



From Harvard Square to the Oval Office Application and Information 2009-2010

Learn how to run for office; be the candidate and survive an election; meet and bond with a select cohort of exceptional women; speak with elected women about their experiences running for, and holding office. *From Harvard Square to the Oval Office: A Political Campaign Practicum (Oval Office)* is an initiative of the Women and Public Policy Program (WAPPP) that provides a select group of Harvard graduate students with the training and support they need to ascend in the electoral process at the local, state and national levels. This is a non-partisan initiative and is made possible through the generous support of Barbara Lee, Joanne Egerman and the Beatrice Koretsky Bleicher Memorial Endowment Fund.

How will the program be structured?

Programming will run for two academic semesters, with a select cohort of students starting each fall. Students will meet to take part in:

The Barbara Lee Women in U.S. Politics Training Program and Lecture Series

- *Mentoring sessions* with prominent figures in political life – Top-tier leaders will candidly share their expertise on influencing the political landscape. Past speakers include Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**, Speaker of the House **Nancy Pelosi** (D-CA 8th), Congresswoman **Anne Northup** (R-KY 3rd) and former Governor **Christie Todd Whitman** (R-NJ).
- *Skills-training sessions* with the nation's leading campaign strategists, fundraisers, and organizers – There will be ten morning training sessions, beginning in October and continuing through May. Past trainers include **Kate Coyne-McCoy**, Regional Director, EMILY's List, and **Joe Gaylor**, President of Chesapeake Associates and former Senior Political Advisor to former Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Participating students may apply for financial support for a **summer internship**, giving them the chance to utilize acquired skills in a real-world political setting. They will also have the opportunity to advance their political careers by connecting with elected officials, campaign professionals, and Kennedy School alumni at **networking events** throughout the year.

Who is eligible?

WAPPP encourages all highly motivated Harvard University students currently enrolled in a graduate program to apply. International students are welcome to apply.

How will students be selected?

A committee will review students' applications and select the participants. Students will receive notification of the committee's decision via email.

Students should submit a hard copy application packet that contains:

1. A cover letter with your full name, degree program, email address, and year of graduation
2. A copy of your curriculum vitae or résumé
3. An essay of not more than two pages on "why I want to run for office..."
4. An essay of not more than two pages illustrating your potential for public leadership and commitment to public service
5. One letter of recommendation from a person (i.e. professor or former employer) who can speak to your leadership

WAPPP does not discriminate on the basis of political affiliation, sex/gender, race, ethnicity, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, parental status, economic status, sexual orientation, or disability.

Applications must be received by Megan Kearns at the Women and Public Policy Program, Taubman 107 D, by WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2009 at 12 o'clock noon. Selected students will be notified by Tuesday, October 13, 2009.
