



In May 2009, SimpsonScarborough conducted a benchmark survey of the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program (FSP). The online survey, designed to identify and highlight the impact of the Fulbright Scholar Program, targeted scholars who participated in the program three to four years ago. A total of 520 participants completed the survey, resulting in a margin of error +/- 3.54 %.

### Overall Fulbright Experience

The Fulbright Scholar Program receives very favorable ratings from past scholars, with more than 96% of the respondents citing their Fulbright experience as “excellent” or “very good” (see Figure 1).

### Professional and Personal Outcomes

Many Fulbright Scholars experienced notable professional gains upon return. Numerous respondents have accepted leadership roles since returning from their Fulbright grants, with more than half accepting roles in academic or nonprofit organizations, and 44% taking roles in their communities. In addition, more than one-third have received a promotion, 13% changed institutions and 10% received tenure (see Figure 2). More than half of respondents believed that the Fulbright Scholar Program at least somewhat attributed to these professional changes.

Research and intellectual opportunities available through the Fulbright Scholar Program are invaluable, as one alumnus noted,

*“[FSP] developed a basis for an exciting new research program that will produce a cutting-edge exploration of international, comparative historical analysis of communication and media. The Fulbright experience catalyzed a breakthrough in my intellectual development...”*

The international cultural exchange learning experience also appears to be important, as another alumnus shared,

*“My family (wife and 6 children) have a different perspective on the world, we all speak Danish together still and watch videos in Danish. We are going back in 2010 to visit as a family again.”*

The following were cited by multiple respondents as outcomes of the Fulbright experience (see Figure 3):

- New research projects or creative works
- Better understanding of host country and other countries in general; a broader world-view
- Personal and professional enrichment
- Lasting friendships with colleagues and other individuals from host country
- Brought students from home institution to visit host country
- Led to new professional opportunities

## Fulbright Endorsement

Returning Fulbright Scholars encourage others to participate. Almost all respondents (94%) have recommended Fulbright to colleagues, and 75% have recommended Fulbright to students (see Figure 4).

## Perceptions of Fulbright Experience

Approximately 75% or more of respondents strongly agreed with the following statements:

- I am proud to have been a Fulbright Scholar.
- My Fulbright experience gave me a better understanding of my host country.
- I established on-going friendships with people I met in my host country or countries.
- My Fulbright experience gave me a better understanding of social and cultural diversity among different nations.
- My Fulbright experience gave me a better understanding of international issues in general.

Additionally, more than 90% of respondents believed that their experience at least moderately, if not greatly, promoted international cooperation for education and strengthened ties between the people of their host country and the United States.

Figure 1

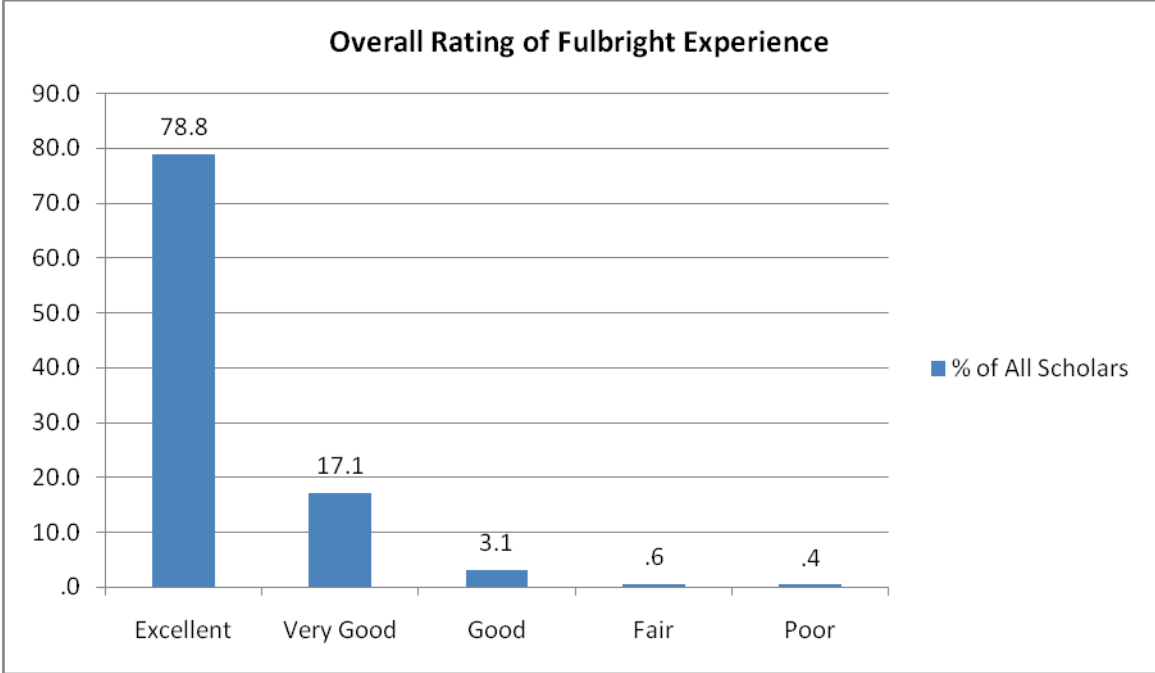


Figure 2

