

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Shelton Williams

Good News and Better News

Greetings from Locked Down, DC. While all Osgood programs were canceled for the summer of 2020, they reemerged thanks to Zoom and the Osgood staff. This spring and summer, we have conducted a lecture series for an Italian Global Leadership program, an externship including placements for over 70 students presenting in depth written projects to professional mentors, and a lecture series on international affairs featuring diplomats, analysts, professors, and think tank experts. Students from around the US, China, Italy, Jordan, and Germany have participated. We are also offering an online Model Security Council for 60 students in September. As a result, our revenues have matched the lost programming. The Osgood Board and staff have gone



Faces in our online crowd, Professional Development Progr@m.

the extra mile in adapting to the COVID-19 crisis and to the needs for new approaches to education. That's the good news.

The better news is that Osgood applied for and received funds through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program. The former protected our payroll through the uncertain early days of the

pandemic and the latter provides a cushion for the uncertain fall and winter programs. The PPP loan should be forgiven and the EIDL money has a thirty-year payout at a 2.75 per cent interest rate. We expect to pay it off in 5 years.

We can now return to fund-raising only for scholarships for needy students. Osgood will live for another day with its full staff and healthy payroll. Thank you for your continued support.

Feature of the month. Osgood Board Member, Charles Morrison, past president of East-West Center has begun writing about *COVID-19 and its political impact*. We want to share his thoughts with you here. [CLICK HERE](#)

The best is yet to come:

Dr. Eugene Alpert is also leading our efforts for the 2021 **Presidential Inauguration Program** which will be available as an on-site program or a virtual program!

[CLICK HERE](#)

September 4-6, 2020

Model Security Council

It's been 50 years of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the most important international instrument for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament.

Every five years, its member states meet in a Review Conference to evaluate their efforts so far and to set new goals for the future. The 10th NPT Review Conference was postponed due to the COVID19 crisis. The postponement is unfortunate; however, this delay gives the international community additional time to prepare for a successful conference.

The Osgood Center has designed an online program, the Model Security Council, for you to anticipate and evaluate the risks of nuclear weapons in a rapidly changing global environment. Join this program to engage in simulated review process that will call you and other participants to collaborate and negotiate non-proliferation policies for the future.

In Model Security Council, you will gain valuable knowledge, skills, and experiences outside the traditional classroom. You will also meet Daryl G. Kimball who is a renowned expert on arms control and disarmament. Spend three

days online with other student delegates; learn about a critical world issue; and experience Model UN for yourself. [CLICK HERE](#)



January 10-21, 2021

Presidential Inauguration Program

In the midst of numerous national crises, the inauguration of the next president of the United States takes on especially significant importance to the nation and American democracy. No matter what your major, background, or special interests, you have a stake in the next administration, whether it will be a continuation or a change in direction.

The Osgood Center has created an opportunity for you to feel a part of the national celebration on January 20, 2021 and to gain special insight and understanding behind all the celebrations. Interact with national and international experts who can tell you what is going on behind the scenes and how to interpret



Inauguration Day, January 2013. (Photo: Getty Images)

the actions of the next president and his administration. Learn about how the presidential campaign brought us to this point and how the next administration can have an impact in your life over the next four years.

Choose between an [on-site program](#) or a [virtual program](#), whichever is suitable and safe for January 2021.

This is a perfect opportunity for a Jan-Term or independent study course, since there will be advance briefings and references that will help put the topic in context and prepare you for the wealth of speakers we are inviting to participate. For more information, contact Dr. Eugene Alpert at: alpert@osgoodcenter.org



Meet

Truitt Williams

Truitt Williams is a senior at The University of Houston majoring in Management and Leadership. He joined the Osgood Center in May. As a program associate, he had the opportunity to engage with policy experts and researchers, and to

learn under his individual mentor, Amanda K. Edwards, former Houston City Council member.

Truitt's work at the Osgood Center focused on shaping public policy and culminated in a range of briefs, research reports, form letters, and other resources to educate and empower local communities to be part of the solution on key issues. **His mentor's experience and insight have honed Truitt's skills, enabling him to expand his efforts to serve others.** Taking his mentorship drive further, Osgood's professional development seminars and lectures provided an

educational platform for his career by identifying areas in which he can contribute in meaningful ways.

Truitt's success in Osgood's Professional Development Progr@m has increased his passion to study law as an instrument for change. He will pursue a Doctor of Jurisprudence after completing his Bachelor of Business Administration. **Truitt is grateful for his valuable experience at the Osgood Center and seeks to continually nurture the relationship that he has established with the organization and its program directors.**



Meet

Amritha Siby

Amritha is a sophomore in the business honors program on the pre-med track, pursuing a Finance degree with minors in Medicine and Society, Biology, and History at the University of Houston. She is also actively involved in the Bonner Leaders Club, a service organization. Amritha plans to make a difference in the world using her business skills in the healthcare industry.

The Professional Development Progr@m taught her meaningful lessons. Reflecting about her experience, she affirmed that she learned to apply her academic skills in the real world. Amritha also realized the different professional options available. She learned how to write her résumé and to find a mentor in a professional setting. Another highlight of her experience was, in Amritha's words, "learning about international affairs." The exposure to American foreign policies and to the relationship of the U.S. with other states helped her define her focus; she is interested in pursuing a career in global health.

Amritha enjoyed working with her mentor, Sarah Hillware, the Deputy Director of Women in Global Health (WGH). As Sarah's mentee, Amritha

created a plan and conducted research on the impact of COVID19 in countries led by female leaders compared to nations led by male leaders. In a collaborative process, she understood the importance of global health and its impact at large. In fact, she analyzed gender equality and equity in health while she did her research.

If she had to choose one important lesson learned in the program it would be "to seek out mentors, identify a project or idea relevant to help them because **until she participated in Osgood's program, she "had not realized the importance of being a self-starter in the professional field and having initiative to create something new that adds value to a company and to a mentor."**

Never miss a story, follow us on social media



Please look for our students' articles on Osgood website, including the story behind, Les Janka's mentee, **Cristobella Durette**. Her creative image tells the story of Aida, a woman who participated in one of the programs offered by the American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), an organization that changed the lives of numerous communities in Gaza, West Bank, Lebanon, and Jordan.

Aida kick-started her embroidery business with a loan from ANERA she received in 2010. The business not only brings in vital income to sustain her family, but also allows Aida to express herself.

My embroidery also preserves our heritage, our identity, and our traditions. Every stitch has a story to tell.



Going forward

For the remainder of 2021 and the beginning of 2021, Osgood will be online. The January Leadership Program and the TEX MUN will be included in these options.