4-16-2013

U.S. State Department International Law Internship and Employment Presentation and Discussion

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Andrew A. Passen is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, and is currently serving as Diplomat in Residence covering the southeast U.S. and based at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. Most recently, Mr. Passen served one year as the Transition Director at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Before his posting in Afghanistan, Mr. Passen was Consul General at the American Consulate General in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr. Passen has served abroad for 29 of the past 31 years. His first overseas posting was as a Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) in the Kingdom of Swaziland from 1981-1984. He taught biology, chemistry, and physics to over 700 students in a rural high school. Mr. Passen lived with a Swazi family, learned traditional farming, and was fluent in the local language of siSwati. He has returned to Swaziland many times in the 28 years since the end of his PCV service.

Mr. Passen joined the Department of State in 1986 following the completion of his Masters program studies. He has served as a Consular Officer, Administrative Officer, Refugee Officer, Deputy Chief of Mission/Chargé d’Affaires, and Consul General. His prior assignments have been to Kaduna, Nigeria; Lusaka, Zambia; Bern, Switzerland; Abidjan, Cote D’Ivoire; Montreal, Canada; Dakar, Senegal; again in Lusaka, Zambia; and Johannesburg, South Africa. In addition, Mr. Passen served one year postings to Iraq and Afghanistan. In Baghdad, he was Team Leader of the Baghdad Provincial Reconstruction Team.

Mr. Passen is from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He received a B.A. in Biology and an M.A. in Development Studies, both from the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Passen is married to Jeane Harris and they have two children, Hana and Gabriel.