



HONORABLE MENTIONS



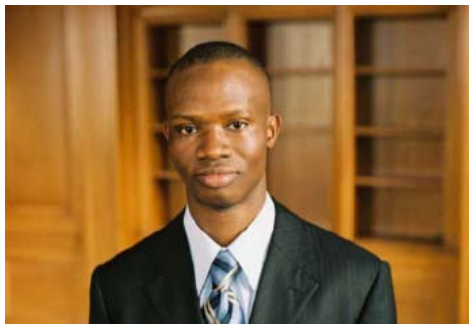
Top summer fellowship adds up to big future dividends for Honors senior

Written by: Lynette Garrett

Honors senior Hamissou Samari (SIS '09) spent this past summer as a Fellow in the Public Policy and International Affairs/Junior Summer Institute (PPIA/JSI) at the University of Michigan. The PPIA/JSI Program is dedicated to preparing students for graduate programs in public and international affairs, as well as in the field of public administration. Every student chosen to participate in the PPIA/JSI Program receives free tuition, free room and board, free meals and a voucher for free GRE classes – plus a \$1,000 stipend.

According to Hamissou, the seven-week intensive program covered a variety of subjects from public policy memo writing to national and international health policies and intermediate microeconomics. Another aspect of the PPIA/JSI Program that he enjoyed was the number of guest speakers who addressed the program participants during the summer. These included Michigan Representative Steve Tobocman, former Ambassador Melwyn Levitsky and representatives from the Congressional Budget Office. Hamissou himself delivered a speech to his peers and the PPIA/JSI Program faculty. It touched on his experiences as an immigrant helping to support his siblings in Togo despite limited resources, as well as his graduation from Borough of Manhattan Community College and his transfer to American University. At the conclusion of the program, his peers voted Hamissou “most likely to return as a guest speaker” and “Speaker of the Day,” seeing him as someone who could inspire others through his personal experiences.

As a result of his participation in the PPIA/JSI Program, Hamissou is now eligible to receive full tuition and health insurance benefits once he is accepted and enrolls in a graduate degree program. He plans to pursue a graduate degree in international relations or international public economic policy and at this time is considering applying to Columbia, Duke, Yale and AU. To learn more about the PPIA/JSI Program, please visit its Web site at www.ppiaprogram.org.



Hamissou Samari will graduate from AU this spring.

