



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS

Advisory Board Meeting a Springboard to New Partnerships

On April 2, The School of Public Service Advisory Board met for the very first time and has agreed to meet annually in the Spring. Paul Ignatius chaired the meeting which featured a wide ranging discussion of how to increase SPS's visibility in the funding and educational communities. The Board offered a number suggestions and contacts that resulted in SPS staff reaching out to the Stanford in Washington program, the Washington Center (for internships), the Truman Foundation, the Coca Cola Company, a number of members of Congress, and others. As a result, SPS students have been invited to share program elements with both the Stanford in Washington Students and the Truman Scholars. Participation with both of these programs is an honor to SPS and St. Albans.

2003 PROGRAM NEWS

- **Academics**

SPS is gearing up for a very exciting 2003 program beginning June 23. The schedule is largely complete. We are pleased that Harry McPherson will be speaking with the students during their examination of the LBJ tapes. New elements include Electives and an enhanced International Week. Some of the elective choices include Leadership Development; Business, Ethics and Public Policy; Non-Profit Management; State Government, and Healthcare. International week will include case studies on specific topics around the US and the UN; the US and the Middle East; the US and the Remnants of the Cold War; the US and Africa; and the US and Latin America. Agency Briefings will include NSC, FBI, DOD, State Department, and the Treasury.

- **Washington Ways and Life Up Close and Personal**

The Chinese Ambassador will host our Embassy visit and Reception on July 7th. The State Dinner is tentatively scheduled for July 11th. Please put the date on your calendars. Invitations will go out as soon as the date is confirmed. An invitation has gone out to Former Secretary of State James Baker to be the "official guest," and we hope that he will be available and willing to participate. Paul Ignatius, chairman of the SPS Advisory Board has agreed to serve as "official host." We are also hoping to introduce this year a dinner evening here at SPS with the ambassadors from a number of African, European and Latin American countries. Throughout the program, students will be joined at dinner by Hill staffers, Stanford in Washington students, ambassadors, and others.

Thanks to Tim Russert and Sharon Rockefeller, SPS students will once again be visiting "Meet the Press" and "News Hour." New this year during Media Days, students will write articles for both national news and Op-Ed sections of a newspaper, critique and then choose articles for those sections. Prominent print journalists, including Michael Abramowitz, will give feedback on their articles and their selections. Balancing the rigorous academics will be a variety of fun and leisure activities. The program will open once again with a ropes course to help students with team building. Students will also bicycle to Mt. Vernon, visit a number of historic and other significant sites in the area as well as visit colleges during their stay.

Plans are underway to do some shared activities with the Truman Scholars program, including the trip to Mt. Vernon, a tour of the Cathedral and Bell Tower, and dinner at St. Albans.

FUNDING NEWS

SPS has submitted proposals for funding to a number of foundations. We are engaged in follow-up with SPS board members, particularly around fundraising. We hope in the future to work with Fannie Mae on an initiative with the DC public schools. Vance Wilson has sent a letter to Vartan Gregorian and hopes to meet with him to discuss an approach to the Carnegie Foundation for funding. We are also investigating "fit" between SPS and the Kellogg Foundation. Proposals have been sent to both Coca-Cola and Pepsi, specifically for the Wilton Park trip and for International Week funding. We welcome any contacts or suggestions about these and other potential funders. Targeted funding requests have been made to smaller foundations and individuals for support for specific students.

Since April we have received contributions of \$10,800 and tuition of \$54,000. We have offered scholarships totaling \$47,100.

ALUMNI/AE NEWS

SPS 2002 students are attending the following colleges in the Fall: William and Mary (2), University of Arizona, Harvard (2), Tufts University, Lafayette College, Rochester Institute of Technology, Middlebury, Occidental College, University of Richmond (2), St. Olaf College, Clark Atlanta University, Dickinson College, Xavier University, Washington College, Arizona State University, University of Colorado, Bowdoin, Wake Forest, and Princeton. Still others are waiting to here from waiting lists before deciding.

Our 2003 students and 2002 alumni have been invited to attend the first high school conference at Wilton Park, an international conference center in the UK. They would be the only US students invited. We are trying to raise funds (\$15,000) for this five-day opportunity in August for 10 - 15 students.

OTHER NEWS

If you haven't looked at the SPS web site (www.schoolofpublicservice.org) lately, take a look as we are continually improving. It now includes links to other public service organizations, the high schools from which our students have come, and many government and other resources. It has many articles and much more information about the program itself. More improvements will be made in the coming weeks.

Press releases have been sent to the hometown newspapers of all students who plan to attend this summer.

Letters have been sent to the Congressmen/ women of all students who plan to attend this summer. Students have also been sent a template of a letter to send to their congressmen/women requesting a meeting when the SPS group visits Capitol Hill on June 26th.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- 1) Funding continues to be our highest priority as operational funds are still needed to support and ensure a successful session this year. We are following up with all individuals who supported SPS in its inaugural year, and are aggressively seeking other possible supporters for philanthropic assistance. All gifts are welcome and all leads will be followed. Contact Beth Brummel (bbrummel@cathedral.org; 202/537-6428) or Mary Anne Waikart (mwaikart@cathedral.org; 202/537-6438).
- 2) July 4th programming for the students continues to be a challenge. Anyone with an office with a view, a swimming pool and hamburgers, or other opportunities that you are willing to make available should give us a call (Mary Anne Waikart 202 537-6438).
- 3) Contributions (articles, links, suggestions) to the website would be very welcome, especially from our Advisory Board members. Please have a look at what is there now at www.schoolofpublicservice.org.