



The NAAC Hope Fellowship Program is a women's leadership program created and administered by the National Albanian American Council and sponsored by USAID.

**Hope Fellowship
Upcoming Events**

- May 12th-**
Speaker Debra Liang Fenton, US Institute of Peace (USIP)
- May 20th-**
Graduation of Hope Fellows, Rule of Law Class Spring 2010

Staff Updates



Jarrett Oakley
Program Assistant
Hope Fellowship DC

Jarrett joined the Hope Fellowship DC staff in April to assist with the implementation of the Washington Leadership Program.

Jarrett, a native of Gainesville Georgia, previously worked as a reporter and journalist in the Atlanta area. He holds a Bachelors of Science degree in International Affairs from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

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Hope Fellowship on
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**FELLOWS EXPERIENCE U.S. GOVERNMENT FIRSTHAND ON
CONGRESSIONAL SHADOW DAY**

The Hope Fellows joined the offices of eight U.S. House of Representatives to experience a day in the life of a U.S. legislator. Congressmen Earl Pomeroy, Jim McDermott, Edolphus Towns, Tom Petri, Jan Schakowski, and James McGovern all hosted our fellows, granting them access to their daily staff briefings, legislative hearings, and committee meetings.

During their day, the fellows had the chance to discuss directly their impressions and concerns regarding the current situation in Kosova, and what measures need to be implemented in order to achieve a stable Rule of Law in the Balkan region with their assigned Congressman. In a gesture to the continued commitment to the Balkans and the Hope Fellowship, eight Congressman appeared to extend support at our Congressional reception on April 28th.

HOPE FELLOWS MEET DR. LIRI BERISHA

After the congressional reception honoring Mother Teresa and the Hope Fellows, the Rule of Law Hope Fellows had the chance to meet with Dr. Liri Berisha, First Lady of Albania. The Hope Fellows discussed their intentions of constructing a women's leadership network, working in conjunction with the Hope Fellowship, the League of Women Voters, and Vital Voices global women's networks. All agreed that the formation of this regional women's leadership

network would promote gender equality, women voting participation, and strengthen regional Rule of Law.



Above: Dr. Berisha with the Hope Fellows

HOPE FELLOWS PRESENT AT NDI

On April 14th, the Hope Fellowship's spring 2010 class was invited to a seminar to discuss the Rule of Law in Post-Conflict Kosova.

The roundtable discussions centered around answering crucial questions regarding Minority Protections, Anti-Corruption efforts, and Gender Equality in Kosova's Rule of Law. The fellows' gave poignant, analytical responses and situational reports within their various fields that include: local governance, ministerial governance, media and journalism, non-profit, and civil society.

The well-received event was a unique opportunity for the Hope Fellows to share their professional recommenda-



Hope Fellows discussing the Rule of Law at NDI

tions with NDI, as to relay the shifting Rule of Law status in civil society and government in Kosova. The ultimate goal was to accurately present vital regional information to US foreign policy advisors.



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Photographs



LEFT: NAAC Chairman Martin Shkreli (center, rear) listening to Congressman Pomeroy's remarks with Hope Fellows Ariana Qosaj Mustafa (right) and Merita Behluli (center, front)



ABOVE: U.S. Government training at NAAC Office with Mr. Ilir Zherka (center), Co-Founder and former Executive Director of NAAC with Hope Fellows



BELOW: Meeting with Dr. Liri Berisha Driton Mishto (From Left), Avni Mustafaj, Dr. Liri Berisha, Entel Vakari, David Scotton, and Kreshnik Collaku (Right)



ABOVE: Hope Fellows presentation at National Democratic Institute (NDI)

LEFT: Young Albanian American Professionals discussing cooperative project possibilities at the first ever DC Advisory Board hosted by NAAC