

# BUSINESS SCHOOL STUDENTS MAKE THEIR MARK ON WASHINGTON DC

The University of Sydney Business School Washington DC Internship Program in 2012.



For the second consecutive year, the University of Sydney Business School, the United States Studies Centre (USSC) and the University of California Washington Center (UCDC) have teamed up to offer some of the Business School's most promising undergraduate students the opportunity to study and work in Washington DC.

After a strong field of prospective participants indicated their interest in joining the latest cohort, a rigorous selection process was carried out to determine which 20 students would get the opportunity to take part.

Those chosen from the highly competitive field were rewarded with a range of scholarships, to the value of \$105,000. The United States Studies Centre provided scholarships rewarding key areas such as academic excellence and international achievement. Further scholarships were made possible through the exceptional generosity of members of the US Studies Centre Board of Directors and Council of Advisers, who provided the Turnbull Foundation Scholarship, the David Anstice Business Leadership Scholarship and the Castle Harlan Business Leadership Scholarship.

The group of students chosen to take part in the program left Sydney in early January under the guidance of Dr Leanne Piggott, Director of the Business Programs Unit. Dr Piggott provided supervision as well as teaching the required compulsory unit of study while the students undertook their workplace internships.

While in the United States, the students were placed with a wide variety of high profile organisations in Washington DC, including the International Economic Development Council, a non-profit membership organisation dedicated to helping economic developers do their job more effectively, where the students worked on their disaster recovery and sustainability programs of research and policy implementation.



Scholarship recipients with the Chancellor Marie Bashir, US Consul General Niels Marquardt, Lucy Turnbull, Professor Geoffrey Garrett and Associate Dean (Undergraduate) Philip Seltsikas

The East-West Center is another non-profit organisation that accepted the interns. It was established by the US Congress in 1960, and works to promote better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific. Business School interns assisted the Center in preparing the United States for an era of growing Asia-Pacific prominence.

Students with a keen interest in politics also had the opportunity to spend their internship in the offices of Senator James M. Inhofe (R-Okla), a Republican Senator who serves on a wide variety of US Senate Committees, including the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Works, and the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The range and scope of internships available meant that the Business School students have had the opportunity to apply their studies in a real-world, hands-on environment while gaining an understanding of the global nature of business practices.

The journey that these students have embarked on is one that emphasises the Business School's standing as a leader in the provision of quality business education, while showcasing the benefits of a Work Integrated Learning philosophy that is a cornerstone in the future of teaching in the business sphere.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, please visit [sydney.edu.au/business/washington](http://sydney.edu.au/business/washington) or hear from the students who were chosen to blog about their experiences at [blogs.usyd.edu.au/washington](http://blogs.usyd.edu.au/washington).