

LEAH LEANAH LATUMAERISSA

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EDUCATION

US Institute of Diplomacy and Human Rights International Business and Diplomatic Protocol Certificate	Washington D.C. July 2026
Leiden University Pre-PhD Program of the Graduate School of Legal Studies	Leiden, The Netherlands July 2026
Leiden University Master of Science in Law and Society: Governance and Global Development Estimated GPA: 3.6/4.0 Dutch weighted average: 7.8/10	Leiden, The Netherlands Expected July 2026
University of Amsterdam Master of Science in Cultural and Social Anthropology Applied Anthropology Track Estimated GPA: 3.5/4.0 Dutch weighted average: 7.7/10	Amsterdam, The Netherlands Sept. 2024 – Mar. 2026
US Institute of Diplomacy and Human Rights Human Rights Education Training Certificate	Washington D.C. May 2024
Western Michigan University Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in Anthropology Magna Cum Laude with University Honors GPA: 3.89/4.00 Dean's List: 2020 – 2024	Kalamazoo, MI Sept. 2020 – Apr. 2024
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences for the Arts Propaedeutic Diploma in Cultural Heritage & Museum Studies	Amsterdam, The Netherlands 2019 – 2020

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

<i>Moluccan Decolonial Justice</i> . Leiden Law School Blog.	Forthcoming 2026
<i>Republic of the South Moluccas: Sixty Years of Governance in Exile</i> . Law and Society MSc thesis.	Forthcoming 2026
European Parliament. <i>Leah Latumaerissa Personal Story</i> . "Postcolonial?" : Temporary exhibition catalogue.	Apr. 2026
<i>Remembrance, Cultural Activism and Hopeful Futures Among Moluccans in the Netherlands</i> . Anthropology MSc thesis.	Apr. 2026
<i>LATU MAE RISSA: Leader Come to War! An Autoethnography of Colonialization and Post-colonization</i> . Undergraduate Honors thesis, WMU Scholar Works.	May 2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Government of the Republic of the South Moluccas in Exile Applied Anthropologist - Conducting socio-legal research on the right to external self-determination and South Moluccan governance in exile. - Conducting applied ethnographic research and producing policy recommendation reports for organizational development.	Amsterdam, The Netherlands Oct. 2024 – Present
Western Student Association, Western Michigan University Executive Officer for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Advocated for the representation and inclusion of the indigenous student body in the WMU Parade of Flags. - Formulated DEI legislation and managed the Social Justice Fund to provide scholarships for underrepresented students. - Coordinated outreach initiatives with multicultural student organizations and university stakeholders.	Kalamazoo, MI Sept. 2023 – Apr. 2024
Lee Honors College, Western Michigan University Peer Student Success Team Mentor - Mentored undergraduate students through academic support and student success initiatives. - Organized Dutch language and cultural programming for undergraduate students.	Kalamazoo, MI Aug. 2022 – Jan. 2024
University Libraries, Western Michigan University Special Collections Conservation Student - Curated archival exhibitions on Dutch colonial history and indigenous Moluccan communities. - Developed archival exhibits on Dutch settlement history in Holland, Michigan.	Kalamazoo, MI Sept. 2021 – Oct. 2022

- Assisted with preservation and archival protection of rare and fragile Special Collections material.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Right to Freedom, Moluccan Human Rights Organisation

Assen, The Netherlands

Foreign Affairs Representative

Apr. 2024 – Present

- Developed human rights educational programming for Moluccan youth initiatives.

Nunusaku Student Association Netherlands

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Founder and President

Oct. 2024 – June 2025

- Coordinated academic and professional development initiatives for Moluccan students.
- Organized professional development, networking, and community engagement events.

Nunusaku Student Association, Western Michigan University

Kalamazoo, MI

Founder and President

May 2022 – Apr. 2024

- Coordinated educational initiatives focused on Moluccan history, culture, and international awareness.
- Organized fundraising initiatives supporting primary education in Seram, the Moluccas.
- Coordinated international human rights awareness initiatives and public education campaigns.
- Hosted and coordinated cultural programming for the “Voice of Maluku” radio broadcast on WIDR 89.1 FM.

Indigenous Advocacy Committee, Western Student Association

Kalamazoo, MI

Founder and Chairwoman

Nov. 2022 – Sept. 2023

- Founded and chaired the Indigenous Advocacy Committee within WMU student government.
- Organized a university-wide multicultural conference focused on cultural identity and student engagement.
- Coordinated outreach initiatives with Moluccan, Indigenous, and marginalized communities.
- Received the Committee of the Year Award from the Western Student Association in 2023.

HONORS & ACTIVITIES

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| • Personal Story featured in the “Postcolonial?” Exhibition, House of European History, European Parliament | 2026 |
| • Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society Member ΦBK | 2024 – Present |
| • Guest-Speaker at <i>Patulele</i> radio program, Radio Oras and Radio Salto | 2024 |
| • Alan Jacobs Award in Cultural Anthropology, WMU Intercultural and Anthropological Studies Department | 2024 |
| • Cabinet Member of the Year Award, Western Student Association | 2024 |
| • Excellence in Diversity Award, WMU Office of Diversity and Inclusion | 2023 |
| • Panelist, <i>Global Maluku Women Network</i> , Molukse Vrouwen Raad | 2023 |
| • Panelist, <i>Indigenous Peoples’ Day</i> , WMU Native American Student Organization. | 2022 – 2023 |
| • Robert F. Maher Scholarship Award, WMU Intercultural and Anthropological Studies Department | 2022 |
| • Library Student Employee Scholarship Award, WMU University Libraries | 2022 |

SKILLS

Legal & Academic Research | Professional Writing & Editing | Administrative Support
Archival Organization | Intercultural Communication | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion | Public Speaking

Software: Microsoft Office Suite | ATLAS.ti | Obsidian | Zotero

Languages: English (full professional proficiency) | Dutch (native) | Moluccan Malay (basic) | Indonesian (basic)