



Jefferson Fellowships

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR FALL 2009 JEFFERSON FELLOWSHIPS

The deadline for submitting applications is Wednesday, June 17, 2009

The Jefferson Fellowships provide 10 print and broadcast journalists from the United States, Asia and the Pacific Islands with the unique opportunity to gain on-the-ground perspectives and build a professional network through a one week dialogue seminar at the East-West Center in Honolulu followed by two-weeks of study tour travel in the Asia Pacific-U.S. region.

The Fall 2009 Jefferson Fellowships program:

The Right Climate for Confronting Climate Change?

October 25 – November 14, 2009

Monterey and Palo Alto, CA; Boulder, CO; Washington, DC

The new United States presidential administration of Barack Obama has increased attention to climate change in advance of the upcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in December 2009. With this backdrop, the Fall 2009 Jefferson Fellowships program will explore the ability of U.S. domestic and foreign policy to confront the important economic challenges and opportunities involved in addressing climate change and its consequences. While near-term costs may affect the livelihoods of Americans already struggling in the current U.S. recession, addressing climate change also presents opportunities to strengthen important parts of the economy and create jobs. In addition, the Fall 2009 program will examine how the issue of climate change may serve as a way for the United States to rebuild partnerships and alliances around the world and to bolster national security.

The program will begin in Honolulu with one week of discussions, field visits and participant presentations that explore the challenge of climate change throughout the Asia Pacific-U.S. region. Participants will share impacts, responses and policy challenges from the perspectives of their own countries. The study tour will focus on policy challenges and opportunities for the United States through visits to key destinations on the U.S. mainland.

Who May Apply

Working print, broadcast, and online journalists in the United States, the Pacific Islands, and Asia. A minimum five years of professional experience is preferred. Applicants must have the ability to communicate in English in a professional, multi-cultural environment.

Program Purpose and Content

The Jefferson Fellowships program was launched in 1967 to enhance public understanding through the news media of cultures, issues and trends in the Asia Pacific region, broadly defined as Asia, the Pacific Islands and the United States. The long-range goal is to help news organizations build staff expertise about regional concerns and trends, so that their readers, viewers and listeners may be better informed.

The Fellowships provide the participating journalists with a wide range of perspectives through dialogue with professional colleagues, participation in seminars and meetings with business and government decision-makers, scholars and students, social activists, cultural analysts and others. These contacts, and a network of more than 500 former Jefferson Fellows, provide participants with resources on whom to call when they plan, assign, edit and produce news coverage involving or affecting the region.

The first week of the program consists of dialogue among the Fellows, including a short seminar led by each Fellow; lecture discussions with East-West Center researchers and other experts; and field visits. This will be followed by a study tour to cities in Asia and/or the United States.

Professional Exchange

One essential element of this professional experience is the journalist-to-journalist exchange. Central to this is a presentation that each Fellow will give to his or her fellow participants. Each Fellow is required to prepare and submit four weeks before arriving at the Center a short paper (1,000–1,500 words). The paper should address a significant issue in the participant's country that is relevant to the theme of the program and discuss how the country – at the government, private sector and/or socio-cultural level – is responding to the issue. The Jefferson Fellowships coordinator will work with invited Fellows to develop a series of presentations relevant to the theme.

Each Fellow also will make an oral presentation (approximately 15 minutes) based on the previously submitted paper and participate in discussion of his or her topic.

The purpose of the presentations is to tap the education and experience of participating journalists in ways that will be professionally useful to fellow participants as they study, assess, and report in their media on the themes of the program and the Asia Pacific region.

Study Tour Travel

After one week in Honolulu, all of the Fellows will travel together to Monterey and Palo Alto, CA; Boulder, CO and Washington, DC for a 15-day program of meetings and visits. The East-West Center will coordinate the travel segment of the program, working with on-the-ground partners in each city as well as its network of alumni, including former Jefferson Fellows, who often volunteer to host, guide and advise traveling Fellows, and to arrange appointments and interviews.

Funding

The Jefferson Fellowships are supported from a grant from The Freeman Foundation. The grant funds economy class, roundtrip airfare to and from Honolulu, Hawaii as well as program-related air and ground transportation, lodging, and meals for participating journalists. A modest per diem is also provided. **Participants are responsible for all applicable visa fees and any additional visa-related expenses.**

News organizations are also asked to assist their employees participate in cost-sharing whenever possible. An "Employer's Statement of Support" is a required part of the application. While financial assistance from the employer is not required, employers are encouraged to provide support to their Jefferson Fellows as a demonstration of their commitment to the program.

How to Apply

Please access the Jefferson Fellowships application form at our website:

<http://www.EastWestCenter.org/jefferson>.

In addition to the application form, applicants must also include the following:

- A letter outlining your issues of interest, a brief description of your news organization, and what you expect to accomplish if an award is granted. Please suggest topics you propose to address in your paper and presentation at the East-West Center (**maximum** three pages, double-spaced, please).
- Names, addresses, phone/fax numbers and e-mail of three people who may be contacted by the Center as references. Two of these references should be people outside your news organization.
- A letter of recommendation on official letterhead from your supervisor describing your suitability for the Fellowship and the benefit the organization hopes to derive from your participation in the program.
- The “Employer’s Statement of Support” form completed by your employer (third page of application form).

NOTE: Samples of your work are not required. If you wish to include samples, we prefer web links to articles (when possible) rather than hard copies.

Please send applications by **Wednesday, June 17** to:

E-mail: jefferson@eastwestcenter.org

Fax: 808-944-7600

Post: Jefferson Fellowships

East-West Seminars

East-West Center

1601 East-West Road

Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96848-1601, U.S.A.

Inquiries: 808-944-7682



EAST - WEST CENTER

The East-West Center contributes to a peaceful, prosperous and just Asia Pacific community by serving as a vigorous hub for cooperative research, education and dialogue on critical issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region and the United States. The Center serves as a national and regional resource for information and analysis on Asia and the Pacific. It provides a meeting ground where people with a wide range of perspectives exchange views on topics of regional concern. Since the Center’s founding in 1960, close to 50,000 people have participated in its programs. Many of these participants now occupy key positions in government, business, journalism and education in the region.

The East-West Center is a public, non-profit national and regional research and education institution with an international board of governors. About half of the Center’s funding comes from a U.S. government appropriation and the rest from private foundations and agencies, media organizations, individuals, corporations, and a number of Asian and Pacific governments.