


Fulbright Reimagined Summit ²⁰²⁶

● Artificial Intelligence Horizons:

Learning pathways for Tomorrow



Concept Note & Agenda

June 18 and 19, 2026



U.S. Embassy Bogotá



FULBRIGHT
Colombia





DAY 1

FULBRIGHT WHA

Commissions Leadership Session

In the framework of the Fulbright Reimagined Summit.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

The day before the Fulbright Reimagined Summit 2026, the Fulbright WHA Commissions will convene for a dedicated leadership session to explore how artificial intelligence is transforming the operational landscape of academic exchange programs. This session creates a protected space — among peers — to share honest progress, learn from concrete examples, and collectively map how AI can strengthen the impact, efficiency, and sustainability of Fulbright commissions across the region.

Fulbright Colombia will serve as the host commission and will share firsthand examples of AI integration in its programs, communications, and administrative operations, framing the conversation with a practical, action-oriented spirit.

Session Objectives

- Provide a structured overview of the current AI landscape relevant to Fulbright commission operations.
- Share concrete examples from Fulbright Colombia as a starting point for peer dialogue.
- Identify common operational challenges across Western Hemisphere commissions that AI could address.
- Produce a set of shared priorities and potential collaborative actions for the region.

2:00 – 2:15

OPENING & FRAMING

Welcome remarks — Giovanni Anzola, Executive Director, Fulbright Colombia



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2:15 – 3:00

LANDSCAPE OVERVIEW: AI & ACADEMIC EXCHANGE OPERATIONS

The Colombia Experience

Before mapping the broader landscape, Fulbright Colombia opens with its own experience as a commission navigating AI adoption.

Part A - Challenges and Advances in AI Use Policy

Fulbright Colombia shares the process of developing an internal AI use policy: what prompted it, the institutional debates it generated, the principles adopted. This case invites peer commissions to reflect on their own governance frameworks.

Part B - AI in Practice: Three Operational Areas

A focused overview of how Fulbright Colombia is applying AI across three areas, offered as a peer reference.

- Strategic planning: using AI to analyze program data, scenario-build, and support decision-making
- Communications: content generation, translation, social media, and event production
- Program operations: optimizing administrative tasks, scholar communications, and reporting workflows

3:00 – 3:15

TRANSITION & INSTRUCTIONS FOR WORKING TABLES

Working Table Setup

Participants divide into three simultaneous thematic tables (rotating facilitators). Each table works for 50 minutes and prepares a 5-minute synthesis for the closing plenary. Commissions are distributed across tables to maximize cross-country exchange.

Mesa 1

Operations & Efficiency

Mesa 2

Scholar Experience

Mesa 3

Institutional Intelligence



3:15 – 4:05

SIMULTANEOUS WORKING TABLES (40 min.)

MESA 1: AI for Commission Operations & Efficiency

Focus: Where can AI reduce administrative burden and free staff for higher-value work?

MESA 2: AI for Scholar Experience

Focus: How can AI improve the scholar journey and ensure the human dimension of Fulbright remains central?

MESA 3: AI for Institutional Intelligence & Impact

Focus: How can AI help commissions know more, remember more, and communicate impact better?

4:05 – 4:45

CLOSING PLENARY: SYNTHESIS & SHARED PRIORITIES

From Tables to a Regional Roadmap

Each table presents a 5-minute synthesis covering: key insights, one shared challenge, and one concrete recommendation. The facilitator synthesizes across tables and guides a 20-minute collective discussion toward shared priorities.

- Table presentations (5 min. each × 3 tables = 15 min.)
- Facilitator synthesis: identifying patterns, tensions, and opportunities across all three tables
- Collective prioritization: identifying the thematic areas where commissions see the greatest potential to work jointly — building shared frameworks, tools, or approaches across WHA on a follow-up mechanism: shared document and working group.

4:45 – 5:00

CLOSING & NEXT STEPS

WHA Commissions or Posts may propose topics or experiences to be shared during this session. Please write to dsierra@fulbright.edu.co for more info.



DAY 2

FULBRIGHT REIMAGINED SUMMIT

Concept Note

The Fulbright Reimagined Summit 2.0 will convene thought leaders, innovators, and scholars to explore how education, politics and social development have been reshaped by artificial intelligence in the global landscape of work, governance, and knowledge. AI is not only a technological revolution, it is a cultural and institutional shift that demands new approaches to professions, ethical frameworks, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

In this sense, this summit will highlight:

- **AI as a driver of global futures:** From climate resilience to governance, AI is embedded in the agendas shaping tomorrow's world.
- **Emerging professions:** Data ethicists, AI policy advisors, human-AI interaction designers, and global knowledge brokers are redefining the labor market.
- **Fulbright's role:** As a bridge between cultures and disciplines, Fulbright scholars are uniquely positioned to lead conversations on responsible innovation and inclusive futures.

The event will combine visionary keynotes, expert panels, and reflective dialogues to inspire actionable pathways for academia, policy makers, industry and civil society.



Proposed Agenda

- **Date:** June 19th, 2026
- **Venue:** Universidad del Norte, Edificio de Ingenierías. Bloque K. Salón Borís Rosanía - 31K
- **Time:** 8:00 – 16:00

Registration opens at 7:30am (Coffee and snacks available)

Language: English

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Welcome Remarks

- Adam J. Lenert (Acting PAO U.S. Embassy) & Adolfo Meisel Roca (Rector): Welcome remarks
- Giovanni Anzola (Executive Director of Fulbright Colombia): Framing the Summit: Fulbright as a catalyst for reimagining futures

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Panel Discussion: AI and Global Future Agendas

How AI Intersects Social Development, Governance, and Global Cooperation

- **Panelists:**

Ricardo Arjona - Pasaporte a la Ciencia, 2015

Ricardo Arjona Angarita, Ph.D., is a Computer Systems Engineer at Apple in Cupertino, California, where he specializes in embedded software and wireless systems. He holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas at Dallas, where his research focused on Internet of Things (IoT) platforms, Sub-1GHz wireless sensor networks, and interference reduction in TSCH networks. Previously, Dr. Arjona served as a Professor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar in Colombia for over six years, leading research projects funded by COLCIENCIAS. A former Fulbright-Colfuturo scholar and AT&T Labs intern, his expertise spans the modeling, simulation, and optimization of wireless communications and advanced IoT backhaul architectures.



Mariana Arboleda - Fulbright Visiting Scholar 2024

Mariana Arboleda is a doctoral student in education at Universidad del Norte and a former Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the University of Virginia. Her research focuses on how students learn data science and machine learning. She holds degrees in Production Engineering and Engineering and has professional experience as a data scientist, as well as extensive teaching experience with children, adolescents, and university students in computational thinking, programming, and data science.

Dr. Claudia Garcia Wagner - Harvard Association

Claudia Garcia-Wagner is the President of the MIT-Harvard Club of Colombia and the Director of Innovation at Guerrero & Asociados PI. With over 20 years of expertise in intellectual property, technology transfer, and intangible asset valuation, she bridges the gap between academia, industry, and government. She holds an MBA from Universidad EAFIT and a postgraduate degree in Sustainability from Harvard University. Her distinguished career includes serving as an advisor to the Superintendence of Industry and Commerce of Colombia and consulting for the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Currently, she focuses on fostering strategic alliances and developing sustainable business models to drive innovation across Latin America.

- **Moderator:**

Natalia Barrero - Hubert H. Humphrey 2026

International business professional with a master's degree in analytics, bringing over 12 years of experience in digital transformation, data analytics, and artificial intelligence applied to public policy. She currently serves as an Advisor on Digital Economy at MinTIC and is the co-founder of an impact-driven company focused on equitable access to data and AI. Her career spans the public sector, consulting, and academia. Her project focuses on designing ethical frameworks and public policies for inclusive artificial intelligence, promoting the reduction of gaps and strengthening female talent in STEM.

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Keynote Address: Geospatial Data Science as a Pathway to the Future: Insights from Antarctic Research



Natalia Jaramillo Machuca

Fulbright Scholar and a Ph.D. student in Natural Resources at the University of Idaho's College of Natural Resources. Specializing in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing, her research focuses on monitoring Antarctic vegetation and assessing the environmental impacts of tourism on sensitive ecosystems. With over ten years of experience, she serves as a researcher for the Colombian Antarctic Program and has previously acted as a Scientific Advisor on Antarctic Affairs for the Colombian Ocean Commission. A recipient of the "Espíritu Antártico" Military Medal, Natalia integrates satellite imagery and UAV technology to support sustainable resource management. Her work has led her to implement spatial analysis technologies to assess the impact of human activity on polar regions.

- 35 minutes presentation + 25 minutes Q&A

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Coffee Break & Networking

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

AI Horizons for Entrepreneurship and Employability: Scaling the Talent of Tomorrow

Gregg Bauer

CEO, Scaleup Labs | Expert in Startup Scaling and Digital Transformation. Technology innovation strategist and business transformation expert focused on how AI redefines business models and entrepreneurship ecosystems. His experience spans the scaling of startups in high-uncertainty contexts, with particular attention to emerging markets in Latin America. Brings the private sector perspective on the competencies that organizations will demand in an environment dominated by generative AI, and on how academic programs — including Fulbright — must evolve to meet these needs.

- 35 minutes presentation + 25 minutes Q&A



11:45 – 12:45 p.m.

Closing Panel: From Adopters to Architects: Professions of Tomorrow

- **Panelists**

Dr. Jose Fernando Florez - Visiting Scholar 2020

Jose Fernando Florez is the Director of the Ph.D. program in Political Studies at Universidad Externado de Colombia. A Colombian political scientist and public policy analyst, he was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar in 2020 at Johns Hopkins University. He is recognized for his active engagement in academic communities and his analysis of how institutional modernization and digital tools influence political landscapes. His academic contributions emphasize the intersection of governance, public policy, and democratic stability. In the context of the summit, he brings an essential perspective on how the regulation and adoption of artificial intelligence must be framed within the humanitarian and social sciences to ensure technology serves the public interest and strengthens the rule of law.

Dr. Camilo Vieira - Visiting Scholar 2022

Camilo Vieira (Fulbright Visiting Scholar 2022) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Education at Universidad del Norte and coordinator of the Educational Informatics research group. He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering from Purdue University and was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the University of Virginia in 2022. His research explores the development of computational thinking across educational levels and the use of computational methods to study learning and teaching processes.

Dr. Brian Gillikin - U.S. Specialist 2025

PhD Fellow at the United Nations University – MERIT and Maastricht University, as well as a data scientist and technical leader at IBM. His work focuses on applying data analytics, AI, and socio-technical approaches to challenges in sustainable development, disaster resilience, and data-scarce environments.





- **Moderator:**

Giovanni Anzola - Executive Director Fulbright Colombia

Giovanni Anzola-Pardo is the Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission Colombia. He holds a Ph.D in Development Studies from the Nelson Mandela University, M.A. in Education, Sp. in University Teaching and a B.A. in Education. Complementary studies at Harvard University (HBS-Publishing house), Saint Louis University and the University of Oldenburg give him a comprehensive profile as a recognized lecturer and speaker. Has served as board member in several organizations dedicated to building bridges through academic diplomacy, exchanges and strategic leadership.

- Focus: What professions will emerge, how academia must adapt, and how Fulbright can lead to shaping new futures.

12:45 p.m.

Lunch for Special Guests

- Networking and cultural exchange to close the Summit.

14:00 – 16:00

Private networking sessions with speakers-researchers / Uninorte 103.1 FM moment