



Inside

- Page 2: Editorial;
American grantees welcomed to New Zealand
- Page 3: Outreach Tour visiting NZ tertiary institutions;
New Coordinator to drive alumni engagement;
Fulbright alumni reflect and share passions
- Page 4: Alumni Association update;
Grantee and Alumni News;
In Memoriam
- Page 5: Developing business opportunities
- Page 6: Awarded;
Arrivals and Departures;
Important Dates
- Page 7: Grantee Voice:
Thank you for the memories,
Fulbright
- Page 8: Awards



John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow **Thomas Friedman** gives the closing Town Hall Talk for the New Zealand International Arts Festival's Writers and Readers Week in Wellington (photo: Robert Catto)

Kennedy Fellow makes impact in New Zealand

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, best-selling author and influential American public thinker Thomas Friedman wowed audiences in Wellington and Auckland during his busy visit to New Zealand in March as a John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow, awarded by Fulbright New Zealand.

Thomas Friedman gave the closing keynote address for the New Zealand International Arts Festival's Writers and Readers Week at the Wellington Town Hall on 14 March, speaking on the theme of his latest book *That Used to be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World It Invented and How We Can Come Back*. An audience of around 1,300 included past and present New Zealand prime ministers, cabinet ministers and ambassadors.

A cocktail reception was held immediately following his Town Hall Talk to formally welcome and recognise Friedman as a John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow, at which Hon Tim Groser, the New Zealand government's Minister of both Trade and Climate Change Issues (two topics regularly discussed in Friedman's *New York Times* column), and Marie Damour, Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy, spoke on behalf of their respective governments.

Friedman's other activities in Wellington included a face-to-face meeting with Minister Groser and a breakfast roundtable meeting hosted by the New Zealand Climate Change Research Institute for 20 different government and non-government representatives.

In Auckland, a dinner was held at Fulbright New Zealand Board Treasurer Mark Fitz-Gerald's residence, attended by Deputy Prime Minister Bill English along with a small number of influential New Zealanders. Friedman spoke again on the decline of America at a free public lecture at AUT University, with over 300 people in attendance.

Thomas Friedman conducted a number of high profile media engagements while in New Zealand, including in-depth interviews with *The Dominion Post* newspaper and for a new TV3 current affairs show. He wrote about New Zealand politics in a *New York Times* column filed from Christchurch, lamenting the destructive polarity in modern American politics while noting that "you could almost fit [New Zealand's] entire political spectrum – from conservatives to liberals – inside the US Democratic Party."

Friedman also holidayed for ten days with his wife, Ann, and hopes to make a return visit in future. "The two audiences I spoke to in Wellington and Auckland were totally engaged and so appreciative. I could not have asked for more," he says. "But everywhere we travelled in New Zealand we found warm welcomes and curious minds. And the golf was to die for!" ➤



Fulbright New Zealand Chairperson Helen Anderson, Marie Damour, Thomas Friedman, and Tim Groser at the welcome reception in Wellington (photo: Ola Thorsen, US Embassy)

Editorial



Mele Wendt, Executive Director

From the desk of the Executive Director

Tēnā koutou, talofa lava and warm Fulbright greetings.

A lot has happened since our last newsletter in February, and the pace increases as the year progresses. Our February orientation went extremely well. A new initiative was a cocktail reception to welcome the American grantees and their families which also enabled them to meet Board members, key stakeholders and a small number of alumni. The overnight homestays were, for the second year running, a successful feature and really enjoyed by grantees and alumni hosts alike.

In late March I attended the East Asia and Pacific (EAP) Regional Executive Director's Meeting in the Philippines. This year it was very beneficial that Matt McMahon, Fulbright EAP Branch Chief at the US State Department, joined us for part of the time. We shared ideas and discussed many issues and topics over the three days, and of course enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship.

Various other events occurred in this period, most notably the visit by Thomas Friedman, outreach visits and a number of other events around the country involving alumni and grantees. If you are an alum of any of our programmes (including non-Fulbright ones) and are not currently engaging with Fulbright New Zealand, the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association or the various activities on offer, please get engaged! There are multiple benefits for doing so which you will enjoy, and we need your support.

In governance matters, long-serving Board members Rob McIntosh (Ministry of Education) and Richard Nelson (US member) were farewelled at the March

Board meeting and thanked for their valuable contributions. Helen Anderson, Harlene Hayne and Mark Fitz-Gerald were re-elected as Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer respectively. Our new 2012-2016 Strategic Plan is well on the way to being implemented. Please contact us if you want a copy of the plan.

There have been a few changes to our human resources recently. Kara Wood returned from parental leave in March and resumed her coordination of the Fulbright graduate award programmes and educational advising. In late March we farewelled Keri Vanka who, after five and a half years of service, took up a new role in the corporate sector. We wish her well. Ron Mitchell, who had been standing in for Kara Wood, was appointed to Keri's position, so he is now managing a range of Fulbright scholar programmes alongside Stefanie Joe. Two new part-time staff, Vicky Beckett, Alumni Coordinator, and Chris Turver, Business Development Manager, also started in March and are introduced in this newsletter.

The period ahead will be another busy one packed with events; my annual trip to the US for the Axford Fellowship selections and meetings with key people; award administration; and more work in the strategic areas of business development and alumni engagement. We look forward to seeing you sometime soon!

Hei konei rā, ia manuia and warm regards,

Fulbright News



Grantees are shown a waka during their visit to Waiwhetū Marae

American grantees welcomed to New Zealand

Fulbright New Zealand welcomed 22 American exchange participants to New Zealand in February with an intensive week-long orientation programme designed to outline unique attributes of New Zealand which would inform their study, research and teaching at assorted universities and government agencies over the following three to twelve months.

The incoming grantees were welcomed with a pōwhiri and noho marae (overnight stay) at Waiwhetū Marae in Lower Hutt. They visited Ōtari-Wilton's Bush and Parliament, and through a series of lectures and seminars were introduced to New Zealand, Māori and Pacific history, culture and language, as well as New Zealand's rich natural history and unique flora and fauna.

As usual a number of Fulbright and associated NZ-US exchange programme alumni were among the orientation programme's speakers – historian Jock Phillips gave a snapshot of New Zealand culture and history, political scientist Nigel Roberts gave an introduction to New Zealand politics, and Labour Party MP Shane Jones reflected on life in parliament. Other local alumni home-hosted grantees for the final night of their stay in Wellington.

This year's ten Fulbright US Graduate Students, six Fulbright US Senior Scholars and six Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellows in Public Policy will study and research topics as diverse as conservation genetics, dairy industry development, the geology of Canterbury's recently-discovered Greendale Fault, special needs education, marine ecotourism, social housing and security cooperation.

Wells Weymouth, a Fulbright US Graduate Student from Gainesville, Florida, arrived in advance of his compatriots in order to visit Antarctica over summer, where he conducted research on the impact of melatonin supplements on the circadian rhythms of workers at Scott Base.

Professor Thomas Wartenberg, a Fulbright US Senior Scholar from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, will work with Island Bay School in Wellington to implement the award-winning Teaching Children Philosophy programme he has developed in American elementary schools, while teaching a course on pop culture philosophy at Victoria University of Wellington. The other grantees are all listed on our website – www.fulbright.org.nz ►



Ian Axford Fellow **Dave Vannier** (left) learns the traditional hongi greeting from Māori protocol instructor **Piripi Walker**

Outreach Tour visiting NZ tertiary institutions

Fulbright New Zealand's annual Outreach Tour to university, polytechnic and wānanga campuses across New Zealand is currently in mid-swing, with a dozen institutions already visited and many more to follow throughout May. Members of our educational advising team are out and about informing students and academic staff about opportunities to study, research, teach or present their work in the United States of America, and the Fulbright programme's range of exchange awards to help them get there.

This year's Outreach Tour commenced earlier than usual, in March, to allow participation in a greater number of university-initiated events including scholarship workshops and/or careers fairs at most universities. In addition, we have held our own seminars to give detailed explanations of the Fulbright awards on offer to students and faculty. Most seminars feature a guest alumni speaker from the visited institution, who talks about their own exchange experience and is on hand to answer questions from attendees.

The Outreach Tour is the best opportunity for prospective Fulbright applicants to find out in person about our awards and requirements of the US academic system in advance of our main scholar and graduate award application rounds, which close on 1 July and 1 August respectively. See the events section of our website at www.fulbright.org.nz/events for details of remaining outreach visits. ►



Fulbright News

New Coordinator to drive alumni engagement

Fulbright New Zealand has partnered with the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association to jointly fund a part-time Alumni Coordinator based in the Fulbright New Zealand office in Wellington. The new position replaces a previous Alumni Association coordinator funded by a start-up grant from the US Department of State's Office of Alumni Affairs, and will have an expanded focus on growing the Association's membership and organising high profile alumni events.

The new Alumni Coordinator, Vicky Beckett, was appointed in March and works two days a week in the Fulbright office. Vicky has extensive experience in alumni relations through two previous positions at Victoria University of Wellington, and in marketing, event management and stakeholder engagement through roles with other organisations in New Zealand and the UK.

Vicky will work to meet the Alumni Association's goals

for increasing its membership by actively recruiting alumni to join the Association and enjoy the full benefits of membership. She will also work to organise and coordinate a programme of events nationally in addition to assisting the Association's regional coordinators with administering and promoting their variety of regional functions. Plans are underway for a series of high profile Fulbright lectures on university campuses around New Zealand, which will be centrally coordinated and feature esteemed alumni speakers.

Vicky has already worked to engage alumni in the Fulbright Reflections public talks (see below) and in the Alumni Innovation Engagement Fund competition, a project funding opportunity offered by US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. She will continue to create and share opportunities for alumni to engage with the Fulbright programme and each other. Alumni are welcome to contact Vicky to volunteer their ideas or participation. Her work hours are 10:00am-3:00pm on Thursdays and Fridays. ►



Vicky Beckett

Fulbright alumni reflect and share passions

Fulbright and associated NZ-US exchange alumni have a new format for reflecting on their exchange experiences and sharing with the public their personal stories of passion, inspiration and thought leadership in a field of interest. An alumni-initiated series of Fulbright Reflections talks will occur quarterly throughout 2012 at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington.

The Fulbright Reflections series was the brainchild of alumna Makerita Urale, who worked with the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association and Te Papa to organise and chair a pilot session in August 2011. Fulbright alumni Rebecca Burson, a psychology researcher, and Susana Lei'ataua, an artist, spoke at the inaugural session as well as Trevor Grice, founder of the Life Education Trust, who is an alumnus of the US government's International Visitor Leadership Program. Each speaker was allocated 10 minutes to speak, followed by a moderated question and answer session to encourage audience interaction.

Following the pilot event, dates were booked for quarterly Fulbright Reflections talks in 2012, and it was agreed that each would be based around a particular theme. The first of these, on the theme of 'Toi – The Arts', was held at Te Papa's marae on 4 March and featured visual artists Kerry Ann Lee and Darcy Nicholas, and writer Damien Wilkins. The event was well attended, by around 65 people.

The next Fulbright Reflections talk is scheduled for 27 May and will feature three more inspirational alumni – Māori educationalist and public servant Sir Tamati Reedy, American environmental writer and educator Rebecca Reider and New Zealand's Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Jan Wright – sharing their thoughts and passion in relation to 'Te Whenua – The Land'.

The Fulbright Reflections series has proven an excellent model for alumni engagement with each other and the public, and may be replicated elsewhere in future. ►



Writer Damien Wilkins speaks at Fulbright Reflections in March

Alumni Association

**FULBRIGHT
NEW ZEALAND
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**



**TE WHAKAWHITINGA
AOTEAROA-AMERIKA**

Alumni Association update

The Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association (FNZAA) is delighted to welcome Vicky Beckett as Alumni Coordinator. Vicky is already contributing significantly to the coordination of the FNZAA's activities as the work of the Association continues to gather momentum. She brings significant experience from previous alumni coordination roles. As the Association's first point of contact, Vicky can be emailed at admin@fnzaa.org

Recent developments have seen an increasing number of members taking the opportunities the Association offers to initiate and lead projects that contribute to building better communities. Initiatives include an alumna-initiated series of four quarterly *Fulbright Reflections* public talks in partnership with Te Papa, around negotiated themes. Each session features three alumni sharing their passion and inspiration in their field and the impact of their exchange experience on their leadership. Other alumni are exploring the possibilities of initiating projects in their regions with the support of the Association and access to a grant for alumni-initiated events from the US Department of State.

Further alumni-initiated projects resulted in two

alumni entering the international Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund competition run by State Alumni, which offers a total of US\$1 million in funding for alumni projects addressing strategic development goals. One proposal involved the use of social media to help improve student literacy skills. The other involved using a web platform to marshal aligned individuals to work together on common entrepreneurial endeavours. Each project proposer was required to assemble a team of ten alumni to work with them and this was achieved within a short timeframe. The success of the proposals was not known at the time of writing. However, it is clear that alumni are receptive to taking opportunities to initiate projects or support others in the process.

If you are not currently a member of the Association, I invite you to consider joining and lending your support to the growing impetus of alumni engagement in New Zealand. Contact Vicky or see our website at www.fnzaa.org for details on how to join.

Graham Cochrane

Graham Cochrane, FNZAA Chairperson

In Brief



above: Hinemoana Baker;
below: Kristian Schmidt



Grantee and Alumni News

Fulbright alumni **Allen Curnow** (1961 NZ Research Scholar), **Bill Manhire** (1999 Visiting Professor in New Zealand Studies), **Vincent O'Sullivan** (1975 NZ Visiting Lecturer) and **Alistair Paterson** (1977 NZ Technical Study Grant) are among half-a-dozen New Zealand poets to have had recordings posted on the Poetry Archive (www.poetryarchive.org), a UK-based website described as "the world's premier online collection of recordings of [English language] poets reading their own work." Each New Zealand poet has a small number of readings streaming on the website, and several have CDs available to purchase which were recorded especially for the Poetry Archive. The site also features biographies, lists of publishers and prizes, and a select bibliography for each poet.

Fulbright alumnae **Tusiata Avia** (2005 Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency) and **Hinemoana Baker** (2010 NZ Travel Award) were among eight New Zealand poets picked to perform at an event organised by New Zealand poster and street media company Phantom Billstickers in New York in February. The event, called Kiwi Poets Live in New York, was hosted at global advertising agency Saatchi and Saatchi's flagship New York office and featured the visiting New Zealand poets performing alongside two guest American poets. It was the latest initiative by Phantom Billstickers founder Jim Wilson in his campaign to promote New Zealand poetry internationally, including two years of pasting posters of New Zealand poems across the US.

Fulbright alumnus **Hamish Spencer** (1983 NZ Graduate Student) from the University of Otago was appointed in February as Director of the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, one of New Zealand's seven collaborative Centres of Research Excellence, which is based at Massey University in Palmerston North. In addition to Massey University, partners in the Centre include the Universities of Auckland, Canterbury and Otago, Victoria University of Wellington, Landcare Research and Plant & Food Research. An evolutionary

biologist with an international research reputation, Hamish has been an investigator at the Allan Wilson Centre since it was founded in 2002. He will assume directorship of the Centre in August.

Fulbright grantee **Kristian Schmidt** (2011 NZ Graduate Student) was awarded a Student Life Leadership Award by the Dean of Students at his host institution, Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania in April. These awards are given to a select group of seniors in recognition of extraordinary performance as student leaders at the university. Students are evaluated on the basis of overall impact on Lehigh students, programme development and implementation, bridging cultural differences, and improving student, faculty and staff interactions.

Fulbright grantee **Carl Sanders-Edwards** (2010 NZ Graduate Student) has been selected to receive one of Babson College's two Ralph Z. and Charlotte R. Sorenson Scholarship Awards for Meritorious Achievement, which are presented to graduating MBA students from the F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business who have demonstrated outstanding merit. Students are nominated and judged by faculty on the basis of academic distinction, participation in extra-curricular activities that encompass service to the Babson community, and pursuit of entrepreneurial endeavours. Carl will officially receive the award, and a cash prize of over US\$7,500, at his graduation ceremony in May. ➤

See the Fulbright New Zealand website for more alumni news – www.fulbright.org.nz/grantees-alumni

Alumni, please keep us up-to-date with your news and achievements, by email to andy@fulbright.org.nz

In Memoriam

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

John Auten, 1950 US Graduate Student
Desmond Hurley, 1954 NZ Research Scholar ➤

Developing business opportunities

Business development is a strong focus for Fulbright New Zealand, to ensure the organisation remains financially sustainable in the challenging global economic climate and enable "smart growth" of the exchange opportunities available to New Zealanders and Americans. A Business Development Manager has been employed to work with current and potential funders and sponsors, alumni and other individuals to meet these goals.

Chris Turver, who has an extensive background in business development, fundraising, sponsorship and stakeholder engagement, was appointed in March to the new role of Business Development Manager. Chris will build upon feasibility groundwork carried out by Dawn Ferguson on a fixed term contract last year, which has fed into the Fulbright New Zealand Board of Directors' new strategic plan for the years 2012 to 2016.

Several key work areas have been identified for the year ahead. Chris, along with the Executive Director and certain Board members, will work to secure or improve upon base funding from the New Zealand and US governments, and to deepen our involvement in the NZ-US relationship. Chris will also seek further support to sustain and hopefully expand the successful Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Award in Business programme.

New sponsorship partnerships will be sought to expand the number and nature of Fulbright exchange awards offered. Implementation of new awards will be targeted at fields of strategic importance to the country and/or for which there is under-representation or greatest demand, including in business, law and creative arts,

and other fields which are consistently oversubscribed. Sponsors will be sought at both the New Zealand and US ends of the programme, to increase the number of opportunities available and to reduce the large number of very worthy applicants turned away each year.

The field of business is one which has been identified as key to the development of New Zealand's economy, and an area where Fulbright exchanges can play a key role in building the country's capability by opening up opportunities for emerging leaders in the business world. "With more reliance than ever on a strong New Zealand economy in an uncertain world, our strong push towards building academic capital must be matched by supporting business capability," says Fulbright New Zealand's Chairperson, Helen Anderson.

The Business Development Manager will also work to create opportunities for Fulbright alumni to give back to the programme in meaningful ways. Chris will develop new fundraising and bequest programmes, building upon a groundswell of alumni engagement, support and generosity over recent years. Alumni will be encouraged to help provide opportunities for future Fulbright grantees to follow in their footsteps. In addition to financial giving, alumni are encouraged to open their professional networks to potential sponsorship opportunities. Many of the new award programmes created through sponsorship partnerships over recent years have been initiated or advanced by alumni advocacy of the Fulbright programme. This has greatly benefited the organisation, award recipients and the two countries. ►

Fulbright News



Chris Turver

A bequest is an investment in your country's future

Fulbright New Zealand is building tomorrow's leaders. We've been doing it since 1948 and we want to safeguard and grow this extraordinarily successful exchange programme for achieving educational, professional, artistic and business excellence in New Zealand and the United States.

We invite you to help us go on sending promising New Zealanders and Americans to each other's countries so that they can develop as thought leaders and benefit both countries. Your gift helps ensure the long term financial future of Fulbright New Zealand and strengthen the NZ-US relationship. We also want to open the door for more Fulbright scholarships by establishing additional awards to meet the high demand from deserving applicants.

Please consider making a specific bequest in your will and invest in Fulbright's future.

Fulbright New Zealand is a non-profit-making entity which draws its funding from the New Zealand and United States governments, award sponsors, private philanthropists, the corporate sector, alumni supporters and public donors. Fulbright scholars get to advance academically and professionally, to know and understand a different country and culture, and establish lifelong professional relationships. Many look back on their Fulbright exchange as a life-changing experience and a defining moment in their career.

Your bequest would help secure the future of the Fulbright exchange programme.

A bequest may be either designated for a specific Fulbright purpose or given to the Fulbright New Zealand Trust as an unrestricted gift, allowing Fulbright to respond quickly to opportunities as they arise. The Trust's purpose is to increase the number or value of Fulbright awards, encourage and promote educational and cultural exchanges between the United States and New Zealand, and reinforce the links between the two countries.

The following wording is a guideline for you and your lawyer when planning a bequest:

"I give the Fulbright New Zealand Trust the sum of \$..... or x% of my residuary estate/the balance of my estate/the following property or assets (*delete as appropriate*) to be used for the purpose of an unrestricted gift to the Fulbright New Zealand Trust for which the receipt from the Fulbright New Zealand Trust shall be sufficient discharge to my trustees."

For a designated purpose, please contact Fulbright New Zealand for advice on the purpose of your bequest and consult your lawyer, the Public Trust Office, or a trustee company on the drafting or amending of your will.

Please do let us know if you plan to include Fulbright New Zealand in your will so that we may formally thank you.

Mele Wendt, Executive Director

Awarded

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

Anton Chiono from Berkeley, California will research the inclusion of forests in cap-and-trade climate policy, at Victoria University of Wellington.

Andrew Cole from Appleton, Wisconsin will compose music based on field recordings of natural, rural and urban areas of New Zealand, at the New Zealand School of Music, towards a PhD from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Alyssa Frederick from Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania will research the effects of nitrogen pollution and bleaching on sea anemones, at Victoria University of Wellington.

Tayla Horowitz from New York will research the role of professional development in creating culturally responsive schools, at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa.

Camille McCallister from Washington, DC will research health communication to Māori across different socioeconomic statuses, at the University of Auckland.

Terri Motraghi from Waco, Texas will research narrative intervention for preschool children at risk of language impairment, at the University of Canterbury.

John O'Hollaren from Bend, Oregon will complete a Master of Engineering degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, specialising in patient modelling for socially assistive robotics, at the University of Auckland.

Theresa Scroggin from Ashland, Oregon will complete a PhD in Māori and Indigenous Studies, specialising in the cultural concepts and strategies used to advance Māori education, at the University of Canterbury.

Jennifer Whisler from Peru, Nebraska will research development of the Greenstone digital library software, at the University of Waikato.

Fulbright US Scholar Awards

Jon Bray from the University of California, Berkeley will research the impact of liquefaction on critical infrastructure in Christchurch, and teach geotechnical earthquake engineering, at the University of Canterbury.

Terri Epstein from Hunter College will research young people's perspectives of the Treaty of Waitangi, at Victoria University of Wellington.

Kathy Fox from the University of Vermont will research restorative re-entry of offenders to the community, at Victoria University of Wellington.

Cath Kleier from Regis University will research plant conservation in New Zealand, and teach global plant conservation, at the University of Otago.

Katie O'Reilly from the University of Portland will research hormonal influence on activity and movement patterns of Little Blue Penguins, and teach conservation biology, at the University of Auckland.

Larisa Warhol from Arizona State University will research digital multimedia resources for indigenous language revitalisation, and teach language revitalisation, at AUT University. ►

Arrivals and Departures

Departures:

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Senior Scholar Award

Jacinta Ruru from the University of Otago will research indigenous challenges to Western property law, at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon. Jacinta departs in July. ►

Important Dates

Fulbright New Zealand Outreach Tour 2012

University, polytechnic and wānanga campuses nationwide, throughout May

Fulbright New Zealand's educational advising team is visiting campuses nationwide on an Outreach Tour to inform students and academic staff about educational opportunities in the US and the range of prestigious Fulbright exchange awards which can help you get there.

See www.fulbright.org.nz/events for details

May

23 Harkness Report-Back Seminar: Robyn Whittaker – Changing the Course: The Future of Mobile Health Information Technology Initiatives
2010-2011 Harkness Fellow in Health Care Policy and Practice Robyn Whittaker reports on her research into using mobile phone technology to deliver population health interventions.

12:00-1:00pm, Nau Mai Room, Ground Floor, Te Puni Kōkiri House, 143 Lambton Quay, Wellington

IPANZ members register online at www.ipanz.org.nz; non-members RSVP to admin@ipanz.org.nz

27 Fulbright Reflections: Te Whenua – The Land

As part of a quarterly series of Fulbright alumni talks, three alumni – Sir Tamati Reedy, Rebecca Reider and Jan Wright – share their personal stories of passion, inspiration and thought leadership in relation to the land.

3:00-4:30pm, Te Marae, 4th Floor, The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington

29 Harkness Report-Back Seminar: Robyn Whittaker – Changing the Course: The Future of Mobile Health Information Technology Initiatives

12:30-1:30pm, Function Room 730-220, School of Population Health, University of Auckland Tamaki Campus. RSVP to e.kinane@auckland.ac.nz

June

1 Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Award in Business applications close

27 Fulbright New Zealand Awards Ceremony and Alumni Reception

5:30-7:30pm, Beehive Banquet Hall, Parliament Buildings, Wellington. RSVP to info@fulbright.org.nz / (04) 472 2065 by 20 June

July

1 Fulbright New Zealand Scholar Awards applications close

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies applications close

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Scholar Award applications close

Fulbright-Cognition Scholar Award in Education Research applications close

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards applications close

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Travel Awards in Indigenous Development applications close

Fulbright Specialist Awards applications close

August

1 Fulbright-Ministry of Science and Innovation Graduate Awards applications close

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research applications close

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Graduate Award applications close

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards applications close

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award applications close

Fulbright US Scholar Awards applications close

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

Thank you for the memories, Fulbright

Eryn Newman is a PhD candidate in Psychology at the Victoria University of Wellington, who received a 2011 Fulbright-Ministry of Science and Innovation Graduate Award to research cognitive drivers of distortions and biases in human memory and decision-making, at the University of California, Irvine. Although she is still in the US, Eryn's exchange has already produced fond memories, both personal and professional.

Many people would agree that we are the sum of our experiences, and that our memories make us who we are. I think so, especially as a student of the science of memory. This Fulbright experience has certainly left an imprint on who I am. When I leave the US in June 2012, I will return with more luggage (okay, if I am honest, probably more shoes) but my most cherished additions will be the experiences and memories that I will bring home with me.

When I boarded the plane at Auckland airport last August I did so with a tinge of fear, and a wealth of excitement at what might lie ahead of me. When I arrived at the University of California, Berkeley for an orientation, those feelings quickly morphed into curiosity and motivation. I spent just under a week with Fulbright scholars from all over the world: I shared a room with a Polish anthropologist, a Turkish law student and a computer scientist from Hong Kong. These people had big motivation, big passion and big ideas. That one week provided a springboard of inspiration for "what could be" of my time in the US.

For the last eight months I have studied human memory in a busy laboratory at the University of California, Irvine. I am particularly interested in the ways that memory can go awry and the consequence of these memory errors in applied settings such as the criminal justice system. During my time in this laboratory I have run experiments and co-authored publications with my advisor, Professor Elizabeth Loftus – an incredible scientist and extremely humble human being. Some of the highlights have been writing about policy reform for the collection of eyewitness memory evidence in the US, meeting a US federal judge to talk about memory issues in the courtroom, watching my advisor give expert testimony at a criminal trial in Los Angeles, and attending various scientific conferences to present and discuss research. The US academic community is a vast, tightly connected hive of activity and it has been a hugely motivating experience to be part of that community.

But my experience has been much more than sitting at my computer writing manuscripts and analysing data from experiments. Experiences outside the walls of the lab have included baking a kiwi pavlova to bring to a potluck, having dinner and discussing memory research with FBI agents, watching the Rugby World Cup while advising a room full of Americans about the rules, having my first Thanksgiving, presenting talks at various US universities, chatting to NASA scientists at a Fulbright dinner at UCLA, volunteering at a food bank with a group of Fulbrighters, learning how to salsa dance, paddle board and surf, and being a Republican candidate at a simulated US presidential election in Nashville. The Fulbright experience is much more than an opportunity to sharpen your thinking at some of the best universities in the world. It is an opportunity to connect with people.

Some of my favourite New Zealand-American

moments have been managing to integrate Flight of the Conchords clips into my scientific presentations and learning that Marmite is not delicious as all of us Kiwis believe, but rather an "acquired taste." A series of experiences have also led me to conclude that the New Zealand accent can be impenetrable at times. One moment springs to mind, when my advisor asked how I was feeling after I had been off sick, I responded "better," she heard "bitter" and the conversation quickly got awkward. In fact, a number of phrases have not gone well for me here. "I'm going to make a move" (to leave the lab at the end of the day) produced a panicked response from a fellow labmate.

When we imagine ourselves in the future – our careers, our families, our goals and events we hope to experience – we use memory. In fact, recently scientists leading this field (some from New Zealand) have learned that similar areas in the brain are used to remember the past and imagine the future. The idea is that we use moments from the past (situations we have encountered, people we have met, knowledge we have acquired) to build future scenarios. When I imagine what it might be like to graduate from university, I use old memories of other graduation ceremonies to picture myself in a graduation gown, and I use memories of friends from Victoria University of Wellington to imagine who might be with me on that day. Fulbright is helping scholars experience moments – raw material – to imagine grand futures: giving us exposure to people, places, ideas and inspiration that we can craft into bold future scenarios that might shape, update and redirect the fields we are so passionate about.

Thank you for these moments Fulbright New Zealand. I look forward to using these memories to craft my own bold future scenario. ➤



Eryn Newman with fellow Fulbright grantees from around the world at a gateway orientation in Berkeley (above) and visiting the Grand Canyon in winter (below)



Grantee Voice



Eryn Newman

"Fulbright is helping scholars experience moments – raw material – to imagine grand futures."

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Please keep us updated of address changes, so we can keep in touch.

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Fulbright New Zealand gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of:



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:

Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Award in Business

For an emerging New Zealand business leader to complete an MBA degree at a US institution and gain professional work experience in the US and New Zealand. Valued at US\$60,000 plus travel and a paid internship. **Applications close 1 June 2012**

Fulbright New Zealand Scholar Awards

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in the US for three to five months. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2012**

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. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2012**

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Scholar Award

For a New Zealand academic, artist or professional to conduct research and/or lecture in the US for three to five months in a field of indigenous development. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2012**

Fulbright-Cognition Scholar Award in Education Research

For a New Zealand educator or researcher to pursue research in the US designed to have an impact on New Zealand early childhood education or primary/secondary schooling and student achievement, for three to five months. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2012**

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. Valued at up to NZ\$5,000. **Applications close 1 July and 1 November 2012, 1 April 2013**

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Travel Awards in Indigenous Development

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to visit the US for 12 to 90 days in order to present their work on a theme of indigenous development to American audiences. Valued at up to NZ\$5,000. **Applications close 1 July and 1 November 2012, 1 April 2013**

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. Valued at up to US\$8,400 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July and 1 November 2012, 1 April 2013**

Fulbright-Ministry of Science and Innovation 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. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2012**

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. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2012**

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Graduate Award

For a promising New Zealand graduate student to undertake postgraduate study or research at a US institution in a field of indigenous development. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2012**

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

For promising New Zealand graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research at US institutions in any field. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2012**

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award

For an outstanding mid-career or senior New Zealand visual artist to undertake a three-month residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, California. Valued at over US\$30,000. **Applications close 1 August 2012**

Fulbright US Scholar Awards

For US academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in New Zealand for three to five months. Valued at up to NZ\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2012**

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. Valued at up to US\$107,000. **Applications close 17 September 2012**

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

For promising US graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field at New Zealand institutions. Valued at NZ\$30,000 plus travel. **Applications close 15 October 2012**

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

For outstanding mid-career US professionals to research and gain firsthand experience of public policy in New Zealand for seven months. Valued at up to NZ\$45,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 March 2013**

Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

For a New Zealand writer of Pacific heritage to carry out work on a creative writing project exploring Pacific identity, culture or history at the University of Hawai'i for three months. Valued at NZ\$30,000. **Applications close 1 April 2013**

Fulbright-Harkness New Zealand Fellowship

For an emerging New Zealand leader in any field of study or vocation (excluding health care policy and practice) to study or research in the US for a minimum of six weeks. Valued at NZ\$15,000. **Applications close 1 April 2013**

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