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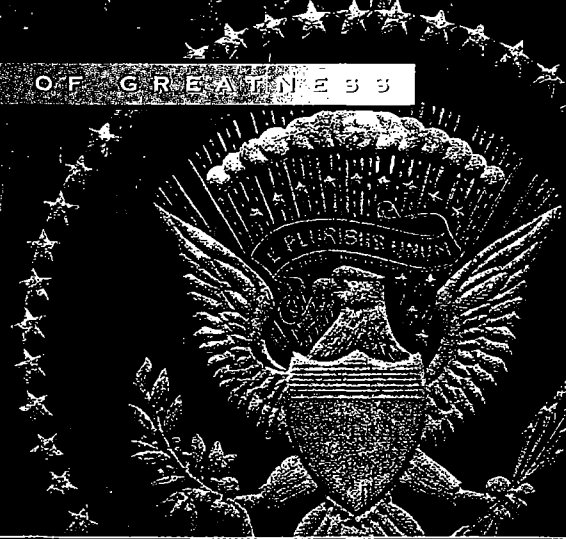
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WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

A SENSE OF INVOLVEMENT · A VISION OF GREATNESS



**Commission on White House Fellowships****CONFIDENTIAL****DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING****INITIALS:** *Ry* **DATE:** *9/12/2013*
*2013-0359-5***I. Fellowship Overview**

There are nine White House Fellowship staff members. Of the nine, four are political appointees (excepted service). They are:

Elsa B. Thompson, Director	(SES; salary range: \$92,000 - \$115,700)
Judy Fox, Associate Director	(SES)
Lynn Walker, Director of Education	(GS-12; salary range: \$40,298 - \$52,385)
Sandra Walker, Confidential Assistant	(GS-10; salary range: \$30,603 - \$39,783)

The Commission currently has thirty-five members, chaired by Ronna Romney (daughter of George Romney). Members of the Commission are appointed by the President to unspecified terms and there is no limit to the number of members which can be named. Commission members serve at the pleasure of the President. The Commission meets twice a year.

The screening of applicants is an annual process. The selection process is:

1. Initial screening of applications by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).
2. White House Fellows (WHF) Director reviews rejected applicants to ensure the applicant was not inappropriately eliminated.
3. Each application is read at least three times by a WHF alumni.
4. 133 applicants are selected as Regional Finalists from the initial screening. Eleven Regional Panels are established to review applications. Panels are composed of the Regional Panel Chairman, WHF Alumni, and local leading citizens. Reviews are conducted in D.C., New York, Philadelphia, Denver, Dallas, Los Angeles, San Francisco, St. Louis, Atlanta, and Chicago. The reviews result in selection of 33 National Finalists (11 are designated alternates).
5. Finalists are convened and interviewed by the members of the Commission over a three day week-end. Eleven to nineteen are selected as Fellows.
6. OPM conducts personnel investigations on the 33 National Finalists.



II. Director

The following attributes are important in the selection of a Director for the WHF:

1. Loyalty to the President and his agenda for the Administration.
2. Broad, senior level political, professional and social networks. Understanding of the workings of the Federal Government and good working associations in the District of Columbia.
3. Demonstrated leadership and management ability.
4. Demonstrated commitment to diversity and the capacity to instill this value in the selection process to ensure a diverse Fellowship group annually.

The following individuals have served as Director:

Bruce Hasenkamp	1974-77
W. Landis Jones	1977-81 (Former Fellow)
James Robert	1981-84
Charles Heatherly	1984-86
Linda Tarr	1986-87
Marcy Head	1987-91
Elsa Thompson	1991-present

III. Background on Previous White House Fellows Directors

Elsa Thompson came to this role from a career in the Navy and other executive branch service, including posts in the White House, HHS and OPM. She is now a Commander in the Naval Reserves and served in active duty in the Navy from 1970-1986. She holds an MBA from Southern Illinois University and a BA ('72) from New Mexico State University.

Marcy Head graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1973 and holds a Masters Degree from George Washington University. She previously worked in fund-raising, politics and criminal justice before directing the White House Fellows program.

James Roberts graduated from Miami University in 1968 and is currently President of the American Studies Center, a non-profit foundation, and Radio America, a production and distribution syndicate which supplies programs on historical, cultural and public policy issues to radio stations throughout the US.

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