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Executive director **Mele Wendt** receives the inaugural Eric & Kathy Hertz Award for Citizen Diplomacy on behalf of Fulbright New Zealand at the 2014 AmCham-DHL Express Success and Innovation Awards

Fulbright wins new award for diplomacy

Fulbright New Zealand's longstanding and significant contribution to strengthening bonds between the people of New Zealand and the United States of America has been recognised with the American Chamber of Commerce in New Zealand (AmCham)'s inaugural Eric & Kathy Hertz Award for Citizen Diplomacy, which was presented at the 2014 AmCham-DHL Express Success and Innovation Awards in July.

The new award was named in honour of American 2degrees chief executive Eric Hertz and his wife Kathy, who died tragically in an airplane crash last year. It recognises contributions in any field that complement the deep political and economic ties between New Zealand and the US, including education, science, research, culture, arts and sports. The award was one of seven presented by AmCham this year, with others focussed on business exports, imports and investment.

AmCham received a diverse range of entries for the new citizen diplomacy award, with other finalists including the Royal New Zealand Ballet, primary sector collaboration initiative New Zealand Bootcamp, and the New Zealand Robotics Charitable Trust, which runs the VEX Robotics Competition in New Zealand schools to inspire interest in science and technology. As winners, Fulbright New Zealand received a cash prize of \$2,500 which was deposited into our endowment fund.

Fulbright New Zealand's executive director Mele Wendt was present at the AmCham Awards black tie gala dinner at the Pullman Hotel in Auckland to receive the award, along with a number of Fulbright New Zealand board members, award sponsors and alumni. Mele noted that the award recognises the people-to-people impacts of the Fulbright programme, which lie at the

heart of the programme and extend well beyond just the academic and personal impact on the individuals selected as grantees.

"Last year we celebrated the 65th anniversary of the Fulbright programme in New Zealand, in which time we have given more than 3,000 New Zealanders and Americans the chance to undertake life-changing educational and cultural exchanges to each other's countries," Mele said.

"There is a wonderful multiplier effect in the goodwill and understanding generated by our exchanges. Many grantees are accompanied by partners or whole families on their award. Each of those individuals touches the lives of so many people they meet during their exchange, and returns home to help spread a deeper understanding of their host country. Our alumni live the Fulbright mission of promoting mutual understanding for the rest of their lives." ➤



Fulbright New Zealand's **supporters** celebrate the award win

Editorial



Mele Wendt, Executive Director

From the desk of the Executive Director

Tēnā koutou, talofa lava and warm Fulbright greetings.

“Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened”
— Dr Seuss

This quote is a good message for how I feel as I come to the end of my Fulbright tenure and write this last editorial. I am sad and will miss the job and its many wonderful people, but I also feel happy about the best ten years of my working life to date. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve in this role, and I feel very thankful to have received so much support and wonderful opportunities. I thank everyone most sincerely for helping in whatever way to make my experience so rewarding and enjoyable, and thank you for contributing to Fulbright New Zealand and its programmes and activities over these 10 years.

“We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we’re curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths” — Walt Disney

Most know that I like to keep moving forward and doing new things. Every year at Fulbright has been this way. For the future, my curiosity is leading me down a path that is still yet to be finalised, but will likely involve establishing an organisation that builds on my experience and expertise. I will email everyone with further details about this, along with my new contact details, before my last day on 23 December.

Since the last newsletter a lot of great stuff has happened, especially winning AmCham’s new award for citizen diplomacy which was a very proud moment for Fulbright. The recruitment of a new Executive Director

occurred (and they will be announced very soon). It was, and still is, a busy period for selections of New Zealand graduate awards and various New Zealand scholar and teacher awards. A number of events occurred: a Fulbright New Zealand Board meeting (where we farewelled Manulani Meyer after three years of service and welcomed Candy Green and Rob Tate of the US Embassy); Axford Fellowships seminars and Board AGM; several Fulbright lunchtime seminars; the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association AGM (where Bill Barrett was elected as Chair); and alumni lectures at various New Zealand universities.

We also received more alumni donations for the Fulbright New Zealand Trust endowment fund, including one for \$10k which was a beaut surprise! Please give to this important cause. Know that even the smallest contribution is valued and will help us reach our target. This is my final plea!

Preparations are in place for the US graduate student end-of-year/Thanksgiving programme, the last Board meeting of the year, handover with the new Executive Director, the arrival of next year’s American grantees and orientation programme in February 2015. The team is organised, diligent and dedicated, and I will really miss them.

Have an enjoyable holiday over Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. I wish you all the very best, and hope to see many of you in the future.

Important Dates

November

- 3 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for New Zealand Teachers applications close
- 5 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for US Teachers applications close
- 5 Fulbright Lecture: Sir Tamati Reedy – Ngā Wai Whakaata o Hine-kauorohia: The Reflecting Waters of Hine-kauorohia
Distinguished Fulbright alumnus Sir Tamati Reedy (Ngāti Porou) reflects on nationhood in Aotearoa New Zealand, Māori-Pākehā relationships and the role of Māori in the future of our country.
5:30-7:00pm, Japan Lecture Theatre, University House, Turitea Campus, Massey University Manawātū, Palmerston North
- 11 Fulbright Lecture: Sir Tamati Reedy – Ngā Wai Whakaata o Hine-kauorohia: The Reflecting Waters of Hine-kauorohia
6:00-7:00pm, S.1.04, S Block, The University of Waikato, Hamilton
- 25 Fulbright Lecture: Sir Tamati Reedy – Ngā Wai Whakaata o Hine-kauorohia: The Reflecting Waters of Hine-kauorohia
5:30-7:00pm, Musgrove Studio, Maidment Theatre, The University of Auckland
- 26 Fulbright Seminar: Sarah McKibben – Networking for Knowledge: The Social Side of School Reform
12:30-1:30pm, Fulbright New Zealand boardroom, Level 8, 120 Featherston Street, Wellington. RSVP to info@fulbright.org.nz / (04) 472 2065

December

- 3 Farewell reception for Mele Wendt
A reception to formally farewell Fulbright New Zealand’s executive director, Mele Wendt, after 10 years in the role. Stakeholders and alumni welcome.
5:00-7:00pm, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Level 12, 195 Lambton Quay, Wellington. RSVP to info@fulbright.org.nz / (04) 472 2065
- 23 Fulbright New Zealand office closes

January 2015

- 5 Fulbright New Zealand office reopens

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

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We welcome your letters and articles. Any material submitted may be edited for publication. 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.

Changes to Board membership

The Fulbright New Zealand Board farewelled one American member and welcomed two others at its most recent meeting in September. Auckland-based Hawaiian academic Manulani Meyer was farewelled after three years of service to the Board. At the same meeting, new US Embassy staff members Candy Green and Rob Tate were welcomed as ex-officio members of the Board.

Manulani Meyer attended her first Board meeting in December 2011. An Associate Professor of Education from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Manulani has been based at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa in Auckland for several years as a visiting scholar, but returns to Hawai'i at the end of the year.

Candy Green joins the Board as the new Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy, replacing Marie Damour, although she will hold the position of Chargé d'Affaires ad interim until the arrival of a new Ambassador to New Zealand. A career member of the US Foreign

Service, Candy most recently served as Counselor for Environment, Science, Technology and Health Issues at the US Embassy in Paris, France. She has previously had assignments to Beijing, Brussels, Tbilisi, Moscow, Kathmandu and Barbados. Originally from Los Angeles, she is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, and Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts.

Rob Tate joins the Board as the US Embassy's new Public Affairs Officer, replacing David Edginton. Rob joined the US State Department in 2003 after previously working for an American export company. He has had assignments to Osaka, Bucharest, Niamey and most recently to Rennes, France as Consul of the United States for Western France. A native of Seattle, Rob graduated from the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington and studied at the University of Miyazaki as recipient of a Japanese government Monbusho Scholarship. ➤

Distinguished Teacher Awards up and running

New Zealand's involvement in the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching programme began in August, with the participation of two New Zealand teachers and 10 New Zealand-bound American teachers in an orientation programme in Washington, DC. The first three American teachers arrived in Wellington shortly thereafter.

New Zealand teachers Fiona Jeffries from Paraparaumu College and Su Mukund from Papatoetoe High School departed for the US in August. They first participated in a programme orientation workshop in Washington, DC alongside international teachers from 10 other countries and the American teachers who will undertake exchanges to each of those countries this year. Included were 10 US teachers who would come to New Zealand in two cohorts – the first in late 2014 and the second in early 2015.

Fiona and Su subsequently moved on to Indiana University Bloomington, where they are participating

in a four-month professional development programme which involves taking university classes, observing and teaching at local schools, and completing a capstone research project on an education topic of interest.

In August and September, Fulbright New Zealand welcomed the first three American teachers, Tricia Fellingner, Amy Howell and Jessica Stovall, who are participating in a similar programme of activities at Victoria University of Wellington. A second cohort of seven American teachers will be welcomed in February, alongside the other incoming 2015 Fulbright grantees from the United States. ➤

Applications for 2015 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching for New Zealand teachers to undertake four months of professional development in the US close on 3 November; and for American teachers to undertake three to five months of professional development in New Zealand close on 5 November. See our website for details of how to apply.

Alumni Association under new leadership

The Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association elected a new chairperson at its Annual General Meeting in August, as part of a reshuffle of Board members which also resulted in a new secretary and treasurer. New regional coordinators were appointed to organise activities in Auckland, the Central North Island, Wellington and Canterbury, and a new permanent role of deputy chairperson was created.

Fulbright alumnus Bill Barrett, who was a 1978 exchange teacher to the US and works as a Senior Adviser to the Ministry of Education, was elected as the new chairperson of the Association.

Other new faces joining the Alumni Association's Board include American alumna Megan Couture, who was elected as Auckland regional coordinator. Megan came to New Zealand as a 2012 Fulbright US graduate student, completed a Master of Urban Planning degree at The University of Auckland, and now works as a planner for MWH Global. 2013 Fulbright New Zealand

Scholar Award alumna Lisa Emerson, an Associate Professor of English and Media Studies at Massey University Manawātū, was elected as regional coordinator for the Central North Island. 1989 Fulbright New Zealand Educational Development Award alumnus Tony Murdoch, who is Property and Community Development Manager at St Bede's College in Christchurch, was elected as regional coordinator for Canterbury. Former secretary Sunshine Prior volunteered to fill the Wellington regional coordinator vacancy until a formal election at the next AGM.

Also at the meeting, Brian Walters was elected as treasurer and Rebecca Burson as secretary, both having held other Board roles previously. A motion was passed that a permanent position of deputy chairperson be created, for election by members on a two year term. ➤

Read more about the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association's newly-elected chairperson, Bill Barrett, in the Alumni Voice Q&A on page 7 of this newsletter.



Alumni Association

**FULBRIGHT
NEW ZEALAND
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**



**TE WHAKAWHITINGA
AOTEAROA-AMERIKA**

Alumni Association update

I'm delighted to introduce myself to you as the new Chair of the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association. The Association's AGM took place on 27 August and with it brought a refreshed Board. We have new regional coordinators in Auckland, Central North Island and Canterbury. Sunshine Prior and Rebecca Burson have switched positions in Wellington, with Sunshine taking on regional coordination and Rebecca moving onto the Board's executive as Secretary. A permanent position of Deputy Chair was established and at our September Board meeting Toni Moyes was appointed to the position until it can be formally recognised at the next AGM. Brian Walters stepped down as Chair but remains on the executive as Treasurer. I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to take up the position of Chairperson and am working with the Board to develop a strategy for the coming years.

A full list of Board members can be found on the

Association webpages. Take time to get to know your regional coordinator and please get involved with the many activities that happen throughout the year. If you are living in the Otago-Southland region there is an opportunity to take up the position of regional coordinator there, so please contact either Jono Paulin (otago-southland@fnzaa.org) or me (chair@fnzaa.org) if you would like to find out more.

By now you will have received communication about homestay hosting opportunities for the incoming 2015 US grantees. Please take time to consider if you can offer a warm Kiwi welcome to the new grantees, I know that both grantees and alumni alike benefit greatly from this shared experience.

Bill Barrett, FNZAA Chairperson

In Brief



above: Briar March;
below: Sir Tamati Reedy



Alumni News

Fulbright alumnus **Vincent O'Sullivan** (1975 NZ Research Scholar) won the Poetry category of the 2014 New Zealand Post Book Awards in August, for his latest collection, *Us, then* (Victoria University Press). Judges described the book as "the perfect example of the outcome of a lifetime's practice ... His work simply gets better and better. There are poems in *Us, then* that leave something on the air that feels like human longing, the brevity of life, its incongruities and fleeting beauty." Winners of the four main category awards each received \$10,000 and took part in a Meet The Winners event at Wellington Central Library, in conversation with broadcaster Kim Hill who was one of the judges of this year's Book Awards.

Fulbright alumnus **Le Mamea Taulapapa Sefulu Ioane** (1979 NZ Educational Development Grant), was honoured with a Distinguished Alumni Award by The University of Waikato, where he was one of the first Pacific graduates, in September. The award recognised La Mamea's longstanding contributions to education in Samoa and New Zealand including contributions to the development of Pacific languages in New Zealand and help for speakers of English as a second language. At the time of his Fulbright award, La Mamea was the inaugural director of the Pacific Island Education Resource Centre (now the Pasifika Education Trust), which was established in 1978 to provide English language education, skill development and advice for recent migrants in preparation for work in New Zealand.

Fulbright alumna **Briar March** (2009 NZ Graduate Student) premiered her new documentary film *Whare Tapa Whā* on Māori Television in September, as part of the channel's Pakipūmeka Aotearoa – New Zealand Documentaries series. *Whare Tapa Whā* explores what is happening to state housing in New Zealand, documenting a controversial Housing New Zealand project to relocate state houses from Auckland's Glen Innes suburb to the Northland town of Kaitia, where they will be used to build a new community. The full documentary can be viewed on the Māori Television website at www.maoritelevision.com/tv/shows/pakipumeka-aotearoa-new-zealand-documentaries/S05E001/whare-tapa-wha An alternate version is being produced to air on PBS in the United States.

Distinguished Fulbright alumnus **Sir Tamati Reedy** (1982 NZ Lecturer) is midway through a Fulbright lecture tour of New Zealand universities, organised by the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association. Sir Tamati gave lectures at the University of Canterbury in July and the University of Otago in October, and will repeat the same lecture at Massey University Manawātū, the University of Waikato (where he was a staff member for many years) and the University of Auckland in November. A Victoria University of Wellington lecture is being planned for early 2015. At each university Sir Tamati is giving a lecture entitled 'Ngā Wai Whakaata o Hine-kauorohia: The Reflecting Waters of Hine-kauorohia', in which he reflects on nationhood in Aotearoa New Zealand, Māori-Pākehā relationships and the role of Māori in the future of our country. See the Important Dates listings on page 2 of this newsletter for details of upcoming lectures.

Several Fulbright alumni have published new books recently:

waha / mouth, a third collection of poems by Fulbright alumna **Hinemanoa Baker** (2010 NZ Travel Award), was published by Victoria University Press in August. Hinemoana is currently Victoria University of Wellington's 2014 Writer in Residence;

The Art of Excavation, the debut poetry collection by Fulbright alumna **Leilani Tamu** (2013 Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency), was published by Anahera Press in August. It contains poems written during her Fulbright residency at the University of Hawai'i;

The Grass Catcher: a digression about home, a memoir by Fulbright alumnus **Ian Wedde** (2006 NZ Travel Award), was published by Victoria University Press in September. It spans Ian's life from early childhood in Blenheim to the remote regions of Bangladesh, an English boarding school, 1960s Auckland, civil war Jordan, and family homes full of children. ►

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

An “amazi-opportuni-fultastic” Fulbright year

Brenda McKinney from Chicago, Illinois is one of 11 American graduate students who have studied or researched at New Zealand universities this year as Fulbright grantees. Brenda has been studying towards a Master of Laws degree at the University of Otago, specialising in the effects of restorative juvenile justice practices in New Zealand. New Zealand is internationally recognised for its pioneering model of family group conferences for youth offenders, and Fulbright New Zealand has facilitated numerous exchanges in the field of restorative justice over the years.

I first began to investigate restorative justice and alternative models to justice as a law student in Chicago. Restorative justice is a process whereby (in a frequently-cited definition by British criminologist Tony Marshall) “parties with a stake in a specific offense collectively resolve how to deal with the aftermath of the offense and its implications for the future”. While specific models of restorative justice include conferences and involve dialogue, I was specifically drawn to the values or principles that underpin all restorative practices. These principles require that restorative justice processes be voluntary, include full and active participation by everyone involved, those who take part in the process are fully informed, the accused is held accountable and everyone involved is safe.

Restorative justice theory recognizes that this process is not always going to be effective; not every offence will be suitable. Yet it seemed to hold potential so I applied to come to New Zealand, the first country in the world to legislate on restorative justice, because of its strong reputation as a leader in restorative practice. My aims were to explore best practices, policies and questions around cultural sensitivity within restorative justice youth justice models, in addition to considering how New Zealand’s Family Group Conferences (FGCs) might provide a better option for youth who have committed harm than models we use in the US.

I have now been in New Zealand since February and so far, it has been incredible. While I discovered an immediate community within the wonderfully kind and supportive Law Faculty at the University of Otago, where I am also completing a Master of Laws (LLM) degree, I have been impressed by the gracious and warm welcome I received from all the people I have met and worked with over the past nine months. I have been able to regularly observe in youth court, attend restorative justice facilitator trainings, shadow restorative justice facilitators around the country and meet with a variety of people involved in the youth justice system, from experienced youth aid officers and lawyers to youth, their whānau, politicians and academics. This reception and these experiences have not only enriched my research journey but also my understanding of New Zealand.

Dunedin also seems to provide its own adventure. While the city is probably best known for its university, chocolate factory and iconic train station, I’ve discovered a lot of exciting perks to being based here. There are always free and interesting talks, events and shows at the university. I have enjoyed getting to know other graduate students and the city has a remarkably vibrant art scene, which includes monthly installations at the experimental Blue Oyster and other galleries in town. While you might find me writing at my desk

most days, it feels very exotic to live in a place with glow worms (Leith Valley), penguins (Sandfly Bay), and surfers (St. Clair Beach) nearby, or where I can plan a picnic at a castle (Larnach) any time I want.

As a young lawyer, Fulbright has also been incredible in allowing me to engage with the international law community within and beyond New Zealand. I recently presented my interim research on restorative practice at several conferences, including the annual Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology, Inc. (ANZSOC) conference and the University of New South Wales Public Law conference for postgraduate students in Sydney, and last month I volunteered at the World Bar Conference in Queenstown, where dozens of lawyers and judges from all over the world spoke about the Rule of Law. These events were not only fascinating, but they provided me with valuable opportunities for feedback on my work, networking within my field and even a chance to publish while still in graduate school.

Another highlight of my year has been getting to explore many parts of New Zealand and New Zealand culture. The best example of how my research has allowed me to see the country is probably the time in March when I saw both ends of State Highway 1 in less than a week: visiting Slope Point (the southernmost point of the South Island) on a Monday after conducting interviews in Invercargill, and then beautiful Cape Reinga (the northernmost point of the North Island) on Friday, before catching a flight out of Auckland after the Whanganui Restorative City Conference.

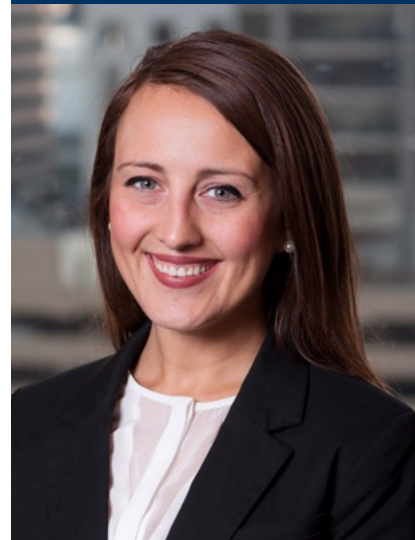
While I am licensed to practice law in the US and therefore plan to return home next year, it is hard to describe how lucky I feel to have been here. If I had to describe my Fulbright year so far in a word, I would call it *amazi-opportuni-fultastic*. In other words, it is impossible; this year has been too great.

All of the experiences I’ve encountered have only enhanced the work I came here to do and I am confident that they will transcend my time in this country. I look forward to sharing my research and extending the connections I have made, and I cannot thank Fulbright and everyone I have worked with so far this year enough for making my experience so wonderful. Kia ora. ➤



Brenda McKinney at Dunedin’s Tunnel Beach

Grantee Voice



Brenda McKinney

“If I had to describe my Fulbright year so far in a word, I would call it amazi-opportuni-fultastic. In other words, it is impossible; this year has been too great.”

Awarded

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award

Ruth Watson from The University of Auckland will complete a ten week residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, California.

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Sarah Cowie from The University of Auckland will present her research into how environmental stimuli control behaviour, at a Department of Psychology research colloquium at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

Lyndie Foster Page from the University of Otago will present her research into the translation of research evidence into clinical oral health practise, at the 93rd General Session & Exhibition of the International Association for Dental Research in Boston, Massachusetts.

Stuti Misra (see Departures)

Sam Trubridge from Massey University Wellington will direct a performance of his multimedia work *Sleep/Wake* at La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club in New York.

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Travel Awards

Angela Barnes from Massey University Albany will present her research into early Māori filmmakers, at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Tess Chalmers (see Departures)

Fulbright Specialist Awards

Massey University Albany will host Tom Dever from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, who will give presentations, lectures and research assistance about molecular biology.

AUT University will host Jeff Kelly Lowenstein from Columbia College Chicago, who will give workshops, lectures and research assistance about data journalism and inclusive journalism.

The University of Auckland and the University of Waikato will host Sherry Shapiro from Meredith College, who will give a keynote symposium address, lectures and curriculum and professional development assistance about dance, social justice and community engagement.

The University of Otago will host Victor Strasburger from the University of New Mexico, who will give workshops and lectures and participate in meetings about the use of digital media and wellbeing in children.

The University of Auckland will host Kathryn Tucker from Loyola Marymount University, who will give lectures and seminars about legal and medical issues around patient rights at the end of life. ➤

Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals:

Fulbright US Scholar Awards

Gretchen Hoffman from the University of California, Santa Barbara will research the effects of ocean acidification on oysters in New Zealand, at the University of Auckland. Gretchen arrives in January. ➤

Departures:

Fulbright New Zealand Scholar Awards

Sarah Young from the University of Otago will research the development of a vaccine and immune therapies for colorectal cancer, at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Sarah departs in December.

Fulbright-Cognition Scholar Award in Education Research

Sue Smith from Chelsea Primary School will research how teachers mediate and students perceive the results of formative assessments, at the University of Maryland in College Park. Sue departs in January.

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Sarah Lockwood from the University of Waikato will present her research into the self-organizing of youth volunteers during crisis events, at the National Communication Association's 100th annual convention in Chicago, Illinois. Sarah departs in November.

Stuti Misra from The University of Auckland will present her research into in vivo corneal imaging in patients with systemic diseases, at the American Academy of Optometry's 2014 annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. Stuti departs in November.

Monica Peters from the University of Waikato will present her research into citizen science and water quality monitoring, at the 34th International North American Lake Management Society Symposium in Tampa, Florida. Monica departs in November.

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Travel Awards

Tess Chalmers from the Department of Corrections will present her research into Māori cultural identity and offender change within Waikeria Prison's Māori Focus Unit, at the 13th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Tess departs in January.

Vince Malcolm-Buchanan from the University of Waikato will present his research into Māori traditions for memorialisation of the dead, at the 2015 meeting of the Association of Social Anthropologists of Oceania in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Vince departs in January. ➤

For a full list of grantees currently on Fulbright exchanges in New Zealand and the US, please visit www.fulbright.org.nz/grantees-alumni/grantees

Donate to provide additional Fulbright awards in future



For more than six decades, Fulbright New Zealand has offered life-changing Fulbright exchange experiences for New Zealanders and Americans to study, research, teach and present their work in each other's countries.

Our awards are consistently oversubscribed, so each year we turn away many really deserving New Zealand and American applicants because there just are not enough awards due to limited funding. Also, in 2013 and again in 2014 there has been a reduction in US government funding and unfortunately we have had to reduce the number of awards currently on offer. Thus, we invite our alumni and friends to support the provision of additional awards in future.

The balance of the Fulbright New Zealand Trust endowment fund currently sits at \$740,000 and we need \$800,000 to generate enough interest to fund one additional graduate award every year in perpetuity, so we don't have far to go! If just a few hundred generous alumni donated \$200 each we could soon begin granting extra awards.

The Fulbright New Zealand Trust is a registered charity, so donations to the trust are eligible for a tax credit in New Zealand. Donations made via our American partner the Institute of International Education (IIE), which is a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax-deductible in the US.

See the Donate page of our website – www.fulbright.org.nz/donate – for details of how you can give in various ways. Thanks for your generosity and support!

Introducing the new Alumni Association chair

Fulbright alumnus Bill Barrett from Wellington was recently elected as the new chairperson of the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association, which was established “by alumni, for alumni” in 2009 and welcomes all alumni of Fulbright and affiliated NZ-US exchanges as members. Bill’s own Fulbright experience was as an exchange teacher to Kingston Elementary School in Virginia Beach, Virginia in 1978, which had a profound influence on his subsequent career in education.

What impact did your own Fulbright exchange have on your life?

The experience of living and teaching in the USA remains one of the most memorable, enjoyable and stimulating periods in my life. Being exposed to a different environment, differing outlooks and philosophies and quite different patterns of school organisation and curriculum provision, considerably broadened my outlook by challenging previously held perspectives.

Living and working in another country, one obviously should try to view things as the host country does, despite it being difficult to free oneself from previous experiences and practices. Having basic understandings and practices challenged is immensely beneficial in itself and assessing comparisons in living and working is extremely enriching and broadening. Consequently, the Fulbright exchange enabled me to become more flexible and understanding in my outlook not only to education but in a wide variety of areas.

Perhaps one of the greatest gifts from the Fulbright experience was the establishment of lifelong friendships which my wife and I enjoy to this day. We remain in regular communication with friends made whilst living in Virginia and make a point of meeting up every two years or so either in New Zealand or the United States.

How different was school life at Kingston Elementary to Raroa Intermediate in Wellington, where you were teaching at the time of your award?

A significant number of differences were immediately apparent. I recall my initial impression being the size of the schools compared to primary schools in New Zealand. While I taught in a large intermediate school at the time, Kingston Elementary had 850 students and some schools boasted rolls in excess of 1,000. The size of New Zealand schools and the notion that “small is beautiful” was not reflected in the Virginia Beach education system.

However, while schools had large numbers of students one never really gained the impression that they were big, as never were all children seen together en masse in the huge playgrounds and fields. Intervals and free lunch breaks did not exist, whole school assemblies were not held and fewer opportunities for general student interaction existed across all grades.

The way the school day began was significantly different from what I was used to in New Zealand. Unless students had a written letter from home requesting approval to walk to school, they were required to be transported by school bus. Upon arrival to home classrooms the day began with students and teachers collectively reciting the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a minute of silent repose in which students might give a silent prayer or reflect on any matter they so wished.

In comparison to New Zealand at the time, each teacher had a signed employment agreement which clearly specified duties and expectations including commitments to professional development, professional visitations, and meeting attendance requirements. Teachers clocked in and out each day and were diligent and conscientious in meeting expectations and adhering to agreed requirements.

A more comprehensive range of resources was available to teachers than in New Zealand. As well as an excellent array of printed resources, the school board district boasted a fully equipped television studio that broadcast both radio and television programmes to all classes upon request, and a planetarium that was also available for community use during evenings. Some lessons were conducted via instructional television which at the time was considered quite revolutionary.

Teachers held specialist roles and clear and explicit time periods were specified for delivery of each curriculum area. Consequently, while elementary students had home rooms, they engaged with several different teachers during instructional and cultural lessons.

Virginian student assessment practices were considerably different to those implemented in New Zealand at the time. Students were regularly allocated a grade mark from A to F in most subjects each week and students had expectations to succeed from very early in their school life.

You are still working in education in New Zealand and have held a diverse range of roles over the years. What kind of work are you currently involved in?

At present I am a Senior Advisor in the Ministry of Education, having a wide range of professional responsibilities. I have overview of 36 schools in the district as well as district responsibilities for specific portfolio areas. These include serving as an education officer to local Youth Courts by providing the courts with education status reports for each of the youth appearing and seeking to engage youth in education or find pathways to employment.

You were a peer of founding Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association chair Graham Cochrane, who was also a Fulbright exchange teacher 1978. Did you keep in touch with Graham at that time?

Graham and I were the two recipients of Fulbright teacher exchange award in 1978-79. While we both taught in schools on different sides of the continent, we communicated regularly at non-peak hours via the then long distance telephone system, to share our experiences and compare notes. Our regular communication was always interesting and very supportive.

What would you like to achieve in your time at the helm of the Alumni Association?

I am greatly looking forward to working with the FNZAA team to continue to positively promote the Fulbright vision and mission. At the end of my time, I hope that we continue to have a vibrant and robust Alumni Association across regional districts and one that strongly supports and celebrates the mission of Fulbright New Zealand for both current and past grantees. ➤

Alumni Voice



Bill Barrett

“I hope that we continue to have a vibrant and robust Alumni Association across regional districts and one that strongly supports and celebrates the mission of Fulbright New Zealand for both current and past grantees.”

NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE

Fulbright New Zealand is jointly funded by the governments of New Zealand and the United States of America.

We gratefully acknowledge the sponsorship of additional awards by the following organisations and individuals:



Suzanna Snively/Ray Thomson
Charles J. and Caroline H. Swindells
John Todd Foundation
New Zealand Trade and Enterprise
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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:

Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for New Zealand Teachers

For highly accomplished New Zealand teachers in primary or secondary schooling to participate in an intensive four-month professional development programme in the US. **Applications close 1 November 2014**

Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme for US Teachers

For highly accomplished American teachers in primary or secondary schooling to participate in an intensive professional development programme in New Zealand for three to five months. **Applications close 5 November 2014**

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 March 2015**

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\$58,500. **Applications close 1 March 2015**

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 April and 1 August 2015**

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 April and 1 August 2015**

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\$11,700. **Applications close 1 April and 1 August 2015**

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\$41,000. **Applications close 1 August 2015**

Fulbright 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 science and innovation in New Zealand. Valued at up to US\$33,000. **Applications close 1 August 2015**

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\$33,000. **Applications close 1 August 2015**

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\$33,000. **Applications close 1 August 2015**

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award

For an outstanding mid-career or senior New Zealand visual artist to undertake a ten week residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, California. Valued at up to US\$24,000. **Applications close 1 August 2015**

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\$37,500. **Applications close 1 October 2015**

Fulbright-Cognition Scholar Award in Education Research

For a New Zealand researcher or educator to pursue research in the US designed to have an impact on New Zealand student outcomes, for two to five months. Valued at up to US\$37,500. **Applications close 1 October 2015**

Fulbright-Meg Everton Professional Enhancement Awards in Education

For New Zealand educators in early childhood, primary or secondary education to undertake a professional development activity in the US for 12 to 90 days. Valued at up to NZ\$5,000. **Applications close 1 October 2015**

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

For promising US graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field at New Zealand institutions. Valued at up to NZ\$33,000. **Applications close 13 October 2015**

** Note that if the deadline for any application to Fulbright New Zealand falls on a weekend or public holiday, the deadline is extended to 5:00pm on the next business day.*

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