NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we move from summer to fall, we want to take this time to reflect on the Summer Internship Program that the Class of 2019 just completed. This year, as always, the opportunities were life-changing and the Scholars were terrific! I would like to share some highlights with you.

The Summer Internship Program starts with a three day Orientation that introduces key vocabulary and themes in Global Affairs and includes site visits to prestigious global organizations for private briefings. This year our visits included the U.S. Mission to the UN, Doctors without Borders, Council on Foreign Affairs, the Americas Society, and the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations.

Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason from the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations presented about her work at the UN, including her leadership as the Chair of the UN’s Commissioner on the Status of Women. Her insights and ability to connect to the experiences and goals and dreams of the Scholars made a lasting and powerful impact on them. We are honored to feature Ambassador Byrne Nason in the “Leadership Spotlight” of the Newsletter.

After the Orientation, the Scholars begin their internships. On the next page we feature some of the Host Organizations and significant accomplishments and opportunities afforded to the Scholars. Another important component of the Summer Program is the Mentor Groups. This year we expanded to having six Mentors - to be able to represent the different fields and interests of the Scholars and their internships. We are delighted that three of the six Mentors are JFEW SUNY Scholar Alumni!

We thank you for your continued support to make the Program so meaningful. And we wish you a great fall and academic year!

Dr. Maryalice Mazzara
JFEW SUNY Program Founding Director
Director of Educational Programs
SUNY Office of Global Affairs

About the Program

The JFEW SUNY Global Affairs Program is a two-year academic and scholarship program that empowers SUNY undergraduate women to become global leaders. Since the Program’s inception in 2011, the Jewish Foundation for Education of Women (JFEW) has funded over $4,000,000 in scholarships and Program support.

The Program provides academic and applied learning experiences through monthly academic seminars and a paid summer internship at a NYC globally focused organization between Scholars’ junior and senior years. In addition, the Program Scholars receive career support, mentoring, and networking opportunities. The participating SUNY campuses are Binghamton, Geneseo and Stony Brook. Each campus has 20 scholars.

LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

AMBASSADOR GERALDINE BYRNE NASON
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRELAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

This summer, Ambassador Byrne Nason welcomed the JFEW SUNY Global Affairs Class of 2019 at the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations on June 1 and discussed her leadership at the UN.

Ambassador Byrne Nason is the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations. Geraldine is a career diplomat who has served in Brussels, New York, Paris, Vienna and Helsinki during her career. As Secretary-General in the Prime Minister’s office from 2011-2014, she was the highest ranking female public servant in Ireland. While Ambassador Byrne Nason began her career at the UN, subsequently much of her service has been focused on Europe where she served as Ambassador to the EU, 2007 - 2011. From 2014 to 2017, she served as the Ambassador to France and Monaco. In 2014, she was elected a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, Ireland’s highest academic honour. She holds a Master’s and Bachelor’s degrees in Literature from Saint Patrick's College in Maynooth.

Ambassador Byrne Nason has made a lifelong impression on the Scholars as they soon begin their careers as female global leaders. We would like to highlight and appreciate all her efforts in supporting our program.

SUMMER ORGANIZATIONS
FOCUS ON HOST ORGANIZATIONS OF SUMMER INTERNSHIPS OF THE CURRENT CLASS

American Council on Germany
ACG has hosted Scholars every year since our first Internship Program in 2011. A Geneseo German minor who interned at the American Council on Germany worked under the leadership of Dr. Steven Sokol. Dr. Sokol was one of the distinguished speakers during the Weekly Seminars and talked about the importance of international issues.

Asia Initiatives
In its 5th year hosting interns, Asia Initiatives has provided exceptional skill development opportunities and mentorship support. This year, a Scholar from Stony Brook University wrote a grant proposal for a Lush Cosmetics initiative, which resulted in a $25,000 grant to Asia Initiatives.

Earth Institute, Columbia University
The JFEW SUNY Program welcomed Earth Institute at Columbia University as a Host Organization. They hosted three interns who worked on different research teams: the International Research Institute for Climate and Society, and the National Center for Preparedness at Columbia University.

Global Kids
We are happy to be back at Global Kids, and to be re-engaged! Global Kids hosted three interns. A Scholar from Binghamton University worked with Global Kids’ U.S. in the World Summer Institute, a summer initiative in collaboration with the Council on Foreign Relations.

Network 20/20
Our thanks to Network 20/20 for being a first-time Host Organization. Network 20/20 bridges the gap between the private sector and the foreign policy world, engaging rising and established professionals meaningfully in foreign policy. This was an excellent opportunity for two International Relations majors.

Scholar Impacts

Since the first class graduated in 2013, JFEW SUNY Scholars have excelled academically and professionally, and are on their way to becoming global leaders in their diverse fields. Highlights of recent accomplishments include:

FULBRIGHT AWARDS to Colombia, Georgia, Spain, Taiwan, and Turkey

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS Charles B. Rangel International Affairs, Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (2), Donald M. Payne International Development

GRADUATE PROGRAMS at Brown, Columbia, Harvard, and Johns Hopkins Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies

CAREERS IN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES & OFFICES including NASA, the U.S. Department of State, the NY State Senate, and NYC Mayor’s Office

Weekly Seminar with Professor Safwan M. Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development at Columbia University. Scholars read Dr. Masri’s book “Tunisia: An Arab Anomaly” this summer.

Site-visit to the Council on Foreign Relations with Rachel Vogelstein, Douglass Dillon Senior Fellow and Director, Women and Foreign Policy Program, and Justin Vogt, Managing Editor, Foreign Affairs Magazine.