Dear Friends of the Sam Huntington Award,

On September 15th of this year, National Grid graciously hosted a wonderful event, in Waltham, honoring prior Samuel Huntington Award winner, Angela Duckworth. Angie’s book, Grit, a New York Times bestseller, details her work on what it takes to succeed, in a word – grit!

She has written eloquently about passion, perseverance and grit as determinants of success, not simply talent. Sitting at the same table as Angie were 10 other prior winners from years past, who spoke about their projects, what winning this award meant to them and how it influenced their current work and their personal lives. Everyone who attended the event was inspired to hear the success stories, and to learn about the grit and determination it takes as a young college graduate to go out into the world and tackle some of the world’s toughest issues: poverty, the environment, literacy, recognition of the arts, and much more. I have no doubt that Sam would have been very proud to hear about their successes too. You will see some of these winners in pictures in this newsletter, along with friends and colleagues from NEES, and friends of this award.

It is, of course, that time of year, when we both thank you for your past support, and ask you to make a gift to the Fund. Your donation, however large or small, will help us recognize the talent, the grit and determination of the next generation of winners. I know they will make you, and us, very proud. Thank you!

Jennifer Huntington Chair

Earlier this year the Samuel Huntington Fund took its first step into the social media world with the establishment of a Facebook page. Please visit it often at www.Facebook.com/SamuelHuntingtonFund/ Over time we hope this page will grow to become a valuable forum for the Samuel Huntington Fund community to share information, ideas, and successes. The page includes a “Donate Button” as a convenient way for supporters to contribute to the Fund through PayPal or with a credit card.

www.nationalgridus.com/huntington.asp
2016 Award Winners

This year, we selected three more outstanding graduates to add to our distinguished list of Award Winners. The winners are from Yale, Penn, and Tufts; the projects are in New York City, the Dominican Republic, and India.

Detention Bond Fund in New York City

After his graduation from Yale, Brett Davidson is addressing a critical issue faced by impoverished people who are arrested and cannot afford to post bail. Although not dangerous, these people are jailed pending trial. Their detention causes job loss, and disrupts home life. Brett’s program will provide bonds and assistance to those in this position. He intends to raise capital by working with student filmmakers in a major crowd-funding campaign, and over the longer term by creating a micro-funding program. The funds from these efforts will be used to post bail bonds that are refunded with interest when the defendants appear for trial. Brett hopes to extend the bail bond program to women and children immigrants along the southern US border where asylum seekers are held in detention centers pending their demonstration of a “well-founded fear of persecution” in their homeland while posing neither a flight risk nor a danger to the community. Brett’s project addresses a significant unmet need in our criminal justice system.

Improving Medical Services in the Dominican Republic

Not only did Taehoon Kim graduate summa cum laude from Penn, but while there he developed a mobile phone-computer program to improve health services in the rural clinics of the Dominican Republic. The program has two elements: 1) an online conferencing technology that allows patients and doctors in rural clinics to video conference with medical specialists located in the city hospitals improving care without a personal visit; and 2) a mobile application that automatically connects the rural clinic to the medical supply chain to provide real-time information and reorders for medical supplies and prescriptions. In his project, Taehoon will implement the program with the installation of servers and the completion of system integrity testing at three rural clinics in the Dominican Republic. Taehoon’s project performance will be measured by reduced mortality, reduced medical run-outs, and improved patient outcomes. Taehoon has a wonderful project that could be replicated in rural clinics throughout the world.
College Access in Rural India

Sharad Vivek Sagar began his public service before he completed his education at Tufts University. He founded Dexterity Global, designed to extend educational opportunities to millions of young people in South Asia. Sharad’s proposed project, called Dexterity to College, grew out of that earlier effort. He found that many of the younger students had questions and needed help with the college application process. To address those needs, Sharad proposes to implement a program of training sessions called “bootcamps” with information about the college application and testing process. His extraordinarily ambitious goal is to reach more than one million students working with 1,000 schools. Using the results of a pilot program, he will: finalize design of the bootcamps; communicate with schools, governments, and the media in each targeted community; train 1000 teachers in 1000 low-income schools to run the bootcamps; and attract college students to act as mentors and facilitators in the program. The program will also offer a small number of limited scholarships to encourage participation and meet the financial needs of students in the bootcamps. The scale of Sharad’s effort is matched only by his enthusiasm and commitment. He has a proven track record and a great future in public service.

Reception at National Grid Office in Waltham, MA

Welcoming remarks from Marcy Reed, President National Grid — Massachusetts

Jennifer Huntington addressing the Audience

More photographs on next page
Thank you to our Supporters!

The Samuel Huntington Fund was established in 1989 and, thanks to you, has now granted 68 Public Service Awards. Please keep the Samuel Huntington Fund in mind as you make your year-end charitable donations. You can make a tax deductible contribution at any time by visiting our Facebook page or sending a check to: The Samuel Huntington Fund, c/o Ms. Amy Stacy, National Grid, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, MA 02451. For your convenience, a pre-addressed envelope is enclosed with this newsletter. Thank you for your consideration!

www.nationalgridus.com/huntington.asp