"Well-educated citizens, knowledgeable about world affairs, are the cornerstone for an effective foreign policy."

Senator
Henry M. Jackson
and the
Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies
AN APPROPRIATE MEMORIAL TO AN EXTRAORDINARY LEADER

In 1983, the University of Washington Regents named the School of International Studies as the Henry M. Jackson School in honor of the late Senator Henry M. Jackson. Senator Jackson, a native of Everett, Washington, was a courageous and far-sighted leader considered by many to be one of the great statesmen of the twentieth century. Representing the State of Washington in Congress for nearly 43 years, Senator Jackson was known for relying on the lessons of history and the process of dialogue to understand complex issues and shape public policy. He had an abiding belief in democratic values and human rights, and was a leading environmentalist long before the term was fashionable. Affectionately known as “Scoop,” the Senator was a 1935 graduate of the University of Washington Law School and maintained close ties with the University throughout his life.

“Senator Jackson had an extraordinary commitment to the future of the School of International Studies... and more than anyone else I have encountered outside the University, Senator Jackson believed in the importance of international studies.”

—DR. KENNETH B. PYLE, PROFESSOR AND FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

A MODEL PUBLIC SERVANT

Senator Jackson was a dedicated public servant well known for independence of thought and integrity. He seized every opportunity to convey to young people the importance of public service and of serving the nation by taking on leadership roles. He encouraged his fellow citizens to “share in the action and passion of [their] time.”

“This is the kind of spirit we need today – men and women who are prepared to live at the peak and pitch of their abilities, who are focused, dedicated and disciplined, and who will train themselves to tackle the critical issues of this century and this generation.”

—SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON

SENIOR JACKSON AND HIS COMMITMENT TO THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Senator Jackson fully realized the importance of investing in quality education to create new generations of leaders and academic specialists to direct this country’s future. In regard to
international studies, he strongly believed that the knowledge of a country's history, culture, and language was vital to effective foreign policymaking.

In 1978, the Senator teamed up with Kenneth Pyle, then director of the University's School of International Studies, to discuss the national need for research and training in international affairs and the role the School could play. Senator Jackson mobilized distinguished business and community leaders to inaugurate a fundraising campaign for the School. Senator Jackson contributed his own funds to this campaign and donated his honoraria for speaking engagements toward this effort. Between 1978 and 1983, he spoke at innumerable fundraising events on behalf of the School.

Following his untimely death in 1983, the School was designated as the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, honoring the Senator's career in foreign affairs, his support for the institutional development of the School, and his commitment to the study of international affairs.

"Well-educated citizens, knowledgeable about world affairs, are the cornerstone for an effective foreign policy. Each generation has to recommit itself to invest generously in education."

—Senator Henry M. Jackson

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO FOREIGN POLICY

Senator Jackson had an in-depth understanding of America's role in global affairs and was committed to the cause of democracy and human rights. He foresaw the strategic importance of Russia and China to the long-term security interests of the United States and was viewed as the preeminent foreign policy expert in the United States Senate for decades. In addition, he worked to further the peace process in the Middle East by developing a strong relationship with the democratic state of Israel. The Senator believed in the inter-relationship of academia and public policy and relied on the best available specialists to inform the policymaking process.

Senator Jackson championed the development of international law to protect human rights and believed strongly that laws exist to, "restrain the strong and protect the rights of the weak." Senator Jackson's landmark achievement in the area of human rights was the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. This critical piece of legislation responded to the plight of Soviet Jews caught behind the Iron Curtain who were victims of discrimination and repression by the Soviet state. The amendment linked the right of free emigration to the granting of favorable trading status. In the more than two decades after the amendment's passage, over one million Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union.
Although global relationships have been fundamentally altered since his death in 1983, Senator Jackson's core values, pragmatic approach to the policymaking process, respect for higher education and academic excellence, and the qualities that made him an effective leader are highly relevant as we approach a new century and its new and complex challenges.

"I was deeply impressed by his understanding of the strategic importance of Russia and China and the need for a thorough understanding of their political systems and foreign policy."
—DR. HERBERT J. ELLISON, PROFESSOR OF RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES AT THE JACKSON SCHOOL

ADDRESSING REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CHALLENGES

In addition to his expertise in areas of foreign affairs and national security, Senator Jackson is remembered and widely respected for his remarkable achievements in domestic policy, and particularly in advancing key environmental legislation.

- He authored the landmark National Environmental Policy Act, which was intended to guide the nation to an environmental and economically sustainable future.
- He advocated strongly for recognition of the perils of unplanned growth and the need for a comprehensive approach to land-use planning at the state and local levels.
- He sponsored legislation preserving vast park lands and wilderness areas throughout the United States, including the North Cascades Park, Olympic National Park, and the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in Washington State.
- He authored the Alaska and Hawaii Statehood Acts.
- He served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and its predecessor, the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, from 1963 to 1980.

"He helped build the community of democracies and worked tirelessly to keep it vigorous and secure. He pioneered in the preservation of the Nation's natural heritage, and he embodied integrity and decency in the profession of politics. For those who make freedom their cause, Henry Jackson will always inspire honor, courage, and hope."

—PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN UPON POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDS THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM TO SENATOR JACKSON IN 1984
THE HENRY M. JACKSON FOUNDATION

After the Senator passed away in 1983, his widow Helen Hardin Jackson, as well as other family members, former staff, close friends and supporters, and colleagues in Washington, D.C., mobilized support to establish a foundation that was committed to the principles, values, and interests that guided Senator Jackson throughout his career. Since that time, the Henry M. Jackson Foundation has provided over $11 million to nonprofit organizations to support new initiatives that address critical issues in four areas in which the Senator played a key leadership role: International Affairs Education, Environment and Natural Resources Management, Public Service, and Human Rights. The work of the Foundation in these areas reflects Senator Jackson’s emphasis on the need for objective analysis, making informed policy choices, and taking a longer term view.

The Jackson School of International Studies, a Top Funding Priority

The Foundation has maintained the Jackson School of International Studies as a top funding priority and has provided support to enhance the School’s ability to retain top faculty, attract the most qualified students, and expand its academic resources. To this end, the Foundation has provided over $4 million in support of professorships, graduate fellowships, lectures and conferences. Most recently, the Foundation has endowed the Dorothy Fosdick Internship for students in international studies and has created two professorships at the Jackson School, the Henry M. Jackson Professorship in International Studies and the Stanley D. Golub Professorship to be held by the director of the School of International Studies.

The Foundation’s Commitment to Bridging Academic and Policy Worlds

Stemming from Senator Jackson’s commitment to international studies and the need to bridge academic research with policymaking, the Foundation acted upon one of the Senator’s long-time goals in creating a research institute to conduct advanced policy research on contemporary issues concerning Asia and Russia and linked to the University of Washington. In 1989, the Jackson Foundation established the National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR), which is now a prominent think tank on the Asia-Pacific region. NBR is led by Jackson School professors and provides internship opportunities for advanced graduate students from the School each year through an internship program supported by the Foundation.

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation continues to seek opportunities to make a difference in the areas to which Senator Jackson dedicated his career. The Foundation’s steadfast commitment to supporting international studies, policy research, and public service reflects Senator Jackson’s vision of fostering future generations of capable leaders.
"Ours is not only a humanitarian concern for our fellow men and women, although I personally believe that alone would justify efforts on their behalf. There is also the matter of contributing to the achievement of a more civilized world, the only kind of world where peace can flourish."

—Senator Henry M. Jackson