

Isabelle Thabault, Deputy Chief, Housing and Civil Enforcement Section, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice

Foreign Affairs Fellows

Craig Deare, Country Director (Mexico), Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense

JoAnn Eberle, Major, Brigade Operations Officer, Department of the Army

Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, Department of Commerce

Craig Gralley, Staff Member, National Intelligence Council

David Lessard, Directorate of Intelligence, Defense Intelligence Agency

Linda Luisi, Senior Political Analyst, Office of African and Latin American Analysis, Central Intelligence Agency

Charles Moseley, Lieutenant Colonel, USMC, Congressional Liaison Office, Department of the Navy

Steven Peterson, Major, Executive Officer, Military Intelligence Battalion (Germany), United States Army

Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellows (funded by the Institute of Medicine)

E. Andrew Bala, Assistant Professor of Health Services Management, Columbia School of Medicine, University of Missouri

K. Lynn Cates, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine

James Fasules, Associate Professor of Pediatric Cardiology, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Peter Hasselbacher, Professor of Medicine, University of Louisville

Celia Maxwell, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, Howard University

Marion Priest, Professor and Interim Chair of Emergency Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Several of these Fellows have additionally been awarded Fellowships of Distinction. These Fellows include:

Heather Cabot, Joan Shorenstein Barone Congressional Fellow, named in memory of journalist Joan Shorenstein Barone, awarded to a television journalist of special merit;

Melissa Chen, awarded the APSA-MCI Communications Congressional Fellow, funded by MCI Communication Corporation, awarded to a political scientist or journalist with an analytical interest in communications;

Diana Dwyre, awarded the William A. Steiger Congressional Fellow, named in memory of Representative William A. Steiger, awarded to a political scientist of special merit;

Kim Trent, Congressional Quarterly Congressional Fellow, funded by Congressional Quarterly, Inc., awarded to a print journalist of special merit.

During the program orientation in November, Fellows will attend seminars with members of Congress, political scientists, journalists, lobbyists, and political analysts. In December, Fellows will assume positions as legislative aides in congressional offices. Thereafter, they will work on congressional staffs until the conclusion of the Fellowship year in mid-August. The Fellowship year includes a series of seminars which allow Fellows to meet with members of Congress, government officials, political scientists, and journalists to discuss contemporary political issues.

Congressional Fellowship Program Names New Director

Jeffrey R. Biggs, a former Foreign Service officer and press secretary for former Speaker of the House Thomas S. Foley, has been named as new Director of the APSA Congressional Fellowship Program. Biggs, a member of the 1984–85 Congressional Fellowship Class, succeeds Lisa Pullen Foust, a 1989–90 Congressional Fellow.

Dr. Biggs has served as a senior advisor to the President's Office of

National Drug Control Policy, visiting fellow with the Freedom Forum, a nonprofit organization which focuses on First Amendment rights, and visiting scholar with the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress where he conducted research and participated in training parliamentary staff from the newly independent states of Eastern Europe. From 1985–1987, Biggs served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy, La Paz, Bolivia. He also served with the United States Information Service as Press Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal, and Information Officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

After graduating with honors from Harvard University, he earned an M.A. in political science at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Dr. Biggs holds a Ph.D. in American studies from The George Washington University where he concentrated in diplomatic history, political science, and American culture.

Dr. Biggs received a Fulbright Fellowship to New Zealand, a Dirksen Congressional Center Research Grant Award (1966), State Department Superior Honor Awards in 1982, 1984, 1987, and a State Department Meritorious Honor Award in 1984. He has published articles on Congress, foreign policy, and journalism, and has lectured to a broad variety of groups in the United States and abroad.

Now in its 45th year, the APSA Congressional Fellowship Program is designed to give mid-career political scientists, journalists, Federal employees, health fellows, and a limited number of foreign participants the opportunity to suspend their careers and work for a year as legislative aides in congressional offices.

In Profile: Kirsten Gerstner

In her training as a political scientist, Kirsten Gerstner studied congressional politics, but, according to her, that was nothing like the experience of learning inside the offices and meeting rooms of the House. "I was surprised by a lot of things, but I was especially surprised by how

much power congressional staffers have," says Gerstner, a 1996–97 APSA Congressional Fellow from Berlin, Germany. "Since members of Congress don't have time to know everything, they really rely on their staffs to become experts on many issues, so staffers are very instrumental in either getting things done or purposefully not getting things done."

Gerstner spent her fellowship year in the office of Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) where she took charge of AIDS-related issues. Her first duty was to help assemble the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS, chaired by Representative McDermott. Having done most of the leg-work involved in recruiting the 52-member Taskforce, Gerstner spent much of her time learning the fine points of AIDS policy and preparing briefings on the variety of HIV/AIDS issues considered by Task Force members. In her spare time, Gerstner helped coordinate McDermott's work on human rights issues and dabbled in foreign policy work.

When she arrived on the Hill, Gerstner was no stranger to the complexity of congressional politics. Her 1996 master's thesis at the Free University of Berlin treated negotiations between the White House and Congress regarding trade with China. Gerstner's thesis offered a comparative analysis of the 1993 decision to link China's most favored nation status to its human rights record and the 1994 decision to separate the debates on trade and human rights.

"Even though I studied Congress and the politics involved in making a deal, what I didn't really know before I got here was how personal politics can be," said Gerstner. "If a staffer in another office doesn't personally like you or your member, they can make it difficult to work together and get things done. That's the downside of working here. People can get too wrapped up in the power of their positions," she said. "The good side of it is that if you're committed and you're working with good people, you really can get things done."

Gerstner counts her trip to McDermott's district in Seattle as one

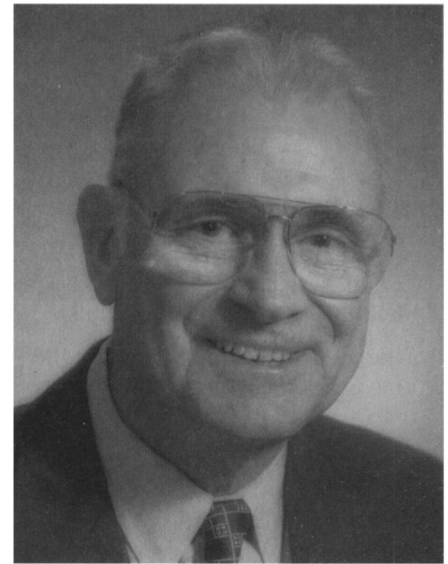
of the best experiences of her fellow-year. "Seeing what goes on in the district office really gives you a perspective that you don't get working in Washington," said Gerstner. "I think a lot of times the people who work here don't have an appreciation of what goes on in the offices back home. It's really important work that they're doing there, listening to constituents and addressing their problems. It takes a lot of time and understanding. Unfortunately, people here see the legislative side of things as the place of real importance and take the constituent side for granted, but if they had more opportunity to get in touch with the people that vote, they might think differently."

She also valued the chance to work alongside Representative McDermott. "I've been able to spend a lot of time working with him, and he's gone out of his way to teach me a lot about the different aspects of American politics from fundraising to handshaking to working on the issues. It's been a great time."

Gerstner's fellowship was funded by the German Marshall Fund of the United States which, since 1982 has sponsored Congressional Fellows from Germany. In addition to Gerstner, Thomas Zittel, who teaches political science at the University of Mannheim, was a 1996–97 Fellow. Josef Braml, University of Passau, and Marcus Pindur of German Public Radio and Television have been named Congressional Fellows for the 1997–98 fellowship year.

Congressional Fellowship Program Honors Lee Hamilton

The Congressional Fellowship Program honored Representative Lee Hamilton (D-IN) with the CFP Alumni Award at its annual reception concluding the fellowship program year. Norman Ornstein, chair of the Congressional Fellowship Program Advisory Committee, and Len Parkinson, president of the CFP Alumni Association, joined APSA executive director Catherine Rudder in presenting the award and in wel-



Lee Hamilton

coming approximately 200 guests to the reception.

Representative Hamilton was cited for sponsoring 28 Congressional Fellows in his office throughout his 32 years of service in the House of Representatives, giving him the distinction of having sponsored more Congressional Fellows than any other member of Congress. In addition, Hamilton was cited for his distinguished career in the House of Representatives.

Elected to Congress in 1964, Hamilton is the senior member of the Indiana congressional delegation. A graduate of DePauw University and Indiana University School of Law, he is currently the ranking Democratic member of the House Committee on International Relations and is a member of the Joint Economic Council. Hamilton is former chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress, the Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He has received 12 honorary degrees, and has been awarded numerous honors, including the Georgetown University Chair for Distinguished Service, Indiana University's Distinguished Citizens Fellowship of the Institute for Advanced Study, and membership in the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

The CFP reception was held July