



THE WOODROW WILSON  
National Fellowship Foundation

## FACT SHEET: The 2017 Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows

### About the 2017 Fellows

- In 2017, the Foundation has named 63 Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows. They will attend Columbus University; Georgia State University; Kennesaw State University; Mercer University; and Piedmont College.
- Of these new WW Georgia Teaching Fellows:
  - 94% majored in a STEM discipline
    - 38 Fellows majored in a science field, 17 in math, and 4 in engineering
  - 22% (14 Fellows) have done advanced degree work.
    - The Fellows have 11 master's degrees among them.
    - One Fellow holds a Ph.D., one Fellow holds a D.M., and one Fellow holds a M.D.
  - Most Fellows are Dean's List/honors graduates, with memberships in various academic honoraries.
- 38% of the Fellows identify as teacher candidates of color, versus 16% in the overall teaching force.
- 37% of the Fellows are male—noteworthy in a profession where as many as three-quarters of practitioners are female.
- The Fellows bring a wide range of life experiences to their work:
  - 30% (19) graduated from their undergraduate institution in 2017
  - 44% graduated between one and five years ago
  - 33% are career-changers. They have worked as physicians, geologists, and analysts.
  - One Fellow was featured on TED-Ed giving a talk on how fiction can change reality.
  - One Fellow has worked at the Philadelphia Zoo, another holds a U.S. trademark.
  - Multiple Fellows have taught or volunteered overseas.
  - Two Fellows have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.
- The Fellowship is drawing on in-state talent: 75% of the Fellows are Georgia residents. The out-of-state candidates come from California, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia.
- Fellows remain deeply committed to community service. Most participate in volunteer work, some with organizations such as Big Brother/Big Sister, Habitat for Humanity, and the Boy Scouts of America; others with local non-profits, with the Science Olympiad program, and as youth sports coaches.

### About the Fellowship

- The goals of the Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship are to:
  - Attract the very best candidates to teaching
  - Put strong teachers into high-need schools
  - Cut teacher attrition and retain top teachers
  - Transform university-based teacher education
- The Fellowships recruit teachers—both recent college graduates and career changers—with strong backgrounds in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).
- In Georgia the program is supported by the Woodruff Foundation, with current funding of \$13.7 million.
- Each Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellow receives a \$30,000 Fellowship to complete a specially designed, cutting-edge master's degree program, as preparation to teach in high-need urban or rural secondary schools.
- Fellows commit to teach for three years, with ongoing mentoring.
- Universities agree to redesign their teacher education programs.
- Georgia launched its Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship in 2014, with partner campuses preparing their Fellowship programs in the intervening months. The 2017 class of Fellows is the third class (or cohort) of Fellows to be named in Georgia.