

Truman Scholar Testimonial



While the Harry S. Truman Foundation states that their objective is to help college juniors prepare for public service leadership through graduate school training, the Truman Scholarship has provided additional, non-financial advantages and blessings to me. Indeed, the financial assistance for graduate school is extremely helpful (perhaps most apparent to me now as I start my first year at Harvard Business School). The financial support makes higher education and employment in public service possible for many

students (i.e., public service is typically less lucrative than private sector work).

However, the Scholarship and the community of Truman Scholars have also helped me commit to a lifetime of public service and realize my own potential as a leader. The Truman Scholarship provides more than just funding for education; it blesses recipients with practical training and a lifetime network of civic-minded friends. First, meeting approximately 70 other Scholars from my selection year helped me realize the many available outlets for public service. My fellow Scholars' passion for many diverse causes has been a strong inspiration for me to strengthen my own beliefs and policy goals. Second, my association with the Truman Foundation has improved my ability to lead others. Through formal training and informal friendships, I have learned how to motivate others and reflect on my own progress as a leader.

The Truman Scholarship provides immediate financial benefits, but much more prominent in my mind are the lasting relationships with fellow scholars and ongoing moral and practical support from the Foundation. I strongly encourage college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who are interested in public service to prepare and/or apply for this most unique scholarship.

Peter K. Stone

2003 Truman Scholar