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**STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTES**

**A. Title of Institute:** Religious Freedom and Pluralism

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars are intensive post-graduate level academic programs with integrated study tours whose purpose is to provide foreign university faculty and other scholars the opportunity to deepen their understanding of U.S. society, culture, and institutions. The ultimate goal of these Institutes is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in academic institutions abroad.

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars will take place at various colleges, universities, and institutions throughout the United States over the course of six weeks beginning in or after June 2022. Each Institute includes a four week academic residency component and a two week integrated study tour. Posts and prospective applicants are encouraged to visit our website page to obtain general information about the Institutes. The website address is: <http://exchanges.state.gov/susi>.

The Institute on Religious Pluralism in the United States will provide a multinational group of up to 18 experienced foreign university faculty, scholars, researchers and religious leaders with a deeper understanding of U.S. society and culture, past and present, through an examination of religious pluralism in the United States and its intersection with American democracy. The program will include a survey of the religious landscape of the United States, including religious groups; an exploration of the historical and contemporary relationship between church and state in the United States; an examination of the ways in which religious thought and practice have modified and have been influenced by, the development of American-style democracy; and discussions on the intersections of religion and politics in the United States in such areas as elections, public policy, and foreign policy. Participants will have opportunities to meet U.S. community leaders of different faiths who advocate for collaboration and tolerance among religious groups. The Institute for Training and Development (ITD) in Amherst, MA will oversee and administer this program; Seattle University in Seattle, WA will conduct and host the Institute.

Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly motivated and experienced scholars and professionals generally from institutions of higher education or research focused organizations (not-for-profits, think tanks, etc.). While the educational level of participants will likely vary, most should have graduate degrees and have substantial knowledge of the thematic area of the Institute or a related field.

Ideal candidates are individuals whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to develop new courses in the subject of the Institute, to enhance and update existing courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for professionals in U.S. studies areas related to the program theme. While the nominee's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, the potential impact and multiplier effect of the Institute is equally important. Ideal candidates will have little or no prior experience in the United States.

Program Requirements and Restrictions: All participants are expected to participate fully in the intensive post-graduate level academic program and the study tour. Candidates should be willing and able to fully take part in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour. It is important that posts and Commissions nominate only persons who are likely to be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule. ECA/A/E/USS encourages posts to strive to recruit diverse nominees including candidates from disadvantaged groups and women from countries where they are underrepresented in academia. While senior faculty members and new professionals to the field are eligible applicants, ECA/A/E/USS urges posts and commissions to give first consideration to mid-career professionals.

Candidates should be aware that they are applying for an intensive program and there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The Institute is not a research program. Participants must attend all lectures and organized activities and complete assigned readings. Family members and/or friends may not accompany participants on any part of the program.

SECTION A: CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please provide information exactly as it appears in your passport.

1. Surname (Last Name):
2. Given Name(s):
3. Sex:

[ ] Female

[ ] Male

[ ] Non-binary

[ ] Other:

1. Date of Birth:

Format: MM/dd/yyyy

1. City of Birth:
2. Country of Birth:
3. Citizenship:
4. Primary Citizenship:
5. Country of Residence:
6. Secondary Citizenship (if applicable):

## Candidate Contact Information:

1. Street Address:
2. City:
3. State/Province:
4. Postal Code:
5. Country:
6. Phone Number (please, include area code):
7. Email Address:
8. Medical, Physical, Dietary, or other Personal Considerations:

This will not affect a candidate's selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations. Please indicate if the candidate has a disability.

1. Please indicate if you have a disability: \*

 [ ]  None

 [ ]  Blind or Visual Impairments

 [ ]  Deaf or Hearing Impairments

 [ ]  Learning Disability

 [ ]  Physical Disability

 [ ]  Psychiatric Disability

 [ ]  Systemic Disability

[ ]  Other:

1. Please describe any pre-existing medical conditions, including any prescription medication required, dietary restrictions, or personal considerations:

## Experience in the United States:

1. Have you traveled to the United States before? \*

[ ]  Yes

 [ ]  No

1. If yes, please list any previous travel to the United States for the purposes of tourism/vacation, conferences, educational study, or previous ECA related grants. Provide dates/duration, purpose of visit(s), and location. (Example: July 4-14, 2019 Tourism to Washington, D.C.; December 1-15 2018, Short Term Study Abroad to New York City, NY.)
2. Family Residing in the United States (if applicable):

Please include relation information, city, and state. (Example: Jane Doe, sister- Denver, CO)

# SECTION B: CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

1. Education: \*

Please list all earned degrees beginning with the most recent. Each entry should include the following information:

Degree Earned (Degrees should reflect the closest U.S. equivalent.) Year Awarded

Specialization Institution

(Example: Master's; 2019; International Relations; American University)

1. Additional Academic/Professional Training/ Workshops: \*
2. Current Role/Job Title:
3. Institution/Organization Name:
4. Institution/Organization Country:
5. Work History:

Please limit work experience to the FIVE most recent job positions. Please provide the following information for each entry:

Institution

Dates of Employment (Month/Year-Month/Year) Title/Position (please specify if part-time)

(Ex. American University; 01/2019-01/2020; Professor of International Relations)

1. Professional Responsibilities:

Nominees should discuss professional responsibilities in greater detail, including research interests, administrative responsibilities (example: curriculum design), and/or other pertinent information not included in the section above.

1. Current Courses Taught:

If you are not currently teaching courses, please indicate NOT APPLICABLE.

Please include the following information for each course:

Course Title

Indicate Level of Students (Secondary School Students/Undergraduate Students/Graduate Students) Classroom Hours per Semester

Number of Students

% of U.S. Studies Content

Current Student Advising:

Advising is not the same as teaching. If you advise students, please input the number of students, their level, and hours you spend providing assistance in helping students clarifying personal and career goals and evaluating progress towards those goals. This section can also include those that supervise Ph.D. and graduate students.

Please include the following information:

Number of Students Advised Studying U.S. Related Topics

Indicate Level of Students (Secondary School Students/Undergraduate Students/Graduate Students) Hours of Advising Per Student Per Year

1. Publications Related to the Institute Theme:

Please list all foreign titles in English, including whether the publication was a book, chapter, journal article,

newspaper article, etc. Please only list publications within the last five years.

1. Active Memberships in Professional Associations:

Please limit to three most relevant. Provide the position and organization. (Example: President, Washington Educational Professionals Association.)

1. Other Leadership Positions Beyond Professional Duties:

Please provide the activity, position/title, year started, year completed, and the description of duties.

1. Potential Outcomes: \*

Please select any likely potential professional outcomes of this program:

[ ]  Create New Course

[ ]  Create New Degree Program

[ ]  School Curriculum Redesign

[ ]  National Curriculum Redesign

[ ]  New Research Project

[ ]  New Publication

[ ]  Professional Promotion

[ ]  Government or Ministry Policy

[ ]  New Professional Organization

[ ]  New Institutional Linkages

[ ]  Raise Institutional Profile

1. Candidate Personal Statement: \*

As part of the SUSI application process, candidates should submit a personal statement about their background and goals. In up to 500 words, the candidate should address the following questions and any other pertinent information:

Why are you interested in participating in the Institute? What do you hope to gain from the Institute?

What will you contribute to the Institute?

How will you leverage the experience to achieve "other potential outcomes" checked in the above section?

How will you amplify the impact of the program beyond your research and knowledge?

Please write your personal statement below.

# **CANDIDATES SHOULD NOT COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS**.

# SECTION C: TO BE COMPLETED BY POST

1. Does the candidate display evidence of English fluency? \*

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

1. Please indicate the level of their English language fluency and if the interview was in person, over the phone, or through virtual conferencing (Zoom, Skype, Teams).
2. Statement by Post Justifying Participation of Nominee in the Institute: \*

This is one of the most important components of the nomination and we kindly ask you to provide a substantive answer. After having interviewed the candidate, in your statement, please address the following questions:

Can you please tell us about this individual and why Post feels that they are well suited for the Institute?

What makes this candidate unique?

What, in particular, will this candidate contribute to the Institute and upon their return home? What is their multiplier effect?

Why is this a priority nomination for Post?

1. How many applications did Post receive for this particular Institute?

## Post Action Officer:

The person whom the Study of the U.S. Branch should contact with all inquiries about the nomination.

1. U.S. Embassy or Consulate:
2. Post Country:
3. Post Region:

[ ]  AF

[ ]  EAP

[ ]  EUR

[ ]  NEA

[ ]  SCA

[ ]  WHA

1. Post Contact Name:
2. Post Contact Email:
3. Backup Contact Name:
4. Backup Contact Email: