



THE MAUREEN AND MIKE MANSFIELD FOUNDATION

Promoting Understanding and Cooperation in U.S.-Asia Relations since 1983

NEWS RELEASE

July 6, 2015

TWENTIETH GROUP OF MANSFIELD FELLOWS BEGINS YEAR IN JAPAN

(Washington, D.C.) Last week the twentieth group of Mansfield Fellows arrived in Japan to begin the year-long Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program. Following orientation meetings in Tokyo, the ten Fellows travelled to Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture to begin a seven-week homestay and intensive Japanese language program. After completing this immersion program they will return to Tokyo for ten months of placements in Japanese government and nongovernmental entities.

The new Fellows' initial placements will include various bureaus within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defense as well as the Nuclear Regulation Authority. These and other placements will give the ten U.S. federal government employees a unique opportunity to learn about Japan and its government from the inside. The Fellows will work side-by-side with their Japanese counterparts, participating in office activities, meetings, and business travel. Through these experiences -- plus additional language training, supplemental education programs, and study tours -- the Fellows will acquire an in-depth understanding of Japan's government, policies, and decision making. During their year in Japan the Fellows will gain expertise and networks that will facilitate their agencies' work on Japan-related issues when they return to service in the U.S. federal government.

The twentieth group of Mansfield Fellows includes: **Daniel Benson**, Major, United States Marine Corps; **Jeffrey Deane**, Japan Country Program Director, United States Navy; **Darrell Doss**, Economic Policy Counsel, U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee; **Monica Herrera**, Captain, United States Air Force; **Mahmoud Jardaneh**, Project Engineer, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; **Nathan Jorgensen**, Captain, United States Air Force; **Jeffrey Kim**, Captain, United States Navy; **Zensaku Munn**, Major, United States Air Force; **Patrick Rory Tibbals**, Major, United States Air Force; and **John Wright**, Captain, United States Air Force.

The Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program was established by Congress in 1994 to build a corps of U.S. officials with Japan experience and expertise. A total of 120 Mansfield Fellows, representing twenty-four U.S. agencies and the U.S. Congress, have completed the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program since 1995. The program is administered by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation



THE MAUREEN AND MIKE MANSFIELD FOUNDATION

Promoting Understanding and Cooperation in U.S.-Asia Relations since 1983

through an annual congressional appropriation, with the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs as grantor.

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that promotes understanding and cooperation in U.S.-Asia relations. The Foundation was established in 1983 to honor Mike Mansfield (1903-2001), a revered public servant, statesman and diplomat who played a pivotal role in many of the key domestic and international issues of the 20th century as U.S. congressman from Montana, Senate majority leader and finally as U.S. ambassador to Japan. Maureen and Mike Mansfield's values, ideals and vision for U.S.-Asia relations continue through the Foundation's exchanges, dialogues, research and educational programs, which create networks among U.S. and Asian leaders, explore the underlying issues influencing public policies, and increase awareness about the nations and peoples of Asia. The Foundation has offices in Washington, D.C.; Tokyo, Japan; and Missoula, Montana.