



THE MAUREEN AND MIKE MANSFIELD FOUNDATION

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

NEWS RELEASE

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FIVE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL EMPLOYEES SELECTED FOR EIGHTEENTH GROUP OF MANSFIELD FELLOWS

(Washington, D.C.) The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation today announced five additional members of the eighteenth group of Fellows to enter the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program, which was established by Congress in 1994 to build a corps of U.S. government officials with substantial Japan expertise. The Fellowship Program was restructured for the upcoming year to allow ten Fellows to participate in a one-year program in Japan. Five of these Fellows were announced in January. The additional five Fellows include:

Yuri Arthur, Commercial Officer/International Trade Specialist, United States and Foreign Commercial Service, Department of Commerce

Michael Bosack, Captain, United States Air Force

Kimberly Coniam, Foreign Affairs Officer, U.S. Department of State

Jared Paslay, C-130 Instructor Pilot/Japan Exchange Officer, United States Air Force

Paul Saulski, Senior Counsel, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

These Fellows, and five Fellows announced earlier this year, will travel to Japan in July to participate in a seven-week homestay and intensive Japanese language program in Ishikawa Prefecture followed by ten months of placements in the government of Japan. The placements will allow these ten U.S. government officials to work side-by-side with their Japanese counterparts on issues relevant to their professional expertise and to gain an in-depth understanding of Japan's government and policymaking process. The five Fellows announced in January include: Phillip Dobberfuhr, Major, United States Air Force; Wikrom Kitchaiya, Captain, United States Air Force; Catherine Lee, Scientific Data Analyst, United States Food and Drug Administration; Robert Sheldon, Senior Policy Analyst, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission; and Jonathan Thompson, Senior Advisor for East Asia and Global Defense Sales, United States Department of State.

“We are very pleased to round out the eighteenth group of Fellows with five more U.S. government officials who are committed to strengthening U.S.-Japan cooperation in areas including space security, disaster relief, and international financial regulatory matters,” said Gordon Flake, executive director of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. “Especially noteworthy this year is that the eighteenth group of Fellows includes the program’s first Foreign Service Officer and first representative of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. This underscores the scope and promise of a program that is providing federal government employees with a practical understanding of Japan at a critical point for U.S. engagement in Asia.”

One hundred and ten Fellows, representing twenty-four agencies, commissions and departments of the U.S. government, have entered the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program since its establishment by the U.S. Congress in 1994. The program is administered by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation 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 celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. It 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.