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Mentoring Fair In Georgetown University: Women Diplomats Ought To Be Persistent



Mentoring aspiring diplomats and professionals in international relations has long been the focus of the Mentoring Session Women Foreign Policy Group (WFPG). Together with 33 other mentors on 3 February 2009 the Consul General of Indonesia in New York, the Hon. Trie Edi Mulyani gave an informal briefing on the

desk job and the needed skills for a Foreign Service Officer to females students who aspire to pursue a career in the international relations field. At least 120 students circulated to different tables at the Mentoring session at the Copley Hall of the Georgetown University.

After the opening reception, the fair continue with mentors seated at designated tables according to their areas of expertise. Of the 13 fields of work in international relations, including Human Rights and Refugees, National Security, Department of State, International Business and Government Relations, Communication and Public Affairs, International Law, Consulting: Defense and Intelligence, NGO, Foundation and Fundraising, International Development, International Organizations, United Nations, the Consul General focused its briefings on "Foreign Diplomatic Service" along with two other officials from Uruguay and Ukraine.

During the fair, students are invited to sit with mentors and speak informally about what is happening in each mentor's field, what skills are required to get involved, and to hear valuable advice and guidance regarding career planning. Most of the students expressed their interest in learning further the role of female diplomats, and their endeavor to pursue a career while balancing family interest. The Consul General also took the opportunity to explain the equal-opportunity recruitment process in the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, of which a balanced number of female and male Foreign Service Officers were recruited each year. The Consul General also emphasized the need of persistent work for female Diplomats to succeed in their career.

Before the end of each mentoring sessions of 25 minutes, the Consul General distributed information on Indonesia and Dharmasiswa, a scholarship program extended by the government of the Republic of Indonesia to foreign students who want to study Indonesian language, arts, music and crafts in 38 participating universities and colleges in Indonesia.

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The Consul General's participation in the mentoring sessions is part of the Consulate's commitment to engage American students of all ages. The mentoring session in Georgetown University is the third event that the Consulate is participating since early 2008. ©

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