

Announcement
Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)
2012-2013 Civic Education and Leadership Fellowship (CELF) at the
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University

1st cohort: Fall 2012 (Late August –Early December, 2012)
2nd Cohort: Spring 2013 (Late January-Mid-May, 2013)



The Middle East Partnership initiative (MEPI) is pleased to announce the **“Civic Education and Leadership Fellowship (CELF) program scheduled for Fall 2012 and Spring 2013.** This four-month program will provide academics an opportunity to participate in individually-tailored programs and group seminars at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Fellows will participate in civic engagement, teaching skills, curriculum development seminars, as well as professional networking initiatives that broaden their contacts with individuals and academic institutions in United States. Project participants will receive a certificate from the Maxwell School upon the successful completion of the program.

MEPI, through its implementer, Syracuse University, will cover all international and domestic travel, health insurance, housing in shared apartments, and a moderate living stipend in the United States for all Fellows participating in the project. All Fellows will travel to the United States in unaccompanied status. Final selection of shortlisted candidates will be made by MEPI Washington and Syracuse University.

Interested applicants should submit to the MEPI Office in Amman, no later than May 13, 2012, a resume and two essays of no more than 500 words each, written in English, which answer the following questions:

- A) What hopes and plans do you have for improving the quality and capacity of your educational institution in your field of study?
How do you see yourself leading this change?

- B) What are the prospects for greater civic engagement in solving social problems and fostering participatory democracy in your country, and what role do you see yourself and your institution playing in this regard?

Program Overview:

CELF allows university teachers and scholars from the MENA region to spend four months (one academic semester) at Syracuse University. The program's main objectives are to:

- 1) Promote democracy and international standards in social science education in MENA countries;
- 2) Develop their civil society capacity on the university policy level;
- 3) Enhance the quality of education through improved curricula development and delivery, increased institutional capacity, and expanded student and faculty engagement;
- 4) Further develop the critical thinking and analytic capabilities of educators on civic education.

Syracuse University will match each Fellow with faculty members on campus who may serve as mentors and contacts - and develop individual work plans for the three substantive areas of the project, namely:

- 1) Curriculum development
- 2) Teaching and research skills development
- 3) Professional enhancement and networking activities.

The project will work with selected Fellows before they arrive in the United States on their individualized work plans so that they can maximize their time while they are on campus. Fellows will also participate in professional networking initiatives that broaden their contacts with individuals and academic institutions in the United States.

Eligibility Criteria

CELF is open to individuals working in an accredited institutions of higher education for a minimum of five years in social science disciplines, Though PhDs (completed or in progress) are preferred, the minimum requirement for the candidates is a completed Masters degree in one of the fields mentioned above.

Applicants should meet the following criteria:

- Have at least five years of experience working in social science disciplines, including but not limited to political science, public administration, law, media, journalism, and communications;
- Have completed or working toward a Ph.D. (The minimum requirement is that a candidate will have completed a Master's degree in one of these fields: social science disciplines, including political science, public administration, law, media, journalism, and communications);

- Have demonstrated a commitment and desire to remain working in this field for the foreseeable future, and an equal commitment to improving the quality and capacity of educational institutions in their field of study;
- Have exhibited leadership skills and the capacity to apply opportunities presented in this project in a way that would benefit an education institution, organization, sector, and/or community;
- Have a level of English language fluency to function successfully in a high-level academic and professional environment;
- Have not already completed an academic degree or resided in the United States, and is not subject to J1 Visa restrictions;
- Have letters of support from the institution that will allow the applicant to study in the United States Fall 2012 OR Spring 2013.

Those who are employed by the U.S. Government or who are the spouse or child of a U.S. Government employee cannot be considered for this program.

For further information or questions related to this program, please visit the website for this program at Syracuse University (<http://www.maxwell.syr.edu>)

Applicants should submit their resumes and essays electronically to MEPI_ammam@state.gov no later than May 13, 2012.

Note: Applicants must indicate their availability for each term, as well as their preferred term.

Please include the word “CELF” in the subject of the email. Finalists will be notified by the end of May, 2012.