



THE WOODROW WILSON  
National Fellowship Foundation

## FACT SHEET: The 2016 Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows

### About the 2016 Fellows

- In 2016, the Foundation has named 60 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:
  - 97% majored in a STEM discipline
    - 38 Fellows majored in a science field, 13 in math, 6 in engineering, and 1 in a technology field.
  - 25% (15 Fellows) have done advanced degree work.
    - The Fellows have 15 master's degrees among them.
    - Three Fellows have Ph.D.s.
  - Most Fellows are Dean's List/honors graduates, with memberships in various academic honoraries.
- 42% of the Fellows are teacher candidates of color, versus 16% in the overall teaching force.
- 33% 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% (18) graduated from their undergraduate institution in 2016
  - 11% graduated between one and five years ago
  - The final 59% percent are career-changers, graduating more than five years ago. Their work histories include the Coca-Cola Company, Georgia-Pacific Gypsum, Kimberly-Clark, and Alion Science and Technology.
  - One Fellow has worked on the NOAA Joint Polar Satellite System, as a senior mission manager at Kennedy Space Station, including the 2011 launch of the Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity rover, and as a systems engineer for the International Space Station Program and Italian Space Agency.
  - Three Fellows have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including one graduate of the U.S. Army Chemical School.
- The Fellowship is drawing on in-state talent: 63% of the Fellows are Georgia residents. The out-of-state candidates come from Alabama, California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, and West Virginia, as well as the country of Tobago.
- Fellows remain deeply committed to community service. Most participate in volunteer work, some with organizations such as Big Brother/Big Sister and the Girl Scouts of America; others with local non-profits, with the Science Olympiad program, and as youth sports and FIRST Robotics 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 initial funding of \$9.36 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 2016 class of Fellows is the second class (or cohort) of Fellows to be named in Georgia.