



WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

Leadership & Public Service



"The noblest search is the search for excellence."

—Lyndon B. Johnson

Program Calendar

October 25–27

White House Fellows Alumni Association and Foundation Annual Meeting (see pages 4 and 5 for schedule)

Oct. 29 – Nov. 1

Fellows Study Trip to Michigan

The White House Fellows Program Staff would like to extend a special note of thanks to:

- Martha Darling (77-78)
 - Reggie Turner (96-97)
 - Kathy White (01-02)
 - Percy Pierre (69-70)
 - Joe Anderson (77-78)
 - John Burchett (97-98)
- for their extraordinary help organizing the upcoming trip to Michigan.

Please contact Page Archer at (202) 395-7297 for more information regarding the trip to Michigan.

KEEPING THE GARDNER SPIRIT ALIVE

John Gardner spoke often of his desire to see the alumni of the White House Fellows develop a community of mutual support. He would certainly be pleased to know that so many alumni are actively involved with the White House Fellows Program. In addition to all the alumni who actively recruit and mentor potential candidates for the Fellows Program and the alumni who so generously answer calls from fellow Fellows, potential Fellows and the Program staff, fifteen former Fellows have stepped forward to fulfill John Gardner’s vision of mutual support in a special way this year. They have agreed to serve as formal mentors to the current class and will meet with the class members throughout the year to provide perspective and advice, especially with regard to the Fellows’ placement experiences.

Alumni serving as mentors to the Class of 2007-2008 are: Scott Gould (93-94), Bud McFarlane (71-72), Scott Berns (00-01), Kevin Monroe (96-97), Marsha Evans (79-80), Rod von Lispey (93-94), Bob Edmonds (95-96), Jami Floyd (93-94), Tom Downs (77-78), Judy Walter (75-76), Rick Stamberger (84-85), John Burchett (97-98), Amy Alving (97-98), Craig Coy (83-84), and Loree Sutton (96-97). Thanks to each of them for making time this year to offer their advice and insight to members of the current class.

You Heard It Here First

Dr. Mark Roth, a scientist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle who addressed last year’s Annual Meeting and Seminar on the topic of metabolic hibernation, has been awarded the MacArthur Prize. A biomedical scientist, his research could lead to new clinical approaches for treating trauma, stroke, cancer, and other conditions in which temporarily reducing the metabolic rate of patients could provide doctors with the critical time needed to solve underlying problems. The fellowships, commonly referred to as the “genius awards,” recognize individuals from wide-ranging disciplines who show creativity, originality, and a commitment to continued innovative work. The \$500,000 award is given over 5 years in order to permit honorees to work on their area of genius without deadlines and institutional pressures. The White House Fellows Foundation and Association is pleased to have had Mark as a speaker at our Annual Meeting and Seminar and to have met with him during our Regional Meeting in Seattle in May, 2006. Mark can be contacted at mroth@fhcrc.org



Lt. Col. Stacey Hawkins, USAF, is placed at the Small Business Administration

PLACEMENT REPORT

The 2007-2008 class of fellows began their placements September 1, and many have had the opportunity to make significant contributions during their first month on the job.

My placement at the U.S. Small Business Administration, thus far, has been an amazing learning and leadership opportunity. As a career active-duty military officer, the SBA placement presented exactly the type of broadening challenge I hoped to experience during my Fellowship year. Additionally, as a native of the state of Louisiana, I have a keen interest in the role of small business as a catalyst for rural economic development and in the post-Katrina Gulf Coast recovery.

The agency welcomed me with tremendous excitement and immediately sought to leverage my career military experience within its varied offices. Although the SBA had not sponsored a Fellow in nearly ten years, they fully embraced me as a vested teammate and expressed immediate support for WHF program objectives. I experienced a seamless in-processing and was tapped to attend the agency's Senior Management Training conference.

At the national conference, Administrator Steven Preston introduced me publicly to leaders across the SBA enterprise and announced that I would serve as the project manager for his Brand Promise Restored (BPR) campaign for the National Guaranty Purchase Center (NGPC). The mission of the NGPC is to efficiently process guaranty purchase requests and provide assistance and oversight, as necessary, to lenders during loan liquidation. The NGPC is located in Herndon, Virginia, and was created to centralize SBA's 7(a) loan guaranty purchase function into a single national location. The ultimate goal of the Center is to provide consistent, professional and timely service to SBA's valued lending partners.

I am also serving as the Acting Deputy Director of Financial Assistance while leading the NGPC reengineering effort. This position has afforded me the opportunity to serve as a protégé of one of the agency's "stars," Mr. Grady Hedgespeth, Director, Office of Financial Assistance. Between my daily managerial involvement at the NGPC and working strategic management issues with Mr. Hedgespeth, I'm off to a challenging, but extremely gratifying start at the SBA.

My current responsibilities at SBA demand a daily presence both in Herndon, VA and the downtown SBA Headquarters where I am reporting directly to Administrator Preston for the NGPC project. Additionally, I have been tasked to write speeches, develop strategic work flow plans, and provide consultation on production and staffing issues. I look forward to remaining engaged and challenged throughout my placement, and I hope to continue developing my leadership skills while learning a great deal about the exciting worlds of business and finance.

—Contributed by Stacey Hawkins

OCTOBER SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

Rick Hess,
Director of Education Policy Studies,
American Enterprise Institute

Leadership Seminar,
Led by Burn Loeffke (70-71) and John Mumford (72-73) and Ambassador Gene Dewey (68-69)

Heritage Foundation Briefing

Bob Costas,
NBC/HBO Broadcaster

Brookings Institution Briefing

Tim Wirth (67-68),
President, United Nations Foundation

John Dingell
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce

Fellowship Book Discussion,
On Leadership by John Gardner

Quantico Military Study Trip
Oct. 22

WHF Alumni Foundation and Association Annual Meeting,
Oct. 25 - Oct. 27

WHF Study trip to Michigan
Oct. 29 - Nov. 1

PLACEMENT REPORT

In my first week at the Department of Energy, I was afforded a great opportunity to travel with Secretary Bodman to the groundbreaking of a new coal power plant in Orlando, Florida. After a quick study on integrated gasification combined-cycle technology, President Bush's Clean Coal Power Initiative, and the Department's energy partnerships with industry, I was eager to witness the start of construction on the newest energy plant aimed at developing the nation's clean energy arsenal.



Lt. Col. Dawn Dunlop, USAF, is placed at the Department of Energy

We met early at the FAA's Hangar 6 at Washington Reagan International and 2 hours after takeoff the Citation Excel was cleared for landing in Orlando. The first stop on the agenda was the Stanton Energy Center and the official groundbreaking for the construction of an advanced 285-megawatt integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) facility. The Stanton project was one of two selected in Round 2 of President Bush's Clean Coal Power Initiative to encourage government and industry-supported development of advanced clean coal technologies. It is the first IGCC plant of its kind utilizing a simplified design and air-blown gasification technology capable of efficiently and environmentally converting low rank coals into electricity. This is important for several reasons—First, because coal supplies 50% of our nation's electricity and will continue to play a crucial role in a balanced national energy portfolio. Second—The Stanton plant is 30% more efficient and produces 20-25 percent less carbon dioxide emissions than existing pulverized coal plants. Third—the Stanton plant can effectively utilize all types of coal including sub-bituminous coals with high moisture or ash content which make up half the world's known coal reserves. The Stanton technology holds significant potential benefits for the U.S. as well as developing coal-consuming regions notably China and India.

After fielding a few questions from local news stations, the Secretary departed for the next stop: Walt Disney World. The Department of Energy had recently launched a nationwide energy efficiency campaign based on Disney's Pixar film "Ratatouille," and Secretary Bodman was meeting with Disney cast members and leadership to set the stage for future cooperative efforts to leverage the resources of the entertainment industry to encourage smart energy choices.

Participating on this trip early in my placement allowed me to build a more comprehensive picture of the Department of Energy's role implementing the President's energy policies, its role as the largest civilian funder of basic sciences in the nation, the challenge of invigorating public-private enterprise with meaningful government incentives, and the importance of marketing to encourage and sustain meaningful energy efficiency impact. It also provided an early opportunity to observe leadership at the DOE.

One of the many qualities of good leadership is to be able to clearly and consistently communicate your vision, both within the organization and with partner organizations. This clear communication of purpose and focus helps galvanize the organization, can motivate individual employees as they see how their role fits into the overall mission, and sets an easily understood framework for decision-making priorities. The most successful leaders effectively use strategic communication to shape the collective vision and build the enthusiasm required to succeed. Throughout the trip I was able to witness Secretary Bodman clearly communicate the Department's goals in various settings with diverse groups of people. While the public affairs officer, chief of staff, and energy experts provided the Secretary with background information it was his skillful ability to communicate the key points with government officials, industry executives, and project employees that was most interesting to watch.

For the Secretary it was another busy day advocating the importance of harnessing America's technological strength to develop clean, secure, affordable, and reliable energy through government and private partnerships. From my perspective it was a great success. —Contributed by Dawn Dunlop

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

Please join your friends and White House Fellow colleagues at this year's WHF Foundation and Association Annual Meeting and Seminar October 25—27, 2007, in Washington, DC. We will conduct the two-day Annual Meeting and Seminar at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and conclude with the Legacy of Leadership/Jack Valenti Tribute Reception and Dinner at the Capital Hilton on Friday evening. On Saturday, October 27th, we have arranged for a very special program—a “Behind the Scenes” session with the Director of the recently re-opened National Portrait Gallery in the old U.S. Patent Office Building.

Thursday, October 25

7:30am: Informal WHF networking, Continental Breakfast, and Registration, at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce –Preview of “Planet in Peril,” a CNN documentary produced by Dr. Sanjay Gupta (97-98) and Anderson Cooper.

9:00am: Welcome, Judy Walter (75-76), President of the White House Fellows Foundation and Association and Bob Edmonds (95-96), Chair, Annual Meeting and Seminar

9:15am: Keynote: National Security Advisor Stephen Hadley (invited) or Counselor to the President Edward Gillespie (invited)

10:00am: Robert Richer, former Director of Operations for the Central Intelligence Agency and former Vice President for Intelligence for Blackwater

10:45am: Protecting Our Nation's Environment: Honorable Steven L. Johnson, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (tentative)

11:30am: WHF Sharing: Caring for WHF Classmates (Carolyn Chin (78-79), Suzy Becker (93-94), 95-96, and Loree Sutton (96-97)

12:15pm: Luncheon: The Honorable Robert M. Kimmitt, Deputy Secretary of the Treasury

1:15pm: White House Fellows Foundation and Association Business Meeting, Judy Walter (75-76), President, and State of the WHF Program, Janet Eissenstat, Executive Director, PCWHF

1:45pm: Energy Independence panel: Moderator: Bruce Henry (73-74): , GEN James Jones, USMC (Ret), President and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for 21st Century Energy; Dr Gal Luft, Executive Director, Institute for Analysis of Global Security; and Ann Korin, Co-Chair IAGS and Chair, Set America Free Coalition

3:00pm: Presidential Election 2008: Michael Duffy, Asst Managing Editor, TIME Magazine

3:45pm: IED's – The Insurgent's Weapon of Choice: GEN(R) Montgomery Meigs, Chief, Joint Improvised Explosive Device Organization

4:30pm: Office of the President: Scandals as a Political Weapon: Geoff Shepard (69-70), Watergate; and John Saxon (78-79), Iran-Contra

5:15pm: Wrap-up and departure for the Willard Intercontinental Hotel

6:30pm: Reception honoring the WHF Class of 2007-08 and Friends of the WHF in the Crystal Room, The Willard Intercontinental Hotel

8:30pm: Class Parties at locations to be announced

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE (CONTINUED)

Friday, October 26

7:30am: Informal WHF networking, Continental Breakfast – Preview of “Planet in Peril,” a CNN documentary produced by Dr. Sanjay Gupta (97-98) and Anderson Cooper

9:00am: Keynote: Honorable Frances Townsend, Homeland Security Advisor to the President

9:45am: Pandemic Health Issues: Raul Perea-Henze (93-94) moderator; Howard Zucker (01-02), WHO; Gil Omenn (73-74), Univ of Michigan; Margaret Hamburg, Senior Scientist, Nuclear Threat Initiative; and, Dr. Otmar Kloiber, Secretary General of the World Medical Association

10:45am: The Future of Health Care: Moderator: Steve Hill (78-79), Washington State Health Care Authority Administrator; John Castellani, Business Roundtable President; Bill Novelli, AARP CEO; and Andy Stern, SEIU President

12:00 pm: Commissioners Luncheon: Honorable David Walker, Controller General of the United States

1:45pm: WHF Sharing 2: Dealing with a Stroke: Wilson Talley (69-70), Helen Talley and Dr. Jan R. Avent, Professor, Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, Speech Pathology and Audiology Program, California State University, East Bay

2:30pm: The Strategic Horizon: Dr. Amitai Etzioni, Director of the Institute for Communitarian Policy Studies, The George Washington University

3:30pm: Vietnam War Memorial Visitors Center: Jan Scruggs, founder and inspiration for the wall

4:45pm: Wrap-Up and Closing: Judy Walter (75-76) and Diane Yu (86-87)

6:30pm: Legacy of Leadership Award/Jack Valenti Tribute Reception at the Capital Hilton Hotel

7:30pm: Tribute to Jack Valenti and Legacy of Leadership Dinner and Presentation of the 2007 John W. Gardner Legacy of Leadership Award to Doris M. Meissner (73-74) at the Capital Hilton Hotel

Saturday, October 27

9:00am: Arrive at the National Portrait Gallery and clear security

9:30am: History of the U.S. Patent Office and Restoration of the National Portrait Gallery

9:55am: Discussion with National Portrait Gallery Director Marc Pachter

10:30am: Curators Tour of the NPG Highlights, to include the Gallery of the Presidents

12:15pm: Lunch at Zaytinya; Departure for Home or Class Reunions

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Dennis Blair (75-76) has been named the Inaugural Shalikasvili Chair in National Security Studies by the National Bureau of Asian Research.

Cesar Conde (02-03) has been named Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer for Unavision.

Phil Cullom (94-95) has left his previous assignment at the Pentagon to become the Commander of Carrier Strike Group Eight homeported in Norfolk, VA.

Jason Dean (06-07) is the Vice President for Economic Policy for the Mississippi Economic Council

Nelson Diaz (77-78) has joined the law firm of Cozen O'Connor in Philadelphia, PA.

Sean McLaughlin (05-06) is Chief of Operations Support at the American Red Cross.

Peter Najera (99-00) has retired from the Army and is now the Director of Operations of Intrinergy, LLC, a privately-held renewable energy company.

George Pivik (03-04) is currently serving as the Executive Officer for the 3-69 Armor Bn of the 3rd Infantry Division (M) in Ramadi, Iraq, and has been selected for early promotion to lieutenant colonel.

Adis Vila (82-83) is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of International Business and Management at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA.

Mark Vlasic (06-07) is a Senior Fellow and the Institute for International Law and Politics at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

John Wood (96-97) has assumed command of the Navy's Training Wing ONE in Meridian, MS.

E. Kinney Zalesne (95-96) and Mark Penn have co-authored best seller *Microtrends: The Small Forces Behind Big Changes*.

Laurie C. Zephyrin (05-06) is Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology and Population and Family Health at Columbia University Medical Center and Mailman School of Public Health

ABOUT THE WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS PROGRAM

The White House Fellows Program is a non-partisan program that offers exceptional young leaders firsthand experience working at the highest levels of the Federal government.

Fellowship Selection Criteria:

- A record of remarkable professional achievement early in one's career.
- Evidence of strong leadership skills and the potential for further growth.
- A demonstrated commitment to public service.
- The knowledge and skills necessary to contribute successfully at the highest levels of the Federal government.

For more information, please visit our webpage at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/fellows>.

The President's Commission on White House Fellowships

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