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Virtual Advising: Fulbright Scholar Awards in South and Central Asia

Presenter:

Michelle Bolourchi, Outreach and Recruitment Officer, IIE Office, Washington, DC

June 13, 2018
The Fulbright Program

- Established 1946 to expand and strengthen the relationships between the people of the United States and citizens of the rest of the world

- Sponsored by U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by the Institute of International Education’s Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)
Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

- Supports teaching and/or research for three to 12 months
- Programs active in +125 countries
- For faculty, administrators and professionals
- Open to all disciplines
- Apply to specific award with proposed project
- Application deadline: **August 1**
- Variety of host institutions
Eligibility for U.S. Scholar Programs

- U.S. citizenship
- Degree as required by award
  - Ph.D. or other terminal degree may be required
  - Many awards are open to applicants with a Masters and professional or academic experience
- Open to professionals and artists outside academia with recognized standing and substantial accomplishments
- Teaching experience as required by award
- New policies on previous Fulbright Scholar grants and waiting periods between grants
A Fulbright that Works for You

- **Flex option**
  - Available in four countries in SCA
  - Allows multiple visits over two years

- **Awards throughout your career:**
  - Postdoctoral awards
  - Early Career
  - Distinguished Chair

- **Multi-country awards**
- **Global Scholar Award**

- Home university affiliation is not required. Applications from artists and professionals, independent and emeriti scholars are welcomed!
South and Central Asia: Overview

- 14 award offerings and about 83 grants available
- Fulbright Regional Travel Program
- Regional webpage & blog

“Personally, my nine months in Uzbekistan were one of the most rewarding experiences of my life […] Professionally, the experience was even more transformative for me.”
Multi-Country Opportunity

South and Central Asia Regional Research Program

• **9476-MC** Conduct research on an issue in two or three countries
• Open to all disciplines
• Three to nine months
• Letter of invitation required
Application Components

- Application Form
- Project Statement
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Letters of Reference
- Additional components, depending on award
  - Course Outlines or Syllabi (for teaching awards)
  - Select Bibliography (for research awards)
  - Language Proficiency Report
  - Letter of Invitation
  - Supplemental materials for applicants in the Arts, Architecture, Writing and Journalism
Project Statement

- Your opportunity to lay out your proposed **project specifics** in as much detail as possible
- Why Fulbright and why this country/institution/organizations?
- Focus on what you plan to do; the specific courses you plan to teach/the methods and goals of your research
- Outcomes from the grant - impact on hosts, home institution and you
- How adaptable are you? How well will you deal with challenging situations?
Affiliations and Invitations

Host Institution:

- If a host is identified, it will be found under Location in the Catalog
- When a host is not identified, there are several resources to help find an affiliation:
  - International office on your campus
  - U.S. and Visiting Fulbright Scholar Directory
  - Review award description for suggested hosts or resources

Letter of Invitation:

- Non-binding expression of interest from proposed host abroad
- Should come from person with whom you will be collaborating
- Should be on host institution letterhead
Submitting a Competitive Application

- Address the Fulbright goal of promoting mutual understanding
- Why you are interested in a Fulbright and why in your proposed host country
- Professional expertise and skills you can offer; benefits to the host institution and host country; exchange of knowledge and experience
- Cultural diplomacy; demonstrated flexibility, adaptability
- Outcomes, impact, and multiplier effect
  - for your professional development, home campus, students, field at large; for your host institution
  - future collaborations; linkages: personal, professional, institutional; plans for sustaining relationships
  - internationalizing campus and curriculum
Review Process and Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUG.</td>
<td>Program staff conduct technical reviews for completeness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.</td>
<td>Discipline-specific committees review applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPT. – EARLY NOV.</td>
<td>U.S. peer review committees discuss applications for a single geographical region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV. – JAN.</td>
<td>Applicants notified of status - Recommended applications are sent to host countries and to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEB. – MAY</td>
<td>Grantees notified of final approvals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY – JUNE</td>
<td>Grant packets sent to grantees</td>
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Application Resources

- Fulbright Scholar Program website and Catalog of Awards

- Apply
  - Application and Application Instructions
  - Application Guidelines, Project Statement Guidance and Samples

- Learn
  - Webinars
  - The Fulbright Scholar Blog

- Connect
  - MyFulbright
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How can I contact you?
A: E-mail addresses are listed in the award descriptions.

Q: When is the application deadline?
A: August 1, 2018

Q: How many applications do you get? What is the success rate?
A: Sorry, we can’t share that information (FFSB policy).

Q: Can I apply to two or more awards in the same competition?
A: No, you need to choose ONE award to apply to.
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- Join MyFulbright at cies2.org
- Email us at eastasiapacific@iie.org
- Visit our website to learn more about the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program
- Refer your colleagues

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