have fun at the same time! Beside her studies, she has pursued internship and research opportunities; with the Ford Foundation, Azra found interviewing 200 people in her own community to be a great learning experience. Her time spent in Tokyo with JKSK was extremely rewarding both professionally and personally; she visited and worked with 5 companies, and got to meet JKSK members from around the world.



Azra plans to publish her senior thesis, on Air Pollution in Patna, Bihar, and she will present her findings at the upcoming International Conference on Science and Technology. She is looking forward to developing her professional experience and employability in the coming year, before pursuing graduate education.

On her recent trip to Cox's Bazaar, Azra had the opportunity to spend a final weekend with her batchmates, a weekend full of singing, eating, dancing, and making memories. Azra has taken advantage of the diverse liberal arts curriculum at AUW, and has had the chance to explore her various interests and capabilities, while always keeping a positive mindset.





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Lisha Subba | Class of 2018 | Thimphu, Bhutan | Public Health

Although Lisha is majoring in Public Health, she has benefited from the diverse liberal arts curriculum offered at AUW; this semester, her courses range from drama to anthropology. Lisha sees great value in the critical thinking skills she has learned at AUW, which help her to take a broader view of her studies as well as her home country, Bhutan.

The JKSK Internship in which Lisha participated in July 2017 gave her the chance to meet inspiring people from around the world. She learned a great deal about professionalism and thoroughly enjoyed the chance to network and get out of her comfort zone. Lisha brought these skills to her senior thesis research, on “Attitudes, Knowledge and Perception of Contraceptive Use,” where she acted as the Principal Investigator and managed a team.



Lisha has fond memories of her recent batch trip to Cox’s Bazaar, and she feels very grateful for all her friendships that have blossomed at AUW, friendships that will endure long past graduation. Lisha looks forward to making more memories in her final semester, and will be enthusiastically participating in various cultural events around campus. Although preparation and applications for graduate education are a challenge, Lisha is open to all opportunities and possibilities presented to her. This summer, she is hoping to be involved in a summer exchange programme in South Korea.

Rakhshinda Shakir | Class of 2018 | Pakistan | Politics, Philosophy, and Economics

In addition to her major courses in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics, Rakhshinda has benefited greatly from the diversity around her at AUW. Having felt very at home on campus, Rakhshinda has been able to meet people and experience the beauty of diversity beyond her books.

Although Rakhshinda sees great cultural variation in her classmates, ultimately she has learnt that people are more similar than they are different. She has applied this passion for equality to her fight against injustice; she addresses global issues and writes about her ideas on her online blog.

At AUW, Rakhshinda has found her voice and her leadership potential, and she is excited to return to Pakistan and start working to help women in her own community. Her ultimate goal is to set up a chain of development projects to encourage women’s empowerment in underprivileged areas. Rakhshinda’s courses have taught her the value of helping marginalised women to help themselves, and giving them power over decision making.





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Sumaiya Sharmin | Class of 2018 | Chittagong, Bangladesh | Economics

Sumaiya is majoring in Economics and has focused her final semester courses on gaining technical scientific skills as well as broadening her interests to include climate change and the environment. She looks forward to gaining useful professional experience before she goes into graduate education. Sumaiya already has internship experience at Bank Asia and Alpha Islamic Life Insurance, but she found her internship with JKSK to be the most memorable and rewarding.



Sumaiya is originally from Chittagong, and joining AUW has taught her to really value and celebrate the diversity that she sees around her. On her recent batch trip to Cox's Bazaar, Sumaiya regretted that she would soon be parting ways with her friends, but also saw the unity and solidarity of her batch. She looks forward to actively participating in the graduation celebrations of the coming months, and she is on the committee for the first day of spring in February, to arrange the festivities.

Sumaiya is very excited about her graduation, and wants to make everyone who believed in her proud. She found the support of JKSK to be invaluable, and she can't wait for them to see her graduate!

Susan Sitoula | Class of 2018 | Nepal | Public Health

Susan joined AUW in 2014 and, although she is majoring in Public Health, she has pursued broad and diverse courses as an undergraduate. She benefited greatly from her JKSK Internship, where she enjoyed the chance to work closely with various companies, network, and gain experience that will be useful in her future.



Susan has found the multicultural environment at AUW to be very rewarding, and it has given her a new lens through which to look at the world. She has gained great sympathy for the people around her, and has a much broader perception of the world she lives in. At the Asian University for Women Model United Nations conference in 2015, Susan's diplomacy and critical thinking skills were recognised, and she won Best Position Paper.

Although balancing preparation for graduate school and her courses, Susan has been very excited about her senior thesis, on "Language Development of Toddlers in Nepali." Susan has also committed herself to the development of a campus television network, with the aim of producing content and facilitating communication amongst the student body. In her last semester, Susan is finding an important balance between planning for the future and making the most of her time with friends and professors.

