

BRIGHT SPARKS

Cover Story: The Fulbright New Zealand Awards Ceremony 2021



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**PENELOPE
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Spring 2021 edition of Bright Sparks.

As I write, Wellington is currently in Level 3 Covid alert after having been in a nationwide Level 4 lockdown. Having done this before we can at least feel grateful that we know the drill. However, this is never an easy experience, and, combined with the more highly transmissible strain of the Delta variant of Covid, it's only natural to be feeling somewhat unsettled right now.

As the Fulbright team once again scatter to our respective homes to work remotely, I've been reflecting on the power and importance of communication. At times like these, communication becomes more important than ever. This was of paramount importance to Fulbright NZ recently as we had a major IT fault that meant for several weeks, both our outbound and inbound emails weren't always being sent or received.

Naturally this would be a huge concern for any organisation but for Fulbright this felt particularly acute. Communication is at the heart of the Fulbright mission. Fostering people to people connection can only be achieved through the sharing of knowledge, mahi, and experience, ideally in person, so it is crucial that the lines of communication always remain open, especially by virtual means at this time. I am happy to report that after a Herculean effort by various IT professionals and all the team, our email issues have now been resolved. It's good to be back online!

In this issue we share some wonderful images from the 2021 Fulbright NZ Awards Ceremony, an event that in light of the country's recent lockdown, we feel very lucky to have had.

We also get to know Professor Wendy Larner, the new chair of the Fulbright NZ board, a little better and hear more about her own experience as a Fulbright NZ Scholar at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2003.

Spring is always a time of renewal and brings with it a sense of hope. While it may be difficult to feel this in its fullness due to Covid related stresses, the daffodils are blooming and spring buds are starting to appear. New beginnings come in many forms, and for the 2021 Fulbright cohort, this means getting ready to embark on their Fulbright journey in the US. For the team at Fulbright NZ, this also means welcoming our new Programme Manager Morgan Bach, and saying farewell to Pip Climo as she moves on to new challenges. Check out page 22 for more details.

Thank you to all our Fulbright alumni and friends for your ongoing support and engagement, and we hope that wherever you are, you are staying safe and keeping your spirits up.

EDITOR'S NOTE

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of material in this newsletter, Fulbright New Zealand does not accept liability for any errors or omissions. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Fulbright New Zealand.

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Fulbright awardee **Henrietta McNeill** was interviewed on Stuff about her research into how Pacific Island deportees from NZ, Australia and the US reintegrate back into society. Henrietta will take up her Fulbright at the Lewis & Clark Law School in Oregon, UCLA, and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

[Click here for the article.](#)



It was lovely to see Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Scholar **Pounamu Jade Aikman** (pictured on the right with his mother Anah Aikman) being celebrated in the Timaru Herald. Dr Aikman says the support he received at an early age when he was living in Timaru was pivotal to his success later in life. Dr Aikman will soon be taking up his Fulbright Award at Harvard University researching comparative Indigenous experiences of settler colonialism between Aotearoa and the United States.

[Click here for the article](#)



Fulbright alumnus **Abbas Nazari** has been in the headlines lately speaking out about the devastating situation unfolding in Afghanistan right now. You can watch his interview with Jack Tame on TVNZ [here](#). Abbas's autobiography *After the Tampa* has just been released, and although lockdown has meant that his nationwide book tour has had to be postponed, you can still buy his book online.



A wonderful interview on Te Ao Māori News with Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga **Jenni Tupu**. Jenni's research draws on her own experience as one of many Māori children who were adopted and raised without a connection to their whakapapa. Jenni will research the experiences of other Indigenous adoptees at Amara, a non-profit organisation in Seattle and the National Native American Boarding School Coalition in Minneapolis.

[Click here to watch the full interview](#)

ALUMNI FUNDING AVAILABLE

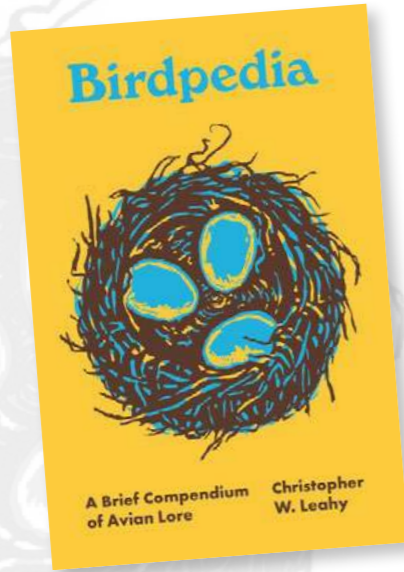
The Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Seminar grant allows for Fulbright alumni based in NZ to apply for a grant of up to \$1,150 towards the planning and delivery of a seminar/presentation in New Zealand on a topic related to their specialist field.

This grant will support you to share your research, build and grow connections, and contribute to the wider NZ community through your mahi.

TO FIND OUT MORE, OR TO RECEIVE AN APPLICATION FORM, EMAIL ALUMNI@FULBRIGHT.ORG.NZ

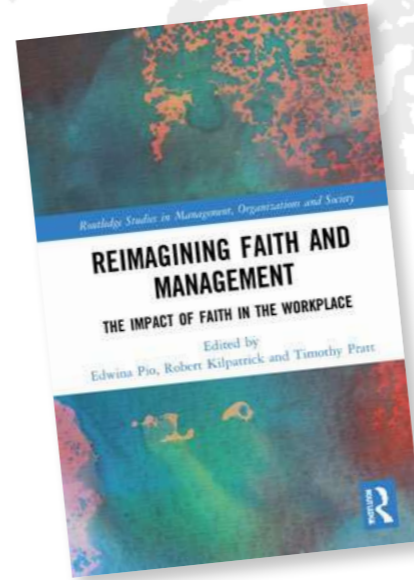
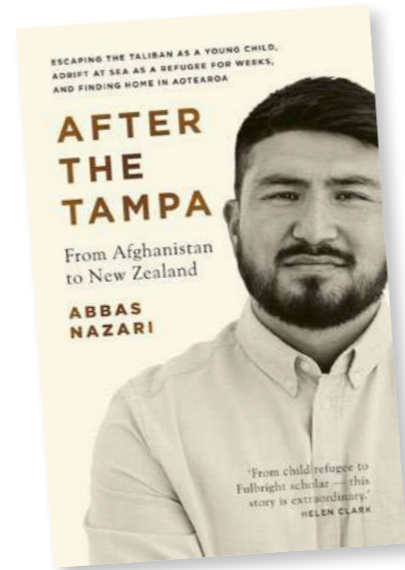


WHAT'S NEW IN PRINT FROM FULBRIGHT ALUMNI

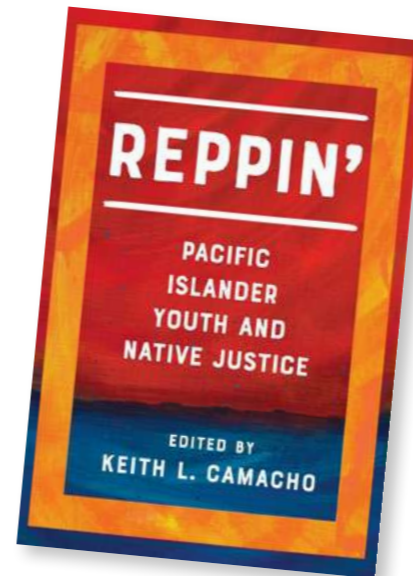


- US Fulbright alum **Abby McBride** has created some stunning illustrations for this new book from Princeton University Press. Abby received at Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship in 2017 and undertook her research at the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

- Fulbright alumnus **Abbas Nazari** has received rave reviews of his autobiographical book *After the Tampa* with Melbourne newspaper The Age describing it as “an astonishing story of endurance and triumph.” Published by Allen and Unwin and available at bookstores nationwide.



- Fulbright alumnae **Professor Edwina Pio** is the University Director of Diversity at AUT and recent author of *Reimagining Faith and Management* which looks at different ways that faith influences and adds mystery to inspire and impel individuals and organisations. Available through Routledge.



- Fulbright US Scholar alumnus **Keith Camacho's** new book *Reppin'* “vividly illuminates the dynamic power of Pacific Islander youth to reshape the present and future of settler cities and other urban spaces in Oceania and beyond.” Available through the University of Washington Press.



- Congratulations to **Susana Lei'ataua** who began her new role as News Editor for RNZ Pacific News in August. Susana was awarded a Fulbright Scholar award in 2007 where she was the first artist of Pacific Island decent to be Artist-in-Residence at New York University's Asian/Pacific/American Institute.



- Wonderful to see artist and Fulbright alumnus **Mark Braunias** win the Parkin Drawing Prize worth \$25,000. Mark's prize winning work is a large-scale diptych made from ink and acrylic paint on industrial builders' paper. Mark received the Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award in 2011 and was based at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito California.



THE 2021 FULBRIGHT NZ AWARDS CEREMONY

One of the many lessons that Covid has taught us is to never take for granted the ability to join together in large groups to celebrate special occasions. The 2021 Fulbright NZ Awards Ceremony held on July 7 was a fantastic event that gave us all the chance to celebrate the achievements of this year's Fulbright cohort in the splendid grandeur of the Parliament's Grand Hall and Legislative Chamber. The gathering was slightly smaller this year due to the American Fulbright recipients who are not yet able to enter the country due to current border restrictions, but they were there in spirit.

TOP LEFT: The Fulbright NZ 2021 awardees.

BOTTOM LEFT: Fulbright awardee Henrietta McNeill was in NSW at the time of the Ceremony so, in a first for Fulbright, her Mum Susan accepted the award on her behalf.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Fulbright General Graduate awardee Victoria Macann.



"By the time I came back to Aotearoa, I had grown in different ways. Through a time of calibration and reflection I came out stronger and with a better plan of where I wanted to be moving into the future – and here I am now."

- Dr Mataroria Lyndon

TOP LEFT: Hon Minister Phil Twyford hosted the event. Minister Twyford kindly stepped in for the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon Nanaia Mahuta, who was unable to attend.

TOP RIGHT: The Fulbright NZ 2021 awardees.

BOTTOM LEFT: Dr Mataroria Lyndon gave the Fulbright NZ alumni address.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Scholar Dr Pounamu Jade Aikman is presented with a carved tokotoko by friend and mentor Wiremu Kora.





2021 FULBRIGHT NEW ZEALAND AWARD GRANTEES

The Fulbright New Zealand scholarship award winners this year are:

Fulbright New Zealand Science and Innovation Graduate Awards

BACK ROW: Sam Yoon, Sophie Burling

FRONT ROW: Joanna Hikaka (Ngāruahine), Rennie Qin, Maryna Sokolova, Hariata Tai Rakena (Ngāti Hauā, Ngāti Māhanga)

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

Victoria Macann, Henrietta McNeill (not pictured), Eilish Wilson, Ashlea Gillon (Ngāti Awa, Ngāpuhi)

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Graduate Award

Jenni Tupu (Ngāpuhi, Te Aupōuri, Ngāti Hine, Samoa)

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Scholar Award

Pounamu Jade Aikman (Ngāti Maniapoto, Tainui, Ngāi Te Rangī, Ngāti Awa)



HAVE YOU JOINED FULBRIGHTER?

Fulbrighter was launched in 2019 and is an exclusive online networking platform specifically designed for Fulbright alumni and grantees. It is a space where you can share your news and events, build relationships, or collaborate on projects. To register for Fulbrighter visit <https://fulbrighternetwork.com/signup>

Fulbrighter is also available as an app for iOS and Android.



Pictured from left: Fulbright NZ grantees Guled Mire, Rhys Compton, Gracie Francis, Duey Xu



Rhys outside Joe's Pizza in Greenwich Village, NY.

FULBRIGHT GRANTEE AIMS TO REIMAGINE HEALTH CARE USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Reprinted with permission from the University of Waikato

A University of Waikato Software Engineering student who received a Fulbright Scholarship to do his Master of Computer Science (MSc CS) in New York has his sights set on using artificial intelligence to improve the health sector.

Rhys Compton, originally from Morrinsville, started his MSc at New York University in January this year, after being awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 2020.

He says he applied for the Fulbright Scholarship to broaden his experience and was motivated to do something useful with his career, not just be successful.

“There’s a quote by an Austrian Management Consultant, Peter Drucker. It says people spend a lot of time worrying if they’ll be successful when the real question is, how can they be useful? It’s a quote that has always motivated me,” says Rhys.

The Fulbright award enables New Zealand academics or professionals to lecture or carry out research in the United States. Rhys’ MSc will run over two years and includes the opportunity to intern and gain work experience from leading

companies in the United States, like Philips Healthcare, which is already using machine learning in health applications.

“I wanted my masters to focus on machine learning and AI applications in health and biotechnology. There is so much room to make our health systems more efficient for patients and doctors, and machine learning and AI will be at the core of this,” says Rhys.

Rhys says while machine learning will never replace doctors or specialists, it can be developed to aid them in their roles, from helping General Practitioners triage patients, to building apps where people can enter their symptoms and be given a baseline diagnosis or direction to see a healthcare provider.

“I applied for the Fulbright Scholarship because I wanted to broaden my experience and I knew I

wanted to come to New York University because Dr Yann LeCun is based here. He’s considered one of the pioneers of modern deep learning internationally, so it’s a privilege to have the chance to work under him.” says Rhys.

Rhys had already been recognised for his BE (Hons) work at Waikato, before applying for the Fulbright Scholarship. As part of his Honours study, Rhys developed a process for training an algorithm that identifies what pieces of computer code do, even when the code is partially scrambled.

He says originally the algorithm would focus heavily on the names, which is fine when names are correct, but in reality, different programmers may name things differently. He advanced an existing data mining algorithm scrambling the input used to build the algorithm, forcing it to look at other fundamental features of code to find meaning in the code.

Rhys says as an example, a computer virus detection algorithm may look at code to decide if something is a virus or not. If the algorithm focused too heavily on names in the code, the virus protection would be ineffective because it would be easy for virus names to be changed.

Rhys says his paper was accepted to be presented at a virtual data mining conference in Seoul, South Korea last year, after the physical conference was cancelled due to Covid-19 travel restrictions.

He says he would encourage other students thinking of applying for the Fulbright Scholarship to get their application in. The Fulbright award is open to graduate and postgraduate students in both New Zealand and the United States.

“At the time I remember thinking it seemed like an insurmountable task, going up against all of New Zealand to win one of the scholarships but the scholarship office at Waikato Uni was so helpful.”

“If you have interesting or meaningful research you want to pursue, then Fulbright New Zealand wants to hear from you. They are always looking for more people with a passion for their field.”

SHARE YOUR STORY – CONTRIBUTE TO BRIGHT SPARKS

We love hearing about what Fulbright alumni are up to. Help us to celebrate your achievements and milestones, your research and experiences, travel adventures, and more.

Send us your articles, blog posts, photo essays or anything you’d like shared with the Fulbright community. We email Bright Sparks to over 2500 Fulbright New Zealand alumni around the world, plus friends of Fulbright in various sectors across New Zealand.

Email your ideas to comms@fulbright.org.nz

WELCOME TO WENDY LARNER

In March Professor Wendy Lerner took over as Chair of the Fulbright NZ Board. A Fulbright alumna herself, we caught up with Wendy to find out more about her experience on her Fulbright award and how she spends her time in her day job as Provost of Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington.



You were a lecturer at the University of Auckland when you received your Fulbright award in 2003 which you took up at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Can you tell me a bit more about what you did while you were on award, and your Fulbright experience in general?

I work on questions of globalisation and governance, and back in 2003 that meant that you were working on neoliberalism. The person I chose to go and work with at the University of Wisconsin-Madison was the most internationally recognised theorist of neoliberalism, Professor Jamie Peck. I had the enormous privilege of spending some five or six months with Jamie, working very closely with him. He was fantastic and treated me as a peer. The whole experience was enormously intellectually stimulating and certainly advanced my research.

At the University of Wisconsin there were endless opportunities to go to reading groups, seminars and workshops so I just absolutely immersed myself in whatever looked interesting to me, whether it was directly relevant to my research or not. I also attended a wide range of US conferences, taking advantage of being closer to these events.

The Fulbright enrichment series meant that once a month I could go to Chicago to meet with my Fulbright colleagues from around the world. These cultural events included a baseball game, the Polish museum, the symphony orchestra and much more; it was an amazing immersion in contemporary American culture.

So, when I think back, there were three distinctive strands to my Fulbright experience, all of which were stimulating and rewarding.

What advice would you give to someone who has just been awarded a Fulbright scholarship and will soon be moving to the US?

Be curious. Say yes when somebody invites you to something even if you don't think it's directly relevant to your own research. Understand the mana of Fulbright. Because I was a Fulbright scholar, people were genuinely interested in me. Be brave. For example, I didn't know Jamie, I just sent him a letter about the blue saying, "this might be a bit cheeky but I'm applying for a Fulbright and I'd love to come and work with you!" He said yes, and the rest is history. It's important to understand that Fulbright has a cache that opens doors.

How do you view your role as Chair of the Fulbright Board alongside your role as Provost at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington?

In my role as Provost, I have a responsibility not only to my own University, but to the sector more generally. I've just finished another big voluntary role as President of Te Apārangi Royal Society. I see these voluntary roles as part of the wider citizenship that all senior people should do. More specifically, Fulbright was transformational for me. It made an enormous difference to my career and to my confidence about the quality of my research, so it's lovely to be able to give something back.

What are the particular skills that you bring to your role as Chair of the Fulbright Board?

I know the research sector well, both nationally and internationally. Like many academics I've been very mobile during my career. In addition to my Fulbright experience, I've got a Canadian PhD and spent over a decade working in the UK. So I bring a lot of understanding about different university systems. I'd also like to think that I'm a good Chair. I'm a Chair who ensures that all voices are heard, who understands the importance of an effective Board, and the role that a Board plays to support an organisation like Fulbright. We've got a great organisation full of really good people who deserve a good Board.

What are you excited about for the future of Fulbright NZ?

I'm a theorist of globalisation. Often when people talk about globalisation, they think about it in very narrow terms, such as economic supply chains and the like, but globalisation is multifaceted and is as much social, political, and cultural as it is economic. Right now, we're at a very interesting juncture. The risk of the next decade is of an entrenched nationalism, rather than the globalising relationships we need because the major issues are global issues, not national issues. Fulbright is an organisation that can foster the reciprocal understandings we need for our shared futures.

At the heart of the Fulbright mission is a deep people to people connection and Senator Fulbright's belief that mutual understanding between different countries and cultures was crucial to ensure a peaceful future for the world.

How relevant do you think this mission is today?

Absolutely crucial. When I think about my own experience, what did I know about the US before spending an extended amount of time there? Not much at all; the Midwest American tourists that we tended to get in NZ at that point in time and some fairly cliched images from television and popular culture. So for me, it was really good to be fully immersed in the US and understand more about the complexities and the sophistication of that country.

You have been Provost at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington since 2015. Can you tell me more about what your role as Provost entails?

The Vice Chancellor, Grant Guilford often describes the role of Provost as that of 'Chief Academic Officer'. Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington was the first university in NZ to create a Provost role. I tend to lead the big strategic projects in research and learning and teaching, so things like establishing new faculties, redesigning academic promotions, creating new pathways for students, redesigning student services, equity and diversity and so on. These are big challenging change programmes needed in the sector, amplified of course by Covid. I love my day job! I think I've got the best job in the sector because it involves thinking about the future of the things at the heart of universities: research, learning and teaching.

While Covid has affected all industries around the world to some degree, I would argue that it has had a particularly deleterious effect on the education system. For example, NZ's closed borders which means no international students, the difficulty in overseeing the health and safety of staff and students, staff and students having to adapt to remote teaching and learning etc. Do you think that despite all these difficulties there could be some positive outcomes or silver linings for the education system to come from all this?

Yes. So three things: I had the great pleasure of overseeing the Future's work that our university ran in response to Covid this time last year. All universities did something similar, a bit of crystal ball gazing in terms of what the future might

look like. Covid didn't cause anything, it amplified things.

First, we already knew we needed to think much harder about what we deliver to our students and how we deliver it. Digital delivery was already happening and we were already beginning to experiment with things like flipped classrooms (this is when you watch the lecture ahead of time and then you come to class to do more interactive discussion and sometimes practical based activities). With Covid there has been a huge amount of learning about new approaches to teaching.

The second silver lining is that our universities have rediscovered the communities of which they are a part. So our universities will be much more engaged with their place. In Aotearoa that means that our universities will be more Indigenous, more civic, and more engaged. I think all of those are really good things.

Third silver lining, and I am guilty as anyone else here: too many academics were doing too much international travel which was not good for us and not good for the planet. Covid has done wonders for our carbon footprint. Universities are rapidly learning what you need to be face for, and what can be done and delivered in other ways.

I think it will be very interesting to look back in three to five years' time to see what have become the enduring shifts in what we do and how we do it. What has become permanent and what bad habits did we slide back into once the immediacy of the pandemic was over.

Thank you so much Wendy, do you have any final comments?

Fulbright was transformative for me. My experience at the University of Wisconsin working with Jamie Peck put me on an international disciplinary map in a way that I hadn't been previously. There is no question about the quality of the academic research done here in Aotearoa, but many people don't think about New Zealand when they do their global scan for collaborators and interlocutors. That's what Fulbright does for those lucky enough to have this experience; it provides international exposure in ways that for me were hugely affirming and changed the career I might have had otherwise.



OUTREACH

Every year members of the Fulbright team head out on the road visiting all the major universities with our Outreach tour. Outreach gives us the chance to talk directly to potential Fulbrighters about the extraordinary opportunities available to them on a Fulbright award. From May 4th to 27th, Executive Director Penelope Borland and Programme Managers Pip Climo and Magnolia Wilson caught up with faculty, students and alumni, including our wonderful Campus Advisors at each university.

A very special thank you to the Vice Chancellors and heads of Graduate Studies who introduced each Outreach session and to all the other university staff members who helped organise each event and who made us feel so welcome on campus.

If you'd like to find out more about our Outreach programme or would like to book a time for us to visit your organisation next year, please email comms@fulbright.org.nz

MID-YEAR PROGRAMME

Mid-Year Programme is a three-day event held every year where the new cohort of Fulbright grantees get a chance to meet one another and learn more about being a Fulbrighter. It's a full programme and the grantees are kept busy throughout.

CAREERS EXPO AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Fulbright Events and Alumni Advisor Sarita Magan and Senior Communications Advisor Therese Lloyd spent an enjoyable and rewarding day at the Careers Expos at Victoria University of Wellington meeting and chatting with a raft of potential new Fulbrighters.

GOOD WORKS

Fulbright NZ Good Works is always one of the highlights of the month where we get to learn about the ongoing good work of Fulbright NZ and US alumni. In May we hosted journalist Matt Nippert who gave a fascinating talk on some recent investigative pieces he's worked on, including his award-winning piece "The Tax Gap". In June Olivia Truax gave a brilliantly in-depth presentation on climate related changes to the Antarctic Ice Sheets and what that means for Aotearoa; and in August we hosted Fulbright and Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga academics in an illuminating discussion to celebrate International Indigenous Peoples Day.

If you missed seeing any of these talks, they are all available to view on the Fulbright NZ Youtube channel.

RESEARCHERS REVEAL NEW SUICIDE PREVENTION TOOLS FROM SURVIVORS

Bonnie Scarth was a Fulbright NZ General Graduate awardee in 2015. She researched suicidology at Cornell University in New York State, towards a PhD at the Centre for Science Communication at the University of Otago.

Written by Joshua A. Krisch and reprinted with permission.

In suicide research, lessons from survivors – people who, despite the urge to die, find ways to cope and reasons to live – are seldom heard. Cornell researchers and their colleagues have written one of the first studies to change that.

“Strategies to Stay Alive: Adaptive Toolboxes for Living Well with Suicidal Behavior,” published July 29 in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. In the study, the authors present a series of interviews with suicidal individuals that opens new avenues of research into suicide prevention and offers a rare window into the minds of those who have considered or attempted suicide.

“I find it ironic that suicide, a most personal decision and the ultimate existential trajectory, should be generalized,” said Vilma Santiago-Irizarry, a co-author on the study and associate professor of anthropology and Latina/o studies in the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S). “A goal of research in this field should be to capture the voices of those who are enmeshed in difficult situations and to determine what they themselves have to tell us.”

“We wanted to know what strategies have helped people live, and live well, through chronic suicidal behavior,” said lead author Bonnie Scarth, a former Fulbright scholar in Cornell’s Department of Anthropology (A&S). “I believe this question is central to successful suicide prevention.”

For the study, Scarth conducted open-ended interviews with 17 people in the Ithaca area. Each interviewee described a similar journey: fighting the temptation to end their lives, contending with periods of ambivalence (not caring whether they

lived or died) and accepting suicidal ideation as part of their lives. Hope figured largely into their decisions to set aside thoughts of suicide.

When asked to describe their coping strategies, participants surprised the researchers by offering a number of methods that are deemphasized or altogether absent from conventional studies.

For example, having pets was key for many participants, which isn’t discussed in the literature, Scarth said. Other unconventional strategies included meditation, spiritual practices and engaging with the arts. On the policy level, one participant said bridge barriers helped by reminding her that the community cares. Another said that the legal recognition of same-sex marriage had given him reason to live.

“Until then, I had been thinking of suicide prevention in a somewhat individualized sense,” said Scarth, now a suicide prevention coordinator with WellSouth Primary Health Network, New Zealand. “These responses struck me about the profound, far-reaching impact of laws and policies that may have nothing specific to do with suicide prevention per se, but can make a positive difference.”

A recurring theme throughout the interviews was the importance of peer support and storytelling.

“Hearing other people with similar kinds of symptoms, and how it works out for them, and their stories, is very powerful,” one participant said. Another recalled the catharsis of discussing her chronic depression with a kindred spirit while



training to become a peer specialist.

Peer support is still considered outside the bounds of mainstream suicide prevention, as are many of the coping mechanisms recommended by participants in the study.

Scarth hopes her work will inspire follow-up studies that explore and improve upon methods that, like peer support, have garnered scant attention from researchers but remain useful to suicide survivors.

When it comes to preventing suicide – a leading cause of death that, despite decades of prevention research, still claims 700,000 lives each year, worldwide – novel approaches cannot come soon enough.

“The current resurgence of suicide, especially among younger age groups, begs for ethnography’s fine-grained approach for us to understand it,” Santiago-Irizarry said.

Other co-authors of the study are Jesse M. Bering, University of Otago, New Zealand; Ian Marsh, Canterbury Christ Church University, New Zealand; and Karl Andriessen, the University of Melbourne, Australia.

FAREWELL PIP CLIMO

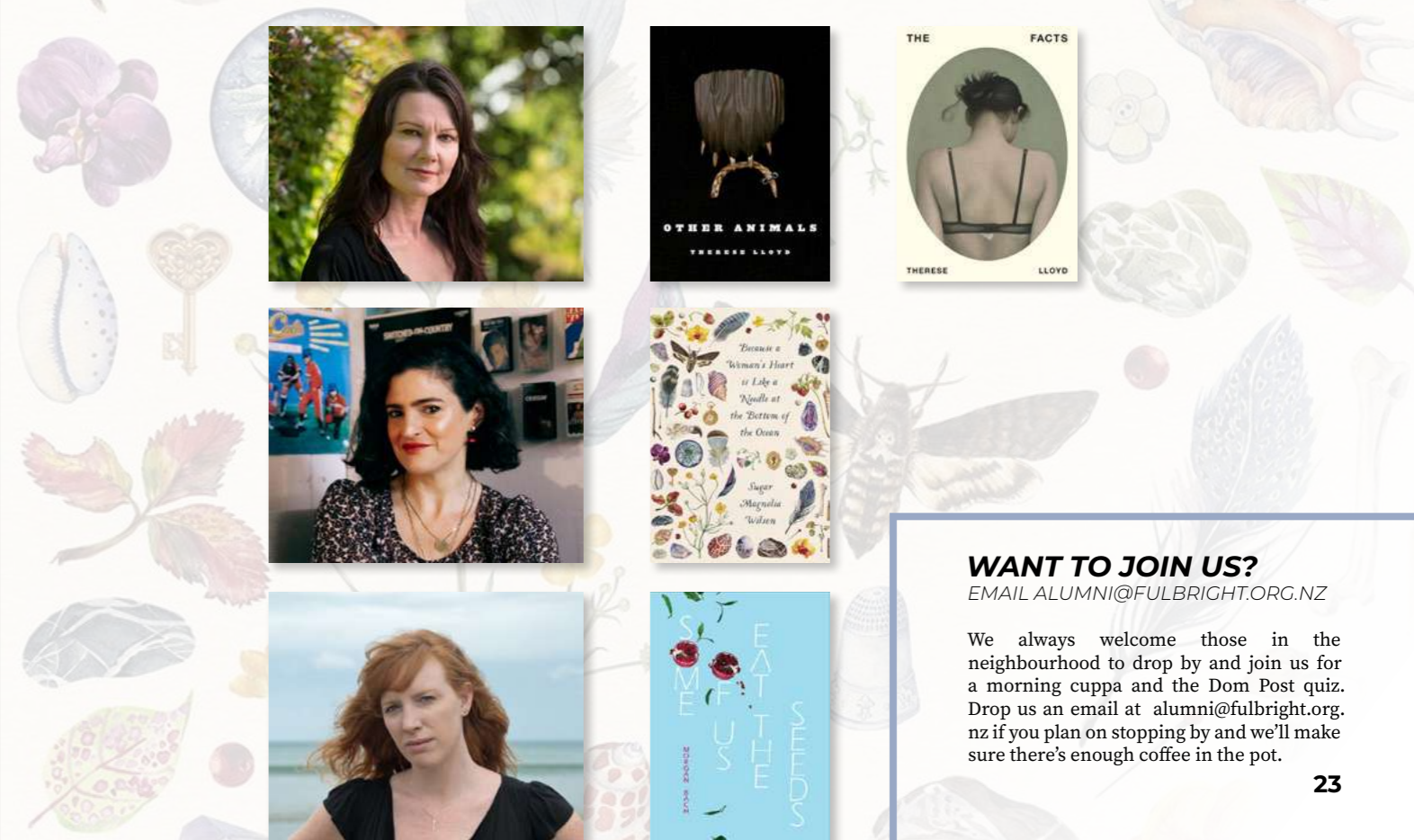
Pip Climo has been at Fulbright NZ for over 5 years and during that time she has worked tirelessly to ensure that all the Fulbright grantees she looks after get the best possible information, advice and support. She has always gone above and beyond for her grantees and her colleagues, and we will miss her terribly! We wish her all the best in her new role at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. They are lucky to have you!



WELCOME MORGAN BACH

Morgan Bach is the new addition to the Fulbright NZ whanau taking over the role of Programme Manager. Morgan has an extensive background in scholarships and educational programme management having worked as Assistant Department Business Manager for the Department of Politics and International Relations at Goldsmiths, University of London, and as Coordinator for the College Research Team at the University of the Arts London.

Morgan is also a published poet and is currently working on her second collection of poetry. In a bizarre twist of fate, Fulbright NZ now boasts three poets on its staff. We're not sure what this means exactly but expect some lyrical flourishes!



WANT TO JOIN US?

EMAIL ALUMNI@FULBRIGHT.ORG.NZ

We always welcome those in the neighbourhood to drop by and join us for a morning cuppa and the Dom Post quiz. Drop us an email at alumni@fulbright.org.nz if you plan on stopping by and we'll make sure there's enough coffee in the pot.



LYDIA WEVERS

The team at Fulbright NZ were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Emeritus Professor Lydia Wevers. Lydia was a literary critic, editor and writer, and a wonderful friend to Fulbright NZ.

In 2010, Lydia was a Fulbright NZ Visiting Scholar to Georgetown University, Washington DC. She recalled her memories of this time fondly in a heartfelt speech she gave as keynote speaker at our 70th anniversary event in 2018 saying, “There are so many rich intersections between our nations, and I will always be grateful to Fulbright which helped me to see them.”

Her contribution to New Zealand letters was exceptional, and we will miss her wit, wisdom, and insight.



Fulbright NZ Good Works is an ongoing series of monthly seminars presented by Fulbright alumni on a wide variety of topics.

If you would like to be a presenter or find out more, please email comms@fulbright.org.nz.



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1 August annually
1 August annually
1 August annually
1 August and 1 April annually
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1 October annually
1 October annually
9 October annually
14 October annually
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15 March annually
By appointment only

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