The Riley Institute is now accepting applications for the 2022 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) “Voices of the Future” Program in Bangkok, Thailand

Participants will attend as delegates/journalists representing the United States and will interact in a variety of forums with student delegates from the other 20 member economies, as well as with leading business, education, and government leaders. The program is intended to increase understanding of international politics and economics, but more importantly, to bring together future leaders from each of the 21 member economies in order to foster greater sensitivity and mutual understanding. Politics and International Affairs Professor Cleve Fraser and Economics Professor Nathan Cook co-coordinate the program.

Prior Furman APEC Voices of the Future delegations have traveled to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico ‘02; Santiago, Chile ‘04; Busan, South Korea ‘05; Hanoi, Vietnam ‘06; Sydney, Australia ‘07; Lima, Peru ‘08; Singapore ‘09; Yokohama, Japan ‘10; Honolulu, Hawaii ‘11; Bali, Indonesia ‘13; Beijing, China ‘14; Manila, Philippines ‘15; Lima, Peru ‘16; Da Nang, Vietnam ‘17; and Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea ‘18. All program fees, air transportation, lodging, and some meals are underwritten by the Riley Institute and/or the Departments of Politics and International Affairs and Economics. Students will pay $200.00 to cover the cost of travel visas and overhead expenses.

In the fall, we receive additional information from APEC Voices of the Future about the dates and how many students Furman will be able to send. Most years, Furman is able to bring four students to each APEC conference. This can occasionally fluctuate, but based on this expectation, we will choose four student delegates from the applications. We will also identify two students who will be alternates should someone be unable to go.

Delegates will be selected through a competitive application and interview process and applicants must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Politics and International Affairs or Economics major
- Must have or secure by August a valid passport that will not expire before May 2023
- Cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher
- Complete the online application by clicking here.
- Personal interview (if necessary)

The deadline for completed applications in electronic form is Sunday, April 24, 2022. All application materials should be submitted no later than midnight on this date. Participants will be notified of their acceptance by April 29, 2022.

Should you be accepted to the program, the $200.00 fee will be due the next business day after notification of acceptance to the program.

Please contact Jill Fuson, the Riley Institute’s Director of the Center for Critical Issues, at jill.fuson@furman.edu with any questions.