

Dear Professors, Alumni, and Potential Scholars:

On behalf of the Friends of Slovakia (FOS), a US based non-profit organization devoted to promoting good relations between Slovakia and the US, we are writing to inform you of an opportunity that we hope will be of interest to your students. Every summer since 2004, FOS has provided partial support for one or two Slovak students to participate in the summer programs of the Fund for American Studies. We are able to sponsor two students for the 2009 program and hope that you will bring this opportunity to the attention of your students. Students must meet the criteria set by Georgetown University and the Fund for American Studies in order to be considered for an FOS Scholarship.

The programs of the Fund for American Studies take place at Georgetown University in Washington, DC and allow participants not only to increase their knowledge by taking courses on topics of interest but also to interact with students from many of the top universities in the US. The program includes both classes and an internship, which gives the student some practical work experience in the United States. Students are housed in dormitories at Georgetown University.

Students who are interested should complete their applications as soon as possible as instructed on website of the Fund for American Studies at www.dccinternships.org <<http://www.dccinternships.org/>> . A copy of the applications should also be sent by email to Dr. Sharon Wolchik at swolchik@gmail.com and Dr. Sharon Fisher at sharon.fisher@ihsglobalinsight.com. Students may also send a copy of their applications to Dr. Sharon Wolchik, IERES, 1957E Street, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052.

Slovak students who have participated in this program have found it to be extremely beneficial. We hope that you will make your students aware of this opportunity and urge those whom you think would benefit to apply.

Thank you for your help with this. Please let us know if you or your students have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Sharon Wolchik and Dr. Sharon Fisher

The following is a brief description of the four Georgetown institutes as described in the online brochures:

Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems (ICPES)

This Institute is intended primarily for students interested in careers in government, international affairs, public policy, and academia. Students take two courses which offer a thorough understanding of the American political tradition and exposure to market economics through comparative study. A pdf version of the informational brochure can be found at: www.dccinternships.org/ftas/brochure/ICPES.pdf

Institute on Political Journalism (IPJ)

The quality of public discourse in a free society depends heavily on the accuracy of information provided by the news media. The Institute on Political Journalism was established in 1985 to ensure that future journalists apply basic ethical principles to their reporting and have the tools to accurately cover issues involving economic concepts. The Institute selects many of the best undergraduate journalism students in the country to attend this Institute each summer, where they attend classes in economics and ethics and serve in internships in major news organizations. Participants also attend weekly lectures at the National Press Club and attend regular briefings at principal news sites such as Congress, the State Department, and the Federal Reserve Board. A pdf version of the informational brochure can be found at: www.dccinternships.org/ftas/brochure/IPJ.pdf

Bryce Harlow Institute on Business and Government Affairs (IBGA) The First Amendment guarantees the right "to petition the government for redress of grievances," a right vital to a free society. The Bryce Harlow Institute on Business and Government Affairs exposes students to the processes by which business exercises this important right. Through academic study, internships in corporate governmental affairs offices and trade associations, and in panel discussions with leaders in the profession, students gain an appreciation for the essential interplay between business and government, and its effect on our nation's future. A pdf version of the informational brochure can be found at: www.dccinternships.org/ftas/brochure/IBGA.pdf

Institute on Philanthropy and Voluntary Service (IPVS)

This Institute is for students interested in non-governmental organizations or civil society. A pdf version of the informational brochure can be found at: www.dccinternships.org/ftas/brochure/IPVS.pdf