New York, NY (date tk) - In the “2016 Student Essay Competition”, Foreign Affairs and the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy offer tomorrow’s leaders the opportunity to demonstrate innovative thinking on the issues that shape their world. This year’s winning essay, by Ashna Basu from the University of New South Wales, is available here (link TK) and advocates for internet-delivered cognitive behavioral therapy as a global remedy for mental illness.

More than 400 undergraduate students submitted essays addressing global issues to which world leaders should be paying more attention. The selection committee included Gideon Rose, Editor, Foreign Affairs; Jonathan Tepperman, Managing Editor, Foreign Affairs; and Khong Yuen Foong, Li Ka Shing Professor of Political Science, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy.

Honorable mentions included:

- Kofi Gunu, Augustana University (Arlington, VA)
- David Hamburger, Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)
- Marcel S. Plichta, The College of William and Mary and University of St Andrews Joint Degree Programme (Williamsburg, VA)

“Nurturing and promoting new voices and new perspectives on global issues has never been more important, and we’re delighted to partner with the Lee Kuan Yew School in this important effort,” said Rose. “I was particularly struck by how many of the top entries this year touched on health issues, ranging from mental health to infectious diseases to non-communicable diseases. I think it highlights a recognition among younger wonks that headlines and crises tell only part of the story of our times, and that more attention needs to be paid to long-term investments in the provision of crucial public goods.”

“The world is shrinking. We live in a small and interdependent global village. No house in our village is immune from global challenges such as pandemics, refugee flows and geopolitical shifts. Young people understand this interdependence well. This essay competition enables their voices to be heard. It will also help to develop the next generation of global leaders with the right skills to manage an increasingly borderless world,” added Professor Kishore Mahbubani, Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and former Singapore Ambassador to the United Nations.

The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy is a part of the National University of Singapore (NUS), which is ranked #1 in Asia, #12 in the world and #7 in Social
Policy and Administration. In 2017, they are introducing a new Masters of International Affairs program.

Since its founding in 1922, *Foreign Affairs* has been the leading forum for serious discussion of American foreign policy and global affairs. It is now a multiplatform media organization with a print magazine, a website, a mobile site, various apps and social media feeds, an event business, and more. *Foreign Affairs* is published by the Council on Foreign Relations.