

GERBEN DEJONG AND JANICE DEJONG ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP FUND



Gerben & Janice DeJong

The Gerben DeJong and Janice DeJong Endowed Fellowship Fund was established by Gerben and Janice DeJong in 2017 for students of any program with an interest in disability, health, or income maintenance policy.

Gerben DeJong graduated from the Heller PhD program in 1981 and has had an extensive career in clinical and health policy research. He has worked in both clinical and academic settings. Dr. DeJong is the author and co-author of more than 250 papers stemming from large multi-center clinical intervention studies, health policy, health care finance, and post-acute care studies. He currently serves as Senior Fellow for Health Policy & Post-acute Care at MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital and is a Professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, DC. In 2006-07, Dr. DeJong served as President of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine. He is the recipient of many awards and is a frequently invited speaker both in the U.S. and abroad. In 1984, Dr. DeJong was a Fulbright Scholar in the Netherlands. In 2013, he was the William Evans Visiting Fellow with the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery & Musculoskeletal Medicine at University of Otago and the Burwood Academy in Christchurch, New Zealand. Dr. DeJong is also a Founding Partner and Senior Advisor with DeltaMed Partners, LLC, a health facility development and analysis firm doing work in China.

Gerben credits his wife Janice DeJong for encouraging their sponsorship of the fellowship. She graduated from Michigan State University with an MBA in accounting and financial management leading to a career with corporate, private, and non-profit organizations such as the Bose Corporation and KEF/TDA Electronics. While with Bose, Ms. DeJong also worked in Germany. Later in her career she returned to Europe to work for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague, Czech Republic.

The fellowship stems from their deep-seated commitment to the idea that public policy discourse and decision making require honest brokers of information leading to evidence-based public policy. They note that there needs to be a cadre of individuals who can serve as trusted sources of information such as those who take on the mantle of a PhD. Without trusted sources, there is little chance for a more fair and just society.