

Bluefield State College Student, Jelena Jevtić, Selected for 2016 West Virginia Legislative Internship

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Bluefield State College student Jelena Jevtić has been selected as a Frasure-Singleton Intern for the 2016 West Virginia Legislative session. Ms. Jevtić is a second-year student at Bluefield State College with a 4.0 GPA majoring in Social Sciences with a concentration in Political Science with a dual major in Business Administration.

A native of Niš, Serbia, Ms. Jevtić was born and raised in the war-torn country which emerged from the former Yugoslavia and declared its independence in 2006. Fluent in English and an additional three other languages, Ms. Jevtić is a model student at BSC and a member of the BSC Volleyball team. Ms. Jevtić is currently in Good Standing at BSC, and her outstanding academic performance to date has earned her a place on the BSC President's List.

As a Frasure-Singleton Intern, Ms. Jevtić will participate in the 60-day 2016 West Virginia legislative session in the state capital of Charleston from February 7 through February 12, 2016 and will be assigned to assist a specific senator or delegate from one of the two chambers of the West Virginia Legislature, either the Senate or the House of Delegates.

Frasure-Singleton Interns are assigned to a legislator who assists in explaining the legislative process. They attend committee meetings and public hearings where legislation and issues are extensively discussed. They sit on the floor during daily sessions surrounded by legislators determining the fate of legislation. They aid legislators with issue research, constituent requests, and other legislative tasks. Frasure-Singleton Interns not only develop an understanding of the politics of legislation but, as well, they develop and understanding of the relationship between the executive and legislative branches of state government.

Only 51 students are chosen each legislative session for the Frasure-Singleton Internship. The requirements for participants are strict, and the positions are highly competitive. Each applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Full-time sophomores, juniors and seniors of all majors and disciplines from two- and four-year public and private institutions of higher learning;
- In good academic standing with (at least) one course in government; and
- GPA is taken into consideration.

Dr. Colin Cavell, Associate Professor of Political Science at Bluefield State, stated that Ms. Jevtić is quite talented, well-organized, diligent and disciplined, and conscious of her responsibilities and duties. Personable, sociable, congenial, and determined, Jelena has received numerous leadership awards in recognition of her self-directed and entrepreneurial spirit. Possessing a high desire to succeed, Jelena excels in the academic endeavors she applies herself to. As an international student, Jelena is quite conscious of other cultures which comprise our world and is most accommodating and accepting of diversity and difference as a natural state of affairs. As a student, Ms. Jevtić

is forthright, honest, and unafraid in tackling obstacles she encounters. And, as a citizen of a war-torn country, Jelena is conscious of and sympathetic to the plight of refugees and of issues which concern immigrants. And, finally, as an enthusiastic visitor to the United States, Ms. Jevtić is interested in learning as much as possible about the U.S. system of government.

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. Exceptional graduate students can apply for the three-month long prestigious Walter Rollins Scholars Program or the Robert W. Burk, Jr., Student Intern Program.

Ms. Sara D. Jones, from the Legislative Internship Committee, administers each of these student legislative programs for the West Virginia Legislature and can be contacted at 304.340.3386 or Sara.Jones@wvhouse.gov.

For additional information, contact Colin S. Cavell, Ph.D. at ccavell@bluefieldstate.edu, 304-327-4034.

Photo of Ms. Jelena Jevtić is attached for publicity purposes only.