FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minnesota State Mankato Sophomore Awarded Gilman Scholarship

Minnesota State senior Fartun Abukar Musse (Ethnic Studies, ’16) was recently awarded a Gilman Scholarship. Fartun will study abroad in Seoul, South Korea through the Minnesota State Mankato Exchange from February 2016 through June 2016.

The Gilman Scholarship Program aims to diversify the kinds of students who study and intern abroad and the countries and regions where they go by offering awards to U.S. undergraduates who might otherwise not participate due to financial constraints.

Fartun was born in Somalia and grew up in refugee camps until moving to the United States in 2000. She is inspired to study abroad in order to “gain a greater understanding of other cultures” and “gain new experiences and worldviews that will strengthen and develop [her] own personal character. Fartun wants to pursue a career in non-profit, humanitarian ventures. Specifically, Fartun wants to work for the UN or the UNCR and eventually return to “help people still living below the poverty line.”

Fartun is involved in the National Society of Leadership and Success on campus. She also volunteers with the Somali Banadri Community of Minnesota. While in South Korea, Fartun will build on these experience by hosting volunteer and extra-curricular activities to teach conversational English to South Korean university students. When she returns to Minnesota, Fartun hopes to spread awareness of the Gilman Scholarship and other study abroad opportunities to MSU, Mankato students through a series of presentations in collaboration with the Office of University Fellowships and the Kearney International Center.

Fartun utilized resources in the Office of University Fellowships, the Kearney International Center, and the Department of Ethnic Studies in her pursuit of this award.

For more information on the Office of University Fellowships at Minnesota State Mankato, see www.mnsu.edu/fellowships.

For more information on the Kearney International Center, see https://www.mnsu.edu/kearneyic/.

For more information on the Department of Ethnic Studies at Minnesota State Mankato, see http://sbs.mnsu.edu/ethnic/.

For more information on the Gilman Scholarship, see http://www.iie.org/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program.