

International Affairs Fellowship Program

This year marks the fortieth anniversary of the International Affairs Fellowship (IAF) Program. With the selection of the 2008–2009 IAFs, the total number appointed since the founding of the program passed the 450 mark. To commemorate this occasion, the Council held an expanded IAF Conference. Secretary of State and former IAF Condoleezza Rice kicked off the event in June 2008 with a reflection on the lessons of the past eight years and her vision for the future of U.S. foreign policy. As she stated, her IAF experience “was indeed one of the best, best experiences” of her life. For the second day of the conference, 160 former, future, and current IAFs and Council members joined a panel discussion on U.S. foreign policy priorities and sessions highlighting the work of seven recent IAFs.

The International Affairs Fellowship Program is designed to advance the professional development of outstanding Americans ages twenty-seven to thirty-five. The fellowships seek to bridge the gap between thought and action in foreign policy by supporting both a variety of policy studies and active exposure to policymaking. The program’s distinctive character lies in the contrasting experiences at the juncture of policy research and policy formulation. It thus encourages academics and others from the private sector to serve in a policy-oriented environment through operational experience in public service. At the same time, it permits government officials on leave to study important issues in a scholarly atmosphere free from operational pressure. These fellows are posted to various institutions for one year.

In addition to the regular IAF Program, the Council offers two country-specific fellowships that are open to U.S. citizens ages twenty-seven to forty-five:

The IAF in Japan, sponsored by Hitachi, Ltd., enables participants to spend three to twelve months conducting research while affiliated with a cooperating institution in Japan. This fellowship was established in 1997 to strengthen mutual understanding and cooperation between the rising generation of leaders and thinkers in the United States and Japan.

The IAF in India, sponsored by E. L. Rothschild LLC, is a newly established program that enables outstanding young Americans to expand their professional horizons and enhance their understanding of India by spending up to one year in the country conducting policy-oriented research or engaging in related professional activities, or both.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FELLOWS 2007–2008 PLACEMENTS

- Bernadette Atuahene**, Chicago-Kent College of Law. Placed in South Africa Land Restitution Commission; Nkuzi, South Africa.
- Alyssa C. Ayres**, University of Pennsylvania. Placed in U.S. Department of State, Office of the Undersecretary for Political Affairs.
- Scott G. Borgerson**, U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Placed in Council on Foreign Relations; Columbia University’s Center for Energy, Marine Transportation and Public Policy.
- Bradley L. Bowman**, U.S. Army; U.S. Military Academy. Placed in Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.
- Ashley S. Deeks**, U.S. Department of State. Placed in Center for Strategic and International Studies.
- Amy B. Frumin**, USAID—Afghanistan. Placed in Council on Foreign Relations.
- Weston Konishi**,* Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. Placed in Institute for International Policy Studies; National Institute for Defense Studies.
- Rachel L. Loeffler**, U.S. Department of Treasury. Placed in Miller Center of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia.
- Evan Sabino Medeiros**, RAND Corporation. Placed in U.S. Department of Treasury.
- Michelle S. Parker**, USAID—Afghanistan. Placed in RAND Corporation.
- Matthew C. Waxman**, U.S. Department of Defense. Placed in Columbia University School of Law.

* International Affairs Fellow in Japan, sponsored by Hitachi, Ltd.