Mike Moore Congressional Internship Programme
2023-24
WELCOME
Rosemary Banks
Chair
EMILY SPEIRS
University of Canterbury
Congressman Darrell Issa
Congressional Internship 2023-24

My time in Washington D.C.
A Bit about Darrell Issa

- Represents the 48th District of California
- Republican
- Former Chairman of the Oversight and Accountability Committee
- Member of the Judiciary Committee (Chairman of the Subcommittee for Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet)
- Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- Member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee
Summary of my time

Answering Constituent Calls
Touring and Escorting Guests around Capitol Hill
Working on Press Releases
Working on Foreign Affairs Legislation
Attending Committee Hearings
Running after the Congressman
Exploring
Researching and Writing

Myself and Darrell in his office
Lowlights

Neverending coffee run

Preparing Letters for Congressman Ken Calvert

Darrell’s Fridge Restock

Even more reorganising

Reorganisation of Darrell’s Bookshelf

NZUS COUNCIL
Mike Moore Congressional Internship Programme
How I Feel Now

Capitol Building

Speaker’s Balcony

White House
The Mike Moore Congressional Internship 2024
James E. Clyburn

**Region:** South Carolina’s 6th Congressional District.

**Political affiliation:** Democratic (Netural)

**Leadership positions:**
- House Majority Whip from 2019 to 2022 and from 2007 to 2010
- Served as Assistant Democratic Leader from 2011 to 2018 and 2023 to 2024.

* I note he is causally known as the ‘King Maker’ as he had a pivotal role in the election of President Biden in the lead-up to the South Carolina primary during the 2020 presidential election.*
Focus

- Affordable Care Act
- Democratic Faith Working Group
- Voter Empowerment Act
- A Better Deal (Jobs & Economic Opportunity)

Caucus Membership

- Congressional Black Caucus
- Democratic Outreach & Engagement Task Force
- Democratic Faith Working Group
- Democratic Steering and Policy Committee
the life of a congressional intern

01 Research & writing memorandums
02 Attending House & Senate hearings
03 Tours around the Congress
04 Meetings with the team businesses, unions and constituents
05 Answering constituent phone calls & admin
06 Talk to the office & understanding american culture
**Internship HIGHS**

01

Meeting THE AOC
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-16)

02

Supreme Court Hearing
( Muldrow v. St. Louis)

03

Exclusive access to Congress

White house, dome tour, the
Internship LOWS

01 Phone calls from constituents

02 Feeling of hopelessness

03 Missing home & New Zealand
What I learnt - Key Takeaways

1. Intersection of american legal/political system

2. Importance of politics - being an active in political discussion
   a. Corruption
   b. Most things is divided

3. Red tape in Congress

4. Perception of Americans on New Zealand

5. American culture & absence of basic welfare
Thank you!

- NZUS Council
- Fiona Cooper
- Rosemary Banks
- Penny Tucker
- Victoria University of Wellington
- Air New Zealand
- New Zealand Embassy Washington
- Karishma Patel
- MFAT
- Office of Congressman Sablan
Congressman Gregorio Sablan

District - Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

- **District** — Commonwealth Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)
- Restricted voting rights within Congress
- **Congressional Committee Membership** — Education & Natural Resources
- **Caucus Memberships** — Democratic Caucus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC)
Key focus areas in the District -

- Advocacy for statehood recognition allowing access to full participatory rights in the legislature.
- The balance between joining with other territories in the fight for statehood recognition along with recognizing each territories own specific areas of focus.
- Immigration policy and visa setting
- Access to equitable social welfare policy
- Homelessness and foster care intersectionality
- Full Medicaid and Medicare access
Day in the Life

- **Key Tasks**
  - Researching legislative areas of interest, specifically in the child poverty and homelessness areas
  - Taking tours of the Capitol
  - Attending briefings hosted by NGOs, Unions, interest groups and constituents
  - Answering constituent calls and emails
  - Weekly check-ins with the Saipan District office
  - Attending House & Senate hearings
Highlights

- Attending Congressional hearings
- Territory office meetings with the five other territories
- Travel - Boston, New York & Philadelphia
- Stakeholder meetings with Child Poverty NGOs
- American Festive Season - White Christmas & Thanksgiving
- New Zealand Embassy
- White House Tour
- Comparing New Zealand’s political institutions with those of the United States
- Other Kiwi interns – sharing experience from a wide range of political offices which focused on a range of policy areas.
- Public Transport!
Key Takeaways

- The political institutions and structures we design heavily impact the policy options available.
- Balancing the homogenization of local issues to gain awareness while recognizing the unique nature of each issue.
- Political systems and institutions designed around a two-party system compared to New Zealand's multi-party system.
- Similar yet complex policy issues facing both New Zealand and the United States.
- The strength that comes with living close to constituents.
- The 'purposeful' design of the gridlock political system.
- The intersection between national identity and political framing.
- Media partisanship.
- Just how small New Zealand is.
RĀ NEILSFORD-JONES

University of Canterbury
Congressman Tom Cole
NZUS COUNCIL MIKE MOORE CONGRESSIONAL INTERNSHIP

Nā Rā Neilsford-Jones
Congressman
Tom Cole

01
Representative of Oklahoma
02
Republican
03
Vice Ranking Member on the Committee of Appropriations
04
Chair of the Rules Committee
05
Co-Chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus
06
Longest Serving Native American Congressman (21 Years)
NATIVE AMERICAN WORK

Attending Committee Hearings

Tracking Native American Legislation

Researching Native American Budgeting

Castro-Heurta and McGirt Case
Highlights

- My New Office
- Understanding Native American Issues
- Understanding the Partisan System
- Being a Kiwi in US
Lowlights?

- Phone Calls from Constituents
- Adapting to a new work life/city. Being away from home.
Key Takeaways

- USA has entered into a reflective period in regards to Native American history.
- The US political system is fraught but understandable.
- US people are fond of New Zealanders but we are generally regarded as unimportant.
- You can’t understand how a political system works without knowing its people.
AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT??
HE MIHI KI A KOUTOU MŌ TĒNEI PŌWHIRI!
With thanks to our supporters:

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE
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