

Macalester's David Goldstein Awarded Council of American Ambassadors Fellowship

St. Paul, Minn. - David Goldstein '16, an International Studies, Computer Science, and Arabic language triple major from Sharon, Mass., is one of nine students from across the country to be awarded a Council of American Ambassadors' (CAA) Fellowship for 2015. Of the CAA Fellows selected this year, six, including Goldstein, were named Ambassadors Walter and Leonore Annenberg Fellows.

The Fellowship program enables undergraduate students to come to Washington, D.C. and participate in a summer program that combines mentoring by former U.S. ambassadors, practical training through internships at the Department of State, and academic studies in international affairs. The combination of mentoring, practical training, and academic study inspires and prepares the Fellows to assume the responsibility of helping the United States strengthen alliances and promote democracy, peace, human rights, and prosperity in relations with other countries around the world.

This summer, Goldstein will receive mentoring from The Honorable Laurie S. Fulton, who served as U.S. Ambassador to Denmark, and will also pursue advanced academic coursework while serving as an intern at the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration. Goldstein feels the fellowship is an opportunity to advance his academic and professional goals.

"Working in Washington with former leaders and ambassadors as part of the CAA program is really a special opportunity to build on the experience I've gained here in Minnesota and expand on these skills in a wider context," said Goldstein.

Goldstein's academic achievements and leadership experience made him a strong candidate for the Fellowship. He was selected as a Boren Scholar and a National Security Language Initiative Scholar in the Arabic language, served as a leader and co-founder of the Macalester Arabic Association and as co-chair of the Macalester Middle East and North Africa Association.

While he's in Washington this summer, Goldstein hopes to work on his personal goal of helping displaced persons.

"At Macalester and during my time studying and traveling the Middle East, I've met many people adversely affected by civil strife and forced to flee their countries," Goldstein said. "The Macalester community's focus on internationalism and social justice has also guided me in this mission and become a large part of my own personal and professional values moving forward. As part of the fellowship, I'll be at the Bureau of Populations, Refugees, and Migration, where I hope to gain experience working with managing refugee aid



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through the United Nations and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). With my mentoring sessions, I'd like to learn how to enact real change in U.S. policy on refugee issues and what a career in the State Department might be like.”

The CAA Fellowship is a program of the Council of American Ambassadors created to foster the development of the next generation of American diplomats. Since 2004, the annual fellowship program has offered rising seniors selected from among the Department of State's summer internship class the opportunity to receive mentoring from former United States ambassadors, to enroll in advanced coursework in foreign affairs and economics, and to attend various Council panels and events.

In the future, Goldstein would like to work as an advocate for refugees internationally.

“After I graduate, I am bound to give service to a specific area of the U.S. Government for at least a year as part of the Boren scholarship I received in summer 2013,” he said. “Later, I may work in a Middle East related field and might consider a Fulbright to study and work there. In terms of a career, I would like to work as a leader in refugee issues in the State Department or in the non-profit sector in refugee assistance and aid.”

Macalester College, founded in 1874, is a national liberal arts college with a full-time enrollment of 2,045 students. Macalester is nationally recognized for its long-standing commitment to academic excellence, internationalism, multiculturalism, and civic engagement. Learn more at macalester.edu

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