Fellowships Advisory Committee Meeting Notes
December 2015

Attendance: Linda Blockus, J.D. Bowers, Elizabeth Chang, Anne-Marie Foley, Whitney Hays, Bill Horner, Seth Howes, Wilson Majee, Gabrielle Malfatti, Michelle Murphy, David Schenker, David Setzer, Mary Stegmaier, Ted Tarkow, Jeff Wiese, Donell Young, Carly Garrow, Josh Gilmer, Kate Hargis, Brendan Marsh, Emily Waggoner, Rachel Newman, Tim Parshall

Fall 2015 Fellowship Applicants & Nominations (11:30-11:50)
Fall 2015 was another busy fellowship application season for us! In fact, this fall was one of the busiest as we worked with record numbers of MU students applying for Fulbright and the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship program.

Although we feel we were able to provide quality assistance to applicants this fall, Tim reported that we have reached our capacity for providing the level of service we want each applicant to receive. Therefore, Tim is working with Dr. Spain to hire a faculty fellow for the 2016 fall semester. The Fellowships Office will buy out one class of a faculty member’s time so that this person will assist students on developing competitive applications, most likely working with students applying for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Number of Applicants</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fulbright U.S. Student Program</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Worked with 30 applicants endorsed by MU and one alumnus who applied at-large (meaning he did not apply through the university and didn’t have the benefit of a campus committee reviewing his application); 30 applications is the record for Fulbright applicants from MU; hope to have at least 40 MU applicants in the future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates Cambridge Scholarship</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>One international student in the process of applying for the program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall Scholarship</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>No finalist selections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Scholarship</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sam Franks selected as one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>Count</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitchell Scholarship</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>of 20 Mitchell Scholarship finalists but did not receive one of 12 Mitchell Scholarships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhodes Scholarship</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>No finalist selections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schwarzman Scholars</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>There is currently an embargo on institutions for publically sharing news about Schwarzman Scholar selections, but we will have good news to share in January.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF Graduate Research Fellowship</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Highest number of students to seek assistance from the Fellowships Office on this fellowship application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Language Scholarship</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Up from last year, due in large part to promotional efforts with the German &amp; Russian Studies Department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truman Scholarship</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Truman Scholarship campus review committee extended nominations to 4 students, the maximum number of students MU may nominate. We look forward to helping these students with their applications over Winter Break.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goldwater Scholarship</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15 students were put forth for the 4 nominations Goldwater allows MU to submit. The four students selected to represent MU through a campus review process have accepted their nominations and will work with the office over Winter Break to develop their applications.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Denotes an estimate number of applications. These programs do not require students to officially apply through the University of Missouri, so we cannot be 100% sure of the number of students who applied for them. The reported numbers represent students who confirmed with our office that they submitted an application.

Another wave of fellowship application deadlines comes in the winter months, so the total number of applications will increase before the end of the year. Programs with upcoming deadlines include the Boren Awards, DAAD Research Internships in Science & Engineering, Humanity in Action, US-UK Fulbright Summer Institutes, Rangel/Pickering, and Udall.

**Fellowships Office Ambassadors**
The Fellowships Office is proud to have nine Fellowships Office Ambassadors this semester, the largest number of undergraduate students who have received fellowships prior to graduation and returned to campus after the completion of their fellowship experience. At least two more will join us in the spring. All nine students have dedicated time in their busy schedules to assisting the office with outreach presentations, mentoring students applying for fellowships, and suggesting ways the Fellowships Office can reach more students. Our nine ambassadors are:

- **Emily Cheng**, Senior, Chemical Engineering (Goldwater Scholar)
- **Carly Garrow**, Junior, Biological Engineering (DAAD RISE)
- **Josh Gilmer**, Senior, Russian Studies (Critical Language Scholarship)
- **Sasha Gubina**, Senior, International Studies & Russian (Boren Scholar)
- **Kate Hargis**, Junior, Political Science (Critical Language Scholarship, Truman Scholarship Nominee)
- **Kiersten Kuc**, Senior, Journalism (US-UK Fulbright Summer Institute)
- **Sam Franks**, Senior, Political Science & English (US-UK Fulbright Summer Institute)
- **Brendan Marsh**, Junior, Physics (Goldwater Scholar)
- **Emily Waggoner**, Senior, Political Science (Truman Scholar)

You can read brief descriptions of their fellowship experiences [here](#).

**New Program: Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program (11:50-12:20)**
In collaboration with Donell Young in Academic Retention Services and J.D. Bowers in the Honors College, the Fellowships Office will launch a peer-to-peer mentoring program in spring 2016. We will pair Fellowships Office Ambassadors with Brooks Scholars and Discovery Fellows to augment the mentoring opportunities high-achieving underclassmen receive at MU. The 2016 spring semester will be a soft-launch of this program that will be fully implemented at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year.
Brooks Scholarships are awarded to high-achieving undergraduates from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups; this scholarship is managed by Academic Retention Services. The Discovery Fellows Program, housed in the Honors College, engages high-ability first- and second-year students in undergraduate research. Students are paired with a faculty mentor and receive a scholarship for each year of participation in the program.

Through conversations with Donell and J.D., Tim knew that they are looking for ways to enhance the experience students receive in these programs. Adding a peer-to-peer mentoring piece will benefit not only Brooks Scholars and Discovery Fellows; it will also give Fellowships Ambassadors an opportunity to pay forward the mentoring relationships they have experienced as undergraduates. Our ambassadors will also receive a small stipend of $250 funded by the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Spain. Earlier this fall Dr. Spain challenged his directors to propose innovative programming ideas that would create collaboration opportunities across undergraduate studies programs. Tim, Rachel, J.D., and Donell will be working together over the Winter Break to plan a training session for our ambassadors and to match ambassadors with Brooks Scholars and Discovery Fellows.

When asked how this program will be effective, the five Fellowships Office Ambassadors at the meeting said it will give potential fellowship applicants someone who can relate to them throughout a fellowship application process. Someone else said that it will be a way for him to pay forward the mentorship a senior student provided him as a first-semester freshman in his Discovery Fellows research lab. Another student said that underclassmen will see the people they could be in the future. Given these responses and the enthusiasm shared by Dr. Spain, Donell, and J.D., we are excited to see what will come of it next semester.

**Building Office Capacity through Committee Members (12:20-12:45)**

In the last portion of the meeting we discussed ways that we can build the capacity of the Fellowships Office by planning programming for your department/area of campus. For example, in Spring 2015, we co-sponsored a two-hour workshop with the German & Russian Studies Department for students interested in applying for language learning fellowships (the Critical Language Scholarship, Boren Awards, and Fulbright). We hope to collaborate with more of you across campus to plan programming relevant to your students.

In response to Tim’s asking ways that the Fellowships Office could effectively reach more students and faculty through leveraging committee connections, people suggested:

- Contact advisors for student organizations to ask about presenting at organization meetings and conduct “tabling” session in the US Student Center (Ted Tarkow, Arts & Science)
• Collect and share information on fellowships for minority students. Specifically share this information with faculty who mentor students from underrepresented groups (Gabrielle Malfatti, College of Education)

• Do more broad outreach to faculty by presenting to campus committees (Mary Stegmaier, Truman School of Public Affairs)

• Target specific groups of students by working with the Registrar’s Office (David Setzer, Biological Sciences)

• Present at a Student Life all-staff meeting to advertise a Fellowships Office information session for student leaders within the division (Michelle Murphy, Student Life)

• Encourage students (especially office ambassadors) to talk with faculty mentors about fellowship opportunities available to students

Action Items

• Email Tim with ideas for ways that we can collaborate with your area of campus to make students and faculty aware of fellowship opportunities

• Share announcement(s) below about fellowships with upcoming deadlines as the opportunities relate to your students.
Promoting Upcoming Fellowship Application Deadlines

Studying a foreign language? Check out the Boren Scholarship!

Boren Scholarships, an initiative of the National Security Education Program, provide up to $20,000 for U.S. undergraduate students to study less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests, and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. The countries of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded. Boren Scholars represent a vital pool of highly motivated individuals who wish to work in the federal national security arena.

Teddi Mooreman, the most recent MU Boren Scholar, received funding to spend Fall 2015 in Kazakhstan studying Russian. Two other MU students, Sophie Winter and Sasha Gubina, were selected as Boren Scholars in 2014 and spent the 2014-2015 year in Morocco and Jordan respectively.

MU students must be nominated by the University of Missouri to apply for this award, so contact the MU Fellowships Office to learn more. The campus application deadline is Friday, December 18.

Study human rights through Humanity in Action fellowships!

If you are interested in promoting human rights for minority groups throughout the world, you should apply for Humanity in Action fellowships!

The Humanity in Action Fellowship brings together international groups of Fellows to study minority rights and produce original research exploring how and why individuals and societies, past and present, have resisted intolerance and protected democratic values. Separate programs take place for five weeks every summer in Amsterdam, Atlanta, Berlin, Copenhagen, Paris, and Warsaw.

The John Lewis Fellowship is a new Humanity in Action Fellowship program in Atlanta, Georgia. In partnership with The National Center for Civil and Human Rights, Inc., Humanity in Action will bring together a group of 30 American and European university students and recent graduates for an intensive program about diversity and civil rights in America. The program honors Congressman John Lewis, an icon of the Civil Rights Movement.

The application deadline for both programs is January 7, 2016 at 11:59pm PST. Students applying for these awards should contact the MU Fellowships Office and begin working on their applications as soon as possible.
Interested in studying in the UK? Look into the US-UK Fulbright Summer Institutes!

The [US-UK Fulbright Summer Institute](https://www.fulbright.org.uk) program sends US undergraduates to the UK for three to six weeks during the summer to study at various UK universities. The 2016 Summer Institutes will send students to the King’s College London, Queen’s University Belfast, the University of Bristol, and more. Students from any academic background with at least two years of undergraduate study left are eligible to apply.

Two current MU students, [Sam Franks](#) and [Kiersten Kuc](#), were selected for this prestigious program in summer 2014.

Contact the [MU Fellowships Office](#) as soon as possible to discuss this exciting opportunity. Although the application deadlines are not until February 23-26, 2016, students should begin working on their applications over Winter Break.

DAAD Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE)

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) [RISE Germany](https://www.daad.de/RISE) offers undergraduate students from North Americans and British universities the opportunity to complete a summer research internship at top German universities and research institutions. Students are matched with a host university or institute according to their area of interest (biology, chemistry, physics, earth sciences, engineering, or a closely related field). This program is a funded opportunity. DAAD provides students a monthly stipend for three months to help cover living expenses in Germany.

Read more program details [here](https://www.daad.de/RISE), and contact the [MU Fellowships Office](#) as soon as possible for assistance with your application. The deadline to apply is January 15, 2016.

Considering a foreign affairs career? Check out the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program!

The Rangel Program is a collaborative effort between Howard University and the U.S. State Department that seeks to attract and prepare outstanding young people for careers as diplomats in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Department of State. The program seeks individuals interested in helping to shape a freer, more secure and prosperous world through formulating, representing, and implementing U.S. foreign policy. The Program encourages the application of members of minority groups historically underrepresented in the Foreign Service and those with financial need.
There are two major components to the Rangel Program: an International Affairs Graduate Fellowship Program that provides support for graduate school, professional development, and entry into the U.S. Foreign Service, and an undergraduate International Affairs Summer Enrichment Program that provides undergraduates with the opportunity to enhance their skills, knowledge and understanding about U.S. foreign policy.

Program details can be found here. Applications to this program are due January 13, 2016 and February 3, 2016. Contact the MU Fellowships Office as soon as possible to learn more and if you are planning to apply for the program.

Applications for the Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship Program are now open!

Funded by the U.S. Department of State and administered by The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, the 2016 Thomas R. Pickering Fellowship Program provides undergraduate and graduate students with financial support, mentoring and professional development to prepare them academically and professionally for a career in the U.S. Department of State Foreign Service. Women, members of minority groups historically underrepresented in the Foreign Service, and students with financial need are encouraged to apply.

Applications to this program are due January 15, 2016. Students interested in applying should contact the MU Fellowships Office as soon as possible for assistance with the application.

Mount Vernon Leadership Fellows

The Mount Vernon Leadership Fellows program is a competitive five-week long summer leadership program that takes place just outside of Washington, D.C. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon. The program offers a small, select group of rising college juniors unparalleled opportunities in the nation’s capital and on the famous estate of the first President of the United States.

Applications for this program are due February 5, 2016, but students should begin work on their applications over Winter Break. Contact the MU Fellowships Office for more information and assistance with your application.