



Truman National Security Project Educational Institute

Training a New Generation of Progressives to Lead on National Security

Congressional Security Scholars Program *for Hill Staffers*

Mission

The Congressional Security Scholars Program is a premier leadership development program for junior-level Hill staffers, intended to build a generation of Congressional staff with a broad understanding of current defense, foreign policy and national security issues, as well as deep roots in the philosophical tradition of strong progressive national security thought. The program also provides participants with the practical skills they need to become successful Congressional staff and play an integral role in an effective Hill office that advances strong security progressive policies.

Together, our Congressional Security Scholars form a strong community across the House and Senate who, as an alumni network, have access to the range of Truman Project experts, programs, and ongoing activities.

Program Description

Truman Security Scholars take part in twelve one-hour, lunch time sessions on Capitol Hill every Friday over a twelve week period. Attendees are required to attend 10 of 12 sessions to “graduate,” and drop-ins are not permitted.

Classes take place between noon and one in House and Senate buildings. A recognized leader headlines each week’s program. The program, including reading material, is provided at no cost to the participants or their offices.

All program participants will be notified of exact room locations and dates upon acceptance. Security Scholars must be nominated by their Chief of Staff or Legislative Director to attend. Participation is capped at 100 participants and is best suited for staff hired within the past 18 months. Most participants are Legislative Assistants, Aides and Correspondents, as well as exceptional Staff Assistants. If you do not fit these criteria, but still have interest, please contact camille@trumanproject.org to see if an exception is warranted.

Certification and Alumni Program

Scholars who attend at least 80% of the programs will receive a Truman Scholar certificate from the Truman National Security Project, and will be eligible for our Alumni program. Alumni are invited to exclusive trainings and briefings on the Hill from recognized experts in topics relevant to timely Hill debates. Alumni are also invited to Truman dinners and social events as part of a long-term community of shared purpose across the House and Senate.

Curriculum & Preliminary Schedule, Fall 2010*

**Please note that the program will definitely meet on these dates and cover this range of topics but session dates remain subject to change per speakers' availability.*

Week 1 – 09/17/10

THE PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL SECURITY LEGACY

Understanding the rich national security history of progressives.

Week 2 – 09/24/10

MILITARY 101

The military, its roles, organization and how you can rebuild bridges as a staffer.

Week 3 – 10/01/10

VETERAN'S OUTREACH: A Progressive, 21st Century Approach

What you need to know about today's Vets, progressive policy priorities, and how to effectively advance Veterans' affairs as a staffer.

Week 4 – 10/08/10

UNDERSTANDING THE DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE

How the market for military equipment and professional services works.

Week 5 – 10/15/10

FOLLOW THE MONEY: Appropriations 101

What you need to know about the appropriations process as a whole.

Week 6 – 10/22/10

FOLLOW THE DEFENSE MONEY: How to Read the Defense Budget

What you need to know about the defense appropriations process to successfully and effectively follow the money.

Week 7 – 10/29/10

TALKING SMART, SOUNDING STRONG: National Security Communications 101

How to talk in compelling, persuasive ways about national security issues with the American people and ensure your message is heard.

Week 8 – 11/05/10

PROGRESSIVE PATRIOTISM: How We Define It and Why It Matters

When your patriotism takes the form of always working toward a more perfect union, how do you express it? An interactive exploration of how progressives can reclaim this powerful issue.

Week 9 – 11/12/10

CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATIONAL SECURITY: Understanding the Threat Multiplier

How climate change amplifies threats to international security around the globe, why it matters now, and how the U.S. military is responding.

Week 10 – 11/19/10

DEVELOPMENT & NATIONAL SECURITY

The development-security nexus and the future of foreign assistance.

Week 11 – 12/03/10

DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS & NATIONAL SECURITY

A closer look at how U.S. democracy promotion has been complicated by strategic and security concerns.

Week 12 – 12/10/10

KEYNOTE CLOSING SESSION



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Truman Congressional Security Scholars Program Application

To apply, please:

- 1) Complete the application form at <http://trumanproject.org/programs/scholars/apply>
- 2) Send your resume to securityscholars@trumanproject.org
- 3) Have your Chief of Staff or Legislative Director sign this document and return by fax to our office (202-289-4199).

All applications are due by **August 27th**.

Participants will be notified of their acceptance by **September 8th**.

Name of Applicant: _____

Office of: _____

I, as Chief of Staff or Legislative Director, recommend and support this individual's involvement in the Truman Congressional Scholar Seminar.

Signature: _____

Name (print): _____

Please mail or fax this form to our office:

*Truman National Security Project
1420 K Street NW Suite 250
Washington, DC 2005
FAX: 202-289-4199*