FACT SHEET: The 2018 Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows

About the 2018 Fellows

- In 2018, the Foundation has named 24 Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows. They will attend Georgia State University and Mercer University.
- Of these new WW Georgia Teaching Fellows:
  - 96% majored in a STEM discipline
    - 9 Fellows majored in a science field, 5 in math fields, 8 in an engineering field, and 1 in a technology field.
  - 21% (5 Fellows) have done advanced degree work.
    - The Fellows have 6 master’s degrees among them.
    - One Fellow has completed Ph.D. coursework.
  - Most Fellows are Dean’s List/honors graduates, with memberships in various academic honoraries.
- 33% of the Fellows are teacher candidates of color, versus 16% in the overall teaching force.
- 54% 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:
  - 41% (10) graduated from their undergraduate institution in 2018
  - 34% graduated between one and five years ago
  - The final 25% percent are career-changers, graduating more than five years ago. They have worked as engineers, education consultants, and researchers.
  - One Fellow was an intern at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.
  - Another Fellow spent three years teaching English, economics, and composition in China.
- The Fellowship is drawing on in-state talent: 63% of the Fellows are Georgia residents. The out-of-state candidates come from Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.
- Fellows remain deeply committed to community service. Most participate in volunteer work, some with organizations such as Big Brother/Big Sister and the Boy Scouts of America, among others. Fellows also volunteer their time at local non-profits, schools, 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
  - Cut teacher attrition and retain top teachers
  - Put strong teachers into high-need schools
  - Transform university-based teacher education
  - Put strong teachers into high-need urban or rural secondary schools.
  - 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 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 WW Teaching Fellowship previously worked with Columbus State University, Kennesaw State University, and Piedmont College. The 2018 class of Fellows is the fourth class (or cohort) of Fellows to be named in Georgia.