

SCHOLARS AT RISK

N E T W O R K

SAR Student Advocacy Day Program

New York University, D.C., 1307 L St NW, Washington, DC 20005

Thursday, March 7, 2019

9:20-9:50 am: Registration

- Make sure to eat first. Please be sure to bring your student IDs
- Coffee, tea

9:50 am -10:00 am: Welcome to Student Advocacy Days

10:00 am-10:30 am: Keynote: Mr. Henry Waxman, former U.S. Representative for California's 33rd Congressional District

- Introduction: Student Coordinators

10:30-11:30 am: Seminar case presentations

- Facilitator: Student Coordinators
- Team introductions and brief summary presentations of cases (5 minutes each)
 - **Nasser bin Ghaith, UAE:** University of Iowa
 - **Ahmadreza Djalali, Iran:** University of British Columbia
 - **Xiyue Wang, Iran:** Mansfield University
 - **Hatoon al-Fassi, Saudi Arabia:** Sarah Lawrence College, Carleton University, University of British Columbia, Illinois Wesleyan University
 - **Uyghur Scholars, China:** University of Iowa, University of British Columbia,
- Discussion of initial questions, challenges, and concerns

11:30 am - 12:30 pm: Making the case: How to advocate on the Hill

- **Panelists: Omer Kanat (World Uyghur Congress), Thomas Melia (PEN), Rosie Berman (DFP), Mai El-Sadany (Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy)**
 - Moderator: Chelsea
 - Panelists experience on the Hill
 - Effective steps for presenting your case
 - How to make a clear ask
 - Effective follow up
 - Student questions

12:30-1:30 pm: Lunch

1:30-2:45 pm: Conversation with Mr. Scott Busby, Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor

- Introduction: Adam Braver

2:45-3:15 pm: Coffee break

3:15-4:45 pm: Mock meetings with representatives and staff

- Each seminar practices their case “pitch” with SAR staff serving as “representatives” (possibly with various meeting styles)
- Seminars and “representatives” then discuss their performance and offer feedback; rotate, if time permits

3:15 pm - 4:45 pm: Concurrent faculty discussion/workshop

4:45-5:30 pm: Wrapping up

- Lessons learned, remaining questions
- What steps need to be taken before tomorrow?
- Overview of the next day’s advocacy meetings
- Post-it board

5:30-6:15 pm: Dialogue with Jewher Ilham, daughter of imprisoned scholar Ilham Tohti, and Adam Braver

Join us in the lobby for a reception following the conversation!

- Dialogue in auditorium from 5 - 6:15pm
- Reception with tapas in lobby b1 6:15- 7pm

Friday, March 8, 2019

8:00 am: Convene at the Dirksen Senate Building

- We will take a group photo before students break up for their day of meetings on the Hill.
- Please be sure to eat before you arrive!

8:30 am - 2:30 pm: SAR staff available for questions and debriefing

- SAR will hold a table in the Dirksen Senate Building’s cafeteria. Students and faculty are encouraged to stop by the table throughout the day to debrief and ask questions about their meetings and follow-up.
- This is also an opportunity to post any photos to social media, with SAR’s guidance.

2:30-3:00 pm: Wrap-up and departures

- For those available, SAR will hold a brief wrap-up discussion, again in Dirksen, for students and faculty to share their experiences on the Hill and discuss next steps.