



STENNIS CONGRESSIONAL STAFF FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Stennis Congressional Staff Fellows Program is a practical, bipartisan leadership development experience for senior-level staff of the United States Congress. The program focuses on future challenges to Congress as an institution of American democracy and the leadership role played by senior congressional staff in meeting those challenges.

In each Congress, 24 to 28 Stennis Fellows are selected by an independent panel. Each group is balanced with nearly equal numbers from both political parties and both chambers. Stennis Fellows meet six to eight times over a 12 to 15-month period, with times and locations selected to be convenient to the Fellows.

LEARNING AGENDA AND THEME

One of the unique features of the Stennis Fellows Program is that Fellows determine their own learning agenda within a core theme. Nationally and internationally renowned experts will meet with the Stennis Fellows to help them explore various aspects of the agenda. While learning from these outside authorities is a unique opportunity, even more important is the dialogue, learning and relationship building that takes place among the Stennis Fellows in a neutral venue. At the conclusion of the fellowship period, Fellows summarize their learning experience and, with the assistance of Stennis Center staff, prepare a report for the Congressional leadership and others interested in the future of the United State Congress. The Stennis Fellows Program is not an advocacy

effort; ideas developed through the fellowship are presented as a resource for Stennis Fellows, Members of Congress, students of Congress, and others who share an interest in the work.

The 110th Congress Stennis Fellows will examine public trust and confidence in Congress and explore ways in which to strengthen it. The legitimacy and strength of America's representative government relies on a level of public trust and confidence in its institutions and processes. While a healthy skepticism has been an integral part of the U.S. political system since its founding, deeply felt mistrust can weaken the effectiveness of Congress and other institutions of American democracy.

The 110th Congress Stennis Fellows will use the broad theme of *Strengthening Public Trust and Confidence in Congress* to look ahead to the specific challenges Congress faces over the next 10 years. Examples of possible questions to help shape the learning agenda include:

- Historically, how have changes in public trust and confidence in Congress affected the ability of the institution to do its job?
- Do high levels of partisanship in Congress affect public trust?
- Are there systematic differences in how the public and those directly involved in Congress (Members and staff) view issues, and to what degree do those differences increase misunderstanding and reduce public confidence in Congress?

- How is public trust and confidence in Congress affected by:
 - o The media?
 - o New technologies?
 - o Interest groups?
 - o Political parties?
- How do younger Americans perceive Congress, and are there opportunities to increase their trust and understanding of the institution?

ELIGIBILITY

Stennis Fellows must be nominated by a Member of Congress and be senior-level congressional staff such as committee staff directors, chiefs of staff/administrative assistants, legislative directors, counsels, and senior professional staff. Nominees should demonstrate:

- A track record of leadership in key staff positions (personal or committee) characterized by senior management responsibility and involvement in significant aspects of the legislative process;
- A reputation for statesmanship – caring for the evolution of Congress and the political system as a whole;
- Significant career commitment to public service, with special emphasis on Congress;
- A desire to make a significant contribution to further the mission of the program; and
- A commitment to learn and fully participate in the responsibilities of the fellowship.

Nominations of high-potential staffers with limited Hill experience also will be considered. Renominations of senior-level staff not selected in prior Congresses are encouraged. The ability to participate fully in the program is a prerequisite to being appointed and retaining the designation of Stennis Fellow.



The Stennis Center seeks diversity in the Stennis Fellows Program and does not discriminate among individual nominees on the basis of race, religion, sex, national or ethnic origin, disability, or veteran status.

STENNIS FELLOWS PROFILE

Nearly 200 Stennis Fellows have completed their fellowship and are now known as Senior Fellows. Many continue to serve in the Congress where their combined service totals well over 2000 years. More than half of the Senior Fellows had ten years of experience or more at the time of their selection as a Stennis Fellow. Fifteen percent had twenty years of experience or more while thirteen percent were selected as Stennis Fellows with five years of experience or less.

PROJECTED CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

March 9, 2007	Nominations/nominee profiles due
April 2007	Selection Committee finalizes selections
May 2007	Invitations issued to 110th Congress Stennis Fellows
June 2007	Welcoming Reception
July 2007	Inaugural Meeting – Set Learning Agenda
July to October 2007	Working groups to further develop roundtable topics and outside experts
October 2007	Overnight retreat to finalize Learning Agenda; workshop on dialogue process to be used throughout fellowship
November 2007 to April 2008	Roundtable sessions (about three) with leading experts on major questions of Learning Agenda (several half-day sessions or combined sessions requiring an overnight stay)
May 2008	Overnight retreat to synthesize conclusions from the Fellowship
July 2008	Awards and Celebration dinner

STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The John C. Stennis Center for Public Service was created by Congress in 1988 to promote and strengthen public service leadership in America. The Stennis Center is headquartered in Starkville, Mississippi, with an office in Washington, DC.

The Stennis Center's mandate is to provide development and training for leaders in public service, including congressional staff, and to attract young people to careers in public service leadership. The Stennis Center accomplishes its mission through conferences, seminars, special projects, and leadership development programs.



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FELLOWS PROGRAM STAFF

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MISSION OF THE STENNIS FELLOWS PROGRAM

- Enhance the capacity and commitment of exceptional senior-level staff members to “Look Ahead” to what will be needed to better serve Congress and its Members in a world of rapid change;
- Foster dialogue and the exchange of ideas among senior-level staff members in a neutral venue, and create a growing network of bipartisan, bicameral working relationships;
- Produce a useful result – an ongoing legacy of learning – for those who care about the long-term effectiveness of Congress as a governing institution; and
- Recognize and honor senior-level staff of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in public service.



STENNIS CONGRESSIONAL STAFF FELLOWS

103rd THROUGH 109th CONGRESS

109TH CONGRESS

Kristin Amerling	Peter Fischer	Julia Massimino	Michael Quaranta	Ilyse Schuman
Shellie Berlin Bressler	Lynne Halbrooks	Peg McGlinch	Craig Roberts	Lawrence Ernest Spivey
David Brooks	James J. Hearn	Melissa Ann Mueller	Kimberly Ross	Brett Thompson
Stephen Brophy	Stewart Holmes	Kristin Elise Nicholson	Kimberly Rudolph	Chris Tuttle
Geoffrey H. Brown	Phil Karsting	Nicholas Palarino	Robert Kevin Ryan	Shawn Whitman
Richard W. Fieldhouse	Pete Kirkham	L. Shaun Parkin	James C. Sandberg	Patrice Willoughby

108TH CONGRESS

Richard A. Arenberg	Don DeArmon	Christina Langelier Hamilton	Evan Liddiard	Kristine Svinicki
John M. Ariale	Bruce M. Evans	Elisabeth Wright Hawkings	Stephanie J. Monroe	Alison Taylor
Winfield Boerckel, Jr.	Beverly Ann Fields	Clayton Heil	Sue A. Nelson	Paul Unger
David Cavicke	Gene T. Fisher	Robert Gregory Hinote	Janet Perry Poppleton	Mark S. Wellman
Jo-Ellen Darcy	Monique P. Frazier	Robert Holste	Judy Schneider	
Lula Johnson Davis	Jennice Fuentes	Stacey Leavandosky	Russell Sullivan	

107TH CONGRESS

Corine Larson Bradshaw	Rebecca M. Davies	Andrew W. Givens	Clinton Columbus Jones III	Lori Groves Rowley
Joyce Brayboy	Robert F. Dobek	Angus M. (Don) Green, Jr.	Kay Atkinson King	Nicole Venable Smith
Cassandra Q. Butts	Michael W. Evans	Thomas P. Hawkins	Peter K. Levine	Kate Sparks
Kenneth M. Connolly	Caroline R. Fredrickson	Richard J. Healy	Christopher J. Miller	Damon P. Tobias
James K. Conzelman	Raissa H. Geary	Charles J. Houy	Kimberly C. Parker	Andrew B. Willison

106TH CONGRESS

Carolyn Apostolou	Suzanne F. Farmer	Kevin D. Kayes	John D. Schelble	Marie G. Wheat
Paul S. Bock	Kevin I. Fromer	John Wilcox Lampmann	Wendy K.D. Selig	Andrew Wheeler
Richard R. Boykin	Linda Gustitus	Diane Liesman	Robert M. Simon	Mildeen G. Worrell
Mark Brownell	Michael S. Hershey	D. Gray Maxwell	Mark Strand	Richard A. (Rowdy) Yeates
James Derderian	Kristine A. Iverson	Patrick O. McGarey	Roger R. Szemraj	
Rochelle Suzanne Dornatt	Nils W. Johnson	David Pomerantz	Stephen Dorsey Vermillion III	

105TH CONGRESS

Chuck Atkins	Robert L. Dibblee	Tamera S. Luzzatto	Katherine B. McGuire	Heea Vazirani-Fales
Daniel E. Bob	Stephenie Foster	David S. Lyles	Susy Stout Smith	Connie Ann Veillette
Ann Brozek-Jablón	Scott B. Gudes	Christopher James Mansour	John T. Stirrup, Jr.	Andrew Vermilye
Manus M. Cooney	Cheryl Lynn Johnson	Nora Baumeister Matus	Liz Tankersley	Trudy A. Vincent
Thomas A. Daffron	Daniel J. Keniry	John W. McCamman	Ted Van Der Meid	Gregory W. Waddell

104TH CONGRESS

Judith A. Blanchard	Jane A. Gorsuch	William Mansel Long	Holly E. Propst	Charles C. Stephenson, Jr.
Moses Boyd	Thomas E. Harvey	Thomas O. Melius	Matthew A. Reynolds	Steven Richards Valentine
T. Scott Bunton	Susan K. Hattan	Alan Bruce Mertz	Arthur D. Rhodes	Mark E. Van de Water
Joseph R. Crapa	Dorothy R. Jackson	Eleanor Nash-Brown	Douglas D. Ritter, Jr.	Patrick Von Bargaen
Fariborz S. Fatemi	Albert Steven Jacquez	David Alan Nathan	J. Thomas Sliter	Donald R. Wolfensberger
Mark Alan Forman				

103RD CONGRESS

Leslie L. Atkinson	James M. Eagen, III	J. Keith Kennedy	Kathy A. Ormiston	Carlottia A. W. Scott
David Bartel	Christine C. Ferguson	David Krawitz	Arnold L. Punaro	Robert V. Seltzer
William Black	James M. Guthrie	James M. Kulikowski	Grace A. Reef	Kelly M. Sharbel, Jr.
Steven T. Bosacker	W. Roger Gwinn	Terri Ann Lowenthal	Marda J. Robillard	Dennis G. Smith
Mark H. Brown	Nicholas Hayes	Robert J. Ludwiczak	Phillip W. Rotondi	Leonard Weiss
Donald G. Carlson	Suzanne C. Hildick	Susan Aheron Magill	Robert M. Rozen	Ellen Jones Whitt
James H. Dykstra	Robert H. Hurt	Kari J. Moe	Robert P. Savitt	