

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

Four-week intensive academic exchange program on U.S. National Security Policymaking

The Public Affairs Section (PAS) is soliciting nominations for scholars and professionals to participate in a Winter FY-13 Study of the United States Institute on U.S. National Security Policymaking. The Institute is projected to take place from early February through late March 2013. Nominations will be due to PAS by **November 15, 2012** (the deadline was extended) via the KabulPASExchange@state.gov mailbox. We will accept one nomination per section/platform. Please coordinate field submissions via the public diplomacy platform officers.

Institute description

The institute is a rigorous post-graduate-level academic seminar with integrated study tours which will provide a group of 18 scholars and professionals an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the foundations of U.S. national security policy and current threats facing the United States. The institute focuses on the formulation of U.S. foreign and national security policy and the role of the federal government, think-tanks, media, and public opinion in shaping that policy.

The program will examine specific security issues such as energy policy, economic stability, cyber-security, chemical and biological weapons, nuclear weapons, and infectious diseases.

The program will also focus on regional security concerns in Africa, Europe, South Asia, the Western Hemisphere, East Asia, and the Middle East. The program will be supplemented by a simulation exercise, a group project, and a study tour. The program's ultimate goal is to promote the development and improvement of courses and teaching about the United States at universities and other educational, training, and research institutions abroad. The program will be conducted entirely in English.

Who can you nominate?

Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated and experienced university-level faculty or national security professionals from institutions of higher education, or national security policymaking institutions, including national military academies, government ministries, and think-tanks. The ideal candidate will be a specialist in international

relations or a related field. While the educational level of participants will likely vary, most should have graduate degrees and have substantial knowledge of foreign affairs. The ideal candidate also will be an experienced professional with little or no prior experience in the United States, whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to develop new courses in the subject of the institute, to enhance and update existing courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for professionals in U.S. studies areas related to the program theme. While the nominee's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, an equally important factor is how participation in the institute will enhance course offerings in U.S. studies at the nominee's home institution.

English language fluency: It is imperative that all candidates demonstrate English language fluency. Institutes are rigorous and demanding programs; participants will be expected to handle substantial reading assignments in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience in the institute.

Priority consideration: Candidates should be willing and able to participate fully in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour. While senior faculty members are eligible applicants, first consideration should be given to mid-career professionals, and to persons who are likely to be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule. Priority will be given to candidates who have firm plans to enhance, update or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. studies focus or component, who have limited or no experience in the United States, and who have special interest in the program subject areas as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties. In addition, ECA/A/E/USS makes every effort to have both a geographic and gender balance in the makeup of the institute.

How to nominate a candidate

Nominations should be coordinated by Embassy section or regional platform. In addition to the basic information in the attached form, a complete nomination packet should include the following:

- **Justification:** Specific reasons why the participation of a nominee is particularly desirable in terms of enhancing the study of the United States at the home institution, or more broadly, in the home country. For example, would the nomination serve to strengthen an already established faculty, or is it intended to give a boost to a fledgling program? Is the nominee a leader within his

or her field who is in a unique position to have a significant and immediate impact on curricular development, or is the nominee a younger professional with exceptional promise whose participation is likely to result in a substantial benefit to his/her home institution in the long run? What role does the nominee's home institution play in Afghanistan's national security policymaking framework. Why, in short, does the nomination matter? Information about the candidate's prior experiences in the U.S. should also be included.

- **Candidate Personal Statement:** Each candidate should provide a short personal statement indicating why he or she is interested in participating in the program and what he or she expects to get out of the experience.
- **Candidate CV:** This document should include the candidate's current title, position, and institution, work experience, prior training, professional memberships, and publications related to the institute theme.

Key Program Information: The final nomination(s) from Mission Afghanistan will be determined by Kabul PAS in accordance with the program objectives and guidelines. Kabul PAS will handle all logistics concerning any accepted nominee's participation. Please note:

- Participants typically will have a private room with a shared bathroom during the residency portion (four weeks) of the institute, and will have to share a hotel room during the study tour (up to two weeks). Housing will usually be in college or university owned housing. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own.
- Participants are expected to participate fully in the program. They are expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and complete assigned readings.
- Family members and/or friends cannot accompany participants on any part of the program.
- Please note that teaching methodology and pedagogical methods will not be addressed formally in the institute. Candidates should be made aware that the institute is very intensive and that there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The institute should not be viewed as a research program.

It is important that these requirements and restrictions be made clear to all candidates before nominations are submitted.

Questions?

Please address any questions about this program to the Kabul PAS Exchange mailbox (in the GAL or at KabulPASExchange@state.gov).