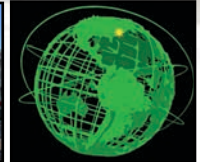
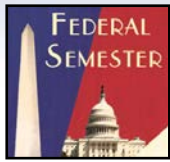


FEDERAL & GLOBAL TIMES

Connecting Federal Semester and Global Semester D.C. Alumni Since 2014



SPRING 2014

1 LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Program Director Dr. Joan Burton welcomes readers to the program's large and engaged alumni network.

2 PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

Track the Federal and Global Semester D.C. Programs' explosive growth in the past eight years.

3 YOUNG ALUM SPOTLIGHT

Program alumnus Joel Cohen, Facebook account manager, talks networking, communication, and the one computer program all young professionals need to know.

4 LIFE OF A WHITE HOUSE INTERN

Spend a day in the life of White House intern and current UMD junior Lindsay Michocki.

FACULTY PROFILE

Get to know Ed Fendley, veteran of the State Department and EPA, and current Federal Semester instructor.

5 ALUMNI EVENTS & PHOTOS

Learn about the programs' new alumni board and ways to get involved!

Letter from the Director

Dr. Joan Burton, Program Director

Dear Talented and Engaged Alumni,

Welcome to the new Federal Semester alumni community! This is a great time to launch a new group: Federal Semester has been going strong for eight years now, and we will soon have over 480 program alumni.

Our alumni are working in federal agencies, private companies, and NGOs; attending graduate schools; and volunteering domestically and abroad. We are eager to connect you all in an empowering alumni network!

This new group is designed to support your successes by:

- Hosting networking events and guest speakers;
- Providing a careers listserv for sharing jobs and opportunities;
- Hosting a Facebook page for announcements, discussions, and news;
- Providing opportunities to connect, give back, and mentor.

We are also hosting our kick off **Happy Hour on April 10th** (first drink and appetizers provided)! See invitation on p. 5.

This also marks the inauguration of our alumni newsletter, which will come out twice a year—full of alumni news and events; profiles of alumni, faculty, and current students; general program updates; and more!

Finally, I'm delighted to announce that, because of the stellar success of Federal Semester (and all of you!), this year we launched a new sister program called Global Semester in Washington, D.C.—hosted by the same supportive staff. So, next year, your alumni group will also include Global Semester D.C. students—creating a powerful, expanded networking group!

Thank you for reading this first alumni newsletter. I hope to see you at the kick off Alumni Happy Hour on April 10th!

Dr. Joan Burton

Director, Federal Semester and Global Semester in Washington, D.C.



FEDERAL & GLOBAL SEMESTER D.C. STAFF



Dr. Joan Burton
Director
Sherry Preusch
Coordinator
Starsky Cheng
Coordinator



Brendan Butler
Graduate Assistant
Max Gross
Graduate Assistant
Joe Toth
Newsletter Editor





Joel meets with newly-re-elected President Obama the day after election day in Chicago.

Young Alumnus Spotlight

Joel Cohen, Account Manager, Facebook

What is your current job, and how did you arrive there?

I am currently an Account Manager at Facebook's DC office, where I work with government agencies at the federal, state and local level that advertise on the platform. Prior to Facebook, I worked on the 2012 Obama campaign in Chicago where I managed the campaign's Facebook advertising program. Prior to the campaign, I worked at an ad agency in the DC area and at a political consulting firm.

What does a typical day entail for you?

My days typically consist of lots of different types of communication: talking to clients either in person or over conference calls, talking to my teammates to brainstorm how to troubleshoot a challenging situation, communicating with product teams to stay up to date on the newest product updates, and lots of problem solving.

How did your Federal Semester experience help prepare you for your career?

Federal Semester really helped me "learn what was out there." So many times in

college, people ask you what you want to do when you graduate but all too often, you don't have enough context to even know where to start with answering that question. Federal Semester gave me that context.



"1. Don't take yourself too seriously. 2. Don't be afraid to ask for what you want. 3. Learn how to use Excel. Well."

-Joel Cohen, Facebook Manager and Federal Semester Alumnus

How would you define networking to someone unfamiliar with the term?

Networking doesn't have to be (and shouldn't be!)

forced. I think one of the biggest misconceptions about networking is that in order to get anywhere in the professional world, you have to meet and mingle with executives: the CEOs and vice presidents of the world. While that

certainly doesn't hurt, one thing I've learned is that your biggest advocates can be your friends and peers. They probably have more insight into positions that you'd actually be qualified for, so don't be afraid to ask your friends and peers for help.

Do you have any advice for young professionals today?

- 1) Don't take yourself too seriously. 2) Don't be afraid to ask for what you want.
- 3) Learn how to use Excel. Well.

ABOUT JOEL

GRADUATION YEAR:
-2010

MAJOR(S):
-Government & Politics

FEDERAL SEMESTER CONCENTRATION:
-Homeland Security

INTERNSHIP SITE:
-Office of Rep. Donna Edwards (D-MD)

CURRENT OCCUPATION
-Account Manager, Facebook, Washington, D.C.

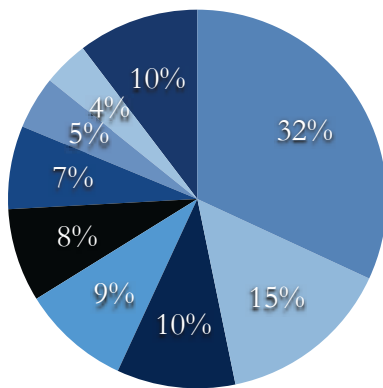
What's something you wish you had known five years ago?

In college, there's so much pressure to figure out what you're going to do post-college. But it's ok not to know. In fact, I'd argue that's the wrong question to ask. It's more important to figure out what you like, what gets you excited and what you're passionate about, then from there, determine which career paths best fit that criteria.

PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

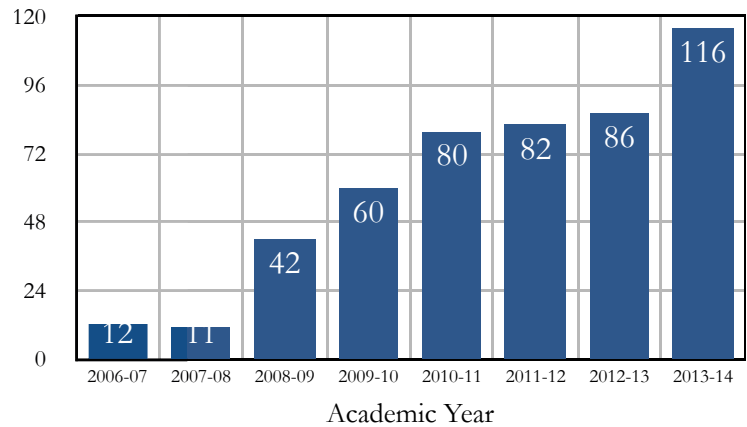
A quantitative breakdown of the Federal Semester and Global Semester programs, 2006-present

Popular Student Majors

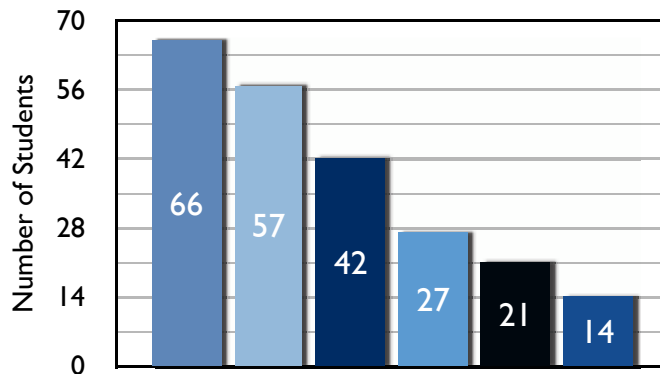


- Government & Politics: 32%
- Arts & Humanities: 10%
- Criminology & Criminal Justice: 8%
- Economics: 5%
- Other: 10%
- Hard Sciences: 15%
- Environmental Studies: 9%
- Health-Related Fields: 7%
- Business: 4%

Program Enrollment By Academic Year



Top Agency Placements



- Department of Homeland Security
- Congress
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Environmental Protection Agency
- State Department (13 students in 2013-14)
- Department of Energy

FEDERAL & GLOBAL SEMESTER NETWORK

480+

Program Alumni and Current Students

130+

Different Internship Locations

6

Program Staff & Assistants



Current Student Spotlight:

White House Intern Lindsay Michocki

Major: *Chemistry* Graduating Class: *2015*

Internship Location: *White House Office of Science and Technology Policy*

What is your office's mission?

OSTP's mission is to provide the President and his staff with scientific and technical advice on scientific and technological issues of the day; to ensure that the policies of the Executive Branch are informed by science; and to ensure that the scientific and technical work of the Executive Branch is as beneficial to society as it can be.

What's something most people don't know about interning at the White House, or about the White House in general?

Most people don't even know that my office exists. OSTP is part of the Executive Office of the President (EOP for short). Unlike some of the other offices that fall under EOP, the policy staff at OSTP is comprised of PhD-level scientists. I personally was surprised by how much of a family it is at the White House - everyone is very supportive of the things that other people do.

What has been the most rewarding part of your internship?

I have a rewarding moment every morning, when I walk into the gate adjacent to the West Wing of the White House. Walking past

that building into the Eisenhower Executive Office Building reminds me every day that the things that my office does and the things that I do are all for our country. I'm thrilled to get to be a part of a group of people that is so dedicated to making lives better for American citizens - it gives every day, every memo, and every meeting a sense of a higher purpose.

What has been the most helpful aspect of the Global Semester program for you?

The staff is the best. Weeks after I applied for my position, I got an email from my now-supervisor saying that I had a phone interview with the White House scheduled for later that day. I had never done a phone interview, and burst into the Global Semester office in a state of absolute panic. The staff calmed me down and worked with me on interviewing skills and talking points until I felt comfortable and because of that I was able to confidently go through my phone interview, which ended up being what got me hired for the position. They truly care about their students.

Faculty Profile: Ed Fendley

EPA Office of Sustainable Communities; Energy and Environment Policy Seminar Instructor

What is your current job, and how did you arrive there?

I work in the EPA Office of Sustainable Communities. We're known as the Smart Growth Office. Before that, I worked in the Department of State climate change office.

Do you have any memorable classroom moments?

For our class final, groups of students represent major countries and conduct a climate change treaty negotiation under real-world conditions. It's always lively, and one year it was especially memorable because the group representing China was skillful enough to broker an innovative new treaty on good terms for themselves - not necessarily the outcome we expected.

How, in your opinion, does the Federal Semester program best prepare students for a career in public service?

We deal with real-life stuff. When it comes to environmental policy, it's generally not enough to have a good argument. Things tend to get done when businesses, politicians, and people find common interests. This does not happen easily. Students in our seminar research and role-play to find out why we have national

policies to reduce air pollution and water pollution but no such policies to reduce carbon pollution. We want students to come out of the class ready to make things happen, not just make the case.



What advice do you have for young professionals today?

Think in terms of people. It's important to know stuff and gain experience, but in many professions the ability to know and work with all kinds of people is more important. That's certainly the case when it comes to public policy.

Do you stay in contact with former students?

I sure do. My office at EPA typically brings in some of our students each year as interns, and we like to keep in touch with all of our students because they tend to go on to do so many interesting things.

ALUMNI INFORMATION

A listing of upcoming events, ways to get involved, and other relevant information for young alumni

ALUMNI EVENT:

ANNUAL FEDERAL AND GLOBAL SEMESTER DC ALUMNI HAPPY HOUR

Featuring Keynote Speaker
Paul Monteiro

UM alum; former Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement; current Partner at Values Partnerships

When: Thursday, April 10 6-8 p.m.

Where: Cities Restaurant
919 19th Street, Washington DC
20006



Please RSVP

Contact Brendan Butler,
Federal Semester graduate
assistant, at
butler22@umd.edu

First drink and appetizer will be provided!

NEW! FEDSEM ALUMNI BOARD



Aisha Hasan,
DHHS;
Board President



Amy D'Avella,
World Resources Institute;
Board Partnerships Director



Lauren Greeley,
DHS Contractor;
Board Recruitment Director



Mae McIver,
NASA Contractor



Joel Cohen, Facebook;
Board Co-Director
of Events



Jessica Preusch, DHHS;
Executive Board Member



Scott Schill,
Deloitte & Touche, LLP



Nikita Kandpal,
Obsidian
Analysis, Inc.



Dan DeSantis,
PotomacWave
Consulting; Co-
Director of
Events



Becky Bitar,
Foreign Service
Institute

The Federal Semester alumni board aims to foster the connections we built in Federal Semester. We have three main goals: to connect alumni, to participate in networking and social events, and to provide opportunities to mentor current students. We all took a great deal from Federal Semester and look forward to making the program and this network all that they can be!

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

- Join the Alumni Board! Contact fedsemglobaldc@umd.edu for more information.
- Nominate your seminar instructor for a newsletter profile! Email butler22@umd.edu.
- Send news, ideas, suggestions, and opportunities for our next issue to fedsemglobaldc@umd.edu.