



Inclusive Diplomacy Luncheon Series

“DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN FOREIGN POLICY”

Who’s Coming to the Embassy Tonight?

Monday, February 13, 2017

12PM – 1:30PM, Nitze 507

To maximize our effectiveness in diplomacy, we must increase the diversity of our diplomatic corps, and in tandem increase the social capital of our embassies ‘beyond the usual suspects’.

This is the first of two lunch discussions that will explore inclusive leadership strategies in the context of diplomacy, focusing on how and why the U.S. Department of State and other foreign policy institutions are committing to culture change. This change begins internally through the recruitment, retention and advancement of diverse personnel, and reflects externally in smarter engagement and widened circles of influence. During this interactive discussion, we will equip you to make the case for inclusive leadership, drawing on this toolkit: concise representation of demographic change; the business case for diversity; and real life storytelling from diplomacy.

Our interlocutors will include:

- **Laurie S. Fulton**, Chair of Global Engagement for Meridian Board of Trustees and former U.S. Ambassador to Denmark
- **Ms. Minjon Tholen**, Diversity and Inclusion Strategist with Cook Ross
- **Dr. Mischa Thompson**, Policy Advisor for the U.S. Helsinki Commission
- **Ms. Lora Berg**, Senior Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States and Senior Foreign Service Officer (ret., SAIS '84)

**Professor Kent Davis-Packard will manage the series.
Co-hosted by Global Theory and History.**

**Location: Nitze Building, Room 507, 1740 Massachusetts Avenue,
NW, Washington, DC 20036.**

Open to SAIS Students and Alumni.

Please RSVP by February 10th to Starr Lee: starr.lee@jhu.edu



Laurie S. Fulton, Chair of Global Engagement, Meridian Board of Trustees.

Laurie S. Fulton served as U.S. Ambassador to Denmark from July 2009 to February 2013. She recently retired as a partner in the law firm Williams & Connolly LLP in Washington, D.C., where she was recognized as one of “Washington’s Top Lawyers” by Washingtonian Magazine in 2004. Ambassador Fulton organized and co-hosted the 2010 Conference on the Role of Women in Global Security for the U.S. and Nordic-Baltic countries, identifying best practices to assist women in becoming productive citizens in countries emerging from conflict, specifically Afghanistan, Liberia and Uganda. Ambassador Fulton was awarded the Grand Cross of the Danish Royal Order of Dannebrog by Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II. Ms. Fulton is Chair of the Honorary Advisory Board of the American-Danish Business Council and serves on the boards of non-profit organizations, including the Board of Directors of the Atlantic Council, Board of Directors of Stimson Center, Board of Trustees of the Meridian International Center, and Board of Trustees of Youth for Understanding. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Council of American Ambassadors, and the American Society of International Law. She served on the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace from January 2004 to October 2008 and co-chaired the USIP International Advisory Council from 2008-2010.



Mischa Thompson (United States) Commissioner, Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Dr. Mischa Thompson is a distinguished National Science Foundation Fellow, German Marshall Fund Fellow, and Fulbright Scholar, whose doctoral research focused on both solos/tokenism and international racism. As a prestigious AAAS/APA Congressional Fellow, Dr. Thompson led appropriations, foreign policy, defense, trade, and global rights efforts in the U.S. Congress that fostered a career as a Professional Staff Member in the U.S. House and Senate. Dr. Thompson currently advises the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Special Representative on Anti-Semitism, Racism, and Intolerance and Members of Congress and the State Department on anti-discrimination and inclusion issues for Europe and North America at the U.S. Helsinki Commission. Some of Dr. Thompson’s seminal work includes Brussels-based annual events such as the Transatlantic Conferences on Minority Political Leadership, and Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network that have resulted in a pipeline of over 100 diverse leaders committed to inclusive governance. Dr. Thompson is currently working to secure passage of legislation on Diversity in International Affairs, and a U.S.-European Union Joint Action Plan to combat prejudice and foster diversity.



Minjon Tholen, Consultant, Cook Ross.

Minjon Tholen is a Diversity & Inclusion strategist with almost ten years of experience in advising leaders at a wide variety of organizations and leading various initiatives. As a Senior Consultant at Cook Ross, Minjon is responsible for a varied portfolio of strategic internal projects and external client relationships. She has been a speaker at conferences such as the United Nations Women's Empowerment Principles Annual Event, SHRM Diversity, Linkage Diversity Institute, and European Network Against Racism Summit. Minjon's previous work includes managing strategic projects at the Wisconsin Women's Network and facilitating courses at the Gender and Women's Studies Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She conducted research at the Institute for Women's Policy Research and was a New Leader with the Center for Progressive Leadership and the National Council for Women's Organizations in Washington D.C. Minjon has served as a fellow with the Roosevelt Institute Pipeline and a delegate to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York City.



Lora Berg (United States) Resident Fellow, Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives, GMF.

Ms. Lora Berg is a Resident Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States with the goal of advancing diversity and inclusion best practices in the transatlantic space. In this capacity, she develops partnerships with other institutional actors on the international stage to inform and strengthen positive discourse around diversity and inclusion, and to develop leadership programs with a focus on rising, diverse young leaders. Prior, Ms. Berg served as a U.S. diplomat at the U.S. Embassies in Tunis, Rabat, Jeddah, Riyadh, Bratislava, Paris, and Brussels. Ms. Berg also served as senior advisor in Washington to the Special Representative to Muslim Communities. In this role she organized both the first edition of the "Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network" that took place in Copenhagen in April, 2012, and she has worked successfully to grow the TILN network each year since. Ms. Berg holds Masters Degrees in International Relations and in Poetry from Johns Hopkins University.