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REPORT FROM THE SECOND ANNUAL ACADEMIC ROUNDTABLE:
ACADEMIA AND FOREIGN POLICY: AHEAD OR BEHIND THE CURVE?

May 5, 2000
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On May 3, 2000, the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development brought together 22 students from 11 Canadian universities to discuss policy challenges and to connect with Departmental staff. The attendees included students from the University of Waterloo, University of Western Ontario, University of Winnipeg, David Chase Memorial University of Northern Ontario, and American University. The Roundtable coincided with the 2000 Student Seminar. The 14 graduate students who were in Ottawa for the week-long Seminar also participated in the roundtable. The roundtable was held in the morning (9:00-12:00) and Human Security. The discussion was addressed in the afternoon. The roundtable was an opportunity to exchange views and ideas and to strengthen policy networks and partnerships. The academics and the students had an opportunity to meet the General Directors of geographic/thematic bureaus throughout the day.

I. Introduction

Steven Lee, Chair, started the discussion by welcoming all and drawing attention to the work of the graduate students who came to Ottawa to participate in the Second Annual Graduate Student Seminar, also organized by the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD). The students presented their work to each other on the Role of NGOs and Civil Society in Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs, department officials and some NGOs. The Seminar offered them an opportunity to learn from 25 experienced students and to develop networks with each other as well as with others in the foreign policy community.

The Chair reminded participants that the CCFPD is a key partner of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and pointed to the work of the CCFPD in the context of the CAS. He also invited the academic community in the past, to the (Topic) addressing New Directions. The Centre actively seeks the participation of Canadian academics in the development of research and the proposal funds and commissions

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