

News



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton speaks to a packed Dean Acheson Auditorium at the intern recruitment event.

Intern Event Promotes Department Careers

In July, several hundred Washington, D.C., area interns filled the Dean Acheson Auditorium and a nearby hallway for a career fair called the Intern Summit@State.

The annual event, hosted by the Office of Recruitment, Examination and Employment in the Bureau of Human Resources, encourages students on local summer internships to seek Department of State careers. Besides attendees from the Department, the event drew White House interns, Presidential Management Fellows, Career Entry professionals and Stay-in-School and co-op program students.

Also in attendance were 25 Department-sponsored English Access Microscholarship students from Azerbaijan, Brazil, Burma, Chile, India, Kosovo, Lebanon, Morocco, Russia, South Africa and the West Bank. These 14- to 18-year-old students, who have scholarships for two years of after-school English study in their own countries, were in the United States for a three-week summer workshop on the English language and U.S. government and society.

This year's summit drew record attendance, REE said, because of the Department's hiring initiative, Diplomacy 3.0, and its emphasis on upcoming job openings for recent graduates.

At the summit, interns heard about the Department's job options from a panel of Foreign Service and Civil Service officers. A recent graduate from Texas A&M University, Lindsey Malecha, said the summit gave her "a better understanding of the true breadth and depth of political and diplomatic issues tackled by the State Department" and made her interested in a State Department career.

Attendee Holdyn Brand, an intern in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, said his highlight was Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's keynote speech.

"When the Secretary spoke, I was immediately captivated, not only by her presence and words, but by the emotion and sincerity with which she spoke," he said.

Similarly, in August the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons hosted a roundtable seminar for nearly 100 interns from more than 30 think tanks, nongovernmental organizations and other agencies battling human trafficking. The office's interns conducted the meeting, which was inspiring and instructive, said the office's director, Ambassador-at-Large Luis CdeBaca.