



NEWS RELEASE

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WOODROW WILSON FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES PICKERING FELLOWS FOR 2012

U.S. State Department program supports preparation of future Foreign Service Officers

PRINCETON, N.J. (June 18, 2012)—Forty exceptional students aspiring to enter the United States’ diplomatic corps—20 undergraduate and 20 just entering master’s degree programs—have been awarded Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowships to support their training, beginning this upcoming academic year. All have demonstrated the dedication, initiative, integrity, cultural adaptability, communication skills, and thorough intellectual background that it takes to become a United States Foreign Service Officer. *(See below for full lists of the 2012 Undergraduate and Graduate Fellows.)*

This fall, the members of this diverse new class will begin their journey to represent America in world affairs. The Pickering Fellowships, administered by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation for the U.S. Department of State, develop a source of well-prepared men and women whose academic backgrounds fulfill the skill needs of the United States Department of State and who are dedicated to representing America’s interests abroad.

Among the new Fellows: a campus chapter president of Free Tibet who traveled throughout India to collect oral histories of Tibetan refugees, a Hudson Institute intern who researched projects for the Center for Political-Military Analysis, a Fulbright scholar in Venezuela who taught English to university students, and a Social Entrepreneurs Corps intern who helped pilot a Social Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Program in South Africa.

The 20 Pickering Undergraduate Fellows are the 19th class of Fellows named at the undergraduate level. Selected in their junior year, these Fellows will receive financial support towards tuition and other expenses during the senior year and during the first year of graduate study.

The 16th class of 20 Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellows will receive financial support towards a two-year, full-time master’s degree program in a related field such as public policy, international affairs, public administration, or other academic fields such as business, economics, political science, sociology or foreign languages.

Fellows in both programs participate in one domestic and one overseas internship. They commit to three years of service as a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. Department of State, contingent on their passing the Foreign Service requirements. The Foreign Service, a corps of working professionals who support the President of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Department of State in pursuit of the goals and objectives of American foreign policy, are “front-line” personnel who can be sent anywhere in the world, at any time, in service to the diplomatic needs of the United States.

The [Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship Program](#) is named in honor of one of the most distinguished and capable American diplomats of the latter half of the 20th century. Ambassador Pickering holds the rank of Career Ambassador, the highest rank in the U.S. Foreign Service. He served as Ambassador to Nigeria, El

Salvador, Israel, India, and the Russian Federation, finishing his career in the Foreign Service as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs.

Founded in 1945, the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation (www.woodrow.org) prepares the nation's best minds to meet its most important challenges, working through education. The Foundation supports its Fellows as the next generation of leaders shaping American society.

2012 Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellows (19th Cohort):

Miss Alaina Brown	Swarthmore College
Miss Jessica Carrillo	St. Mary's University
Miss Khatijah Corey	University of the Pacific
Ms. Rajani Ghosh	Boston University
Mr. Hermes Grullon	DePauw University
Mrs. Donna Hernandez	Georgetown University
Ms. Brittney Johnson	Vanderbilt University
Ms. Samantha Jordan	Lafayette College
Ms. Taryn Kaili	University of Hawaii
Mr. Ethan Lynch	Washington University in St. Louis
Miss Mawusi Malik	Northern Arizona University
Mr. Amaury Munoz	State University of New York
Ms. Azline Nelson	Spelman College
Ms. Autumn Patterson	University of Pennsylvania
Mr. Malcolm Phillips	University of Central Florida
Miss Ashton Robison	St. Edward's University
Ms. Melissa Sandoval	Franklin & Marshall College
Mr. Clint Shoemake	University of Arkansas
Mr. Trae Watson	Morehouse College
Miss Ema Woodward	Carnegie Mellon University

2012 Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellows (16th Cohort):

Mr. Marvin Alfaro	New York University
Mr. Ernesto Alfonso	Columbia University
Ms. Allison Carragher	Johns Hopkins University
Miss Jeung Hwa Choe	Syracuse University
Miss Nardos Ghebregziabher	George Washington University
Miss Shirley Green	University of Texas
Ms. Joyce Hahn	Harvard University
Mrs. Kali Harper	Georgetown University
Miss Rosanne Izzo	Northeastern University
Mr. Lance Jackson	University of Southern California
Mr. Jake Nelson	Yale University
Miss Miranda Patterson	American University
Ms. Ayesha Quirke	Monterey Institute
Mr. Jesse Shaw	Columbia University
Miss Stephanie Sobek	Harvard University
Mr. Andrew Stephens	University of Denver
Miss Esther Tetrushvily	Harvard University
Mr. Michael Vasiloff	George Washington University
Ms. Maribel Vasquez	American University
Miss Emily Yu	Columbia University