Call for applications for a study visit entitled

Political Leadership: The Parliamentary and Legislative Processes

January 8th – 18th 2013
Boston, Massachusetts & Washington, D.C.

Up to twelve politicians, senior civil servants, party advisors, and political activists from Ireland and Northern Ireland will be selected to explore the parliamentary and legislative processes in the United States. Successful applicants will study U.S. practices of legislators in relation to the functioning of parliamentary bodies. Particular attention will be paid to the creation, support, and debate of legislation, the introduction of bills, the role of committees, and the implementation of policy through government institutions. As part of this exchange, a pre-departure short-course entitled “An Introduction to U.S. Government” will be delivered by Boston College faculty and Irish Institute staff in Ireland and Northern Ireland on 22 & 24 October 2012.

The program is sponsored by the Irish Institute at the Center for Irish Programs, Boston College, and the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Program-related costs including travel, accommodation, tuition, and the majority of meals are provided.

The program is not open to U.S. citizens, Green Card holders, or past participants of U.S. Government-funded Irish Institute programs. Short-listed applicants must be available for interview either 10th October in Dublin or 11th October in Belfast. Please note that the program is by necessity highly selective, and that consequently, not all applicants will be interviewed and not all interviewees will be invited to participate.

To apply: Visit our website at www.bc.edu/irishinstitute for an application. The completed form, in addition to a letter of interest, must be returned by email to Ms. Thea Gilien at gilien@bc.edu before 5 p.m. GMT on Thursday, 27th September. The mandatory letter of interest should include: reason for application, your ability to contribute to the program, and potential for sharing your experience upon your return home. For further information, please visit our website or telephone (353) 1 614 7450.