



# the ROBERTSON REPORT

*Public Service. National Leadership. Global Engagement.*

**Quarters 1 & 2 • June 2019**



*Photo: (left to right) Bush graduates Sailer Perkins, Clayton Yates, and Noelle Camp.*

The RFG board members, advisors and staff extend a hearty congratulations to the 2019 Robertson Fellow graduates! See below for a sample of some of the government career opportunities the fellows are embarking on.

**Noelle Camp (Bush)** – Engineering Systems Implementation and Integration Professional, Sandia National Laboratory Center for Global Security and Cooperation, Albuquerque, NM

**Allison Haugen (Maxwell)** – Foreign Service Officer, Department of State

**Isabelle Heilman (UCSD GPS)** – Project Analyst, Department of Energy Sustainability Performance Office, Washington, DC

**Samuel Huang (UCSD GPS)** – Analyst, Government Accountability Office, Professional Development Program Office, Oakland, CA

**Elizabeth Kokemoor (Maxwell)** – Program Analyst, U.S. Air Force Office of Commercial Economic Analysis, Fairfax, VA

**Ariana Scurti (UMD SPP)** – Program Analyst, U.S. Agency for International Development's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance, Washington, DC

**Erica Symonds (UMD SPP)** – National Nuclear Security Administration Fellow, Office of Nonproliferation and Arms Control, Washington, DC

**Taylor Tielke (UCSD GPS)** – Immigration Services Officer, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, San Francisco, CA

**Sara Younes (UMD SPP)** – Analyst, Government Accountability Office, Financial Markets and Community Investment Office, Washington, DC

In addition, **Sarah Davis (Fletcher)** just began a nine-month Boren Fellowship (funded by the Department of Defense) in Jordan to study Arabic. She also passed the Foreign Service exam in March.

## Fowler honored by National Nuclear Security Administration



**Kyle Fowler (Bush, Class of 2015)** has been awarded the DOE NNSA 2019 Linton F. Brooks Medal for Dedication to Public Service. He was one of two early-career National Nuclear Security Administration employees to receive this award.

[Read more](#)

## Volcker Alliance announces first Government-to-University councils



In the coming months, the Volcker Alliance will partner with government and university leaders in Austin and Kansas City to establish two inaugural “G2U Regional Councils.” RFG is a proud partner of both phases 1 and 2 of the Government-to-University (G2U) initiative, which aims to catalyze a robust local marketplace that can sustainably connect government’s hiring and research needs with local university capacity.

[Watch a video about the initiative](#) and [learn more](#)

## Fellows in the News



**Jerica Lamar (Bush, Class of 2016)** introduced Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to an audience of 1,700 students at Texas A&M in April. She has also just completed her first Foreign Service Officer assignment in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, and will be heading to Kenya in July, where she will serve as the staff assistant to the Ambassador.

[Watch the video](#)

**Tucker Boyce (UMD SPP, Class of 2020)** was selected to participate in the International Nuclear Facilities Experience program, which is funded by a National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) grant to Texas A&M University and Argonne National Laboratory. [Read more](#)

**Tom Babington (UMD SPP, Class of 2016)**, acting USAID spokesman, was quoted in The Washington Post on Ivanka Trump's new Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, which aims to help 50 million women in the developing world. [Read more](#)

**Kira West (UMD SPP, Class of 2012)** is beginning work as a researcher studying the energy transition for the industrial sector at the Energy Research Center of the Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research. [Read more](#)

*We invite current fellows and alumni to submit links to their published writings, mentions of their work in the media, promotions and more for inclusion on our website and our quarterly newsletter. Please [email Communications Manager Lauren Hertel](#) with links.*

## Announcing the 2019 Service to America Medals Finalists



The nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service announced the 2019 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal (Sammies) finalists – 26 federal employees and teams from more than 20 federal agencies and 15 states as well as Washington, D.C. and Haiti.

“Following the longest government shutdown in history, it’s imperative that we celebrate and recognize the important and critical work of our nation’s civil servants,” said Max Stier, president and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service. “The 2019 Service to America Medals showcase our remarkable federal workforce who serve the public good and address many of the country’s greatest challenges.”

The Robertson Foundation for Government is a proud sponsor of the Sammies.

NOTE: The Partnership for Public Service and related websites are temporarily down. Please check back over the next few days to visit the links below.

[Learn more and meet the finalists](#)

[VOTE UNTIL JULY 8th for your favorite](#)

## PLEN's 40th Anniversary



For four decades, the [Public Leadership Education Network \(PLEN\)](#) has been preparing women for public policy leadership. Whether this means opening up their eyes to possible careers, training them on policy in specific fields



such as health or science and technology, or helping them build the networks and confidence to get ahead, PLEN has been there to help young women forge their own path as leaders.

The Robertson Foundation for Government was among the sponsors of PLEN's 40th anniversary celebration in May, which highlighted its rich history within the women's movements for equality, showcased prominent alumnae, and looked back at the impact they've made while continuing to break down barriers for future women policy leaders.

[Learn more](#)

## Maxwell School ranks number one for public affairs



The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University is once again ranked #1 in the nation for graduate education in public affairs, according to the latest U.S. News & World Report reputational survey. This year, the Maxwell School shares the #1 ranking with Indiana University Bloomington. Maxwell has consistently ranked among the top schools since the category was created in 1995.

"This is an exciting time to be part of the Maxwell School and Syracuse University," says Dean David M. Van Slyke. "As a student-centered college of social science and public affairs within a top-tier R1 research university, the School is uniquely positioned to examine and prepare graduates to manage across the spectrum of contemporary and emerging policy issues."

Among specialty areas, Maxwell remains #1 in Public Management and Leadership, and #2 in the areas of Nonprofit Management as well as Public Finance and Budgeting. The School also ranked highly in nine other specialties including excellence in Information and Technology Management (#4), International Global Policy and Administration (#6), Public Policy Analysis (#7), and Environmental Policy and Management (#8), among others.

[Read more](#)

## Alumni Corner: New Robertson Alumni Council

Dear fellow alumni,

I'm thrilled to be serving as president of the council and look forward to getting to know you all in the coming months.

As quick background, I graduated from Maxwell in 2012 and joined the Treasury

As quick background, I graduated from Maxwell in 2012 and joined the Treasury Department's International Trade office soon thereafter. I've served as Treasury's Southern Africa desk and recently completed a two-year assignment as an advisor to the US Executive Director at the World Bank. In my current capacity, I represent Treasury at the Financial Stability Board on matters related to shadow banking. I live in Del Ray, Virginia, with my wife Jess and our three daughters, Aven (8), Calla (4), and Ellie (8 months).

When I graduated in 2012, there were only 10 of us! It's been exciting to watch the fellowship develop and grow into the sizable cohort of service-minded professionals that it is today. The council exists to help make your alumni experience a good one, and we have a few ideas to bring alumni together in the coming year. I hope you will take part. In the meantime, I'd love to hear from you directly if there's anything we can do to help.

Chad DeLuca  
[alumni@rfg.org](mailto:alumni@rfg.org)

### **2019-2020 Alumni Council Leadership Team**

Chad DeLuca, President (graduated from Maxwell)  
Sharon McCoy (UCSD GPS Representative)  
Gabrielle Keleher (Bush Representative)  
Stephanie Martone (Fletcher Representative)  
Renato Barreda (UMD SPP Representative)

As we welcome the 2019 leadership team of the newly constituted Alumni Council, the foundation acknowledges with much gratitude the time, energy and enthusiasm of the outgoing officers. Sincere thanks to all for stepping up to volunteer to foster a vibrant Robertson Fellowship alumni network!

### **2018-2019 Alumni Board Leadership Team**

Jessica Gottesman, President  
Edith Yu, Vice President  
Samantha Stein, Internships and Careers Chair  
Jill Maloney, Social Chair  
Patricia Weng, Treasurer and Professional Development Chair  
Melia Ungson, Secretary

## **Events**

**Wednesday, July 10, 2019**

### **Meet and Greet with IREX's Mandela Fellows**

National Academy of Public Administration  
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

[More information and RSVP](#)

**Saturday, July 13, 2019**

### **Robertson Foundation for Government Summer BBQ**

DACOR Bacon House  
12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

[RSVP by Friday, July 5](#)

**Friday, July 19, 2019**

### **Critical Days: A History of the U.S. Foreign Service and Forging a Strong State Department Future**

DACOR Bacon House

DACOR Bacon House

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

[More information and RSVP](#)

**Wednesday, July 24, 2019**

**How the Saudi-Iranian Rivalry is Reshaping the Middle East**

DACOR Bacon House

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

[More information and RSVP](#)

**Thursday, July 25, 2019**

**More Than Meets AI**

Partnership for Public Service

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

[Learn more and register](#)

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