Past Fellows’ Reflections

“I am incredibly pleased as my summer comes to an end. Intellectually, I feel like I have evolved years in just a few months through this experience. My world view has been dramatically reshaped and expanded.”
—Michael Harhay, MPH student (University of Pennsylvania)

“The program provided a great network, an internship which resulted in concrete outcomes and continued collaboration and an educational course week which displayed the various global issues in health and possible solutions. It also provided friends and professional relationships which will last the rest of my career. A program worth applying.
—Unni Gopinathan, Medical Student (University of Oslo)

Participating in the Duke program was an invaluable experience to my education, growth and career. Through my internship, I was exposed to the inner workings of the WHO and was assigned substantial projects. I will regard this summer as one of the most important times in my life for my educational growth and development.
—Elizabeth Corey, Medical Student (University of Wisconsin)

Application Process
To apply, please send: 1) application form, 2) a current resume in specified format, 3) two letters of recommendation from people familiar with your professional, community service and/or academic work, and 4) answers to a set of three questions. References should send recommendation letters directly to geneva@duke.edu. Please refer to the website (http://www.sanford.duke.edu/geneva/) for further details. To participate in the Global Health Fellows Program, please be sure to select the “Health Policy in a Globalizing World” course.

Applications must be received electronically by Monday, November 28, 2011 at 5:00 PM EST. Students will receive a final decision in late December 2011. Successful applicants usually are pursuing graduate-level studies in the U.S. or abroad, have a strong track record of educational and professional achievements, and have demonstrated potential for leadership in public service.

Program Fees
The Program fee is $2500, including a $500 nonrefundable deposit, which partially offsets the administrative costs associated with arranging group and course activities, locating housing and assistance in internship placement in Geneva. This fee does not include housing, food or airfare.

The Global Health Fellows Program cannot provide partial or full scholarships for participants. Each participant is responsible for program fee, room and board, airfare and other living expenses. Students should work with their schools or sponsors to determine how all costs will be paid. For example, the Duke Global Health Institute offers two scholarships for Duke students to participate in this program (for more information, please contact globalhealth@duke.edu). MPP and PIDP students at Duke University’s Sanford School of Public Policy might also be able to secure funding from their specific programs. Please note that Fellows may NOT accept funding from industry or corporate foundation sources to support their participation in the program.

Contact Information
Please send application materials and refer questions regarding the Global Health Fellows Program to Lisa Kukla, Program Coordinator, Program on Global Policy & Governance, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University, Ph: 919-613-9289, geneva@duke.edu.
Web site: http://www.sanford.duke.edu/geneva/
GLOBAL HEALTH FELLOWS

In the summer of 2012, Duke University’s Sanford School of Public Policy will bring the eighth cohort of Global Health Fellows to Geneva. Designed to equip students to take on the pressing global health challenges of our time, the Global Health Fellows Program will provide students with both an academic and experiential perspective on how inter-governmental institutions, public-private partnerships, and non-governmental organizations shape global health policy. By combining internships and an intensive course on global health issues, the program is a unique opportunity to learn first-hand how global health policy is formulated and implemented. This past year, 24 graduate students drawn from schools of public policy, public health, law and medicine from the U.S. and abroad participated in the summer experience.

Students are introduced to Pandemic Preparedness at the WHO’s Strategic Health and Operations Centre, the global hub for monitoring and managing pandemics.

Program Structure

The Global Health Fellows Program requires a minimum commitment of eight weeks, including attendance in the “Health Policy in a Globalizing World” course. Other components of the program include assisted placement in a health policy-related internship and shared experiences with a cohort of Fellows with diverse backgrounds. With program assistance, Global Health Fellows have the opportunity to plan and organize lunch or evening events and to develop a professional network of colleagues working in global health.

Geneva Internships

Through its network of contacts, the Program will assist students in securing 8-12 week internships in Geneva with WHO, UNAIDS and other inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) dealing with global health issues. Final acceptance into the Program is contingent upon the student securing a suitable policy internship. Global Health Fellows have interned at Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders), the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI), the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative, and several departments of the World Health Organization, from the Tobacco-Free Initiative to the World Alliance for Patient Safety.

“Health Policy in a Globalizing World” course

This course provides an overview of the forces of globalization shaping health in our world. Health inequities may result when there are asymmetries—say, between pathogens and the drugs that treat these diseases—in what becomes globalized. In the space of an intense week, the course modules cover a broad range of issues:

- Innovation and access to health technologies
- Human resources for health
- International conventions, from the International Health Regulations to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
- Non-communicable diseases, from tobacco control to nutrition
- Global health governance, from the role of the World Trade Organization to the Global Fund

In addition to over a dozen seminar sessions, Fellows go on site visits throughout the course week. Past site visits have included Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI); UNITAID, Medecins sans Frontieres, and UNAIDS among others. The seminars and site visits give Fellows an exceptional exposure to health policy work in a globalizing world.

Accommodations in Geneva

The Program assists Fellows to secure affordable housing in foyers in Geneva. Foyers, a cross between hostels and hotels, typically house interns and students from a number of different nations and organizations.

Program Staff

The Global Health Fellows Program is directed by Dr. Anthony So, Director of the Sanford School of Public Policy’s Program on Global Health and Technology Access at Duke University. Carmella La Bianca assists students in the internship process. Lisa Kukla and Quentin Ruiz–Esparza help coordinate the program.

Networking Events

Throughout the summer, program-sponsored events, excursions and extracurricular activities unite all program participants, creating shared experiences across courses and internships and providing opportunities to socialize and network with other policy interns and experts. While specific activities vary from year to year, the program typically holds an evening reception for Global Health Fellows, their mentors, and other health policy stakeholders from UN, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations. Students have also had opportunities to network with those working in global health at a mentorship dinner.