BUILDING LEADERS FOR THE WORLD

2016 STATE OF THE SCHOOL 2017

Elliott School of International Affairs
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
When I first shared my vision as dean for the Elliott School of International Affairs, I indicated that my first act would be to create an Institute for African Studies. We did that and then went on to charter two more institutes this past year, the Institute for Disaster and Fragility Resilience and the GW Institute for Korean Studies.

All three institutes broaden our geographical reach, establishing the Elliott School as a center for research on Africa, Asia, Europe, Russia and Eurasia, Korea, and the Middle East. From a practical perspective, each institute has a self-sustaining financial model that will ensure stability and growth. We are planting the seeds today that will provide opportunities for students, scholars, and policy practitioners in the future.

At Elliott, we don’t just talk about building leaders for the future, we do it through rigorous scholarship, innovative teaching, and by fostering ethical thinking and practical skills. Our aim is to develop students who can analyze like economists, research like historians, question like political scientists, crunch data like statisticians, and present their findings like seasoned politicians. That’s the Elliott advantage.

We are dedicated to creating a vibrant and challenging student learning experience here at the Elliott School. Our newly launched Graduate Student Services team brings together academic advising, career coaching, and international education in a single hub, simplifying processes and enabling students to effectively design their majors to match their career goals.

Last year at Elliott, we hosted a record 330 public events, featuring, among others, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, the secretary general of NATO, former and current heads of state, five acting ambassadors, and the State Department’s Women of Courage recipients. Opportunities to hear from renowned individuals such as these are a daily staple of academic life at Elliott. After all, this is why our students chose the Elliott School: because they care deeply about the state of the world and want to learn directly from those who have taken on the world’s toughest challenges.

None of this would be possible without the many alumni, parents, and friends who so generously support the Elliott School, investing time, talent, and philanthropy to advance our mission. I am deeply grateful for every single gift we receive. This year, thanks to contributions from more than 1,000 individuals, as well as from foundations and corporations, the Elliott School continued its forward momentum. This would not be possible without your generous support.

Thank you.

REUBEN E. BRIGETY II, PhD, Amb. (ret.)
Dean, Elliott School of International Affairs
The George Washington University

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN
From the first freshman seminar to the writing-intensive curriculum, skills-based courses, and the final capstone project, the Elliott student experience is a powerful one that uniquely prepares our graduates for work in international affairs, global development, and policy.
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The Elliott Student Experience

“I feel fortunate to have been a student of former ambassadors, trade representatives, presidential administration employees, and State Department officials, to name a few. They add tremendously to the classroom experience with personalized expertise and enhanced learning.”

#WeAreElliott
PUTTING HER PASSION TO WORK IN KENYA

Thanks to the International Internship Grant, I am having the time of my life sipping camel milk and eating goat in Kenya. Children Peace Initiative Kenya is a small organization run by the most passionate advocates for peace I have ever encountered.

Since 2012, Children Peace Initiative has been working with remote communities in northwestern Kenya to resolve conflict between feuding pastoralist tribes by engaging their children in peacebuilding programs that depend upon inter-ethnic friendships. Through this fellowship, I have been able to travel to these villages and interview beneficiaries to monitor and evaluate impact. The stories I’ve heard from children and their families reflect that CPI’s peacebuilding model has not only developed enduring friendships, but has completely transformed these communities so that they depend on each other to share resources, services, and markets. I am gaining invaluable experience working on the ground with stakeholders and sharing their stories. I have also been able to travel to conflicted communities where CPI hopes to implement their peacebuilding programs and assess the situation on the ground. In addition to monitor and evaluation experience, I am also writing grant proposals, editing CPI’s website, and working to increase their visibility and donor relations. This experience could not be more relevant and applicable to my career in the making.
The topic and title of our capstone project was “Syrian Refugee Integration: A Case Study of Berlin, Germany.”

The most rewarding aspect of the capstone project was realizing that we were conducting novel research on an issue that each of us cared about very much. There was, and still is, very little research on Syrian refugees in their host communities. We felt that we were better understanding their lives and context in a more nuanced way than was possible from Washington, D.C. Further, we felt that we were encouraging credible changes through our recommendations—changes that might positively affect their lives and the lives of other refugees and displaced people as well.

All of us on the team hope to work in refugee or humanitarian-related fields, and I know this study has already bolstered our skill sets in international research and project management. The combination of technology and humanitarian work is a growing field that we were extremely happy to be a part of, and a field that we believe will lend us an upper hand in our future endeavors.
The experience working in Russia on an International Internship Grant has been nothing short of fantastic.

I am in a city called Togliatti. Here in this city, English is a rarity and I am thus forced to speak only in Russian, providing me with the immersion experience I have desired for years. What’s more, it gives me a better picture of what Russian cities and ways of life are like outside of the international spotlight. The cultural insight that I am gaining here is simply something you can’t read about in a textbook.

I believe cultural competence is a vitally important aspect of any career in which you are going to be working with people from other countries and cultures. Aside from being able to form deeper bonds with the Russian people, the most obvious values to my future career are the understanding of how life functions in Russia. Finally, I have been able to wade through some stereotypes we hold about Russians. Being able to separate people from politics is very important, and I now also understand the way Russians view the current state of affairs between our two countries.
The Elliott School’s diverse community encompasses students, faculty, and the policy community, as well as our Foggy Bottom neighbors.

Elliot School events are open to the public, and our students benefit from hearing the wide range of views expressed.

More and more, the Elliott School is expanding its influence through video, social, and traditional media. Our faculty are in demand for their subject matter expertise and were quoted in the media over 1,400 times last year, contributing to the global dialogue on current events.
NEWSMAKERS MAKE HEADLINES AND THEN HEAD TO ELLIOTT

#WeAreElliott
SECRETARY GENERAL JENS STOLTENBERG DISCUSSES NATO’S FUTURE

Just one day after the NATO Secretary General, **JENS STOLTENBERG**, met with President Trump at the White House, the head of NATO took the opportunity to drop by the Elliott School for a rousing discussion on the organization’s continued relevance.

In a room packed with over 200 people and a waitlist of several hundred, Elliott students were given the opportunity to rub shoulders with the Secretary General of NATO. Not only were they able to ask questions of one of the most influential leaders today, but Mr. Stoltenberg stayed after the formal discussion and granted the rare opportunity for students to speak to him individually and take selfies.

Hosting global leaders like Secretary General Stoltenberg offers Elliott School students the opportunity to gain perspective into some of the most influential minds of our time. Just another way Elliott is building leaders for the world.
The event was the culmination of a two-day inaugural conference of the 50th anniversary of the Nigerian Civil War co-sponsored by the Elliott School of International Affairs, the Institute for African Studies, and the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences.

What’s surprising is not only the caliber of the speakers we attract at the Elliott School, it’s the growing opportunities to share our experience live through the internet. Throughout the course of the two-day conference, nearly 10,000 people participated via social media and livestreaming.

With every year, digital opportunities grow more robust, spreading information to all corners of the globe and connecting people through a common subject, enabling the Elliott School community to tune in, engage, and make change around the world.

GW students were invited to a talk by Nigerian author, CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE, held at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture.
MUHAMMAD YUNUS AWARDED THE UNIVERSITY’S HIGHEST HONOR

Professor MUHAMMAD YUNUS, prior to a large public event at GW hosted by the Elliott School, spent the day in small group settings with students studying international development, social entrepreneurship, and Southeast Asian studies. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity for them to speak with Nobel Laureate and father of microfinance Professor Muhammad Yunus.

Tushar Madan, a senior international affairs and economics major at the Elliott School remarked, “events like this embody GW’s mentality of learning both inside and out of the classroom.”
James Foster,
the Oliver T. Carr, Jr. Professor
in International Affairs
EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION
OF INTERNATIONAL LEADERS

Our distinguished faculty comprises leading scholars and policy practitioners who bring a tremendous range of expertise and experience to the study of international affairs. Faculty members come from disciplines such as political science, history, economics, anthropology, international development studies, international science and technology, international business and finance, public health, security policy, and regional studies. Our full-time faculty, composed of award-winning authors, former ambassadors, and international affairs practitioners from around the world, allows us to provide students an innovative, cross-disciplinary curriculum.
Leadership in space is vital to protecting our own interests and creating a more stable international order in which the United States continues to be the indispensable nation.

WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCES ITS INTENTION TO APPOINT SCOTT PACE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL SPACE COUNCIL

Headlines like this are not unique for Elliott School faculty who move seamlessly between the fields of academia, policy, and practice. SCOTT PACE, Director of the Space Policy Institute and Professor of Practice of International Affairs at the Elliott School, has previously worked at NASA, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the RAND Corporation’s Science and Technology Policy Institute before joining the Space Policy Institute at the Elliott School in 2008.

Opportunities to study under prestigious faculty who have their hands in the current events that shape our world is characteristic of an Elliott School education. “Professors who have life-long experience in the field teach students not only academic knowledge but also actual real experience,” cites a student in an anonymous course review survey.

The Space Policy Institute was established by the George Washington University in 1987 in recognition of a growing need for an independent and informed source of space policy expertise. The institute conducts research, promotes dialogue, and supports graduate education on policy issues related to U.S. space efforts and cooperative and competitive interactions in space.

ELLIOTT SCHOOL FACULTY BY THE NUMBERS
“The institute is very proud of its relatively strong presence of women faculty and the outstanding work each one is doing at the frontiers of research, teaching, and policy. Their work and contributions have significantly broadened the range of issues the institute addresses and expanded its ability to examine issues from new and innovative perspectives.”

DR. MAGGIE CHEN

FEMALE ECONOMISTS AT ELLIOTT PACK A PUNCH

Two Elliott School faculty, MAGGIE CHEN and GRACIELA KAMINSKY, Professors of Economics and International Affairs, rank in the top five percent of female economists worldwide, according to IDEAS, the largest bibliographic database dedicated to economics. Both Chen and Kaminsky are affiliated with the Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP), where 34 percent of affiliated faculty are women.

It is a fact that the economics profession includes disproportionately few women and minority groups, relative both to the overall population and to other academic disciplines. In the United States, among 500 doctoral degrees awarded in economics to U.S. citizens and permanent residents in 2014, only 157 were awarded to women. As a consequence of the relatively strong presence of women faculty within the Institute for International Economic Policy, its work broadens the range of issues addressed and expands its ability to study issues from new and innovative perspectives.
THE ELLIOTT SCHOOL,
WHERE RESEARCH HAPPENS.
Our cross-disciplinary faculty produce knowledge and innovative ideas to solve global problems. Research findings are widely disseminated through publications in top-tier academic journals and influential books, as well as popular media outlets.
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As stated in their annual report, Carnegie Corporation of New York described the Elliott School as "one of the foremost places to develop knowledge needed for the study and conduct of policy and connect analysis to the policymaking community."

OUR MAIN FUNDERS

Foundations and Others

CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK
BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION
UNICEF
THE ACADEMY OF KOREAN STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL GROWTH CENTRE
RAND CORPORATION
INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION

HENRY LUCE FOUNDATION
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION

Federal

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (NNSA)
The Program on New Approaches to Research and Security in Eurasia (PONARS Eurasia) is the recipient of several external research and programmatic grants, including generous support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

PONARS Eurasia, housed in our Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (IERES), is run by Professors Henry Hale and Marlene Laruelle, both renowned scholars on Russian and Eurasian politics. Over the years, PONARS Eurasia has built a unique network of scholars from both North America and Eurasia who engage openly around important policy relevant issues concerning the Eurasian space.

Recently, PONARS Eurasia partnered with Ukraine’s Karazin University, in the city of Kharkiv, to host an international conference on “Post-Soviet Domestic Politics in Comparative Perspective.” Thirty-two top scholars from five different countries participated. A public panel on reforms in Ukraine headlined the event, chaired by Karazin University’s influential Professor Oleksandr Fisun. Laruelle wrapped up the panel by shedding light on how Russia is handling important issues of historical memory that are a major part of its war effort in Ukraine.
INSTITUTES OF EXCELLENCE, WHERE RESEARCH HAPPENS

Scott Pace
SPACE POLICY INSTITUTE (SPI)

“2017 is the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Space Policy Institute. Today, we have a faculty with a combined 150 years or so of experience in the space sector. Most importantly, we have contributed to the development of generations of students, scholars, and professionals who have held and continue to hold responsible positions in government, industry, and academia related to a wide variety of space activities.”

Janet Steele
INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND GLOBAL COMMUNICATION (IPDGC)

“At the Institute for Public Diplomacy and Global Communication (IPDGC) we draw upon the faculty of both the Elliott School and the School of Media and Public Affairs to combine the study of international affairs with strategic communication. With a world-class faculty and a senior public diplomacy fellow on detail from the State Department each year, IPDGC offers both theoretical and practical approaches to the study of global communication.”

Ky Luu
INSTITUTE FOR DISASTER AND FRAGILITY RESILIENCE (IDFR)

“At the Institute for Disaster and Fragility Resilience, we cut across the various disciplines to draw upon the full capacity that exists here at George Washington. To be able to work with faculty from the School of Public Health, the School of Engineering—really looking at an interdisciplinary approach to reducing risk and vulnerability and promoting peace so that we can strengthen resilience within these conflict-prone countries.”

Allison Macfarlane
INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY (IISTP)

“Our top-notch faculty have broad interests, from climate change and environmental policy, to technological innovation and its international impacts, to nuclear safety and waste policy, to militarism and the sociology of science, to cybersecurity and internet policy. IISTP faculty extend their reach through op-eds, regular columns, books, and blogs, as well as research articles.”

Over $2.5 Million in Federal Awards
Nearly $8 Million in Foundation/Other Awards
The Elliott School is home to 11 Research Centers and Institutes (five regional and six topical) that bring together renowned scholars and policymakers. Our institutes and centers host more than 40 visiting scholars annually and have over 15 academic and research partnerships with institutions around the world.

Stephen Smith
INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY (IIEP)

“2017 marks IIEP’s 10th anniversary. Our work centers on four signature initiatives: Climate Adaptation in Developing Countries; Ultra-poverty; Global Economic Governance for the 21st Century; and China’s Economic Development and U.S.-China Economic Relations. We also focus on economic and development issues in India and Sub-Saharan Africa. Our faculty and research initiatives are contributing substantive policy recommendations designed to improve lives all over the globe.”

Charlie Glaser
INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY AND CONFLICT STUDIES (ISCS)

“Since its founding in 1961, the Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (IERES) has advanced its primary mission of serving as a field-defining leader in scholarship, education, and advice for policy-makers. Based on the concept that Europe, Russia, and Eurasia cannot be understood in isolation from each other or from global trends, the institute combines academic rigor with policy engagement and promote interdisciplinary perspectives. IERES promotes and supports the study of Europe and Eurasia through research projects, events, publications, and graduate and undergraduate courses.”

Richard Grinker
INSTITUTE FOR AFRICAN STUDIES (IAfS)

“We are committed to inspiring our students and faculty to study the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in Africa. The Institute for African Studies balances cutting-edge academics with policy and practitioner engagement. In our inaugural year, we have created funding opportunities for students to study and gain practical work experience in Africa, and put on a world-class conference on the 50th anniversary of the Nigerian Civil War.”

Peter Rollberg
INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN, RUSSIAN AND EURASIAN STUDIES (IERES)

“The institute boasts an exceptionally strong faculty. Five members of our vibrant academic community received distinguished awards and recognition for their contributions this year alone. ISCS faculty have diverse research interests within international security studies and frequently engage the public through op-eds, magazine articles, and other media, providing insight on today’s most pressing security issues.”
Our 3,000+ students conduct independent research and also gain important experience working closely with faculty as research assistants.

Gregg Brazinsky
SIGUR CENTER FOR ASIAN STUDIES

“This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. The past two and a half decades have been a period of phenomenal growth for Asian Studies at GW. The university has expanded beyond its traditional strengths in China and Japan to hire faculty focusing on Korea, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.”

Jisoo M. Kim
INSTITUTE FOR KOREAN STUDIES (GWIKS)

“The first summer study abroad program of GWIKS was initiated this year. Fifteen students learned about Korean identity, division, reunification, and economic differences between the two Koreas. The students found the summer program to be an amazing experience and plan to pursue their studies about Korea in depth.”

Nathan Brown
INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST STUDIES (IMES)

“The Institute for Middle East Studies was founded only a decade ago but has already established itself as an international center for research and programming on the modern Middle East. IMES has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a National Resource Center for the study of the Middle East, secured an endowment from the State of Kuwait, and obtained other programming support from the U.S. government, major foundations, and the private sector. IMES is GW’s institutional hub for multidisciplinary research and study related to the modern Middle East and the university’s primary source of outreach to both the public and the policy community.”
Elliott School Undergraduate Scholars Program

The Elliott School Undergraduate Scholars program is an independent research opportunity for outstanding Elliott School juniors and seniors. Scholars receive faculty support in submitting their research for publication to peer-reviewed journals, as well as channeling their research experience into applications for graduate study, scholarships, and grants. The program opens doors for students to share their findings within the academic community, and helps them gain the skills and knowledge to engage in independent research.
My research has focused on the social effects of desertification and drought. Through conversations with local professors, livestock farmers, NGO and government officials, I am hoping to gather information about the effects of drought and water shortages on farmers and learn about local solutions that are being pursued to overcome these challenges.

My thesis will focus on Namibia as a major case study, and will ultimately aim to propose policy solutions to desertification in the Sahel where desertification is a new phenomenon. Namibia, an incredibly arid country, could potentially provide an example for other regions newly experiencing desertification. In addition, Namibia could serve as a case study of the very real impacts of water shortages and land degradation in Africa, particularly given recent droughts. Droughts and desertification, potentially caused by climate change, will have very real effects on food security on the African continent. After being welcomed to Namibia with open arms, I am even more determined to be part of the solution to a problem that will likely have profound effects on both a rapidly-growing continent with incredible promise, and a country that has become like a second home to me.
The focus of my research is on conservation initiatives in local maritime communities in Indonesia. I have been assisting the Misool Foundation, a local NGO in Eastern Flores, Indonesia, about a five-hour flight away from the capital of Jakarta. This area is unique for its incredible marine diversity and abundance of large migratory sea animals, and is also home to the largest manta ray and whale shark fisheries in the world.

My research assesses the success of local conservation efforts and helps identify alternative livelihoods to illegal fishing such as tourism and sustainable fisheries. As a PADI Divemaster, I lead the marine research team in megafauna surveys, plankton sampling, and dive site exploration and mapping. After six months in Indonesia with the Elliott School affiliated study abroad program, I am confidently using the Indonesian language, Bahasa. This, in turn, has allowed me to understand the life stories and lessons from our research team staff. I hope to use my research to apply the lessons of successful community conservation in the future to more conservation initiatives here in Indonesia. The livelihoods of local communities and the future of large marine animals depend on it.
The Office of Graduate Student Services (GSS) provides a one-stop location for the full cycle of graduate student development. Centralized services offer Elliott School students a strategic advantage as they advance in their careers and find success all over the world as leaders and professionals.
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TATIANA NIANG
MA CANDIDATE, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Tatiana is entering her second year of the Master of Arts in International Affairs (MAIA) program at the Elliott School. She has recently returned from a semester abroad in Singapore. She decided to go to Singapore because she was extremely interested in learning about the multi-cultural societies in Southeast Asia and in getting a deeper understanding of the conflicts in the region. Additionally, she had never been anywhere beyond the Middle East! For her, it was fascinating living in a country that is not considered a democracy by western standards, but is heavily influenced by and modeled after the west. Because of Singapore’s central location, she was able to travel to several other countries in the region. This experience was eye-opening and has given her a new perspective on SE Asia, and a new love for Asian food!
Nidhi Upadhyaya
MA ’17, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Nidhi came to Elliott in 2015 with an MBA in Media and Entertainment from her native Mumbai, India. While in Washington, D.C., she worked hard to gain her MA in International Affairs: International Economic Affairs and Development. She worked as a Research Assistant in GW’s Economics Department and in the Political Science Department and she did summer internships, including one with the Atlantic Council. She honed her skills in financial audits and analysis: fact-checking, digital strategy, and social media analytics while staying current on South Asian affairs. Nidhi availed herself of all that our career services could offer. In May of 2017, Nidhi received an offer letter from the Atlantic Council to become its Assistant Director of the South Asia Center. She started in early June 2017.

William Kabagambe
MA ’17, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

William came to the Elliott School for a master’s degree in International Trade and Investment policy. His passion is Africa and Economics. As graduation neared, William began applying to jobs—early and often. He worked with our office on a constant basis to hone his résumé, practice interviewing, and make connections. William’s dream was to work at Albright Stonebridge—a major consulting firm in Washington, D.C., with a robust Africa practice. He was hired there in June of this year and is excited to begin his career.
ELLIOOTT SCHOOL GSS
BY THE NUMBERS

EMPLOYMENT

91% GRADUATES EMPLOYED WITHIN 6 MONTHS

+3% increase from 2014

WHERE GRADUATES ARE EMPLOYED

PUBLIC SECTOR
39%

PRIVATE SECTOR
27%

NON-PROFIT SECTOR
28%

2017 PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT FELLOWS (PMF) FINALISTS

10

3 ALUMNI

7 CURRENT GRADUATE STUDENTS

42% OF ALL GW PMF FINALISTS

PROGRAMMING

64 CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND EVENTS IN 2016

SITE VISITS

STUDENT ORGANIZATION PARTNERSHIP EVENTS

CAREER PANELS

EMPLOYER FORUMS

INFORMATION SESSIONS

SCIENTES PO
PARIS, FRANCE
MOST POPULAR STUDY ABROAD DESTINATION

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

15 EXCHANGE PARTNERS

4 ADDITIONAL UNAFFILIATED PROGRAMS

18 INBOUND GRADUATE EXCHANGE STUDENTS

31 GRADUATE STUDENTS SENT ABROAD
ACADEMIC ADVISING

+282
INCREASE IN NUMBER OF STUDENTS SEEN BY ADVISORS OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR

GRADUATE ADVISORS BY THE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plans of Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Registration Forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduation Clearances</td>
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<td>Graduate Student Appointments</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop-In Advising</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STUDENTS ENROLLED

- 67% Full-Time
- 33% Part-Time

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- 14%

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS

- 14%

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ENROLLED

- 27%

INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP GRANT RECIPIENTS

- 8

FREEMAN FOUNDATION GRANT RECIPIENTS FOR EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA INTERNSHIPS IN 2017

- 27

PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO COMPLETED AN INTERNSHIP DURING THEIR STUDIES

- 65%
Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), MA '92, delivered the 2017 GW Commencement address on the National Mall in May. "Successful people didn’t make it because they never failed. They made it because they never gave up…Don’t be afraid of failure," she said. "Be afraid of never tasting it."
Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), MA ‘92, delivered the 2017 GW Commencement address on the National Mall in May. “Successful people didn’t make it because they never failed. They made it because they never gave up...Don’t be afraid of failure,” she said. “Be afraid of never tasting it.”
THE ALUMNI CONNECTION TO THE ELLIOTT SCHOOL DOESN’T END WITH GRADUATION. OUR ALUMNI ARE MEMBERS OF A LIFELONG AND WORLDWIDE ELLIOTT COMMUNITY.
Elliott School alumni span the globe, contributing their skills and knowledge to a wide array of industries and professions. Our alumni engagement efforts are tailored to meet Elliott alumni where they live and work—from D.C. to Dubai, from the federal government to the corporate sector—and everywhere in between.

More than 1,200 alumni, students, parents, and friends participated in 58 events and meetings offered this year, including career development, regional and international, affinity, admissions, and student-alumni programs.

Faculty and staff engaged alumni around the world in Beijing, Brussels, Dubai, Geneva, Kuwait, London, New York, Miami, Shanghai, Singapore, and Tokyo.

Several alumni shared their career experiences as a corporate executive, children’s author, White House staffer, municipal sustainability chief, and foreign government officer.

And more than 400 Elliott alumni volunteered their time to recruit students, share career advice, coordinate regional and international programming, serve on advisory boards, and mentor students.
“I wanted to pursue a master’s degree, but I also wanted to make sure I could work at RAND. Attending GW gave me that flexibility. They were very helpful to those with a job trying to make their way in the world while still getting the skills they need.”

Rose Gottemoeller
MA ‘81

Gottemoeller is the Deputy Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a position she took up in October 2016. She is the first woman and second American to hold this title.

“This award is for the people who put me in the position to be useful, to be of service. Coming to George Washington fundamentally changed the trajectory of my life.”

Jim Core
MA ’96

Core was recognized for outstanding service to GW and the Elliott School by the GW Alumni Association.
“Growing up in America there was nothing like the kind of mainstream children’s literature I write, told from the perspective of a young Muslim. I think it’s an important time to be out there and presenting these ideas, and sharing them with schools and libraries and panels. It’s an important use of my time and my skills.”

Hena Khan
MA ’97

An unexpected turn led Khan from her career as international development consultant to successful children’s author.

“In order to be an effective policy or lawmaker, you have to be able to communicate with other people, so I hope to be able to use languages to work on international treaties or negotiation and better understand why different countries feel a certain way about policies from the U.S.”

Josh Pickar
BA ’14

Pickar became just the second GW-affiliated recipient to win the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, which provides all expenses to study at the University of Oxford in England. One of the best classes Pickar took at GW was Intensive Russian—a year’s worth of language instruction crammed into one semester.
“Being in D.C. opened a lot of doors for me,” she says, but doors open only when you are seeking opportunity. “Go to lectures, do internships, and network,” she says. Also important: “Keep your options open.”

Wendy Cutler
BA ‘79

In a 28-year career with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), Cutler logged thousands of hours at the negotiating table, forging complex trade agreements and traveling to nearly every corner of Asia. She now serves as Vice President of the Asia Society Policy Institute.

“I did have one thing which I think was important. That was passion—passion to bring about change. My time in D.C. and my time at GW made me realize the importance of community service.”

Hussain Nadim
BA ‘10

Nadim was recognized by the GW Alumni Association with the Recent Alumni Achievement Award.
“Find your passion and be good at it. Try to excel at whatever you are doing. Think of yourself as a personal brand—what would you like to stand for? Persevere and you will eventually get a lucky break. But you must work hard; luck comes to those who are ready for it.”

Frank Wong
BA ’79

A dedicated GW alumnus and generous philanthropist, Wong has had a storied career with large, global companies, from Colgate-Palmolive to Nabisco to PepsiCo to his current position with Scholastic, a world leader in publishing.

“The more people have a broad worldview and can look at problems from many perspectives the better off we will be. The Elliott School is producing folks who have a broad worldview. This is tremendously important in a globalized world.”

Ted Schmitt
MA ’06

Schmitt is not your average conservationist. He wields big data as a weapon in the fight to protect the Earth’s threatened species. Most recently, he has been a key player in the quest to conserve the dwindling African elephant population.
Philanthropy continued to advance all aspects of the Elliott School mission in 2016-17, with alumni, parents, students, friends, and organizations stepping forward to offer vital support for our dynamic academic programs, outstanding students, renowned research centers, and extensive policy events.
Philanthropy continued to advance all aspects of the Elliott School mission in 2016-17, with alumni, parents, students, friends, and organizations stepping forward to offer vital support for our dynamic academic programs, outstanding students, renowned research centers, and extensive policy events.
WHY WE GIVE

“It is our honor and pleasure to support the Elliott School. We are so pleased that countless students, including our daughter Madeline, will gain an incredible education that includes not only stellar academic classes in international affairs, but meaningful, hands-on internships and genuine community engagement. We are inspired by Dean Brigety’s commitment that Elliott students acquire the necessary skills to become highly thoughtful, collaborative leaders who can foster mutual understanding and respect among diverse people while tackling complex international matters.”

SARA AND MICHAEL CRAIG-SCHECKMAN, PARENTS OF MADELINE, BA CANDIDATE
A PASSION FOR GIVING BACK

ALIA MARWAH EYRES, BA ‘01
ELLIOTT SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

Throughout her childhood, **ALIA MARWAH EYRES, BA ‘01**, volunteered at Mother’s Choice, a Hong-Kong based, grassroots NGO her parents founded to care for teenage mothers and their babies, many of whom had nowhere to turn for shelter and advice.

Today, Alia heads up Mother’s Choice and credits the Elliott School with laying the groundwork for her role as chief executive. “The Elliott School taught me so much that guides my leadership at Mother’s Choice. I learned the importance of being able to communicate and work well together with many different parties, who often have different agendas, cultures, and perspectives.”

Alia draws on this perspective in her role as chair of the Elliott School Board of Advisors as well. She also is firmly committed to service and giving back.

She gives generously to the Dean’s Fund, a critical resource that amplifies the entire student experience, in the classroom and beyond. Among priorities the fund supports are new courses focused on emerging global issues, career-focused internships, study-abroad, professional development, and undergraduate research.

“I believe in the importance of giving back, both through volunteer service and personal philanthropy.”

ALIA MARWAH EYRES

AN ENDURING TRIBUTE

OLIVER T. CARR, JR.
LONGTIME GW FRIEND AND FORMER CHAIR
OF THE UNIVERSITY’S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Oliver T. Carr, Jr. Professorship in International Affairs establishes an enduring tribute to Mr. Carr, longtime friend to GW, former chair of the university’s Board of Trustees, and distinguished citizen of Washington, D.C. On November 1, 2016, the university community gathered to honor Mr. Carr and to celebrate conferral of the professorship on one of its own: Professor James Foster, a renowned developmental economist known for groundbreaking work to alleviate global poverty. The Carr Professorship further elevates the Elliott School’s stature in the critical field of international development.

ELLIOTT SCHOOL PHILANTHROPY
BY THE NUMBERS

OVER $11 Million RAISED IN FY17
Inspired by his own career, which has taken him across Mexico and Latin America, MICHAEL QUINN, BA ‘84, chose to invest in the Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Program at his alma mater—where he also serves on the Board of Advisors.

In December 2016, Michael made a two-year pledge of $100,000 to support graduate fellowships for outstanding students in the program and to enhance policy discourse on this vast and varied expanse. Michael derives deep satisfaction from his choice. “It is doubly rewarding to support my alma mater while advancing the study of an area of the world that has so much potential and that has meant so much to me in my professional life,” he says.
AN UNDERGRADUATE FRIENDSHIP INSPIRES LOYAL PHILANTHROPY

CHRIS FUSSNER, BA '79

The Elliott School has benefited greatly from gifts in 2016-17 from one of the Elliott School’s most loyal and generous alumni donors, CHRISTOPHER “CHRIS” FUSSNER. Owner and founder of a Singapore-based high-tech firm, Fussner first became interested in international affairs as a GW undergraduate. That’s when he met David Shambaugh, former classmate, lifelong friend, and Elliott School professor, who founded and directs the school’s China Policy Program.

Fussner, himself an expert on Southeast Asian affairs, has given significant support to the China Policy Program for two decades, enabling the program to expand its engagement with the policy community focused on U.S.-China relations and contemporary Chinese affairs.

This year, Fussner added to his philanthropy with a noteworthy gift to establish GW as the academic home for the Grameen Bank and Trust Student Internship Program in Bangladesh.

The internships provide students with on-the-ground training in microfinance, poverty reduction, and economic development. Fussner also helped to bring Grameen’s Nobel Prize winning founder, Muhammad Yunus, to campus to receive GW’s President’s Medal and meet informally with Elliott School students and faculty.

GW alumnus Chris Fussner helped to bring Muhammad Yunus (right) to GW in fall 2016. Chris remembers his undergraduate years fondly. “I received a great education,” he says, “and out of our class came two famous China experts, David Shambaugh and Michael Swaine. David has been my friend ever since our GW days.”

GIVING BACK TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

GW FLAG DAY 2017

Elliot School students understand the importance of giving back to make a difference in the world—and on GW Flag Day 2017 they turned out to express their gratitude. Held on April 12, 2017, the annual day of giving provided opportunities for students across the university to reflect on philanthropy’s transformative power. Between classes, Elliott School students gathered in the lobby to pen their thanks on a large poster beneath the Flag Day banner. Many attended a school-wide luncheon, where they met alumni and donors while learning more about how philanthropy enriches the Elliott School student experience.
President Lloyd Hartman Elliott splits the School of Government, Business, and International Affairs into the School of Government and Business Administration and the School of Public and International Affairs.

Official naming of the Elliott School of International Affairs after President Elliott and his wife, Evelyn Elliott.

GW first offers courses in International Affairs with the School of Comparative Jurisprudence and Diplomacy.

Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies founded under the name Sino-Soviet Studies.

Center for Science and Technology Policy (later renamed Institute for International Science and Technology Policy) founded.

Official naming of the Elliott School of International Affairs after President Elliott and his wife, Evelyn Elliott.

Elliott School 1957 E St. Academic Building opens.

President Lloyd Hartman Elliott splits the School of Government, Business, and International Affairs into the School of Government and Business Administration and the School of Public and International Affairs.

Sigur Center founded.
2005
Institute for Public Diplomacy and Global Communications founded.

2007
Institute for International Economic Policy founded.

2007
Institute for Middle East Studies founded.

2009
Institute for Security and Conflict Studies launched.

2015
Institute for Security and Conflict Studies launched.

2015
Institute for African Studies chartered.

2015
Institute for Korean Studies chartered.

2016
Institute for Disaster and Fragility Resilience chartered.

2016
Ambassador Reuben Brigety II succeeds Dean Michael Brown and remains the current Dean of the Elliott School of International Affairs.