



Director Emeritus, Mariano Guzmán: [Mike's Tuesday address](#) and his focus on freedom was absolutely lifting, especially at this time. The sense of family and unconditional love from all Scholars was emotional, fulfilling and very special. I felt inextricably connected and grateful. We need to keep paying it forward.

Judit Tejada, MS '92: As a returning participant, I see a concerted effort to widen the representation of panelists, panels and attendees...it remains the most unique gathering I have ever been to.

Chinweze Ahaghotu, MS '96: Energized by the incredible GC25 sessions, conversations and connections; and inspired to improve our shared future.

Susan Lee, MS '96: I was just thinking how never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined a scholarship from 1996 would take me here in 2025. I'm just very grateful.

Casey Noel, MS '97: GC25 provided me a seat at a very exclusive table where I was able to feed on invaluable content and come away with new perspectives and companions. Now I will return to my community to synthesize, share and shore up new pathways to multiply positive impact. Thank you to the entire Milken family for my inaugural GC!

Serge Sverdlov, MS '97: Mood of the conference this year is unusually split between optimism at technology and deregulation possibilities, and fear of the fall in science and health investment; many public figures were more thoughtful, uncertain, than their public image.

Frances Lu-Pai Ippolito, MS '98: Pick a hard problem, solve it together. GC25 affirmed (again) that nothing is impossible if we commit to making the world a better place through mutual respect, dialogue, and the sharing of opportunities.

Alex Kipnis, MS '98: It was deeply meaningful to hear incredible thought leaders address today's challenges, discuss actionable solutions, and offer reasons for profound hope for where we're headed as a humanity. And the company is pretty solid too.

Marcel Anderson, MS '99: As an Alumni Scholar, GC25 created an opportunity to reconnect with younger scholars and to engage in critically important conversations about AI and the future of our world with policy leaders, philanthropists, and business leaders who are at the helm. The conversations I had during GC25 inspired me.

Diana Hong, MS '99: Global Conference is a place where people spark ideas, deals, and actions.

Maro Sciacchitano, MS '99: I asked to come to the conference this year for personal and professional reasons but came away with a deeply profound appreciation for all my fellow scholars and the people who've made all this possible.

Michael Terry, MS '00: As a returning Scholar at Global, I've once again been inspired by the energy and optimism of some of the world's smartest and most influential people, as we come together to tackle society's biggest challenges.

Henry Horton, MS '01: The Milken Global Conference has once again energized and inspired me to continue following my dreams. This year, seeing so many people I consider friends and family, brought me a sense of real happiness and peace. It couldn't have come at a better time.

[Nuria Santamaria Wolfe](#), MS '01: The GC25 conference is a place for big and bold ideas. I left inspired by leaders across industries who are not only imagining but are also building the future, in the midst of great change. It was energizing to be in this powerful space, and to do so in community with the Milken Scholars and staff.

[Julija Zubac](#), MS '01: GC25 is the kind of solutions oriented and innovative space that we need to solve pressing challenges. I was energized by the collaborative spirit across industries, countries, and perspectives.

[Nicole Villasin](#), MS '02: I came to GC25 for inspiration as I figure out this next chapter in my work life, and that is 100% what I received - from reconnecting with this amazing cohort of Milken Scholar Alumni & staff, to witnessing incredible speakers discuss things like what it means to rest, mindfulness, and how to rebuild a vibrant community after tragedy.

[Marisol Leon](#), MS '03: The GC25 gives me hope that despite the very dark times we're living through in this moment in history, another world is possible and worth fighting to build.

[Angelina Calderon](#), MS '06: I'm so grateful for the opportunity to join GC25 and learn from leaders across so many fields; in just one day, I'm taking away gems that I can apply to my personal and professional life.

[Manav Sidhu](#), MS '06: GC25 felt like being in the room where the future is being imagined -full of big ideas, bold leaders, and real momentum. Very grateful for the opportunity to attend.

[Quingan Zhou](#), MS '06: GC25 reminded me how much I love learning and how genuine dialogues spark new ideas and break down barriers. I also just loved seeing everyone - being with the Milken Scholars family is like getting a big, warm hug.

[Julie Lee](#), MS '07: I'm very thankful to have met all of you, my brilliant friends and that Mike continues to highlight and support us, 600 strong. I continue to learn not just from this conference but from all of you.

[Sam Mai](#), MS '08: Attending GC25 was an inspiring experience where I forged meaningful connections with leaders across diverse industries, leaving me energized and empowered to take bold risks and pursue a venture with ambitious, world-changing goals.

[Alma Zepeda](#), MS '08: GC25 touches on the country's and world's most important topics and manages to bring together panelists that weave together thought-provoking narratives and observations to help us better understand the deep complexity at the core of those topics.

[Adan Acevedo](#), MS '09: Global was a crash course in how quickly our world is changing across industries and regions with recent developments in medicine, technology, and financial technology. It was an exercise in learning from others and co-creating the future with leaders across the globe.

[Francis Poon](#), MS '09: At a time of such uncertainty & polarization, I'm honored to be in the room where things happen— and be part of the thought leaders who are committed to building a more flourishing future.

Jennifer Quintana, MS '09: I came for the puppies (kidding). This year's GC gave me a new perspective on my career, passion projects, and contributions back to the community and reminded me of the deep appreciation I have for the Milken Scholars Program.

Eileen Ung, MS '10: GC25 has inspired us - as Milken Scholars whose professional training and lived experience offer a unique lens - to take on society's most entrenched problems head-on. Through GC, we've gained access to the connections and resources needed to turn vision into lasting impact.

Oliver Sitt, MS '11: GC25 refreshed my perspective and optimism about the future on a range of topics from AI to crypto and everything in between.

Clarence Kong, MS '14: The GC25 experience is surreal, bringing together people from different sectors to advance the greater good.

Daniel Lee, MS '14: Hearing from leaders about the state of various industries and their predictions was incredibly eye opening.

Alyssa Chiang, MS '15: This was my first GC experience, and it was filled with inspiring sessions with influential leaders, reconnecting with fellow Scholars, and thought-provoking ideas about some of the current most pressing problems.

Kevin Ou, MS '15: Similar to last year but especially this year, my global conference was filled with a healthy mix of optimism for the future, and concern about present socioeconomic and political challenges, both of which are strong motivators pushing me to find ways to join the effort in creating positive change.

Michelle Park, MS '15: Meeting people I might collaborate with for a lifetime!

Simaranjeet Rai, MS '16: Even though I participated in GC25 as a Wednesday only participant I was extremely inspired by the incredibly talented speakers and feel grateful to have been a part of such a welcoming space with the scholars.

Linda Chan, MS '17: "Each of the sessions I attended at GC25 has inspired and challenged me to think more about how I can contribute to the community around me. Despite how overwhelming it seems, I also leave GC knowing that my Milken family is there to support me and help me achieve these goals.

Felix Bulwa, MS '18: The GC was energizing in bringing together uniquely impactful people doing uniquely impactful things. While might not yet have all the answers, I'm assured we're asking the right questions

Karen Li, MS '18: Being a first-time participant of GC, I was so grateful to be surrounded by some of the most influential, ambitious, incredible people in the world and hearing about how they are trying to make the world a better place - and this includes our Milken Scholars group. It was a wonderful reminder that our group of scholars is a special kind of family. Thank you to all of the Scholars who were return-GC participants for giving us first-timers so much helpful advice!!

Josselyn Navas, MS '18: My first GC25 showed me that there's momentum across the globe to drive meaningful change across technology, finance, and health. I feel so fortunate to have

reconnected with scholars and to have met founders, innovators, and thought leaders from all walks of life.

Esteban Flores, MS '19: The passion and insight within the conference was beyond inspiring for the future, especially as someone early in healthcare.

Mayowa Jolayemi, MS '19: My GC25 experience was inspiring, exciting and gave me increased direction for the future.

James Zhao, MS '19: Today reminded me of the unique value of the Milken Global Conference, both in reconnecting with fellow Scholars and engaging with a wider network of world class professionals, and I'm leaving with renewed appreciation for the Milken community and the meaningful opportunities it creates for connection and growth.

Ramsay Goyal, MS '20: I was heartened by how much unity and synergy we have across the spectrum of ideas, despite the division often showcased in society.