

# WHITE HOUSE FELLOWSHIPS



THE WHITE HOUSE

AUGUST 1979

## Commission Seeks Minority Participants

Two Blacks, Ken Jones and Paul Sweeney, were recently appointed by President Carter to the 1979-80 class of White House Fellows. Ken Jones is a manager of one of the systems engineering divisions at Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburgh, and Paul Sweeney is an attorney-associate with the firm of Arnold and Porter in Washington, D.C. Of the seventeen Fellows chosen for 1979-80, there are two Blacks, three Hispanics, and one Asian. There are also eight women in the program.

The President's Commission on White House Fellowships is enlarging its effort to increase knowledge of the program in the minority communities and to increase the number of minority applicants. Although participation by Blacks in the program has been extensive, the number of Black candidates last year fell below the number the previous year and Black women have not applied or participated in the numbers the Commission has expected.

In the belief that the low response has resulted from lack of awareness of the program, the Commission is renewing its efforts to publicize the program in the Black community. Among the Commissioners appointed by the President who have urged this action are Carl Holman of the National Urban Coalition and Margaret Bush Wilson of the NAACP.

Each year fourteen to nineteen Americans in the early stages of their careers are named by the President as White House Fellows and are assigned individually to Cabinet members, Presidential assistants, or the Vice President. The other component of the program is an intensive seminar education program which encompasses travel, luncheon meetings and briefings with senators, congressmen, ambassadors, international statesmen, Cabinet members, distinguished media personalities and industrial leaders. The Fellowship assignment together with participation in the education program parallels a potentially extraordinary work experience.

Any American citizen is eligible to apply for the program with the exception of those already serving in the Federal

Government. Members of the armed forces, however, may apply. There are no specific occupational or educational requirements, and obviously no restrictions on race, sex, sexual preference, age, or political or ideological beliefs. It is a completely nonpartisan program. The participant the Commission seeks is the individual who shows strong signs of being a leader in his profession, occupation, or community, and who can demonstrate the ability to work as a productive assistant to a Cabinet-level member for a year. The goal of the White House Fellowship program is to create a nationwide cadre of persons in the private sphere and local government who will have direct knowledge of and experience with how the Federal executive branch of the Government operates and how it responds to its varied publics, Congress, and the Courts.

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*President Carter greets White House Fellows in Rose Garden.*

*Application materials and additional information can be obtained from the President's Commission on White House Fellowships, Box 7737, Washington, D.C. 20044, (202) 653-6263. Requests for applications must be postmarked no later than November 15; completed applications no later than December 1.*

## Profiles of Three Black Fellows— Class of 1978-79

Among the 1978-79 class of fifteen White House Fellows, there were three Black Fellows who were on leave from the academic community and industry. Isiah Leggett, a special assistant to Robert Bergland, Secretary of Agriculture, is participating in program formulation and administration as it relates to the regulatory area. Ike is on leave from the Law School of Howard University where he is an assistant dean and an associate professor. He will return to Howard in September 1979.

Dr. Charles Martin, a tenured professor who is also on leave from Howard University, is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Negro Education and Director of the Bureau of Education Research. As a Fellow, he serves as an assistant to Sam Brown, Director of ACTION. His assignment of conducting a close analysis of the Peace Corps operation in Africa has included a month visiting Peace Corps programs in Africa.

James H. Scott is on leave from his position as a Vice President with the International Banking Division, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York. He is assigned to Anne Wexler, Assistant to the President at the White House. Jim will be going to the Netherlands this fall to head the branch of Morgan's International Division located there.

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Each Fellow is paid by his assigned agency and may receive up to approximately \$42,000 per year. Fellows are expected to return to their occupations after a one-year (September 1 through August 31) stay in the Federal Government. No moving expenses are paid and expenses are higher in Washington than in many areas of the U.S. However, most participants find the experience to be worth the possible financial loss and the disruption of career goals for a year.

## Black WHF Alumni Contacts

Name	Business Address	Business Phone
Barbara H. Anderson	384 Stockton Street, Hightstown, NJ 08520	609-448-4764
Joseph Anderson	Pontiac Motor Division 1 Pontiac Plaza, Pontiac, MI 48053	313-857-1171
James E. Bostic, Jr.	25 Woods Lake Road, Green Gate Park, Suite 800 Greenville, SC 29607	803-242-6050
Patricia A. Davis	600 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111	415-983-4000
Judge A. Dickson	P.O. Box 10, Princeton, NJ 08540	201-329-7873
Antoinette W. Ford	3044 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit MI 48202	313-556-3345
Ronald B. Lee	1616 Ft. Myer Drive, Arlington, VA 22209	703-527-0700 (Ext. 2055)
Isiah Leggett	2935 Upton Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20008	202-686-6833
Percy Pierre	Department of the Army, The Pentagon, Rm. 2E672 Washington, DC 20310	202-695-6153
Betty J. Shelton	399 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10043	212-559-7666

## Black WHF Alumni Organize

Black WHF Alumni have organized an informal caucus within the WHF Alumni Association with the purpose of encouraging more Blacks to participate in the program. The caucus is committed to keeping the doors of the WHF program open for others to follow and also to communicating that, although the selection process is arduous, the Fellowship experience is a highly original and rewarding one. This informal caucus also keeps watch that this Administration, as well as its successors, continues its firm commitment to minority participation in the program.

There are several other ways in which alumni are helping to increase minority participation. Most notably, they are playing an important role in publicizing the program and in identifying individuals in early stages of their careers when the impact of White House Fellowships is most beneficial and dramatic. Realizing their value as an information resource for prospective applicants or for individuals wishing to nominate candidates, many alumni have volunteered to answer questions and evaluate their own experiences for those interested in the program. Phone numbers and addresses for Black WHF alumni who have agreed to serve in this capacity are listed below.