



THE MAUREEN AND MIKE MANSFIELD FOUNDATION

Celebrating 30 years of Promoting Understanding and Cooperation in U.S.-Asia Relations

NEWS RELEASE

July 8, 2013

TEN MANSFIELD FELLOWS BEGIN YEAR IN JAPAN

(Washington, D.C.) This week ten U.S. federal government employees participating in the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program are in Ishikawa Prefecture to begin their homestay and language training program. They are the eighteenth group to participate in a program established by Congress in 1994 to build a corps of U.S. federal government employees with Japan expertise. The program recently was restructured to allow ten Fellows to participate in a one-year program in Japan.

The ten members of the eighteenth group of Mansfield Fellows include: **Yuri Arthur**, Commercial Officer/International Trade Specialist, United States and Foreign Commercial Service, Department of Commerce; **Michael Bosack**, United States Air Force (Captain); **Kimberly Coniam**, Foreign Affairs Officer, U.S. Department of State; **Phillip Dobberfuhr**, Astronautical Developmental Engineer, United States Air Force (Major); **Wikrom Kitchaiya**, United States Air Force (Captain); **Catherine Lee**, Scientific Data Analyst, United States Food and Drug Administration; **Jared Paslay**, C-130 Instructor Pilot/Japan Exchange Officer, United States Air Force (Major); **Paul Saulski**, Senior Counsel, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; **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.

These ten Fellows will begin their year in Japan with a seven-week homestay and intensive Japanese language program in Ishikawa Prefecture followed by ten months of placements in the government of Japan. Their initial placements will include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Agency, and the Financial Services Agency. Through these and other placements, the U.S. government officials will have the opportunity to work side-by-side with their Japanese counterparts on issues in their professional fields and to gain an in-depth understanding of Japan's government and policymaking process.

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. 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.