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THE NATIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCES 3RD ANNUAL BOREN ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

Award Ceremony to be Held on Sept. 9 at Liaison Capital Hill Hotel

Arlington, Va. – The National Security Education Program (NSEP) is pleased to announce its 3rd Annual NSEP Boren Alumni Award winners. Tamara Crouse of Littleton, Colo. has been named the 2009 Sol Linowitz Award winner and Shana Leenerts of Irvine, Calif. has been named the 2009 Howard Baker, Jr. Award winner.

NSEP has awarded more than 3,500 scholarships and fellowships to U.S. students to study languages and cultures of the world that are less frequently studied, but critical to U.S. national security. NSEP is unique in the commitment of its award recipients to pursue public service, and pays tribute to the extraordinary contributions made by one Boren Scholar and one Boren Fellow each year with these awards.

The *Howard Baker, Jr. Award* was named in honor of Senator Howard Baker. Senator Baker has had an outstanding career in public service, serving as a three-term U.S. senator from Tennessee. While in the United States Senate, he was Majority Leader for four years. After retiring from the Senate, Senator Baker returned to public service as President Reagan's White House Chief of Staff and as Ambassador to Japan under President George W. Bush.

This year's winner, **Shana Leenerts** was awarded a Boren Scholarship in 2001 to study Mandarin in China while an undergraduate student at the University of California, Irvine. She earned a Master's degree in International Commerce and Policy from George Mason University in 2008. She has shown an outstanding commitment to serving our nation through her work as a Counterterrorism Fellows Program Specialist within the U.S. Department of Defense and as an Academic Exchange Specialist with the U.S. Department of State.

The *Sol Linowitz Award* was named in honor of Ambassador Sol Linowitz. Ambassador Linowitz was trained as a lawyer and became the General Counsel, and later Chairman of the Board of the Xerox Corporation. President Lyndon Johnson appointed Mr. Linowitz as Ambassador to the Organization of American States in 1966. He later served as a co-negotiator for the Panama Canal Treaties, and from 1979-1981 as President Carter's personal representative to the Middle East Peace Negotiations.

This year's winner, **Tamara Crouse** was awarded a Boren Fellowship in 2003 to study Uyghur in China. She earned a Master's degree in Global Studies from the University of Denver in 2004. She has shown an outstanding commitment to serving our country through her work as an Intelligence Specialist within the U.S. Navy Reserve and as a Foreign Affairs Officer within the U.S. Department of State.

The awardees were chosen based on the evaluations of a three-person committee, comprised of one member of the NSEP Group of Advisors, one member of the National Security Education Board and one member of the Boren Forum.

Shana Leenerts and Tamara Crouse will be presented with the 3rd Annual Boren Alumni Awards beginning at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, September 9th, 2009 at the Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington, DC during the Boren Symposium.

For more information about the National Security Education Program, please visit www.nsep.gov. If you would like to find out how to apply for a Boren Scholarship or Fellowship, please visit www.borenawards.org.

About NSEP

The National Security Education Program (NSEP) is a major federal initiative, within the Department of Defense, designed to build a broader and more qualified pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills. It consists of [five initiatives](#) that represent broad strategic partnerships with the U.S. education community designed to serve the needs of U.S. national security and national competitiveness. These initiatives integrate the best components of language learning and international education developed in conjunction with progressively minded partners throughout the U.S. education community.