

Student Exchange Programs

The **Fulbright Student Program** continues to demonstrate its unique value in deepening mutual understanding among peoples.

Every world region attracted a record number of applicants in 2003, including the Middle East, where the new **Islamic Civilization Initiative** incorporates outreach activities upon the student's return to the U.S. to increase knowledge of the Muslim world on the campus and in local communities.

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell presented the first **Harrison H. Schmitt Leadership Awards** honoring recent alumni of the Fulbright Program who demonstrate extraordinary leadership and dedication to public service to Raymond Jefferson and Jason Santamaria at the U.S. Department of State on July 29th.

Fulbright Teaching Assistant Programs provided opportunities for Fulbrighters to develop connections with host communities in the U.S. and abroad. English teaching assistant programs in Europe and Asia are now complemented by new programs in South America and will expand next year to the Middle East.

Over 50 young English teachers from Islamic countries are studying and serving as native language instructors at 27 U.S. colleges and universities during this academic year. The **Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants** bring language skill, and cultural and professional experience to the American campus.

This year the Fulbright Program was revived in Afghanistan after 24 years. In commenting on this, Miller Crouch, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs, said:

"It's one of the strongest signals that we as a government could have sent to the Afghan people, that we seek a long-term, productive partnership with them based on friendship and respect."

On October 21st, it was announced that Fulbright was being revived in Iraq. Each program will bring 25 students to study in the U.S. in February 2004.

In November, Fulbright celebrated its 50th anniversary in South Africa and its 10th anniversary in Vietnam.

The **United Nations Fulbright Fellowships Program** was launched this year, with 19 fellows working with UN supervisors at the secretariat in New York or duty stations worldwide. With the U.S. reentry into UNESCO, the program was expanded to permit U.S. Fulbrighters to spend an internship with a regional UNESCO office abroad.

Alumni development is a critical component of the **Ron Brown Fellowship Program**, administered by IIE for the Department of State. In September 2003, 130 Ron Brown Program alumni from 13 countries gathered in Krakow, Poland, for an alumni conference, "International Perspectives on a Borderless Europe."

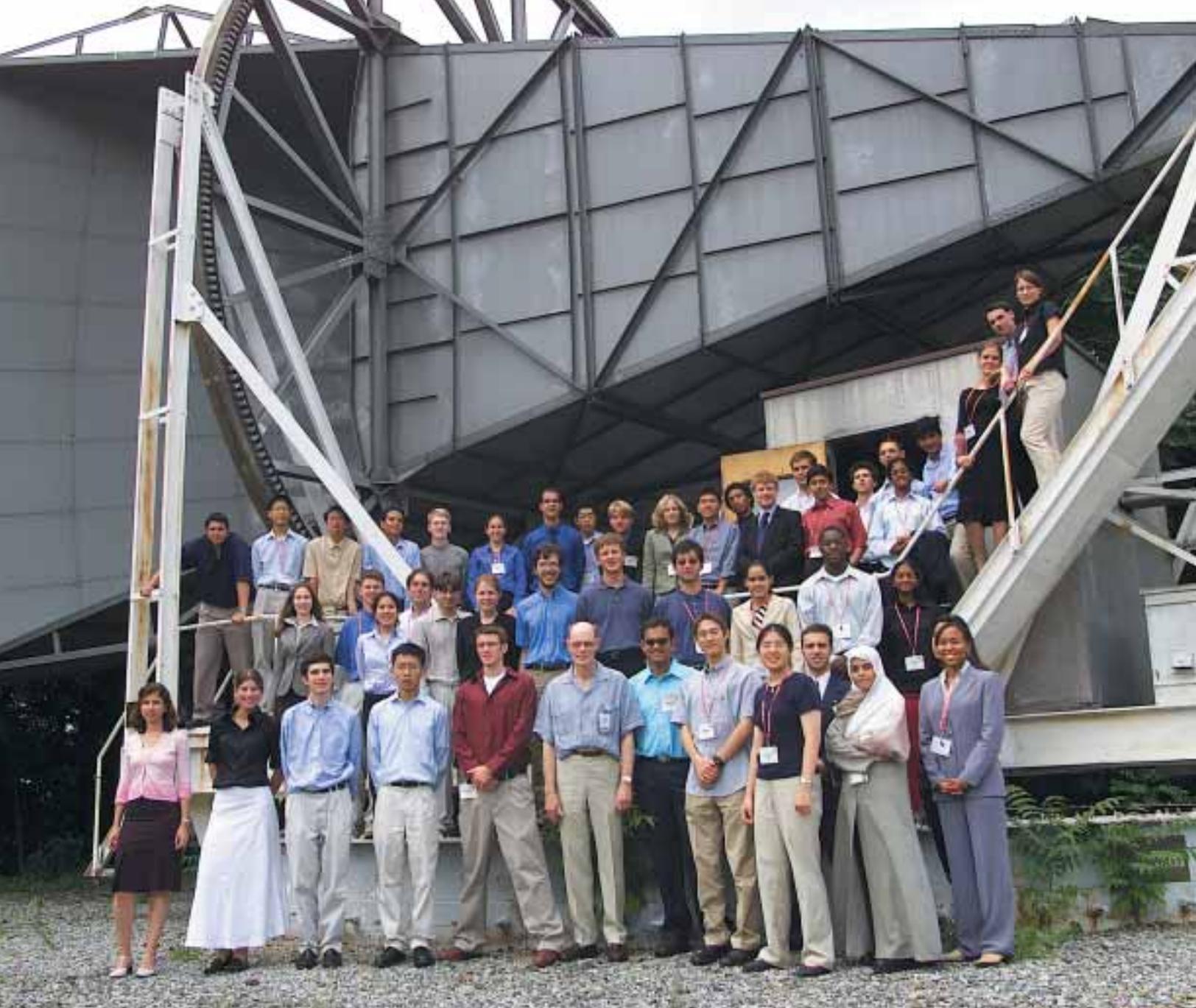
Selected international students participate in management training and professional development programs offered by American Management Association under full scholarships. These programs range from executive leadership to conflict resolution, and complement the rigorous academic programs the students are pursuing. AMA President and CEO Edward Reilly noted:

"This is a wonderful opportunity for us to help leaders from all over the world acquire the essential management skills they need to leverage their potential and make a significant impact...Working with IIE will ensure that our programs reach the most outstanding future leaders from around the world."

IIE's partnership with the **Brazil Ministry of Higher Education — CAPES Foundation** continued for a fifth successful year. IIE places Ministry-funded graduates in PhD programs across the U.S., with 80 new scholars arriving in 2003. The program is designed to improve the quality of graduate study and research at Brazilian universities.

All IIE-administered programs for study abroad saw an increasing demand from U.S. undergraduates. The **Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship**, **Freeman-ASIA**, and **National Security Education Programs** support students to study in countries less frequently visited and learning languages critical to our understanding of the world.

The arts continued to flourish in IIE programs. IIE's long-standing affiliation with **Studio Art Centers International in Florence** offered study abroad opportunities to more than 500 U.S. students.



impact

“The entire trip was just larger than life. I felt as if I was in a dream for seven days, especially when I was in Bell Labs. The scientific discoveries, the technological developments, the research labs that we read about in tech magazines and newspapers are a reality in Bell Labs. This is the place where everything happens. And I was there. I met Nobel Prize winners. I saw working devices that will change the way we communicate, the way we live. The trip showed me how much has already been done and what is possible.

I also realized that, though all of the Scholars were from different countries, with different culture and backgrounds, it did not take long for any of us to merge in. All of us are immensely interested in science and technology. We all have the will to go ahead, to achieve something in life, to know more. National, cultural and environmental differences fade away when these basic values are shared.

These were the best seven days of my life.” — Saurabh Sinha, Lucent Global Science Scholar