

## **SPECIAL OPERATIONS FUND**

### **DAVID C. MILLER, JR. FELLOWSHIP**

Ambassador David C. Miller, Jr., has had a distinguished career in public service, diplomacy, business and management of non-profit organizations. An American Field Service Scholarship to Japan, a Harvard College undergraduate degree, a Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School, and a White House Fellowship prepared him for a life of leadership and contribution at the national and international levels.

After a year in Vietnam working with a group of Harvard and MIT professors primarily for the Advanced Research Projects Agency, Ambassador Miller was selected as a White House Fellow in 1968-69, serving with the Attorney General of the United States, who asked him to remain another year as a Confidential Assistant. He continued to serve in the White House from 1970-71 as the Director of the President's Commission on White House Fellows while also working with the Counsel to the President.,

Ambassador Miller was the United States Ambassador to Tanzania from 1981-84 and to Zimbabwe from 1984-86. After two years in business he returned to the White House as Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs on the National Security Council (NSC) from 1989-90. His NSC portfolio included counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics, low intensity conflict, Africa, the United Nations, refugees and public diplomacy.

He held a variety of international positions with Westinghouse Electric Corporation for 10 years and has served on a number of corporate boards, both public and private. He is one of the founding members of Torch Hill Investment Partners, a private equity firm that provides growth capital for companies that work in the defense and intelligence markets.

Ambassador Miller is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Council of American Ambassadors, the District of Columbia Bar, and is the founder of the Special Operations Fund. He was co-author, with Howard Wolpe and David Gordon, of [The United States and Africa: A Post-Cold War Perspective](#), and has contributed chapters to three books on low intensity conflict. He received an honorary Doctor of Law Degree from Lewis and Clarke College in 1991 in recognition of his public service.

### **HONORING AMBASSADOR MILLER**

In recognition and appreciation for Ambassador Miller's vision and thoughtful guidance of the Special Operations Fund since 1992, including his critical role as founder and Board Chairman; in respect for his life-long commitment to nurturing future public servants through the power of higher education and distinctive educational experiences; and to acknowledge the transforming experiences of his own fellowships early in his career; the Board of Directors of the Special Operations Fund in 2015 established the *Ambassador David C. Miller, Jr. Fellowship*. The Miller Fellowship will be awarded annually by the Special Operations Fund to an exceptional recent graduate from college or graduate school who is contemplating a career in international public service.

## MILLER FELLOWSHIP PARAMETERS

The Special Operations Fund will select one Miller Fellow annually to receive a \$20,000 post-graduate fellowship from applicants who are recent college or graduate school graduates. Applicants will submit proposals to study, work, or participate in charitable activities in another country for up to two years. Proposals should illustrate what applicants intend to do, what they expect to learn, the potential impact they expect to have on the community, and how the Fellowship will help prepare them for a career in international public service, including the Foreign Service, the intelligence community, the military, or non-profit international development activities. Applications will be evaluated based on several criteria. Particular weight will be given to a candidate's demonstrated record of public service with the overall objective being to provide the Fellow an opportunity to live and work in a foreign culture while simultaneously advancing his or her foreign language skills.

Candidates for this fellowship will be drawn from a pool of sons or daughters of deceased, current, and veteran Special Operations Force members supported by the following benevolent Special Operations organizations: the Special Operations Fund, Rangers Scholarship Fund, Unit Scholarship Fund, Night Stalker Foundation, Development Group Scholarship Committee of the Navy SEAL Foundation, and Special Tactics Scholarship Fund. As with other programs provided by the Fund that benefit the Special Operations community, the Special Operations Fund will rely upon the above organizations to assist with tracking and identifying qualified applicants.

The winning candidate will have graduated from college or graduate school within the previous three years of applying to this program, have attained a college or university grade point average (or equivalent) of 3.5 cumulative or higher, with academic honors, and must demonstrate a sincere interest in the careers mentioned above. Applicants with cumulative GPA's below 3.5 must demonstrate an unusually strong record of leadership and achievement in and outside the classroom, as well as proposing a compelling project idea.

Finalists will be required to identify an advisor to provide counsel on evaluating possibilities and selecting the proposal's objective, shaping it, and guiding it to completion. Advisors can come from academia, government, the military, the defense or intelligence business community, or the research community.

Finalists will be interviewed and required to submit a 1000-word proposal for the fellowship experience they seek, including the topic to be studied or the work or charitable activities to be accomplished, and the proposed geographic location. Proposals will describe what applicants plan to do, its impact, and the benefits they expect to derive from their efforts.

Proposals should also illustrate how the Fellowship experience will help prepare them for a career in international public service, including the Foreign Service, the intelligence community, the military, or non-profit international development activities.

Proposals will be evaluated on clarity and practicality; the degree of cultural knowledge to be gained by the applicant; the quality and quantity of relationships developed in the foreign country where the study, work, or charitable activity will take place; and current or potential usefulness to our nation's understanding of that country and its history, culture, issues, and aspirations.

The Selection Committee of the Miller Fellowship will be chaired by Ambassador Miller, and will be comprised of at least four Directors of the Special Operations Fund, two retired military members of the Joint Special Operations Command community, and two faculty members from a distinguished college or postgraduate international affairs program.

One David C. Miller, Jr. Fellow will be announced in May and the Fellow must begin carrying out his or her proposal within three months. The first Miller Fellowship will be awarded in 2016.

Within three months of concluding the Miller Fellowship work or study, the Fellow will write a paper describing his or her efforts and assessing the Fellowship, its educational value, and any implications for the future and the country. Research papers will be submitted to the Fellow's advisor and to the Selection Committee for the Miller Fellowship as a demonstration of the impact of the investment made in that specific Fellowship. These papers shall also be made available for future Fellows and for other distribution, as deemed appropriate.