APSA Names 2011–2012 Minority Fellows

In recognition of their outstanding academic and personal achievements, APSA is pleased to announce the APSA Minority Fellows for the 2011–12 academic year. The Minority Fellows Program (MFP) was established in 1969 as an effort to increase the number of minority scholars in the discipline and has designated more than 600 fellows and contributed to the successful completion of doctoral political science programs for over 100 individuals. APSA has refocused and increased its efforts to assist minority students in completing their doctorates by concentrating not only on the recruitment of minorities, but also on the retention of these groups within the profession. The MFP designates up to 12 stipend minority fellows each year. Fellows with stipends receive a $4,000 fellowship that is disbursed in two $2,000 payments—one at the end of their first graduate year and one at the end of their second—provided that they remain in good academic standing. Awards are based on students' undergraduate course work, GPA, extracurricular activities, GRE scores, and recommendations from faculty. Members of the selection committee for this year's fellows included Leonardo Arriola, Committee on the Status of Latinos y Latinas in the Profession; Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession; and Cara Wong, Committee on the Status of Asian Pacific Americans in the Profession. Learn more about the program by visiting http://www.apsanet.org/mfp. This year's Minority Fellows are:



Tamara Andrade is a senior at the University of Michigan majoring in both political science and women's studies. She has written for the *Michigan Journal of International Affairs* since her freshman year. During the summer of 2009, she conducted research through the Summer Research Opportunity Program at the University of California, Berkeley, on the influence of the Catholic Church on the legislation of divorce in Chile. In graduate school, she hopes to study Latin American politics with a specific focus on how democratic transitions affect the ability of civil society groups and institutions to pressure the state to encode their preferred policies into law.



Soledad Artiz is a senior at Texas A&M University majoring in political science and economics with a minor in business. She has worked as an undergraduate research assistant for both the political science and economics departments, assisting others with their research and expanding on her own research. In April, Soledad will present a paper on economic development and state tax policies at the MPSA Annual Conference. Next year, Soledad will pursue a graduate degree in political science, specifically studying political economy. Her main research interests involve methodology, economic development, welfare policy, and microfinance.

Matthew Brinkmoeller graduated from Arizona State University in May 2010 with a BA in political science and history. He is currently finishing his MA in international relations at ASU as part of a five-year BA/MA program before moving on to doctoral studies. Elected to Phi Beta Kappa his junior year, Matthew has continued his academic progress with research in Latin American politics at ASU as a Junior Fellow, and at Columbia University as a Leadership Alliance Mellon Initiative Fellow. He highly encourages any political science undergraduate hoping to pursue a Ph.D. to look into the Leadership Alliance program and the Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers, in addition to research programs at their home institutions. These programs were invaluable to Matthew's success.



David Cortez is a senior at the University of Texas–Pan American, double-majoring in political science and history. He is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, as well as a 2010 Ralph Bunche Summer Institute Scholar. In September 2010, David was selected to represent the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute at APSA in Washington, DC, presenting his most recent research, "Latino Americanism: Military Presence in the Barrio and in the Home," in a poster session. In addition to presenting at APSA, he was a panelist at MPSA 2010 and will present on the Race, Ethnicity and Politics panel at SWPSA 2011. In graduate school, David hopes to study American politics, with an emphasis on political behavior and Latino politics.





Safia Farole graduated from the University of Washington in the spring of 2010 with a BA in psychology and a minor in political science. In her senior year, Safia participated in the University of Washington's Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, in which she completed a thesis on the model minority stereotype and its consequences for race relations and social justice in the United States. In the fall of 2009, Safia's research in the McNair program earned her the University of Washington's Early Identification Program Presidential Scholarship. Safia has presented her research at several regional conferences. After graduation, at the University of Washington Institute for the Study of Ethnicity, Race and Sexuality (WISER), Safia conducted research on national Tea Party political campaigns, the rise of anti-Islamic rhetoric in U.S. political discourse, and Muslim American political engagement. Safia plans to pursue graduate studies in the American politics and comparative politics subfields, focusing on Muslim political incorporation, group identity, and integration trends in Western

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democracies.

Muhammed Idris is a senior at the University of Washington majoring in economics. He attended the 2010 Ralph Bunche Summer Institute and presented his research paper, "The Bigger They Are the Harder They Fall: The Link between Economic Sanctions and Integration," at the 2010 APSA Annual Meeting. Muhammed is interested in researching the intersection between institutions and economic development or historical institutionalism in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). His research focuses on the influence of Islam on the development of political and economic institutions in the MENA over time. Muhammed's motivation for pursuing a doctoral degree in political science and a career in academia is to understand the complexities of how religion, political economy, and institutions interplay. The research that he hopes to produce will contribute to the critical debates on Islam and Islamic institutions, how they relate to economic development in the MENA, and their broader global implications. Muhammed is eternally grateful to the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program and Mary Gates Research Endowment for not only introducing him to the wonders of research, but for also providing him with the opportunities to succeed in all facets of his collegiate career.



Danielle Lemi is a senior at San Jose State University majoring in political science. She is primarily concerned with underground youth movements in the Middle East and Central Asia. Specifically, she is interested in the impact of underground youth culture on political opinion and political participation. She is currently producing a project about the underground Arab-Western hip-hop movement that discusses the social roles this movement plays in the development of Western-Arab-Muslim identity. Danielle is currently a part of the Strategic Language Initiative for Arabic and will be studying abroad in Amman, Jordan, in 2011. She looks forward to teaching in a university setting and exposing students to little-known youth movements in the Islamic world.



Jessica Ross is a senior at Suffolk University majoring in American politics and policy. Her primary research interests are Black political thought, Black political behavior, and education policy. She is currently conducting a senior honors thesis on the concept of deracialization as it applies to the Boston City Council. She is a McNair Scholar at Suffolk University. As a 2010 Ralph Bunche Summer Institute scholar, Jessica conducted a research project entitled "Robots in the Classroom: Accountability, Curriculum, and Instruction in High-Poverty Schools." She presented this research project in a poster presentation at the 2010 APSA Annual Meeting and in an oral presentation at the 2010 McNair Scholars Symposium at the University of California, Berkeley. Jessica is excited about pursuing a Ph.D. in political science.



Amber Spry is a political science and media and communications studies double major at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). She has received several honors and distinctions, including the Maryland Distinguished Scholar Award, the Samuel I. Rosenburg Citizenship Award, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Strive for Excellence Award, and the Maryland Governor's Citation for Outstanding Commitment to Public Service. In 2010, Amber conducted research as a Leadership Alliance Mellon Fellow at Columbia University. Additionally, she has worked as a research assistant at the Urban Institute in Washington, DC, and currently serves as a representative on the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services State Advisory Board. Amber's research examines the intersection of identity, education, and political participation in America. She will pursue a Ph.D. in political science and plans to become a university professor.



Joe Tafoya is a senior majoring in political science and history at the California State University, East Bay. His family's humble existence made him privy to the fears, concerns, and aspirations of the underserved Latino community. The deprivation and marginalization that his family experienced were the impetus to his political socialization, which developed around an urgency to address inequality. To this end, he is interested in researching avenues instrumental to the flourishing of political efficacy, ethnic solidarity, and the politics of inclusion for Latinos. Joe will pursue a doctoral degree in political science—broadly in American politics, with foci on race and ethnic politics, political behavior, public opinion, voter mobilization, and survey research methods. His research will allow him to help the community address institutional disparity and disproportionate representation. Joe led a schoolwide walk out from James A. Garfield High School in the 11th grade against HR4437 in 2006. Since then, Joe has focused on research geared toward harnessing that power into meaningful political participation. With the admirable mentorship of Dr. Melissa Michelson, he has successfully written two published papers on the Latino electorate and immigration policy, attended the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute at Duke University, and presented results from original research at UC Berkeley and CSU East Bay, and now he is honored to be a 2010 APSA Minority Fellow.





Jacqueline Lindsay Tello is a senior at Binghamton University majoring in political science and history with a minor in Spanish. During the summer of 2010, Jacqueline was selected to participate in the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute Program at Duke University. Her research project examined the effects of U.S. foreign aid on governments' respect for human rights in Latin America. Following RBSI, she participated in the Ronald E. McNair Summer Research Program at Binghamton University under the supervision of Dr. David Cingranelli. While in Binghamton, she has conducted investiga-

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tions on the factors that drive the human trafficking market. Jacqueline has presented her research at numerous conferences, including that of the APSA. She plans on pursuing a Ph.D. in political science, focusing on international relations and comparative politics with a regional concentration on Latin America.

Christopher Wall is a senior at the University of North Texas. He is a political science and economics double major with a minor in Russian. Chris is a member of numerous honors societies, including Golden Key and Pi Sigma Alpha. This year, he will serve as the president of the Mortar and Board Senior Honor's Society for UNT. Christopher Wall joined UNT's Honors College in the fall of 2008 and participated in the Ronald E. McNair McNair Program the following year. In the summer of 2009, he traveled to the Netherlands with students chosen by UNT's political science department to conduct research at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia on issues dealing with international law. That same year, he did research on the social, economic, and security impacts of current immigration policy for the Dallas Council on Foreign Relations' taskforce on immigration and conducted research on the World Trade Organization and its influence on democracy alongside his mentor, Professor Marijke Breuning. In the summer of 2010, he was selected to attend Duke University for the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute Program and conducted research on the relationship between democratic legitimacy and the political success of Latin American presidents. Christopher Wall has presented his research at various conferences, including those of the MPSA and the APSA. He plans on pursuing a Ph.D. in international relations after graduation, hoping to specialize in political economy and security. ■



CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Congressional Fellowship Program 2010–2011 Office Assignments

Founded in 1953, the APSA Congressional Fellowship Program is the nation's oldest and most prestigious congressional fellowship. More than 50 years later, the program remains devoted to its original objective of expanding knowledge and awareness of Congress. For nine months, select political scientists, journalists, doctors, federal executives, and international scholars gain "hands on" understanding of the legislative process by serving on congressional staffs. Through this unique opportunity, the association enhances public understanding of policymaking and improves the quality of scholarship, teaching, and reporting on American national politics. For more information, please visit http://www.apsanet.org/content_3031.cfm. The 2011 office assignments are:

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