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For Immediate Release:

## World's First Virtual Master's Program in Disability Policy: Now Accepting Applications for Fall 2013 Admission – Fellowships Available

The <u>Institute on Disability and Public Policy</u> (IDPP) for the ASEAN Region is currently accepting applications for the world's first virtual Master's degree in disability policy. The <u>Master's in</u> <u>Comparative and International Disability Policy (CIDP)</u>, offered by the <u>School of International</u> <u>Service (SIS) at American University</u>, is the centerpiece program of the IDPP. <u>Fifteen full</u> <u>fellowships</u> will be awarded by <u>The Nippon Foundation (TNF)</u>, with preference given to persons from the ASEAN region who are blind or visually impaired; deaf or hard of hearing; and mobility impaired.

Applications, including those being considered for TNF fellowships, will be accepted on a rolling basis until the 2013 cohort is filled. To be considered for SIS merit awards, applications must be received by 15 January 2013.

The CIDP program focuses on the analysis and understanding of public policy for persons with disabilities. The program's <u>cyberinfrastructure</u> cuts across geographic boundaries, allowing faculty to teach and students to be taught entirely online. Students have the option of completing the CIDP program as an accelerated one year or extended part-time program. Courses can be experienced in real-time or accessed on-demand. Courses incorporate universal design principles, and are accessible to blind, deaf, and mobility impaired students.

"Through a network of outstanding universities and accessible e-learning techniques, we enable students to become leaders of international disability policy in the public, private, and NGO sectors," states Dr. Derrick L. Cogburn, IDPP/<u>COTELCO</u> Executive Director. Born as an initiative of The Nippon Foundation, the IDPP is a <u>network</u> of university and outreach partners focused on the ASEAN region and based at American University in Washington, DC.

For more information, please visit <u>http://aseanidpp.org/</u>.







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