

# BRIGHT SPARKS



FULBRIGHT EXCHANGE LEADS TO POWERFUL PŌWHIRI IN CHICAGO / FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR'S RESEARCH INTO CONNECTIONS WRITTEN IN THE STARS / POETRY / STAMPING OUT SMOKING IN NEW ZEALAND USING RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE FROM THE UNITED STATES / HARKNESS NEW ZEALAND FELLOW / ALUMNI NEWS

#### From the Executive Director



Fulbright exchanges have meaningful and positive benefits for communities in New Zealand and the United States beyond the experience of each of our grantees.

Featured on our cover is a shining example of the broad reaching benefits of the Fulbright programme. US teacher Jessica Stovall visited New Zealand in 2014 on the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for US Teachers. On returning home, she arranged for Māori students she had met to travel on their own exchange to visit her in Chicago. Read all about it on page 07.

We are all made of stardust and this issue profiles some of Fulbright New Zealand's bright stars, including a feature on astronomical connections, Te reo o ngā Whetū – the language of the stars, on the experience of Dr Rangi Matamua on a Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Maramatanga Scholar Award in the United States last year.



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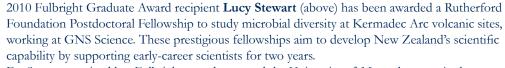




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Dr. Stewart received her Fulbright award to attend the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she completed a PhD in microbiology studying hydrothermal vents in the northeastern Pacific Ocean.



Sharvn Davies (above) co-edited the book 'Sex and Sexualities in Contemporary Indonesia: Sexual Politics, Health, Diversity and Representations' which won the 2015 Ruth Benedict Prize for Outstanding Edited Volume. These awards are presented each year at the American Anthropological Association's annual meeting to acknowledge excellence in a scholarly book written from an anthropological perspective about a lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered topic. Sharyn is Associate Professor in the School of Social Sciences and Public Policy at AUT University. She was a Fulbright Travel Award recipient in 2014 and visited Yale University, Columbia University and New York University.



Roger Hall (left) recently received this year's Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement in the Fiction category, the first playwright to be so honoured. He is New Zealand's best known dramatist with more than 40 plays to his credit. He received a Fulbright Travel Fellowship in 1982 then was a Visiting Fulbright Professor at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for the fall semester, 2003.

Mr Hall started writing for television in the 1970s and over the next four decades wrote a range of one-off plays, and several sitcom series, the best-known being Gliding On, set in the public service of the 1980s and based on his first stageplay, Glide Time. His best-known play internationally was Middle Age Spread, which ran for 15 months in London's West End and won the Comedy of the Year Award.





#### In Memoriam

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Ian McLaren, 1958 Fulbright New Zealand Graduate Student Award grantee. Ian used his Fulbright to study at the University of Chicago. Ian taught at Nelson College and lectured at Victoria University of Wellington, Palmerston North Teachers College, the University of Waikato and was Chair of the Hamilton Teachers' College Council. He later worked with the tertiary section of NZQA. The above image was taken at the time of his Fulbright application. Ian served on the Fulbright New Zealand board and selection panels.

Ceramic artist Patrick Shia Crabb visited New Zealand in 1992 on a Fulbright US Cultural Grant. He recently had a solo show at the Plinth Gallery in Denver, Colorado showing works including the piece on the right. He was Professor of Fine Arts at Santa Ana College 1975 to his retirement in January. During his exchange, Patrick taught at institutions including 05 Nelson Polytechnic on a tour NZ Potters Society arranged.





Dr. Laura Christianson, (above) 2010 Fulbright US Graduate Award grantee, was recently appointed to the position of Assistant Professor of Water Quality in the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Christianson's new research and extension program focuses on environmentally sustainable agricultural production, economically thriving farms, and clean water outcomes. During her PhD research at Massey University, she studied woodchip bioreactors, a simple technology to reduce nitrogen pollution in agricultural runoff.

Evan Roberts (2000 Fulbright New Zealand Graduate Student Award) in collaboration with Archives NZ and Auckland Museum, has launched Measuring the ANZACs, a website to build a complete transcription of all NZ's World War I soldiers' records through "crowd sourcing." The data collected will enable easier public access to the soldiers' records. The data collected from the project will be released for scholarly and genealogical research. Contribute at www.measuringtheanzacs.org

Dr Simon Nicholson (right), 2001 Fulbright New Zealand Graduate Student Award grantee, has two new edited books: (with Paul Wapner) Global Environmental Politics: From Person to Planet (Routledge: 2015) and (with Sikina Jinnah) New Earth Politics: Essays from the Anthropocene (MIT Press: forthcoming March 2016). He is currently in the midst of a major project on so-called climate engineering or geoengineering responses to climate change (see www.ceassessment.org). Simon used his Award to complete his PhD in International Relations at American University in Washington, DC. He now lives in the United States and is Director of the Global Politics Program and Assistant Professor of International Relations at American University.

**Deborah Fraser** (right) was recently promoted to Professor of Education at the University of Waikato.

Her particular research interests are creativity, curriculum integration and spirituality in state education. She has won seven external grants and her publications include 15 books, 41 chapters, and 58 journal articles. She has recently completed co-editing the 5th edition of The Professional Practice of Teaching which was launched at the University of Auckland. This book is New Zealand's most widely used text on teaching and its longevity spans 21 years. In addition she is Associate Dean Postgraduate in Te Kura Toi Tangata, the Faculty of Education.

Deborah used her 2007 Fulbright Travel Award to give a presentation on non-verbal ways of knowing and collaborate with colleagues at the University of Chicago at Urbana-Champaign.



Writer Bill Manhire has recently published a new book through Victoria University Press, The Stories of Bill Manhire. Sheep-shearing galas, Antarctic ponies, human clones, the Queen's visit to Dunedin, a pounamu decoder, a childhood in the pubs of the South Island, the last days of Robert Louis Stevenson—this is Bill Manhire as backyard inventor, devising stories in which the fabulous and the everyday collide. He was the Fulbright Visiting Professor in New Zealand Studies at Georgetown University's Center for Australian and New Zealand Studies in Washington, DC for their Spring semester of 1999. Having recently been appointed New Zealand's inugural poet laureate, he took every opportunity to promote New Zealand literature on campus and off.



# Fulbright exchange leads to a powerful pōwhiri for Māori students in Chicago

Jessica Stovall from Chicago, Illinois was a 2014 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for US Teachers grantee. She is an English Teacher at Oak Park River Forest High. She worked with the Te Kāpehu Whetū school in Whangarei for its students to visit her in Chicago at the Field Museum's Marae Meeting House, Rautepupuke II, originally build in Tokomaru Bay in 1881 and later transported to the US.

During my time in New Zealand, working with indigenous Māori people allowed me the opportunity to witness first hand the profoundly positive impact that placing culture and heritage first in education has on eliminating the racial predictability of student academic achievement.

I came back from my Fulbright experience a changed human. The trip inspired me to find my roots and ancestry through embracing the land, sea, and where I come from. Although my students couldn't go to New Zealand this year, this exchange to Oak Park allowed my students to witness a new culture and ignite curiosities that will inspire them explore to US and the world in the future.

Through a serendipitous encounter in Rotorua, New Zealand, I had the great privilege to collaborate with Raewyn Tipene, the amazing CEO of the Te Kāpehu Whetū school in Whangarei, New Zealand, and together we worked on a cultural exchange between our two schools. It was meant to be, as the world renowned Field Museum has one of three marae, or Māori meeting houses, outside of New 07 Zealand. The marae comes from the iwi (tribe) in



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I came back from my Fulbright experience a changed human

Tokomaru Bay, and some of the students from the New Zealand school have ancestors from there.

In order to welcome them appropriately, we completed a powhiri, or a traditional welcome ceremony. And I can't explain how much it touched me to bring 80 students and have them feel how I felt a year ago this week when I went through my own Iessica Stovall first powhiri.

Opposite page, clockwise from top left: Te Kāpehu Whetū students perform a haka, the Superintendent of Oak Park and River Forest (OPRF) High School (left) and Chief Executive of Te Kāpehu Whetū Raewyn Tipene hongi, The Field Museum's Mary Ann Bloom does the karanga, Raewyn Tipene, OPRF choir performs. Pictures by APJ Photography.















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There are a number of similar principles and approaches in the astronomical knowledge of the Native American people that mirror that of the Māori



2014 Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Scholar Dr Rangi Matamua

### Connections written in the stars

Dr Rangi Matamua (Ngai Tuhoe), lecturer in Māori and Pacific Development at University of Waikato, received the 2014 Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Scholar Award. He used the grant to research how astronomy is embedded within the cultural practices of indigenous peoples at the University of Minnesota in Duluth.

When Hamilton-based lecturer Dr Rangi Matamua travelled to University of Minnesota Duluth to research indigenous astronomy, he expected there might be the odd similarity between how Māori and Native American peoples see the stars. Talking with people in the United States on his exchange, he was struck by the deep connections these communities from opposite sides of the world share when it comes to the night sky.

Dr Matamua set out to tackle a project titled 'Ngā tātai arorangi taketake, Indigenous Astronomy'. His initial project was to explore the connections between astronomy but the scope grew to become a larger study of indigenous astronomy.

The original goal was to understand the place of traditional astronomy within Native American peoples and to compare this to the Māori situation.

"My own research is based on the revitalisation and regeneration of Māori astronomy and for the past 20 years has involved a detailed search of all remaining Māori astronomical literature, a Māori language based exploration of songs, chants, prayers, phrases, proverbs that reference astronomy, a rediscovery of precious manuscripts that contain Māori astronomy and a series of interviews with

Māori language and cultural experts who know aspects of Māori astronomy," Dr Matamua says.

His research resulted in the creation of a large and extensive body of work based on Māori astronomy, which contradicts the beliefs of early New Zealand ethnographers and some current researchers who believe the record on Māori astronomy is limited at best.

"At the time I made the application for the Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Maramatanga Award I assumed that the Māori situation would mirror that of the Native American peoples. However, what I came to realise during the course of my research, especially when I interviewed and interacted with elders and knowledge holders from the various communities, is that the record in America is extensive indeed."

While it is possible to group Māori astronomy into one body of work because the beliefs are so similar across the many tribal groups, this is not the case in America. Due to the extensive land mass and the cultural differences between the different nations, there are many astronomical records and a host of different beliefs and practices.

"Even with the variety of peoples and beliefs there are a number of similar principles and approaches in the astronomical knowledge of the Native American people that mirror that of the Māori," Dr Matamua says.

"Issues such as embedding astronomical knowledge and science within cultural understandings and cosmology, the importance of heliacal stars, the belief that people descend from the stars, the infusing of astronomical knowledge within cultural practise, seasonal activities, the landscape, religious beliefs and even within the language of people were common points that link Māori astronomy to the cultures. All of these points became apparent during my research in America and gave my own research more scope and deeper meaning."

#### His project focused on three issues:

- Examining the similarities and differences in 1. the astronomy cultures of the Māori, Hawaiian and Native American:
- 2.. Exploring just how central the role of astronomy was to traditional peoples; and
- Developing pathways to revitalise the practise 3. of traditional astronomy, making it part of the modern world in which we live.

Personally, he found spending extended periods of time with other like-minded native people who were practitioners of astronomy extremely rewarding. During one of these many and long sessions, Dr Matamua and other astronomy practitioners found an 11 interconnectedness in their experiences and beliefs.



Above: Dr Matamua with his wife and three children in the US on his exchange. Previous page: Stars image by Howard Ignatius.

"That interaction developed further and now a collective of Native Astronomers from America, Hawaii and New Zealand are looking to pool resources to establish a series of planetariums that are connected on line, to be used as a sharing and teaching space for the different peoples."

His Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Scholar Award was an experience that extended to his whānau, as his wife and three children accompanied him to the United States. For the most part they adapted to their new surrounding quickly.

"From the moment we landed in Kansas City and were met by our host family, it was evident that the experiences that awaited us would be rich and rewarding. Our first few weeks saw us travelling

great distances with our host family attending their tribal powwow and interacting with tribal leaders and elders, and becoming totally immersed with the indigenous peoples of the land," Dr Matamua says.

His children attended the local High School and Elementary School which they loved and where they forged lifelong friendships. The opportunity to experience the US education system sparked thoughts of pursuing their own higher education in America.

"We were very fortunate in our experiences, my wife and I were taken racing on the Fond du Lac reservation, and our two older boys spoke about their view of being young Māori youth and what their identity meant to them in front of the Houma Nation Community in Louisiana. My wife and I along with our 8 year old daughter gave a talk to her class at Stowe Elementary about New Zealand and also about being Māori and what that meant to each of us," Dr Matamua says.

"These experiences along with a multitude of others gave our whānau a true appreciation of our own identity and how important identity is to us as indigenous people. Furthermore, these along with the relationships we made truly enriched our lives."

Following his exchange, Dr Matamua published papers based on his research including 'Te reo o ngā Whetū - the language of the stars' presented at He Manawa Whenua Indigenous Research Conference in Hamilton. He is currently supervising seven Māori PhD students at University of Waikato.

### Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association update





seminar about the narratives of resilient women that Thanksgiving dinner at the home of Fulbright New Zealand chair Dr Helen Anderson. Memorable event. To join, visit www.fulbright.org.nz Zealand Exchange Teacher to Virginia Beach. He is Chair 12

## Stamping out smoking in New Zealand

Professor Janet Hoek is co-director of ASPIRE2025, a multi-disciplinary collaboration of tobacco control researchers based primarily at the University of Otago, New Zealand. In 2011, she was honoured to receive a Fulbright Travel Award that enabled her to develop a new and productive collaboration with the Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education at the University of California San Francisco.



I first became interested in the effects of smoking when I was an expert witness in the litigation Janice Pou's family took against New Zealand tobacco companies and I reviewed the marketing those companies had undertaken. I also read and watched Janice's testimony, given before she died of lung cancer. I met my now colleague, Associate Professor George Thomson, who was also involved in the case and we started collaborating on research. Since I've joined the University of Otago, I've been lucky to establish collaborations with other people working in public health; we're now a University of Otago Research Theme ASPIRE2025 and by combining our different perspectives, I think we have developed a very interesting research agenda.

The most successful smokefree initiatives in New Zealand have undoubtedly been tax increases – we know price is a very powerful policy lever, so the annual tax increase each year is a very important measure; it could be even more effective if the government introduced some unexpected large price increases. The only unsuccessful smokefree initiatives I'm aware of are those the tobacco industry has developed to deter youth smoking, but I don't believe these have run in New Zealand. However, studies from the United States, where they have run, suggest these campaigns were less effective. Plain packaging is a classic example of delay in implementing a policy.

California has a strong smoking denormalisation programme and has run some innovative mass media campaigns. New Zealand needs to invest much in mass media smokefree campaigns and could learn

a great deal from the approaches taken in California.

A smokefree New Zealand would see smoking prevalence fall from the current overall level of around fifteen percent to less than five percent; at that level, it would be very unusual to see anyone smoking.

The biggest benefits would clearly be to people's health and well-being, but the benefits are social and economic as well, because smoking results in lost productivity. Smokers would benefit most – we know more than 80 percent of smokers regret the fact they smoke and would like to quit, so programmes that enable them to achieve that goal are very important. Children would also benefit enormously - the smokefree 2025 goal aims to create a country where children grow up free from the harms caused by exposure to smoking. Because there are many inequalities in smoking, with Māori, Pacific peoples, and people in disadvantaged groups disproportionately affected by the harms of smoking, it is crucial that we achieve the smokefree Aotearoa / New Zealand goal for all population groups.

The 2025 goal is completely realistic, but it depends on strong government leadership. The National Smokefree Working Group, on which the ASPIRE2025 group has a seat, has developed an action plan. In particular, we need to implement plain packaging urgently, put in place larger tax increases, reduce the availability of tobacco, use existing measures to make tobacco products less palatable, and fund cessation programmes.

Janet Hoek

## Learning from US legal tools

New Zealand Harkness Fellow for 2015 Aphra Green will be travelling to the United States next year to look at the Evidence-Based Decision-Making programme as a good example of Federal leadership. The New Zealand Harkness Fellowship is for emerging New Zealand leaders in any field of study or vocation (excluding health care policy and practice) to study or research in the US for a minimum of twelve weeks.

Ministry of Justice Sector Strategy Manager Aphra Green will soon travel to the United States on the inaugural New Zealand Harkness Fellowship to research legal decision making tools. She will look at Evidence-Based Decision-Making which harnesses data from across the States to create tools and frameworks to enable decision makers to better determine risk factors, such as the likelihood of reoffending.

Ms Green will look at the Federally-led Evidence-Based Decision-Making programme, which seeks to equip criminal justice decision makers in local communities with the information, processes, and tools that will reduce crime and reoffending.

"Key decision makers in the US criminal justice system are discussing what outcomes they want to achieve, setting targets and working together to improve decision making – and criminal justice outcomes – by using evidence and sharing practices across the US," Ms Green says.

While it will not be a question of picking up the American tools and applying them in New Zealand, learning what is working well and how it was successfully introduced will be interesting to Ms Green. She will bring her research back to New

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What I love about the law is the intricacy of the issues, the complex challenges

Zealand's justice sector.

"I'm particularly interested in looking at decision making around bail as it's an area where it seems the US is ahead of New Zealand in using data and predictive tools to inform bail decisions. It's also an area in which they are still innovating – so we have a lot to learn."

Ms Green worked in the public sector, private practice and academia before deciding public sector was the place for her. She has a strong interest in policy or theory meeting practicality, how outcomes of legal process decisions impact on people's lives and wider society.

"What I love about the law is the intricacy of the issues, the complex challenges and that the law is the primary interface between government and society. It

plays a key role in structuring society and in people's lives even if they don't notice it on a day-to-day basis," Ms Green says.

"Personally, I like the challenge of the seeing two sides to an argument – sometimes more than two sides – and bringing those together, making some sense of it. In a policy context, what I enjoy is the opportunity to influence the shape of the law and the future of New Zealand through that. Working within government gives me the opportunity to be at the forefront of advising on change – sometimes quite fundamental change – to New Zealand society."

Her current role as Sector Strategy Manager for the Ministry of Justice enables her to look across the justice sector agencies and to influence the strategic direction for the whole of the justice sector. Her team oversees a number of strategic projects including developing the justice sector's four year plan and advising on long term, system-wide opportunities and challenges for the justice sector.

#### APHRA GREEN

- New Zealand Harkness Fellow for 2015
- Ministry of Justice Sector Strategy Manager
- Started out as new law graduate in the public sector at the Ministry of Health, working on biomedical ethics policy
- Worked in private practice at a large law firm
- Research Fellow with the Law

Foundation-funded Human Genome Research Project led by Otago University

 Bachelor of Laws and Master of Laws (Distinction)

#### 29. Methods

in which the Captain thinks

The click of leather-padded shoe-soles down a polished, empty hall.

He does not scream, except in the muscles around his ankles and his jaw.

Rhythm steady, paced constraint, cultivated, orthogonal thoughts.

Searching, panicked steps a click, a breath,

a beat,

a tap,

a pause.



Poet Max Chapnick, from White Plains, New York, used his Fulbright US Graduate Student Award to complete his MA in Creative Writing at Victoria University of Wellington International Institute of Modern Letters.

# Dispatch from a current grantee: Distinguished Teacher David Taylor

2015 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for New Zealand Teachers grantee David Taylor, from Auckland, is currently on exchange at Indiana State University, Bloomington. He is participating in an intensive professional development programme and researching ways of empowering parents to support their children's reading development. David is an English Teacher at Northcote College, Auckland.



At the half-way point of this programme I continue to have an extraordinary time. The cultural exchange aspect has been immensely rewarding and I have loved getting to know and share educational ideas with my sixteen colleagues from around the world as well as the wonderful US teachers and university faculty we have been working with.

My research has been focused on improving the recreational reading habits of adolescents and I am enjoying working with families from the local high school and observing a peer reading programme designed to inspire reluctant readers. While there are some clear cultural differences it seems some aspects of being a teenager are fairly universal – many of the students here face the same issues and dilemmas as those in Aotearoa. Watching them experience how reading can help understand and negotiate some of those difficulties is lovely to see.

The biggest challenge to being here so far has been trying to juggle the enormous number of activities on offer. Every night there are plays, bands, lectures, concerts, operas, exhibitions, special events and sports to go and see. The cultural opportunities are staggering and inevitably many great looking events have to be missed. The diversity makes for a number of great highlights and spectacular contrast: visiting an Amish community and then going to New York; hearing Tony Bennett sing and the next day returning to the same auditorium to hear legendary Civil Rights activist John Lewis; having a conversation about education policy which includes teachers from America, Botswana, Morocco, Finland, Singapore, India, Chile, Taiwan and Mexico. The opportunities have been amazing and I'm looking forward to putting all the new pedagogical and cultural knowledge to use back in the classrooms of Aotearoa New Zealand.

# Fulbrighters around the world: our global Fulbright family







Clockwise from top left: Fulbright New Zealand current grantee Imogen Browne (right) meets fellow Fulbrighters at a Fulbright Association gathering in Sarasota; Fulbright Spain grantee Olga Banaszkiewicz on exchange in Pennsylvania; a married couple are both granted Fulbright Ireland Awards; Fulbright Berlin visiting researcher Gilles Berger at MIT; Fulbright US Scholar Joe Meisel at Universidad Nacional de Colombia.





# In case you missed it...

The videos of recent Fulbright New Zealand and Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association seminars can be found at fulbright.org.nz. These include Professor **Glyn Harper** speaking about 'Johnny Enzed: The New Zealand Soldier in the First World War', **Dr Jody McBrien** talking about 'Cold Water: Women and Girls of Lira, Uganda', **Sam Trubridge** on 'From the Dream Factory: the NZ New Performance Festival in New York'.

### About Fulbright New Zealand awards

Fulbright New Zealand offers a range of exchange awards for New Zealanders and Americans wanting to study, research, teach or present their work in each other's country.

#### **AWARD TYPE**

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards Fulbright Science & Innovation Graduate Awards

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Graduate Award

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award

Fulbright Specialist Awards

Fulbright US Scholar Awards

New Zealand Harkness Fellowships

Fulbright New Zealand Scholar Awards

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Scholar Award

Fulbright-Cognition Award in Education Research

Fulbright-Meg Everton Professional Enhancement Awards in Education

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

Fulbright-Scholar in Residence Progam

Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for NZ Teachers

Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for US Teachers

Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writers' Residency

Ian Axford Fellowships in Public Policy

John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellowship

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE

1 August annually

1 September annually

1 October annually

1 October annually

1 October annually

1 October annually

14 October annually

14 October annually

1 November annually

5 November annually

1 March annually

1 April annually

By appointment only

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