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From the Editor Notebook

Marshall Scholars

There is a Howard University connection among the 30 winners of this year's prestigious British Marshall Scholarships.

Among the winners is Lisa Cook, daughter of Payton B. Cook of Milledgeville, Ga., a 1959 graduate of the university's school of religion.

Both Cooks were in Washington late September, along with John Ralph Willis of Princeton University, U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland — whose son Michael is a 1986 Marshall Scholar — and the other winners and alumni of the program, for a send-off reception at the British Embassy.

John Willis, who went to the London School of Oriental and African Studies, has the distinction of being the first Black Marshall Scholar in 1963. He is now professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton.

Lisa Cook, member of a younger generation whose area of study is philosophy, has achieved a distinction of her own. She is the first graduate of Spelman College to win the Marshall award.

"The successful (1986) candidates," according to the British Embassy, "represent a wide spread of disciplines and American backgrounds. They include students of Asian, Caribbean and East European origin. One is the son of a U.S. Senator, one is the daughter of a guardian of ancestral tradition in Haiti, Subjects range from criminology and social anthropology to politics, philosophy and cognitive science."

The 1986 Marshall Scholars — 19 men and 11 women — were chosen from a list of 800 graduate applicants from 21 universities in the United States.

Like their predecessors, they will study at institutions of higher learning of their choice in England. And they have chosen the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London, Sussex and Warwick, For Lisa Cook, the choice is St. Hilda's College, Oxford.

The Marshall Scholars will pursue graduate studies in England for at least two academic years, at a cost of roughly \$15,000 per student per year.

Although not widely known by the public, this highly competitive scholarship for American graduate students under the age of 26 has been in operation since 1953. Today its graduates are nearing the 1,000 mark.

The scholarship was established by the United Kingdom in appreciation of America's help in reconstructing the economies of Europe after the Second World War. Hence the name Marshall, for General George C. Marshall who instituted the European recovery program known as The Marshall Plan.

Thirty candidates are chosen each year from among those talented and gifted American students whose intellectual and personal qualities are outstanding.

Howard students who may be interested in applying for next year's Marshall Scholarships may write for information to the Cultural Department, British Embassy, 3100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

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