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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Largest U.S. Diversity Initiative in Professional Public Service to be Hosted by American University's School of Public Affairs

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Washington, DC, 9/3/2010. The [Public Policy and International Affairs Program](#) (PPIA) has signed a five year agreement to operate its programs and activities under a hosting arrangement at [American University's School of Public Affairs](#). Founded in 1981, and funded in the past through major grants from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, the William T. Grant Foundation, and the Foundation for Child Development, PPIA fosters diversity in the public leadership of the United States by encouraging college students from historically underrepresented backgrounds to earn graduate training from some of the most prestigious U.S. graduate schools of public policy and international affairs and then launch rewarding careers serving the public good. Over 100 students per year are inducted as new PPIA Fellows, and the program currently has more than 3,500 total alumni located across the U.S.

PPIA is one of the largest diversity initiatives at the level of

PPIA Sponsors:

American Political Science Association

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs

PPIA Graduate Schools:

American University - School of International Service and School of Public Affairs

Brandeis University - The Heller School for Social Policy and Management

Brown University - Taubman Center for Public Policy & American Institutions

Carnegie Mellon

University - H. John Heinz III College

Columbia University - School of International and Public Affairs

Cornell University - Institute for Public Affairs

George Mason

University - School of Public Policy

Georgetown

University - Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service

Harvard University - Harvard Kennedy School

Indiana University,

Bloomington - School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Johns Hopkins

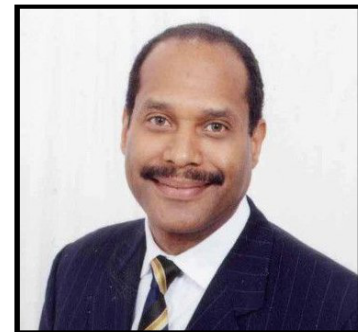
University - Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies

post-graduate education in the history of the United States, and is the largest such initiative in professional public service to support Master's and Ph.D. degrees for students from diverse backgrounds. A new survey of the PPIA alumni to be conducted by the Princeton Survey Research Center within a year is expected to further document the impact of the program on the careers of the thousands of participants.

The agreement between PPIA and the School of Public Affairs was signed in August 2010 by American University Provost Dr. Scott A. Bass, and by Albert Beckford Jones, a member of the inaugural 1981 class of PPIA Fellows, chairman of the PPIA board of directors, and President/CEO of the Chicago-based international management consulting firm Trading & Consulting International, Inc. The agreement

becomes operational on September

1. "This new partnership with American University is vitally important to the future success of PPIA as we work together to achieve a vision of a diverse and



Albert Beckford Jones

inclusive leadership for America," said Jones. "All of the current sponsors and constituencies of PPIA are impressed by the School of Public Affairs' commitment to this agreement and to PPIA," added Jones.

The School of Public Affairs recently celebrated its 75th anniversary and is among the founding professional graduate schools

Massachusetts Institute of Technology - School of Architecture and Planning

New York University - Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

RAND Corporation - Frederick S. Pardee RAND Graduate School

Pepperdine University - School of Public Policy

Princeton University - The Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs

Syracuse University - Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, Department of Public Administration and International Relations Program

The New School – Milano, The New School for Management and Urban Policy

Tufts University - The Fletcher School

University of California, Berkeley - Richard & Rhoda Goldman School of Public Policy

University of California, Los Angeles - School of Public Affairs

University of Chicago – Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies

University of Denver - Josef Korbel School of International Studies

University of Maryland - The Maryland School of Public Policy

bridging public affairs, policy and public administration in the U.S.

“American University is committed to promoting diversity as part of

our strategic plan, and we view our agreement with PPIA as a key

component of those ongoing

initiatives,” said Dean William

LeoGrande of the School of Public

Affairs. “We are thrilled to have been

selected by PPIA to host the program

for the next five years,” added

LeoGrande, also noting that additional

involvement in the PPIA agreement will be forthcoming from the

American University School of International Service.



Dr. William LeoGrande

PPIA Fellows currently attend Junior Summer Institutes in

public policy and international affairs during the summer after their

junior year of college. The institutes are offered by the University of

California, Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy; the University of

Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy; the Carnegie Mellon

University Heinz College, the Princeton University Woodrow Wilson

School of Public and International Affairs; and the University of

Maryland School of Public Policy. Students who successfully complete

the institutes are inducted as PPIA Fellows and become eligible for

financial assistance to attend graduate degree programs offered by

over 30 members of PPIA’s Graduate School Consortium. Application

to PPIA is open to college juniors every year with a deadline of

University of Michigan - Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy

University of Minnesota – Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

University of Southern California - School of Policy, Planning and Development

University of Texas at Austin - The Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs

University of Washington - Daniel J Evans School of Public Affairs

Yale University - Jackson Institute for Global Affairs/The MacMillian Center

About PPIA:

- Started in 1981 as the Sloan Fellows Program.
- Continued 1988 – 1995 as the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Program.
- Became PPIA in 1996.
- Incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2000.
- Inducts over 100 new Fellows every year.
- Has more than 3,500 alumni.
- Over the life of the program, more than \$25 million spent on fostering diversity in the public leadership of the U.S.
- Affiliated with over 30 U.S. graduate schools of public policy and international affairs.

November 1. Each year over 500 students from approximately 130 colleges and universities seek admission into the program.

PPIA is sponsored by three of the leading professional associations in its field: the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM); and the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA); and the American Political Science Association (APSA). APPAM previously hosted PPIA in its Washington, DC headquarters from July 2000 to May 2010, and its ongoing support of PPIA goes back to the very first cohort of PPIA Fellows in 1981. APSIA became a PPIA sponsor in the mid-1990s when efforts were made to add more international affairs content to PPIA. Over half of the PPIA Fellows have a background in political science, and APSA began sponsoring PPIA in 2007 in recognition of PPIA as an important opportunity for college students in the field.

Most of PPIA's operating support comes from annual membership dues paid by the Graduate School Consortium, and from the generous financial aid the Consortium provides to PPIA Fellows upon admittance to graduate school. "PPIA has been blessed by the support of these excellent graduate schools and by their commitment to the long term career success of the PPIA Fellows," said Erik Devereux, former executive director of APPAM and the current treasurer of PPIA. "Throughout its nearly three decades of operation, it has been the graduate schools that have made PPIA possible and successful," Devereux said.

PPIA plans to hold multiple celebrations of its 30th anniversary in 2011. There may be as many as four gatherings of PPIA alumni and supporters, including major events scheduled in Washington, DC and New York City. “These anniversary events will be a wonderful opportunity to convene the alumni, recognize their many contributions to the country and the world, and look forward to the future of the organization,” said Martha Chavez, vice chair and secretary of the PPIA board of directors, a PPIA Fellow from the early 1990s, and assistant dean of the Goldman School of Public Policy. Chavez noted that the New York City event would occur in April 2011, and the Washington, DC event most likely would coincide with PPIA’s annual Graduate School and Career Expo to be held in the DC region in the second week of July 2011. Additional celebrations of the 30th anniversary are also being considered for the Chicago area and the Bay Area of Northern California for 2011.



Martha Chavez

PPIA thus will be extremely active over the next year as it engages in the following regular and special activities:

- Transition of the PPIA office to American University starting on September 1, 2010
- Applications for the 2011 class of PPIA Fellows with a deadline of November 1, 2010
- Announcement of the 2011 class of PPIA Fellows in February 2011.
- A New York City celebration of the 30th anniversary of PPIA in April 2011
- Start of the five Junior Summer Institutes in late June and early July 2011
- The DC-area Graduate School and Career Expo in early July 2011
- A Washington, DC celebration of the 30th anniversary of PPIA also in early July 2011
- Up to two more anniversary celebrations elsewhere in the U.S. in 2011.
