

MARK ORR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELLOW
ANNUAL CONFERENCE WRITING COMPETITION

The following are guidelines for the competition to send one of our Fellows to the ACFR annual meetings in Washington, D.C. in early May.

Selection Process

a. The Writing Competition. The Fellows will be asked to prepare a 1,000 word Commentary on the remarks of one of the Committee speakers. Paul Tash (Editor and President, St. Petersburg Times) will be the primary judge of the commentaries. He will be looking for the following three elements: i) identification and background of the speaker; ii) what the speaker said; and iii) analysis of the speaker's position, opposing viewpoints, and the writer's conclusions. For example: i) the speaker was the former US Ambassador to Country X; ii) he or she favors diplomatic rather than military resolution of relevant issues; and iii) the arguments set forth by the speaker's critics include A, B & C.

b. Conference Report. The scholarship recipient will be required to prepare a brief, written summary of the Annual Conference suitable for distribution to our members. This summary would include identification of each conference speaker, the topic, and three or four sentences to summarize his or her message.

c. Meeting Attendance. All Fellows (even those not candidates for this scholarship) must attend a minimum of three Committee meetings.

Attendance at meetings by scholarship candidates will be one of the factors in selecting the scholarship winner. It should be emphasized that participation during the question and answer period of the meetings will *not* be a factor, as it would not be considered beneficial to "force" such participation only for the purposes of the scholarship (which could actually be a negative).

d. Important Dates. Commentaries must be delivered to Paul Tash at St. Petersburg Times, 490 First Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701 with a copy to Richard A. Jacobson at Fowler White Boggs Banker, Post Office Box 1438, Tampa, FL 33601 on or before March 1. The scholarship winner will be announced at the March meeting of the Committee. The Conference Report shall be due June 1.