



June 5, 2019

Dear Howard University Community,

I am pleased to announce that two Howard University students, **Diane Ijoma and Darryl L. Jones II**, have been selected to receive the prestigious **2019 David L. Boren Award**. The Institute of International Education (IIE), on behalf of the National Security Education Program (NSEP), awards David L. Boren Scholarships to undergraduate students and David L. Boren Fellowships to graduate students with the goal of adding important international and language components to their education through study abroad experiences in regions critical to U.S. interests.

NSEP's Boren Awards program provides U.S. undergraduate and graduate students with resources and encouragement to acquire language skills and experience in countries critical to the future security and stability of our nation.

I extend congratulations to our two extraordinary Boren Award winners. As future leaders, the international experience and perspective they are committed to developing will serve them well in their careers of global service.

Ijoma, a junior political science and economics major from Howard County, Maryland, was named a **2019 Boren scholar**. An alumna of the Freshman Leadership Academy, Ijoma is also involved in the International Affairs Society and the Petey Greene Program. She is managing editor of *The Liberato*, the University's first publication dedicated to political discourse. As an intern for the U.S. Department of State, Ijoma worked closely with American Diplomats serving in Juba, South Sudan. She spent last summer in Arusha, Tanzania, studying Swahili as a Critical Language Scholar. She is also a recipient of the HBCU ETS Presidential Scholarship, a one-year, full-tuition merit award sponsored by the Educational Testing Service.

As a Boren scholar, Ijoma will receive more than \$20,000 toward her French and Wolof studies. She will also participate in both a domestic summer program at the University of Florida and an international fall semester abroad in Dakar, Senegal.

Jones, a doctoral student in the department of African Studies, was named a **2019 Boren fellow**. Jones' research focuses on the impact of desertification and drought on nomadic and pastoral societies, and traditional forms of slavery in the West African Sahel. He holds a master's degree in African studies from the University of Ghana, and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the International University of Monaco.

As a Boren fellow, Jones will receive \$23,500 to study Arabic and Tamazight ("Berber") in Morocco for the entire 2019-20 academic year. By learning these languages, Jones hopes to enhance his ability to access centuries-old archival records for further investigation.

This year, 851 undergraduate students applied for the Boren Scholarship and 273 graduate students applied for the Boren Fellowship. The IIE awarded 244 Boren Scholarships and 106 Boren Fellowships in 2019.

Since 1994, more than 6,000 students have received Boren Awards. Boren scholars and fellows represent a vital pool of highly motivated individuals who wish to work in the federal national security arena, and program alumni are contributing to the critical missions of agencies throughout the federal government.

I am very proud of our high-achieving 2019 David L. Boren Award recipients and encourage our entire student body to take advantage of the international education resources available across campus. I commend both students for their excellent international achievement toward their education and commitment to service. Their contributions will enhance the world around them.

We look forward to their continued success.

Excellence in Truth and Service,

Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D., MBA
President