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### I. INTRODUCTION

The Fund for American Studies alumni chapters are groups of TFAS alumni formed in geographical areas for the purpose of encouraging alumni engagement with TFAS. Events held by alumni chapters provide networking, social, educational and cultural opportunities. Chapter Presidents are responsible for organizing events in their community and serving as a point of contact for TFAS alumni new to the area.

This handbook was compiled as a resource for new and existing alumni Chapter Presidents. Topics covered include: structure and requirements for chapters, event planning, event ideas, the Alumni Council, TFAS events, volunteer opportunities and TFAS programs.

### **II. THE FUND FOR AMERICAN STUDIES**

### A. Mission

The mission of The Fund for American Studies (TFAS), its board, staff and our thousands of supporters is to change the world by developing leaders for a free society.

TFAS offers transformational programs that teach the principles of limited government, free-market economics and honorable leadership to students and young professionals in America and around the world.

TFAS programs inspire these future leaders to make a difference in their communities and throughout the world by upholding the values essential to the preservation and success of a free society.

### B. About

TFAS was established in 1967 in response to the political and social upheaval of the 1960s. As that decade was drawing to a close, there were widespread protests of government policy, and confidence in the American system of government was eroding. This was especially true for college students of the time.

Surveying this political and social landscape, Charles Edison, former Governor of New Jersey, Secretary of the Navy and son of the inventor Thomas Alva Edison, recognized that college students needed a balanced perspective on political and economic institutions. In 1967, Edison recruited Dr. Walter H. Judd, David R. Jones, Marvin Liebman and William F. Buckley, Jr. to help him establish the institution that is today known as The Fund for American Studies.

TFAS' inaugural Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems (ICPES) hosted 56 students during the summer of 1970. Today, nearly 17,000 students from more than 2,000 colleges and universities in all 50 states and more than 140 foreign countries have attended a TFAS summer or semester-long program. In addition to our core institutes, TFAS reaches more than 60,000 young people annually through educational videos, fellowships and seminars. TFAS programs inspire these future leaders to make a difference in their communities and throughout the world by upholding the values essential to the preservation and success of a free society.

## **III. ALUMNI CHAPTERS**

# A. Structure and Requirements

TFAS alumni chapters can be formed in geographic areas all around the world that boast a TFAS alumni base. Please visit <a href="www.TFAS.org/alumni">www.TFAS.org/alumni</a> to view current alumni chapters. Contact information for Chapter Presidents is provided on the website.

The purpose of alumni chapters is to continue to engage TFAS alumni with TFAS and each other. To that end, chapters host events on a regular basis (at least two per year) which introduce local alumni to each other and build the network of both TFAS and those individuals. These events can be professional, educational, academic, cultural or social in nature. Chapter Presidents are responsible for organizing these events (see the "Event Planning" section for further details) and serve as a point of contact for alumni new to the area. At the end of each summer, the Alumni Affairs Department will ask Chapter Presidents to send an email to new alumni, introducing themselves and encouraging alumni to become involved with their local chapter.

If an alumnus is interested in starting a new chapter, he or she should contact the Alumni Affairs Department. TFAS will add a chapter page to the website and send an initial email to local alumni launching the new chapter, introducing the new president and providing his or her contact information. The Chapter President should then plan to organize an inaugural event. This will help the Chapter President gauge interest in the area, observe demographics and also discuss with his or her fellow alumni which types of events they are interested in having. See the "Event Planning" section for further details.

**1. Facebook Pages** — It is highly recommended that you create and maintain a Facebook page for your chapter. It is an excellent way to advertise events, maintain communication with local alumni and connect with alumni new to the area. For more information on starting a page and guidelines, please see Appendix A.

# **B. Event Planning**

**1. Funding Requests** — Please note that events should generally be self-funded. On occasion, TFAS will subsidize an event to boost attendance, but that is not the typical case. If a Chapter President wishes to secure funding for an event, he or she is responsible for contacting TFAS staff prior to the event.

If the request is approved, the Chapter President may be asked to pay for charges up front on his/her own credit card. Receipts must be saved and submitted to the TFAS Alumni Affairs Department in order to be reimbursed.

- **2. Before the Event** While Chapter Presidents are free to host and organize events, it is beneficial to contact TFAS staff prior to an event. TFAS can advertise on the website and social media and send out email invitations to local alumni, generating interest and encouraging participation in the event. Chapter Presidents should also consider posting notifications on their Facebook pages.
- **3. How to Plan** Try to get other alumni in your area involved in event planning. Volunteers can assist with arriving early to help set up, working the registration table, taking photos of the event, doing a write-up of the event for a TFAS story (on the website, social media or newsletters), helping to clean up, or any number of other duties.

Plan on arriving early at the venue to ensure that everything is set up. If a registration table is being used, ensure it's staffed by a volunteer and stocked with a sign-in sheet, pens and nametags. Be sure to collect current contact information and/or business cards of attendees. This information can be used to update TFAS' alumni database.

Be sure to take several group and action photos for inclusion in TFAS stories on the website, social media or newsletters. These pictures can be used to update the chapter website and Facebook pages regularly, showing continued activity of the chapter.

**4. After the Event** — The day after the event, always follow up with thank you emails or notes to your volunteers and speakers. A brief write-up of the event (along with any photos you have taken) should be forwarded to the TFAS alumni affairs staff for use on the website, social media, or newsletters. In addition, please be sure to send a list of attendees and any contact information updates to TFAS staff. You may also mail in receipts for approved reimbursement.

### C. Event Ideas

The following are a few suggestions for alumni events. The alumni in your area will define interest and participation in your specific events. Look for trends in membership. Are most of the alumni in your area the same age? Are they primarily families, married couples or singles? Are they spread out, or do they primarily live and work in the same general area? Knowing the answers to these questions will help you plan events that are targeted to your membership. You may find it helpful to invite alumni in your area to a brainstorming happy hour to get ideas as to what events may interest people in the future. Many of these events have already been successfully held by existing TFAS alumni chapters.

- **1. Book Signing or other Guest Speaker** Local authors will often speak for free to groups. Purchase copies of his or her book in advance and arrange to have a volunteer sell them at the registration table. The setting may be formal (the author speaks and then takes questions) or informal (group discussion). Light refreshments wine, cheese and fruit may be served.
- **2. Sporting Events** Baseball, football, hockey, basketball, golf tournament, etc. games are a great way to get together. Arrange to meet somewhere prior to the event for drinks and to distribute tickets. Tickets may also be left at Will Call at most stadiums.
- **3. Wine Tasting** Check with local wine shops or vineyards and see if they offer the ability to host a wine tasting for groups. If the tasting cannot be held on the premises at the shop, there is always the possibility that a staff member from the store may come to your event to act as the "moderator" for the evening. Look in to renting a small bus for a vineyard tour as well.
- **4. Seasonal Events** Hiking, canoeing, tubing, skiing, sledding, ice skating, walking tours, free outdoor concerts, picnics, boat cruises, ghost tours, apple picking, corn mazes, hay rides, etc. are often family-friendly events. Arrange for box lunches or meet after the event at a restaurant for coffee and desserts.
- **5. Happy Hour or Dinner** Get together at a local bar for drinks and networking or find a unique restaurant and reserve an area for alumni only.
- **6. Service Project** Volunteer for a local cause or sign up for a national service project day. This is a great way to get connected with your community and as an alumni chapter.

### III. ALUMNI COUNCIL

The Alumni Council is a voluntary arm of TFAS and is charged with keeping alumni actively involved with each other, the core principles of TFAS and current and prospective students. The Alumni Council consists of TFAS alumni, representing all programs and collectively representing numerous major U.S. and international cities. Elected by their peers, the Alumni Council members meet semi-annually to exchange ideas on how to grow the TFAS alumni network, to encourage lifelong professional and personal relationships and to facilitate conferences and trips that bring together alumni for lectures, leadership seminars and invaluable networking. Each at-large member is elected for a two-year term and eligible for two consecutive terms.

Chapter Presidents are able to become at-large members of the Council but are subject to the participation and financial requirements and term limits of Council members. Council members are required to attend at least one meeting per year, either by phone or in person, volunteer their time to TFAS and make an annual financial contribution. The Steering Committee may further define membership requirements as needed.

Alternatively, Chapter Presidents may choose to serve as non-voting members of the Council. Such members may participate in Council meetings but do not need to meet the participation and financial requirements of at-large members. They may continue to serve as long as they fulfill the responsibilities of a Chapter President, as determined by TFAS' Director of Alumni Affairs.

### **IV. TFAS EVENTS**

Chapter Presidents are invited to and welcome to attend the below events, which have been held in the past by TFAS. Please contact the Director of Alumni Affairs for more information.

**A. Leadership Conference** — This conference is designed to connect TFAS leadership and supporters, as well as community leaders of business, politics and philanthropy. It brings people together for an extended period of time to facilitate interaction among those involved with TFAS and encourage an exchange of ideas about the vision and future of TFAS. This weekend retreat, which has been held in places such as Colorado Springs, Scottsdale and New York City, includes meetings, roundtable discussions and social events that take advantage of the history, hotspots and charm of each selected city. Past speakers include U.N. Ambassador John Bolton, political pollster Kristen Soltis Anderson, *National Review's* Jonah Goldberg, Chilean economist José Piñera and TFAS alumnus and former Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives Will Weatherford.

**B. Holiday Party** — TFAS headquarters hosts board members, staff, alumni, donors and friends for its annual holiday party. This event is held in the early part of December.

### **V. VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### A. Alumni Ambassadors

Sign up as an Ambassador and help secure the next class of incoming students. Ambassadors make direct contact with accepted applicants to the D.C. summer programs by phone or email in order to answer questions and encourage enrollment. The word of an alumnus is powerful! Your help ensures that the best and brightest students choose to attend a TFAS program. Service is needed in December, January and February of each year.

### **B. Recruit Students**

You can assist with building awareness of TFAS' programs and helping to recruit students in the following ways:

- **1. Forwarding Emails** We will provide you with recruitment emails that may be shared with your network, including organization listservs, professors and potential students.
- **2. Posting to Social Media** Share TFAS social media posts and post your own unique content to promote the programs.
- **3. Providing Brochures to a Campus Career Office and Student Organizations** Bring TFAS promotional materials to various offices on a college campus near you.
- **4. Delivering On-Campus Presentations** Speak to interested students about our programs using presentation materials we provide.

### C. Mentor

The Mentor Program is designed to help provide a well-rounded "Washington experience" for the students participating in TFAS programs. Students are matched with area professionals who can offer career guidance, information on working in Washington, D.C. and general advice.

While students learn key concepts in the classroom and have the opportunity for real-world application at their internships, many are often most impacted by their one-on-one interactions with working professionals. Mentors should be professionals working or living in the D.C. Metro Area. Mentors must possess two or more years of full-time professional work experience or be an alumnus of a TFAS program. Friends and colleagues of TFAS alumni are welcome to volunteer.

Mentors possess enthusiasm, commitment and a desire to help the students achieve their goals. They listen and ask questions. Mentors offer their friendship and share personal and professional experiences. By challenging students to get the most out of their summer, mentors help build self-confidence and encourage successful behavior.

## D. Host an Intern for U.S. Programs

If you did a TFAS U.S. program in D.C., you know what an important role internships play in the "LIVE. LEARN. INTERN" experience. We ask all D.C. area alumni who work in a metro-accessible location to consider hosting a TFAS intern. Program staff begin placing summer students in late winter. A limited number of interns are also available in the fall or spring.

# E. Participate in a U.S. Programs Alumni Roundtable Discussion

Students need to know one thing for their future: how to get a job. During our alumni roundtables, one or two TFAS alumni are placed at each table with current students. Alumni give students advice about their own job searches and insight from the professional world in D.C. During the dinner, alumni can also reminisce about fun TFAS memories and meet other alumni.

# F. Speak to U.S. Programs Students

Whether in a small group or one-on-one, TFAS students benefit from hearing from you. TFAS students have a variety of interests and are always looking to meet with professionals to gain insight about their field. You can meet with a student personally or host a small group at your office so students can come and see what your work environment is like. It is also particularly helpful for alumni to meet with international students to help them prepare for their program in DC.

# G. Speak on an International Program Alumni Panel

TFAS International Programs host panels of alumni who can speak about their careers and give insight to current students. It's especially helpful for international alumni to talk about how they leveraged their TFAS experience in certain regions or across cultures to become successful. In addition, you can suggest speakers and topics for TFAS panels.

### H. Give Back

As alumni, you know firsthand the value of TFAS programs. Whether you make a donation of \$25 or \$500, your contribution will allow deserving students to benefit from the TFAS experience.

The Ben Franklin Club allows you to contribute to TFAS student scholarships in small installments. These recurring gifts can truly make the difference and help us share our message of freedom with tomorrow's leaders. There are additional, extremely meaningful ways to contribute the future of TFAS while earning tax benefits and/or income for yourself or a loved one. Some other forms of giving include but are not limited to pooled income funds, gift annuities, charitable trusts and bequests. Visit www.TFAS.org/GiveBack to learn more or to donate online.

You can contribute to TFAS in other ways as well. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support TFAS every time you shop, at no cost to you. Through the program, you can designate TFAS to receive 0.5 percent of your total purchase each time you shop at www.smile.amazon.com. The AmazonSmile shop offers the same prices and selection as Amazon with the added bonus of supporting the charitable organizations you love. To sign up, visit our AmazonSmile link at <a href="https://www.TFAS.org/AmazonSmile">www.TFAS.org/AmazonSmile</a> to select TFAS as your AmazonSmile designated charity. Once you shop through the link, Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price from any eligible purchases through AmazonSmile from that point forward. There is no cap on the total donation amount. Just remember to type smile.amazon.com into your browser when shopping on Amazon. You may also want to add a bookmark to AmazonSmile to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

### **VI. TFAS PROGRAMS**

## A. US Programs

- **1. Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political & Economic Systems (ICPES)** The oldest TFAS program, ICPES was established in 1970 and is intended for students interested in careers in government, public policy and academia. This program offers students a thorough examination of the American political tradition and market economics through comparative study.
- **2. Institute on Economics and International Affairs (IEIA)** IEIA was first established in 2008 as a track of ICPES. Students attending the program intend to pursue careers in foreign affairs, economics or international development. Academic study is focused on current foreign policy issues, political trends and free-market economics.
- **3. Institute on Political Journalism (IPJ)** The quality of public discourse in a free society depends on the accuracy of information provided by the media. In 1985, IPJ was established to help create a new generation of journalists who understand free-market principles and the foundations of a free society.

- **4. Institute on Business & Government Affairs (IBGA)** Established in 1990, IBGA explores the practical and theoretical questions surrounding the dynamic business-government relationship. Students examine the economic and political issues that shape how business and government interact as well as the importance of representing the interests of business before Congress.
- **5. Institute on Philanthropy and Voluntary Service (IPVS)** Established in 1999, IPVS educates students about the American traditions of philanthropy and individual responsibility in order to encourage vibrant, private efforts that are the true American response to those in need. The institute works to reinforce a sense of individual responsibility for one's own future and cultivates an appreciation for the primacy of privately led philanthropy.
- **6. Capital Semester (CS)** Since 2003, Capital Semester has offered a combination of internships and coursework for credit all within one program each fall and spring. CS offers exclusive briefings and dialogues with national leaders, along with coursework in free-market principles and the ideas of a free society. Capital Semester students can choose from several tracks including Leadership and the American Presidency, International Affairs and Journalism.
- **7. Legal Studies Institute (LSI)** Established in 2007, LSI gives law school students firsthand exposure to the American legal system through legal clerkships, academic coursework, networking opportunities and career development activities. The program helps students fully understand issues of constitutional interpretation and the roles of the judiciary and federal government.
- **8. Leadership and the American Presidency (LTAP)** Established in 2016, LTAP is offered in conjunction with the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute. The program is designed to define and strengthen students' leadership skills while teaching lessons from the American presidency. The LTAP program is also offered in the fall semester as part of the Capital Semester program at TFAS.

### **B. International Programs**

- 1. American Institute on Political and Economic Systems (AIPES) With the collapse of communism, a tremendous need arose to reach young people in Central and Eastern Europe with the ideas of a free society. Since 1993, AIPES has offered students from Central and Eastern Europe and the United States the opportunity to study democracy and free markets. Since 2013, the institute has also been open to young leaders from the Middle East and the Balkans.
- **2. Asia Institute for Political Economy (AIPE)** Established in 2002, AIPE promotes the principles of economic opportunity, democracy and individual responsibility in Asia and fosters an understanding of the American system of government. Outstanding university students from Asia join select American students to study political and economic principles and how those ideas relate to development and trade.
- **3. Institute for Leadership in the Americas (ILA)** Established in 2008, ILA teaches university students from the Americas about constitutional government, the rule of law, the institutions of private property and a market economy. Once armed with knowledge and truth, the students' natural penchant for entrepreneurship and personal freedom can be the wellspring for new leadership in their communities and throughout the region.

**4. European Journalism Institute (EJI)** — Relaunched in 2017, EJI offers an opportunity for outstanding student and professional journalists to learn about journalism and public policy issues through hands-on experience in Prague, Czech Republic. EJI provides a rigorous academic experience, fosters dialogues that cross borders and creates a global network of responsible future leaders. Participants from North America, Europe and Central Asia explore fundamental issues related to journalism ethics, religious reporting, conflict reporting and business reporting.

# **C. Alumni and Continuing Education Programs**

- 1. Public Policy Fellows The Public Policy Fellows program is a year-long networking and education program for TFAS alumni in the DC area designed to develop young leaders with a shared commitment to improving public policy. The goal of the fellowship program is to provide events that allow young alumni to develop strong connections with other alumni working in public policy, network with key public policy leaders and journalists, participate in academic discussion sessions led by TFAS faculty, and enhance their professional development through skills-based sessions.
- **2. Curriculum of Liberty Seminars** The TFAS Curriculum of Liberty Seminars are invitation-only alumni conferences focused on a variety of topics related to liberty. The program is held in partnership with the Liberty Fund, Inc., a private educational foundation established to encourage the study of the ideal of a society of free and responsible individuals. Each conference is facilitated by a professor and implements a Socratic-style discussion model based on a set of issues.

# **D. Additional Programs**

- **1. Robert Novak Journalism Fellowship Program** Acquired in 2013 from The Phillips Foundation, the Novak Fellowship Program awards full-time and part-time fellowship grants to working journalists who submit one-year writing projects on a topic of their choosing, focusing on journalism supportive of American culture and a free society. There are also Alumni Fund Fellowships funded by donations from former and current Novak Fellows. Alumni Fund Fellowship winners write one magazine-length article on their topic.
- 2. The Foundation for Teaching Economics (FTE) FTE is The Fund for American Studies' strategic partner in reaching future leaders at the high school level. Founded in 1976 and based in Davis, California, FTE is a national leader in conducting economic education programs for high school students and working with teachers to develop lesson plans and exercises for teaching economics. In 2013, TFAS and FTE formed a strategic partnership with Roger Ream serving as president of both organizations. Together, TFAS and FTE are training a new generation of leaders who understand the economic way of thinking.
- **3. Capitol Hill Lecture Series** The Capitol Hill Lecture Series on "Free Markets, Individual Liberty and Civil Society" is a free educational opportunity for Washington, D.C. interns to hear firsthand from today's leaders in liberty. The annual series is held in partnership with the office of Senator Rand Paul and made possible through the generous support of the Einhorn Family Foundation.
- **4. Donald Devine Seminars** Dr. Donald Devine is a columnist, author and senior scholar for The Fund for American Studies. Devine served as President Ronald Reagan's civil service director during the president's first term in office. During that time, The Washington Post labeled him

"Reagan's Terrible Swift Sword of the Civil Service" for cutting bureaucrats and reducing billions in spending. Today, Devine travels the country teaching Constitutional Leadership Seminars to young people and speaking to groups about reviving the Constitution and saving the marriage between libertarianism and traditionalism.

# **Alumni Chapter Facebook Pages**

Thank you for volunteering to organize a Facebook group for TFAS alumni in your area! Below are a few setting guidelines to get you started. If you have any questions, please contact TFAS Communications Director Kerri DiNarda Shimko at kdinarda@TFAS.org or 202-986-0384. We are also happy to set up the page for you and add you as an administrator.

# A. Group Admins

In addition to yourself, please add TFAS Communications Director Kerri DiNarda Shimko as an administrator to the group. You can find her on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/kdinarda

# **B. Group Name**

TFAS Alumni [City]

# **C. Group Photo Suggestions**

First Choice: photo from a local event

Second Choice: If you don't have a group photo yet, here are some options:

Image from your chapter page on TFAS.org https://tfas.org/alumni/alumni-chapters/

https://tfas.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Koozies-new.png

# D. Group Type

Club

# E. Group Description

Welcome to the [City] TFAS Alumni Facebook group! Alumni living in the [City, State] area are invited to join this group to network, post professional opportunities, share career advice, share personal or professional updates and learn about exciting TFAS alumni events!

When posting a discussion in this group, please share which TFAS program and the year you attended. [Example: Jane Smith (ICPES 04)]

# F. Chapter Leadership

[Chapter President Name]

[Chapter President email, if comfortable sharing]

If you are interested in getting involved or have an idea for an event, please contact [Chapter President name] or TFAS Alumni Programs at alumni@TFAS.org.

# G. Connect with TFAS Alumni in Other Spaces

**1. LinkedIn Group** — www.linkedin.com/groups/25022 Or search for "The Fund for American Studies"

**2. Facebook Pages** — www.Facebook.com/TFASorg www.Facebook.com/DCinternships www.Facebook.com/TFASintl

**3.** Instagram — www.Instagram.com/TFASorg

www.Instagram.com/DCinternships

- **4. Twitter** www.Twitter.com/TFASorg www.Twitter.com/DCinternships www.Twitter.com/TFASintl www.Twitter.com/NovakFellows
- **4. Group Tags** TFAS, The Fund for American Studies, [City, State], [City], chapter, club, alumni, IPJ, ICPES, IEIA, IBGA, LTAP, IPVS, AIPES, AIPE, IIPES, EMJI, EJI, ILA, LSI, Charles Edison Memorial Youth Fund, Charles Edison Fund

### H. Settings

- **1. Group Location** [City, State]
- **2. Group Privacy** Closed Group. Anyone can find the group and see who's in it. Only members can see posts.
- **3. Group Membership Approval** Any member can add members, but an admin or a moderator must approve them.
- **4. Group Posting Permissions** Members, moderators and admins can post to the group.
- **5. Group Post Approval** Leave unchecked.

### I. Notice

This is a professional networking platform. Posts containing advertisements for social media contests, rude behavior and general spam will be removed.

# The FUND for AMERICAN STUDIES

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