

The Civic Education and Leadership Fellowship opportunity for Omani academics in the social sciences is now open for application. The fellowship provides an opportunity for university teachers and scholars in the social science disciplines from across the Middle East and North Africa to engage in four-month residencies at the Maxwell School for Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University in the United States. The program includes both group seminars and individually-tailored projects for each participant. The Civic Education and Leadership Fellowship program, like all U.S. Embassy academic exchange programs, fosters long-term academic and cultural cooperation between Americans and Omanis. The objectives of the Civic Education and Leadership Fellowship program are to:

- promote international standards in social science education;
- develop civil society capacity on the university policy level;
- enhance the quality of education through improved curriculum development and delivery, increased institutional capacity, and expanded student and faculty engagement; and
- Develop critical thinking and analytical capabilities on civic education issues.

The fellowship 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. The fellowship will cover the individual only and does not include family members.

Syracuse University will match fellows with faculty members on campus who will serve as mentors and contacts and develop individual work plans for the three substantive areas of the project: curriculum development, teaching and research skills development, and professional enhancement and networking activities. The project will work with fellows on their individualized work plans before they arrive in the United States so they can maximize their productivity while they are on campus. While in the United States, fellows will also participate in professional networking initiatives that broaden their contacts with individuals and academic institutions in the United States.

#### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

Applicants must:

- 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 a Master's degree and have completed or be working on a PhD in one of the above fields;
- have a level of English language fluency to participate successfully in a high-level academic and professional environment;
- not have already completed an academic degree, participated in another U.S.-funded exchange program, or have resided in the United States.

## HOW TO APPLY?

**Please send your complete application to [MEPI-Oman@state.gov](mailto:MEPI-Oman@state.gov) by May 10, 2012.**

A complete application includes:

- a current resume/CV
- a letter of support from your institution allowing you to study in the United States in fall 2012 or spring 2013 (Note: Indicate your availability for each term, as well as your preferred term)
- two essays of no more than 500 words each, written in English, that are your own original work, on the following topics:

ESSAY ONE: 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 the change?

ESSAY TWO: 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?

With any questions, please contact us at [MEPI-Oman@state.gov](mailto:MEPI-Oman@state.gov).