

# Osgood Center for international studies

## The Osgood Center for International Studies

There are think tanks, lobby groups, and universities galore in Washington, DC. There are non-profits offering internships, promoting human rights, and representing causes all over the everywhere. Each has its own place, its own space, and its loyal base. The Osgood Center for International Studies may not be totally unique but it stands out as one place where young and old students, Republicans and Democrats, Chinese and Nigerians, Arabs and Israelis, idealists and realists, Southerners and Northerners, can come to Washington, DC to engage public policy topics and each other in short and intensive experiential learning programs.



The Center is called "Osgood" to memorialize the life and work of Robert Osgood, the one-time Dean of Johns Hopkins School of International Studies, and his wife, Gretchen, who worked for the Public Health Service for twenty-four years. Robert Osgood was a brilliant scholar whose books on international affairs are classics and whose public service included stints on the National Security Council Staff and the State Department's Policy Planning Staff. Gretchen wrote articles on nursing and government management of nursing for professional journals. She was a past president of the District of Columbia League for Nursing and served on its board until her death. She was a recipient of the Public Health Service's Superior Service Award and the American Academy of Nursing's President's Award. Shelton Williams, founder and President of the Osgood Center, was only one of hundreds of students who benefited from the Osgoods' guidance, friendship and frequent dinner parties. Their care for students from all walks of life and

all points of view inspires the Osgood Center to this day.

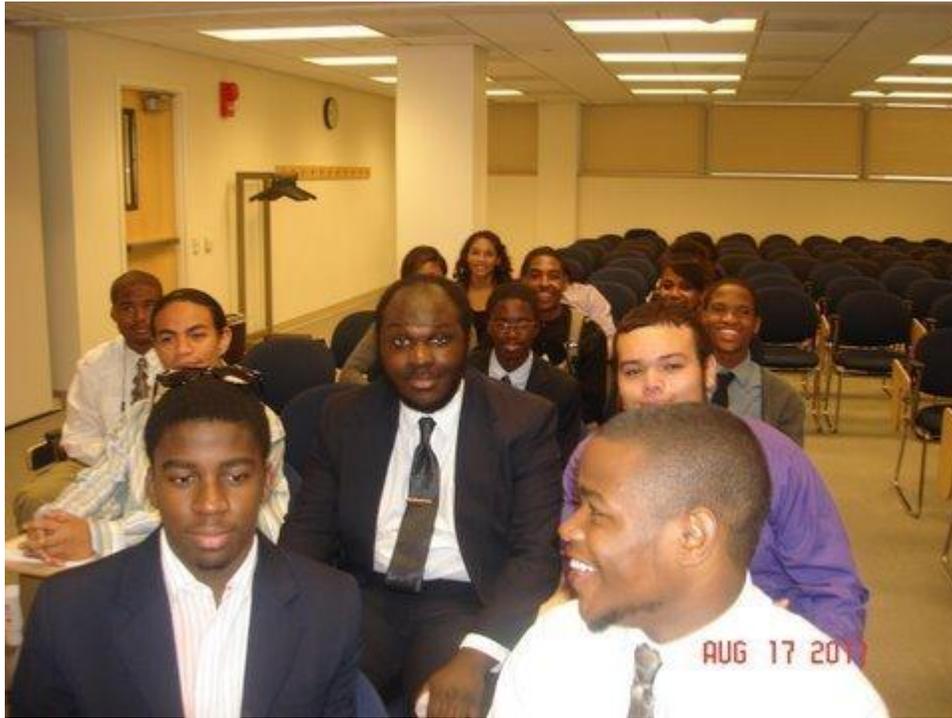
#### The Center Activities

The Osgood Center hosts students in programs that train students in leadership, inform them about international economic trends, engage them in model UN, introduce them to DC policy-makers in the State Department, in Congress and in embassies, and develop their professional and career skills and opportunities. Most of all, it brings participants from every corner of the globe to DC to interact with one another and expose them to the need for ethics, transparency, and compromise in public policy and governance. It is simply amazing to witness young people's understanding of the world and their hopes for international cooperation. We fully expect some day to see many of these students leading businesses and working in diplomacy and government.



#### Rotary

Shelton Williams is a Rotarian. Thus, the Osgood Center's leadership programs promote service above self. Its economic programs promote development and openness. Its policy programs promote world peace and international understanding. The Center has received grants to promote Arab-Israeli discourse, to help economically challenged and minority students, to develop women as leaders, and, in the summer of 2011, to assist DC Youth in Government students to participate in a Model UN. With help from the Rotary Club of Washington, DC and the YMCA of Greater Washington, twenty-three DC high schools participated in the 2011 International Model UN at the Osgood Center. They joined students from China, Gambia, Oman, Tunisia, Morocco, and across the DC area. The DC students represented the United States of America and won a Distinguished Delegation Award.



The Osgood Center is a 501 c 3 non-profit international educational organization ([www.osgoodcenter.org](http://www.osgoodcenter.org)). Every year it trains well over 1000 students. Its distinguished board of businesspersons, lawyers, and former public servants give of their time and money to assist students. You can, too.

The Osgood Center welcomes all students to come to Washington to meet the world!

