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East Asia and Pacific region Fulbright Executive Directors **David Satterwhite** (Japan), **Mele Wendt** (New Zealand), **Jim Coffman** (Malaysia), **Mike McCoy** (Indonesia), **Shim Jai-Ok** (Korea), **Porntip Kanjananaiyot** (Thailand), **Joe Hlubucek** (Australia) and **Wu Jing-Jyi** (Taiwan) in Auckland

Regional Fulbright EDs meet in Auckland

Executive Directors from eight of the East Asia and Pacific region's Fulbright commissions met in Auckland in March to discuss best practices, new initiatives, issues and challenges of Fulbright programmes across the region. The annual meeting, hosting of which is shared between Fulbright commissions throughout the region, offers a unique opportunity for sharing and collaboration across the region.

The meeting began at the US Consulate General with a digital video conference between the group of Executive Directors and key representatives of the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, who administer Fulbright and other US government-funded international exchange programmes globally. The Executive Directors were updated on the changes to the US government administration and implications of the economic downturn as well as administrative aspects of Fulbright awards and policies.

On the second day of the meeting, held at the University of Auckland Business School, the Executive Directors shared ideas about prospects for collaboration between Fulbright scholars throughout the region, celebration of commission anniversaries, and participation in "centrally-funded" programmes such as the International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards in which some countries including New Zealand have had great success.

Numerous recommendations arose from the meeting including that core commission staff be offered the opportunity to visit the US to network with key contacts there and undergo training workshops relevant to their roles.

As part of the programme, participants and their families were treated to a sight-seeing tour around Auckland, were hosted for a reception at the home of Fulbright New Zealand Chairperson Barbara Johnson along with current American grantees and New Zealand alumni, and farewelled Fulbright Taiwan Executive Director Wu Jing-Jyi (who is retiring after 32 years) during a dinner in the Auckland Sky Tower's revolving restaurant.

Next year a larger East Asia and Pacific Regional Fulbright Conference will be held in Japan in place of the Executive Directors meeting, involving additional countries from the region whose Fulbright programmes are administered by embassies rather than stand-alone commissions, and a greater number of staff from each country. ►



Retiring Fulbright Taiwan Executive Director **Wu Jing-Jyi** is offered a farewell gift by his Japanese counterpart **David Satterwhite** on behalf of his colleagues throughout the region

Editorial



Mele Wendt, Executive Director

From the desk of the Executive Director

Kia ora koutou, talofa lava and warm Fulbright greetings.

As everyone knows, the world is currently going through an economic downturn or recession, there is rising unemployment and we can't escape hearing or reading about this every way we turn. New Zealand's Prime Minister, John Key, at his Job Summit on 27 February said, "The world is experiencing the most dramatic economic downturn we have seen in our lifetimes." I was very fortunate to be part of that event which brought 200 people together from various sectors around New Zealand to discuss practical solutions to maintain the highest possible levels of employment as we weather the downturn.

During times of rising unemployment many people turn to further study and training in higher education. Yesterday I read that there has been an increase in enrolments at New Zealand universities this year, and in February *University World News* ran an article with the headline "US university enrolment and application numbers soar". Amongst a raft of negative realities in bad economic times, I think it is a very positive reality that numbers in higher education increase as people use the opportunity to professionally develop themselves further, get training in a new career perhaps or gain higher qualifications for promotion. There are long-term benefits not only for the individual but also for their country, the more skilled a population becomes.

Of course this further study does not need to occur in their own country! The Fulbright exchange programme

not only gives people positive academic opportunities in another country, but it also enables wonderful experiences getting to know another country and its people. In fact one could argue that it is at times of hardship, like this, where we need exchange programmes like Fulbright even more. Participants are able to improve themselves academically/professionally and improve their understanding of other cultures. They come back better qualified (which is better for the nation) and more open-minded and accepting of difference (which is also better for the nation!).

It was my pleasure hosting the Fulbright East Asia and Pacific Executive Directors meeting in Auckland in late March. It reminded me that our office is one small part of this larger, amazing programme which has wonderful people working for/in it, and also that we share the same problems and pleasures.

In the next few months we have a very busy but exciting schedule of activities – Outreach Tour, alumni receptions, report-back seminars, my annual US trip, mid-year programme for Fulbright students, Fulbright-Hays Seminar Aboard group visit, and more. I look forward to seeing some of you at these events. Please keep in touch with us, especially if you have changed contact details recently. Also please encourage people you know to consider applying for a Fulbright award.

Warm regards, kia kaha,

Fulbright News



David Taylor

Changes in Board membership

Fulbright New Zealand's Board of Directors has welcomed one new New Zealand member and is awaiting appointment of three others to fill vacancies arising from recent departures.

David Taylor became an ex-officio member of the Board when he took up the role of Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Americas Division in October 2008. He was previously Director of the Ministry's Asia Division and before that was New Zealand's Ambassador to South Korea from 2002-2006, with accreditation to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. He has been New Zealand's chief negotiator for climate change and a range of other environment issues and has also had diplomatic assignments in Kuala Lumpur, Washington DC and Suva.

Currently pending are additional appointments of three New Zealand Board Members by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon Murray McCully, who acts as Honorary Chairperson of Fulbright New Zealand. The three new Board members will replace former Chairperson Ruth Harley who moved to Australia in November, and Charles Royal and Jock Phillips who both resigned from the Board in recent months.

Jock Phillips was farewelled from the Board at its March meeting, having served the Board since September 1996. During his tenure on the Board Jock served as Chairperson (1997-2000) and Treasurer (2000-2007), and recently chaired the steering committee for Fulbright New Zealand's highly successful 60th anniversary activities last year. A Fulbright New Zealand

Research Scholar from 1978, Jock will continue his long relationship with the Fulbright programme by remaining on the selection committee for Fulbright awards.

Charles Royal was farewelled at a lunch with Fulbright New Zealand Board Chairperson Barbara Johnson and Executive Director Mele Wendt in February. Also a Fulbright alumnus (2001 Fulbright New Zealand Research Scholar), Charles served the Board for three years, offering a valuable Māori perspective and assisting with numerous award selections. ►



Fulbright New Zealand Chairperson Barbara Johnson reads from a US Department of State certificate acknowledging Jock Phillips' outstanding twelve year contribution to the Board

Fulbright-Hays teachers to visit New Zealand

A study group of American elementary school teachers will visit New Zealand in July on the US Department of Education's Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad programme, which last came to New Zealand in 2004.

On this year's programme a group of 16 teachers will visit first New Zealand and then Mongolia on a six week, two country seminar on the theme of 'A Day in the Life of - Exploring the Origins of Communities'. Participants will examine differences and similarities between life in these two contrasting countries to find out how societies are affected by factors such as geography, climate, culture and history, and how communities develop and sustain themselves over time.

The seminar will combine visits to rural and urban

communities, archaeological sites, schools and museums in both countries, with lectures on different topics. In New Zealand the tour will visit sites of historical, cultural and geographical significance throughout the country as well as schools in several cities. The two week New Zealand tour is a partnership between Odyssey Travel and Fulbright New Zealand.

Participants will prepare a teaching project for American students based on a renewed understanding of universal concepts of society, community and daily life and distinctive qualities influenced by geography, climate, culture and history. As a result of their exchange they will be able to expand and improve their teaching of social sciences and the humanities once they return to their home schools in the US. ►

Important Dates

May

Fulbright New Zealand Outreach Tour 2009

Various New Zealand campuses - see www.fulbright.org.nz for full dates and details

Fulbright New Zealand alumni receptions:

- 4 **Palmerston North** - 5:30-7:00pm, *The Brewer's Apprentice*. Email leigh_parker@orcon.net.nz to register
- 11 **Dunedin** - 5:30-7:00pm, *The Duke of Wellington*. Email lynley@lynleyhood.org to register
- 13 **Christchurch** - 5:30-7:00pm, *University of Canterbury Staff Club*. Email clought@lincoln.ac.nz to register
- 20 **Hamilton** - 12:00-1:30pm, *University of Waikato (Venue TBC)*. Email brauns@xtra.co.nz to register

Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice Report-back Seminars:

Rhema Vaithianathan - The Distributional Consequences of Health Care Cost Growth

- 22 12:30-1:30pm, *Rolleston Lecture Theatre, University of Otago Christchurch School of Medicine & Health Sciences, 2 Riccarton Avenue, Addington*
 - 27 12:30-1:30pm, *Function Room 220, School of Population Health, University of Auckland Tamaki Campus, Morrin Road, Glen Innes*
- 28 **Fulbright New Zealand alumni reception - Los Angeles**
New Zealand Consular General's Residence, 154 South Rockingham Ave, Brentwood, Los Angeles, CA 90049
 RSVPs essential to info@fulbright.org.nz / +64 4 472 2065 by Friday 15 May

June

- 2 **Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards** applications close
- Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies** applications close
- 3 **Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice Report-back Seminar** (as above)
 12:00-1:00pm, *Level D, University of Otago Wellington School of Medicine & Health Sciences, 23a Mein Street, Newtown*
- 5 **Ian Axford Fellowships/Fulbright New Zealand alumni reception - Washington, DC**
New Zealand Ambassador's Residence, 27 Observatory Circle NW, Washington, DC 20009
 RSVPs essential to info@fulbright.org.nz / +64 4 472 2065 by Friday 15 May
- 24 **Fulbright New Zealand Awards Ceremony and alumni reception - Wellington**
 5:30-7:30pm, *The Beehive Banquet Hall, Parliament Buildings, Wellington*
 RSVPs essential to info@fulbright.org.nz / (04) 472 2065
- 30 **Fulbright New Zealand alumni reception - Auckland**
 5:30-7:30pm, *Rannoch, 77 Almorah Road, Epsom, Auckland*
 RSVPs essential to info@fulbright.org.nz / (04) 472 2065

July

- 1 **Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards** applications close
- Fulbright Specialist Awards** applications close
- Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy Report-back Seminars:**
- 28 Robyn Dupuis - Promoting the Importance of Financial Literacy: A Critical Factor in Achieving Personal Financial Wellbeing for New Zealanders
- 29 Alexandra Bonardi - Risk Management in New Zealand Intellectual Disability Services: Balancing Control and Autonomy
- 31 Paul Goren - Documenting the Implementation of *Ka Hikitia - Managing for Success: The Māori Education Strategy 2008-2012*
 1:00-2:00pm, *Te Waahi Kōrero Room, State Services Commission, Level 5, 100 Molesworth Street, Wellington*
 Register online at www.ipanz.org.nz

August

- 1 **Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship** applications due
- Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science & Technology Graduate Awards** applications due
- Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research** applications due
- Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards** applications due
- Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards** applications due

See www.fulbright.org.nz or contact the Fulbright New Zealand office for more details

Alumni News



Graham Cochrane

Alumni Association update

Kia ora *Fulbright Quarterly* readers,

Having celebrated Fulbright New Zealand's 60th anniversary in 2008, New Zealand has one of the oldest Fulbright programmes without a formal alumni group. Work is now underway to establish the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association (FNZAA) that will be formally launched at Fulbright New Zealand's parliamentary awards ceremony on 24 June 2009.

The FNZAA will connect alumni with each other, support current Fulbright grantees and the mission of Fulbright New Zealand, and raise awareness of the aims of the Fulbright programme. A central steering group and six regional groups around New Zealand have already been established and work is underway on a long-term plan and constitution.

A major initial task will be to equip the new FNZAA with the means to collect, update and share contact details with the agreement of individual members. An up-to-date database will be crucial to maximising engagement, event attendance and providing information. A concerted project to contact all alumni and gain the necessary information and authorities to establish a shared alumni database is planned for later in 2009 and all alumni will be invited to become members of the FNZAA.

Alumni functions and events in the regions are already happening and more are planned for 2009. A gathering

of alumni has been held in Palmerston North. A very successful Sunday afternoon tea was held at Te Papa Café to welcome the new Wellington-based US grantees and their families. This was an opportunity to meet the grantees and other alumni with their partners and families and to develop relationships both professionally and personally. There will be further alumni functions in Hamilton, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Dunedin during Fulbright New Zealand's annual nationwide Outreach Tour in May to which all alumni are warmly invited (see Page 3 of this newsletter for details).

We look forward to your support and sharing the Fulbright spirit through the FNZAA. Membership of the FNZAA will provide a positive means for Fulbrighters to "give back" to the Fulbright Programme, contribute to the ongoing enrichment and support of current grantees and to continue their own professional and personal growth through access to a strong alumni network.

Please keep providing us with feedback while we continue working on this interesting and exciting project.

Graham Cochrane

Chair, FNZAA Steering Group

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In Brief



Elizabeth Forbes, 2006

Grantee and Alumni News

Fulbright alumna **Dr Selina Tusitala Marsh** (1995 NZ Graduate Student) published her first poetry collection, *Fast Talking PI* (Auckland University Press), in March. The book, which contains poems about Selina's life, family, community, ancestry, influences and history, comes with a CD of recorded poetry readings and has earned her the tag of "sassy hip-hop streetwise Samoan siren of South Pacific poetry" from fellow writer and Fulbright alum **Professor Witi Ihimaera** (2005 NZ Travel Award).

Fulbright alumna **Dr Elizabeth Forbes** (2006 NZ Graduate Student) was one of a dozen young New Zealand researchers awarded Postdoctoral Fellowships by the Foundation for Research Science and Technology in March, to support her research into food allergies at Victoria University of Wellington's Malaghan Institute of Medical Research. The Foundation's fellowships, valued at up to \$277,500 over three years, are designed to foster the development of New Zealand's emerging and future science leaders and build greater research capability and knowledge.

Fulbright alumna **Professor Joyce VanTassel-Baska** (2000 Distinguished American Scholar) was farewelled from The College of William & Mary in March with a "festschrift" celebrating her lifetime contribution to the field of gifted education. The day-long event featured panel discussions on various areas of research into gifted education, with participating experts also contributing to a book published to mark the occasion entitled *Leading Change in Gifted Education*. Joyce will retire this summer after 22 years at William & Mary, latterly as Professor of Education and Executive Director of the college's Center for Gifted Education.

Fulbright alumnus **Dr Adam Claasen** (2005 NZ Visiting Lecturer) was recognised with an Award for Teaching Excellence by the Vice-Chancellor of Massey University in March, for his sustained commitment to teaching excellence. Adam is a Senior Lecturer in History at the university's Albany campus, where he also serves as a Fulbright Campus Adviser to inform students and staff about exchange opportunities on the Fulbright programme.

A current Fulbright grantee and a Fulbright alumnus both received Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships from the Tertiary Education Commission in April to support their PhD research. **William Kelton** received a Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Award in 2008 to research bioresponsive polymers and drug delivery techniques at the University of Austin, Texas. The Top Achiever scholarship provides \$153,915 for 36 months continuation of his PhD research at the American university. New Zealand-based American Fulbright alumnus **Ritesh Shah** (2004 US Graduate Student) also received funding in the same Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships round - a grant of \$98,633 towards his PhD research into teachers' experiences in post-conflict Timor-Leste. ➤

In Memoriam

We are saddened by the recent passing of the following alumni:

Eamon Daly, 1997 New Zealand Graduate Student
Ian Prior, 1957 New Zealand Research Scholar
Frederick Reeve, 1952 New Zealand Graduate Student

Land of myths and opportunities

Professor Michael Elmes was a 2005 Fulbright US Senior Scholar at Victoria University of Wellington, where he researched constructions of nature in the narratives of biotechnology stakeholders in New Zealand. Currently involved in establishing an ongoing exchange programme for students of Worcester Polytechnic Institute to visit New Zealand, Michael takes time to reflect on his exchange research.

In January of 2005 I had the opportunity to come to New Zealand for six months and investigate public perceptions and attitudes toward genetic engineering. Coming from the United States where genetic engineering was common and genetically-engineered products were readily available and consumed with little in the way of public debate, it was interesting to witness the passion with which various stakeholders argued about the technology. I met environmentalists who opposed the technology vehemently, arguing that it risked destroying New Zealand's unique flora and fauna and contaminating important genetic legacies. I met government officials who saw the potential economic advantages of genetic engineering for a New Zealand economy based on high value-added products, yet who understood the thorny social and ethical aspects of the issue as well. And I met plant scientists and farm support organizations who contended that genetic engineering was no different from other hybridization techniques (such as the traditional use of chemical agents), who were quite confident in the farming community's ability to manage the design, development, and containment of transgenic technologies, and who contended that more natural or organic forms of farming were often as toxic as more traditional, industrial farming methods.

The range in points of view and perspectives on this contentious issue was not surprising to me; what did surprise me, however, was how some of the small farmers that I interviewed seemed to take a position that straddled the GE debate. On one hand, they wanted to have access to technologies that in the future might enable them to sell products in a competitive global economy from which they were not protected (by, for example, government farm supports); on the other hand, they expressed the desire to be good stewards of their land and to avoid introducing technologies or farming practices that could have had negative long-term consequences. It was in talking to these farmers that I began to think about the Royal Commission's rationale of "preserving opportunities" in permitting the development of transgenic technology in New Zealand in spite of over 10,000 submissions most of which opposed the technology. It led me to think about the power of cultural myths that quietly and invisibly guide decision-making on many of the most controversial issues in a society.

When I say cultural myths I am talking about belief systems rooted in historical events that guide how people in a given group or society make sense of complex phenomena and make decisions with regard to those phenomena. Often cultural myths are founded on beliefs that people take for granted and seem commonsensical yet which have served the interests of powerful stakeholders. In New Zealand, for example, I found some evidence for a "purity myth", often characterized in New Zealand as "clean and green." While this myth has some grounding in reality (New Zealand in most ways really is a beautiful,

green country), it hides many of the environmental mishaps that have occurred over the past 100+ years and serves the economic interests of stakeholders (like tourism and agricultural export industries) who benefit significantly from the label. There is also what I have called, the "practicality myth", which emphasizes the role of Kiwi resourcefulness, innovativeness, and pragmatism in helping New Zealand survive in the face of its historically isolated and economically vulnerable place in the world. This myth serves the interests of many economic policy makers and farming organizations by providing a compelling economic rationale why, for example, industrial farming methods were necessary during the 1960s and, in the case of genetic engineering, why "preserving opportunities" with a uniquely Kiwi emphasis, made sense for New Zealand facing a 21st century global economy.

In the context of these two powerful cultural myths I began to understand how, despite considerable opposition to genetic engineering, the Royal Commission opted to allow development of the technology. Inherent in the purity myth is a faith that despite ecological mishaps – be they wide-scale burning of native bush, the introduction of exotic species like possums, weasels and stoats, or the accidental release of a "superweed" in the future – the land will remain beautiful, natural and green. Inherent in the practicality myth is a belief that New Zealand is economically vulnerable and that through Kiwi resourcefulness and innovativeness, the country can identify niche products and markets for unique transgenic technologies and be a player in the high-technology game of genetic engineering. In talking to scientists, farmers, and members of farm support organizations, I became aware of the confidence with which they believed they can manage the ecological or food safety concerns that have made the technology so contentious.

That was 2005 and I have moved on to other business and organizationally-related research topics since then. That said, I do wonder how these issues have changed since then, if at all. I would love to return to investigate how these same stakeholders view transgenic technologies now, what arguments they are making now and how they differ from their arguments in 2005, and how in 2009 public debate in the context of cultural myth has influenced public policy related to transgenic technologies in agriculture for New Zealand.

On a personal note, since 2005 I have returned to New Zealand twice – once to speak at a biotechnology conference and another time to teach an MBA course at Victoria University of Wellington. In addition to my research and teaching endeavors at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), right now I am advising a team of students who are investigating the feasibility of setting up a permanent WPI Interactive Qualifying Project center in Wellington. If my university decides to create a center there, I would become the director and each year, beginning in 2010 or 2011, two WPI faculty would bring 24-28 students (in teams of four) to work on 6-7 projects at various agencies and not-for-profit organizations in and around Wellington. For more information on our project program, please go to www.wpi.edu/Academics/Depts/IGSD/iqp.html Hopefully, my family and I will have many more visits to New Zealand, a place for which we have enormous affinity, many friends, and wonderful memories. ►

Alumni Voice



Michael Elmes

"Coming from the United States where genetic engineering was common... it was interesting to witness the passion with which various stakeholders argued about the technology."

Grantee Voice



Luke Di Somma

"Aside from occasionally feeling like a sardine in the massive tin that is Time Square, I love New York, and I especially love studying musical theatre writing in New York."

At home amongst the bright lights of Broadway

Luke Di Somma from Christchurch received a 2008 Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Award to complete a Master of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theatre Writing, specialising in composition of musical theatre and opera, at New York University.

Being a writing student in any city means fairly regular trips to your local coffee shop. In New York this is called Starbucks. While at my local a few days back I was distracted by two New Yorkers who were complaining about a guy next to them who had been muttering obscenities under his breath and disturbing the peace. Seemingly unaware that he was in fact doing the same thing, one of the two gesticulated wildly and exclaimed "You have to pull a knife on someone to get attention in New York City."

In one moment the spirit of New York was captured. The only thing more common than weird people making a scene is people complaining about weird people making a scene. Such is the drive in this city; the drive to be noticed, the drive not to be homeless, the drive to succeed, the drive to keep your job, and the drive to get my work done and sip my latte in peace.

This is the love/hate relationship people have with New York. Thankfully, from my end it's all love. Aside from occasionally feeling like a sardine in the massive tin that is Time Square, I love New York, and I especially love studying musical theatre writing in New York.

I am coming to the end of my first year as a composer at the Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Programme at the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. It is an MFA programme where composers collaborate with lyricists and book-writers to write original musical theatre and opera. The first year has been an incredibly busy, productive, challenging and joyous experience where we have each worked with around 16 different writing partners to produce over 40 songs. We also write short plays, and attend a whole variety of classes including musical theatre history, show structure, and 'the life of an artist' amongst others.

Studying musical theatre in New York is akin to studying political science in Washington, DC - the subject and the city are inextricably linked. New York has a throbbing and pulsing theatrical heart; obviously it's home to the bright lights of Broadway - the 39 theatres which comprise the world's most famous theatre district. However Broadway is only the tip of the iceberg, there are thousands of theatres and performance spaces all over city. New York is home to writers writing until 4am; actors waiting tables and auditioning all day; and directors producing shows in dingy basements in the East Village.

Throughout the year we have been lucky to have various high profile guests come and speak to us. These include many leading producers and administrators in the Broadway world, an historian who was friends with Ira and George Gershwin, Lin Manuel Miranda the composer/lyricist of the Tony Award winning musical *In The Heights*, and Elton John, who as well as a glittering pop career has written several Broadway musicals including *The Lion King*, *Aida* and currently *Billy Elliot*. We are often given free tickets to shows, an egregious misuse of our precious time.

It's a thoroughly stimulating environment. New York is a great city for a writer. It's not just the inspiration

gleaned from Broadway, the Metropolitan Opera or the New York Philharmonic, but the whole place. There are characters everywhere in New York. From crazy drugged up homeless people to WASPish Manhattan elites; Wall Street tycoons to snooty women in Starbucks, everyone is a character with a story, and story telling is the business we writers are in.

One of our guest teachers told us that the MFA is the new MBA. Now while our teacher may have had tongue in cheek, and friends of mine doing MBAs at Harvard may scoff at the comparison, the MFA does teach us to work collaboratively, to find creative solutions to problems, to learn to accept constructive criticism, to use both sides of our brain and to negotiate and find middle ground. These are skills for life which go beyond the arts.

Needless to say it is an honour to be a Fulbrighter, but I am especially proud to be in, and be an advocate for, the performing arts. Next week I am going to a production by New Zealand playwright and Fulbright scholar Susana Lei'ataua with music by fellow New Zealand Fulbrighter Gareth Farr. It will be inspiring to see the work of these two artists who saw studying in the US as a chance to find their voice, to tell their stories and to make their art their life. New Zealand has a rich history of international success in the arts, and learning in this wonderful animal of a city is giving me my chance to follow in Susana and Gareth's footsteps. I'm looking forward to catching up with them and the other New Zealanders in attendance. It should be excellent company, or at the very least, the chance for a latte in peace. ►



Luke Di Somma soaking up life in New York

Awarded

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

Dee Boersma from the University of Washington will research and lecture about natural history filmmaking at the University of Otago.

John Preston from Washington State University will lecture about American foreign and security policy at Victoria University of Wellington.

Howard Schiffman from New York University will research the development of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation at the University of Waikato.

Halaevalu Vakalahi from George Mason University will research grandparenting among Pacific Islanders in New Zealand at Massey University Palmerston North.

Fulbright Specialist Awards

The University of Waikato will host Doug Engelbart from the Doug Engelbart Institute, who will give presentations throughout New Zealand about the history and future of computer science. ►

University

Hiten Mulchandani - MS and PhD, aeronautics and astronautics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Monique Ryan - MS, computer science, Stanford University

Damian Scarf - PhD research, animal psychology, Columbia University

Dmitri Schebarchov - PhD research, physics, University of California

Jethro van Ekeren - PhD, mathematics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Awards in Natural Disaster Research

Geoff Rodgers - PhD research, mechanical engineering, Texas A&M University

Aaron Wilson - PhD research, civil and environmental engineering, Drexel University

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

Luke Di Somma - MFA, musical theatre writing, New York University

Bethany Edmunds - MA, visual culture, New York University

Olivia Kember - MA, security studies, Columbia University

Jessica Kerr - LLM, judicial role in public/private law, Yale University

Simon Thode - PhD, history, Johns Hopkins University

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

Courtney-Savali Andrews - PhD, Pacific studies, University of Auckland

Jill Bender - research, history, Victoria University of Wellington

Evan Bredeweg - research, zoology, Victoria University of Wellington

Michelle Cook - MMPD, development studies, University of Waikato

Dawson Dunning - documentary film, wildlife conservation, Victoria University of Wellington

Barry Fischer - research, energy, Massey University Wellington

Micah Kawaguchi-Ailetcher - MA, film, television and media studies, University of Auckland

Chris Lemon - BSc (Hons), chemistry, University of Auckland

Keoni Mahelona - MSc, physics, Victoria University of Wellington

Ivy McDaniels - MA, English literature, Victoria University of Wellington

Michel Ohmer - MSc, zoology, University of Otago

Megan Ortega - MSc, geology, University of Otago

Lauren Szathmary - research, marine science, University of Otago

Fulbright-mtvU Fellowship

Ainsley Breault - video documentaries, Māori music, AUT University

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program

April Strickland - research, Māori television and video, University of Auckland

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Tina Barton - networking, university art galleries and curatorial studies programmes, New York

Shirley Bell - seminars, settler and indigenous co-existence in New Zealand, several US universities

Dianne Brunton - research, bird migration/mortality, Environment for the Americas/University of California, Berkeley

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

Marcia Bjornerud - research, geology, University of Otago

Eric Grosfils - research, geology, University of Auckland

Kimberly Hughes - research, genetics, University of Otago

Christina Hulbe - research, geology, University of Otago

Nancy Rottle - research, urban planning, Lincoln University

Jacqueline Shea Murphy - research, performing arts, University of Auckland

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

Alixé Bonardi - research, intellectual disability services, Ministry of Health

Robyn Dupuis - research, financial literacy education, Retirement Commission

Paul Goren - research, Māori education strategy, Ministry of Education

Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy

Robin Gauld - research, reduction of clinical performance variations, Boston University/Massachusetts General Hospital ►

For further information about many of the current grantees listed above, see our 2008 Grantees Booklet or February 2009 *Fulbright Quarterly*, both of which are available to download from www.fulbright.org.nz

Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals:

Fulbright Specialist Awards

The University of Waikato is hosting Philip Gardner from Michigan State University, who is assisting with development of cooperative education programmes at tertiary education providers. Philip arrived in April. ►

Departures:

Fulbright-Cognition Education Research Scholar Award in Education Research

Jenny Horsley from Victoria University of Wellington will research American models for increasing representation of ethnic minorities in gifted children programmes at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. Jenny departs in June.

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies

Jon Johansson from Victoria University of Wellington will research US constitutional debates and teach a course in New Zealand studies at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for their Fall 2009 semester. Jon departs in July.

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Jim Dennison and Leanne Williams from Martinborough will demonstrate the use of royal icing for modelling and glass casting at the Glass Art Society's 39th annual conference in Corning, New York. Jim and Leanne depart in June. ►

Current Grantees

International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

Alana Alexander - PhD, wildlife, Oregon State University

Irene Ballagh - PhD, neuroscience, Columbia University

Wynton Moore - PhD, physics, University of Chicago

Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

Alex Dunayev - MBA, Stanford University

Fiona Miller - MBA, University of California

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards

Josephine Beck - research, primate vocalisation, Boston University

Adam Forbes - MS, management science and engineering, Stanford University

Rick Henry - PhD research, engineering, Iowa State University

William Kelton - PhD, chemical engineering, University of Texas

Shaun McGirr - PhD, political science, University of Michigan

Josie McVitty - MS, environmental engineering, Harvard University

Rahul Mehta - PhD, electrical engineering, University of Texas

Hiren Mulchandani - MS, material science and engineering, Stanford

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Awards

Fulbright awards recognise individuals who show academic or professional excellence, leadership potential and the ability to be cultural ambassadors for their country. Fulbright New Zealand offers or administers the following awards and fellowships:

International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

For promising graduate students from around the world to undertake fully-funded PhD study at top US universities in fields of science, technology or engineering. Approximately 40 awards with an estimated value over NZ\$350,000 are offered internationally each year. **Applications close 1 May 2009**

Fulbright-Cognition Education Research Trust Scholar Award in Education Research

For a New Zealand educator or scholar to pursue research in the US designed to have an impact on New Zealand schooling and student achievement, for three to five months. One award valued at up to US\$20,000 (plus travel expenses) is offered each year. **Applications close 1 May 2009**

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in the US for three to five months. A small number of awards valued at up to US\$32,500 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 June 2009**

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies

For New Zealand academics to conduct research and teach New Zealand Studies at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for one or two semesters. Two awards - one per semester - valued at up to US\$32,500 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 June 2009**

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to visit the US for 12 to 90 days in order to present their work to American audiences. Eight to twelve awards valued at up to NZ\$5,000 are offered each year. **Applications close 1 July and 1 November 2009, 1 March 2010**

Fulbright Specialist Awards

For New Zealand academic institutions to host US academics, artists or professionals for two to six week programmes of lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences or symposiums. Approximately six awards valued at up to NZ\$8,400 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 July and 1 November 2009, 1 March 2010**

Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

For a promising New Zealand graduate student in a knowledge economy-related field to complete a Masters degree at a US university and gain professional work experience in the US and New Zealand. One award valued at US\$100,000 (plus travel expenses and a paid internship) is offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2009**

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science & Technology Graduate Awards

For promising New Zealand graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research at US institutions in fields targeted to support growth and innovation in New Zealand. Approximately 10 awards valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2009**

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research

For a promising New Zealand graduate student to undertake postgraduate study or research at a US institution in the field of natural disaster research. One award valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses) is offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2009**

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

For promising New Zealand graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research at US institutions in any field. Approximately eight awards valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2009**

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

For US academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in New Zealand for three to five months. A small number of awards valued at up to NZ\$32,500 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2009**

Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice

For promising New Zealand health policy researchers and practitioners to conduct a policy-orientated research project and work with leading health policy experts in the US for up to 12 months. One or two fellowships valued at up to US\$107,000 are offered each year. **Applications close 20 August 2009**

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

For promising US graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field at New Zealand institutions. Approximately 10 awards valued at up to NZ\$30,000 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 20 October 2009**

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

For outstanding mid-career US professionals to research and gain first-hand experience of public policy in New Zealand for seven months. A small number of fellowships valued at up to NZ\$45,500 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 March 2010**

Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

For a New Zealand writer of Pacific heritage to carry out work on an approved creative writing project exploring Pacific identity, culture or history at the University of Hawai'i for three months. One residency valued at NZ\$30,000 is offered each year. **Applications close 1 April 2010**

For further information and application forms please visit www.fulbright.org.nz/awards or contact Fulbright New Zealand's Programme and Advising Team.