



## **The DeVos Center's *Week in Washington***

**an intense summer seminar on**

**Faith, Justice, and Society**

**for graduate students and seminarians**

### **Overview**

The DeVos Center is offering an exciting opportunity for graduate students and seminarians to become equipped with a coherent vision of faith, justice and civil society.

- How should we integrate principles of biblical faith, political thought and empirical research?
- What does a just social order look like, and who's responsible to pursue it?
- What are the roles of various social institutions to serve those in need?

Established at The Heritage Foundation in 2004, the DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society works to strengthen and protect religion, family and community at the level of both principle and policy. Toward this end, the center endeavors to shape a healthy public discourse concerning faith and public life and to integrate serious reflection on the role of religion and civil society across policy areas.

This week-long seminar is designed to help future pastors and religious leaders understand the relations between the church, the family, government, business, and other institutions of society and the roles they play in meeting people's needs and sustaining ordered liberty. Such an understanding will serve participants not only in their personal studies and development but also in their future ministry and congregational leadership.

Participants will spend a week at The Heritage Foundation participating in an intense series of lectures and discussions. These seminars will present a conservative vision of a free and just society and a coherent framework for engaging issues of public life. Participants will be equipped to understand and promote the proper roles of limited, constitutional government and of civil society institutions in sustaining freedom, virtue and the common good. A special emphasis will be placed on understanding and appreciating the capacity of families and churches in responding to human need.

In addition, participants will also attend briefings that provide a basic familiarity and understanding of public policy issues such as poverty, welfare, education, religious liberty, and church-state relations. An emphasis will be placed on integrating these different issues into a coherent framework and articulating them to a lay audience.

The week will include a visit to a faith-based ministry to consider models of success in tackling today's most pressing social challenges.

**Where:** Participants will spend a week at The Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., staying at a nearby hotel.

**When:** The *Week in Washington* will take place May 21-25, 2012.

**Compensation:** Lodging, airfare, and food will be provided.

**To Apply:** Please send the following completed items to Ryan Messmore, DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society, The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. 20002:

- *A curriculum vita*
- Written answers to several short-length questions (see attached)
- A larger writing sample (up to 5,000 words), preferably related to an issue of public or political life
- One reference that testifies to your academic achievement, leadership potential, and church involvement (print a copy of the attached form to provide to your referee)

A follow-up interview will be required.

Completed applications will be accepted through April 20, 2012. Notification of decision will be made in late April 2012.

For more information, visit [www.heritage.org](http://www.heritage.org) or call 202-608-6208.

**Application for The DeVos Center's *Week in Washington* Summer Seminar**

Name				
Home or Permanent Address				
Address at School			Send correspondence to:	
Phone	Cell Phone		E-mail	
Birthday				
Are you authorized to work in the U.S.?				
Graduate School	Date of Graduation	Degree Sought		GPA
Undergraduate School	Date of Graduation	Major	Minor	GPA
<b>Reference</b> (Print a copy of the attached form to provide to your referee.)				
Name		Title	Institution	
Address		Phone	E-mail	

## Application Questions

Please answer each question within 500 words.

- Explain why you chose to pursue graduate work in divinity/theology and why you chose your present program and university/seminary.
- Explain why you are interested in attending the *Week in Washington* Summer Seminar and what you hope to achieve through participating in it.
- What are your career plans? How might the *Week in Washington* serve your goals in that role?
- What are three books that have informed your thinking and best characterize your interests in attending the *Week in Washington* Summer Seminar on Faith, Justice, and Society?
- Please list any undergraduate or graduate level courses you have taken in the fields of government, public policy, political or social thought, economics, or ethics.
- Describe past jobs, internships, volunteer experiences, events, etc., in which you have pursued civic engagement. What did you learn the most from those experiences?
- Which modern-day political leader best represents your view of honorable statesmanship, good leadership, and sound public policy?

### Candidate Reference:

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Person Providing Evaluation)

Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Applicant)

Thank you for taking the time to write a recommendation for the above applicant to the DeVos Center's *Week in Washington* Summer Seminar at The Heritage Foundation. Using your institution's letterhead, please provide a candid evaluation of the applicant that includes the following information.

- How long have you known the applicant?
- What are the applicant's primary strengths? In what ways have you seen these strengths demonstrated?
- What are the applicant's weaknesses?
- How suited is the applicant for an intense, graduate-level seminar series?
- To your knowledge, is the applicant respected among his/her peers, colleagues, and authorities?
- How well does the applicant engage with people of different views and perspectives from his/her own?
- How would you describe the applicant's writing ability?
- How would you describe the applicant's intellectual ability?
- How would you describe the applicant's personal integrity?

Please sign and date your evaluation, place it in a sealed envelope, sign your name over the seal, and return the envelope to the applicant or mail it directly to: Ryan Messmore, The DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society, The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave., NE, Washington, DC 20002.