



## **Bluefield State College Student, Katherine Mitchell, Selected for 2015 West Virginia Legislative Internship**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 24, 2014**



Bluefield State College student Katherine D. Mitchell has been awarded a Judith A. Herndon Fellowship by the West Virginia State Legislature. Ms. Mitchell is currently a junior at BSC majoring in Social Sciences with a concentration in History. As a Herndon Fellow, Ms. Mitchell will participate in the 60-day 2015 West Virginia legislative session in the state capital of Charleston from January 14 to March 14, 2015 and will be assigned to assist a sole legislator from either the Senate or the House of Delegates.

Interns are required to perform research and various staff functions. Among other job-responsibilities, Herndon Fellows are introduced to and develop an understanding of the politics of legislation, legislative research, bill drafting, the role and function of committees, and the relationship between the executive and legislative branches of state government.

As only ten students are chosen each legislative session, the requirements for participants are strict, and the positions are highly competitive. Each applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Full-time undergraduate students of all majors and disciplines from both public and private institutions of higher learning in West Virginia.
- Completed 60 undergraduate hours.
- Achieved grade point average sufficient for admission into the degree program.
- Completed course in political science or extensive public affairs experience

Ms. Sara D. Jones, from the Legislative Internship Committee who administers the Herndon Fellowship Program, remarked on Ms. Mitchell's selection by saying: "I am very happy for Katherine, and I look forward to getting to know her better!"

Dr. Colin Cavell, Chair of the Social Sciences Department at Bluefield State, stated that Ms. Mitchell is a diligent, well-organized student who aspires to learn about our political system. "Pleasant in her demeanor and courteous and respectful in her behavior, Ms. Mitchell will make an excellent legislative intern."

Each year, the West Virginia legislature offers opportunities for aspiring undergraduate students to participate in its legislative activities either through the 60-day Judith A. Herndon Fellowship Program or through the one-week Frasure-Singleton Internship Program.

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