The McDonnell International Scholars Academy

Overview

The McDonnell Academy provides graduate and professional students from University Partners around the world with an extraordinary educational experience at Washington University in St. Louis. A core mission of the McDonnell International Scholars Academy is to develop future global leaders. The Academy pursues this by recruiting outstanding graduates of partner institutions from around the world for Ph.D. or professional degree programs at Washington University in St. Louis.

It is more than academic talent alone that the Academy seeks, however. They also seek McDonnell Academy Scholars who have an interest in broader societal issues, and once they are here, provide them with opportunities to develop their leadership skills. These opportunities include experiencing the cultural and political life of America, learning about other societies, and meeting major figures from business, government, academia, and the nonprofit sector.

The Goals of the Academy are to: 1) Provide an opportunity for talented international graduate and professional students to join the Washington University community; 2) Provide an on-campus experience that assists Scholars in understanding U.S. culture, history, and politics, as well as international issues; 3) Build stronger ties between Washington University and leading research universities around the world; 4) Strengthen relationships between Washington University and alumni, parents, friends, corporations, and governments of the Scholars' countries. To view a .pdf version of the 2011 McDonnell Academy brochure click here.

Each Scholar in the McDonnell Academy is mentored by an Ambassador, appointed by the Chancellor and Academy Director, who assists in the Scholar's academic and professional life at Washington University. The Ambassador and Scholar travel to the Scholar's Alma Mater annually to host alumni events, information sessions, and meetings with key University Partner contacts. Each mentor is also an Ambassador to the Scholar’s alma mater and country, responsible for fostering relationships with the partner university and with alumni, friends, corporations, and government entities in that country.

Admissions

Applicants to the McDonnell International Scholars Academy must be admitted to a graduate or professional degree program at Washington University in St. Louis. The McDonnell Academy Steering Committee selects Scholars based on outstanding academic potential and on applicants' commitment to learning about international issues and global leadership.

Financial and Programmatic Support from the McDonnell Academy

Scholars receive: 1) Full tuition for study in a graduate or professional degree program. This support will continue as long as the Scholar is making satisfactory progress toward a degree; 2) A stipend for each year that the Scholar is making satisfactory progress toward a degree ($26,000 for the year beginning August 16, 2012); 3) A one-time travel allowance of up to $1,500 for travel to St. Louis for a period of study as an Academy Scholar; 4) An annual travel allowance of up to $2,000 for a trip to the Scholar's alma mater.

Selection of Scholars/Fellows

DBBS sends an e-mail to all invited applicants from the partner institutions to encourage them to apply. DBBS also notifies the Academy office and asks them to send e-mails to these applicants. The Academy notifies DBBS of the applicants that submit an application. DBBS keeps the Academy office up-to-date on the status of these applicants – when accepted or when the applicant becomes a class member.

The Academy considers the balanced distribution of the partner institutions in each cohort. They go after the very top candidates, but also need to balance awards to the applicants from the partner institutions.
There are over 100 Washington University programs that are eligible for Academy awards. DBBS has received 5 awards from 2008-2012.

If you have contact with faculty at these institutions, we ask that you discuss the program with the faculty and encourage them to promote DBBS and the McDonnell Scholars program with their students. It is beneficial for DBBS to have entering students selected for the Academy from a financial standpoint.

**University Partners**

- **Accra**- University of Ghana (Ambassador Jean Allman)
- **Ankara**- Middle East Technical University (Ambassador Hayrettin Yucesoy)
- **Bangkok**- Chulalongkorn University (Ambassador Gautam Yadama)
- **Beijing**- China Agricultural University (Ambassador Ralph S. Quatrano)
  - Peking University (Ambassador Barbara Schaal)
  - Tsinghua University (Ambassador Tao Ju)
- **Brisbane**- The University of Queensland (Ambassador Graham A. Colditz)
- **Budapest**- Budapest University of Technology and Economics (Ambassador Sándor J. Kovács)
- **Campinas**- State University of Campinas (Ambassador Matthew James Ellis)
- **Haifa**- Technion – Israel Institute of Technology (Ambassador Yoram Rudy)
- **Herzliya**- Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (Ambassador Itai Sened)
- **Hong Kong**- Chinese University of Hong Kong (Ambassador Ping Wang)
  - University of Hong Kong (Ambassador Nancy Morrow-Howell)
- **Istanbul**- Boğaziçi University (Ambassador Hayrettin Yucesoy)
- **Jakarta**- University of Indonesia (Ambassador John Bowen)
- **Melbourne**- The University of Melbourne (Ambassador Graham A. Colditz)
- **Mumbai**- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (Ambassador Pratim Biswas)
  - Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Ambassador Gautam Yadama)
- **New Delhi**- Jawaharlal Nehru University (Ambassador Himadri Pakrasi)
- **Santiago**- University of Chile (Ambassador Elzbieta Sklodowska)
- **Seoul**- Korea University (Ambassador Charles R. McManis)
  - Seoul National University (Ambassador Young-Shin Jun)
  - Yonsei University (Ambassador K. Daniel Riew)
- **Shanghai**- Fudan University (Ambassador James T. Little)
- **Singapore**- National University of Singapore (Ambassador Michael Sherraden)
- **Taipei**- National Taiwan University (Ambassador Tuan-Hua David Ho)
- **Tokyo**- University of Tokyo (Ambassador Larry J. Shapiro)
- **Utrecht**- Utrecht University (Ambassador Melissa Waters)

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