

the fulbrighter

A U S T R A L I A



2007 U.S. Scholars: Emily Cornwell, Jesse Silverman, Alex White, Joshua Meisel and Tyler Summers.

Enrichment for U.S. Scholars

The U.S. Fulbright Scholars Enrichment Seminar in September provided the opportunity to welcome the 2007 U.S. Scholars and the recently arrived 2006 Scholars, and also to provide a cultural introduction to Australia.

The Enrichment Seminar, held in Canberra, began with Ambassador McCallum and Mrs Mimi McCallum hosting the Scholars at the Embassy residence to welcome and congratulate them. Ambassador McCallum presented the Scholars with their Fulbright pins.

In congratulating them, Ambassador McCallum highlighted the honour and responsibility of being a Fulbright Scholar and wished them well in their research and study in Australia.

The Enrichment Seminar provided the U.S. Scholars with the opportunity to meet and network with government representatives, Fulbright Alumni, Fulbright staff, Selection Committee members, and each other over a two-day program. Briefings on the Fulbright Program's history and its place in the bi-national relationship between Australia and the U.S., as well as the administrative realities of visas and healthcare, were delivered by Commission staff.

As part of the program Scholars visited Parliament House and attended a fiery pre-election question time, which proved a highlight for all.

The Enrichment Dinner at Old Parliament House, hosted by the Commission and the Australian Fulbright Alumni Association, introduced Scholars to the wider ACT Fulbright Community.

Dr Daniel Clune, Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy, spoke at the dinner about

the unique opportunities a Fulbright Scholarship provides and the role it plays in the Australian-U.S. relationship.

"In my position I have the privilege of seeing up close the work that goes in to make the very special relationship between the United States and Australia, and how that relationship benefits both of our peoples," he said.

"It is my honor to be here tonight with a select group of individuals who will also be making important contributions to that relationship: the 2007 U.S. Fulbright Scholars."

Mr Clune spoke about the quality of the Fulbright Scholars and how it has made him very optimistic about the future of our two countries.

"The diversity of your areas of interests, from webcast performances to shell development in abalone to refugees and asylum seekers, is representative of the great diversity of the United States. And your research on these issues will undoubtedly further the ties between our two nations."

In concluding he wished the Scholars well for their time in Australia and urged them to enjoy Australian culture and hospitality.

"When you are filming your documentary on a farm in the outback or doing your research in the middle of the Great Barrier Reef, I hope you enjoy the experience of living Down Under, as we do, and take advantage of that legendary Aussie hospitality. If you happen to eat a meat pie and enjoy a Victoria Bitter along the way that is even better!"

"I'm 100% certain that your careers will be just as distinguished as those of your predecessors," he said.

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ED News

It was a pleasure to welcome the 2007 Fulbright U.S. Scholars to Canberra for their Enrichment Seminar in September. The Seminar has become a core part of U.S. Scholar's experience in Australia allowing them the opportunity to connect with the Fulbright Program, each other and Canberra, as the nation's capital.

Building on this connection with U.S. Scholars it is exciting to be now working with the Australian Fulbright Alumni Association and Alumni to create U.S. Alumni Chapters in the East and West Coast and the Midwest. With

over 2,000 U.S. Alumni who have been Fulbright Scholars to Australia, there are a rich variety of ongoing professional networks, collaborations, stories and experiences.

Thank you to all who contributed to the recent U.S. weekend seminars and NYC reception. It was special to hear from the Australian Consuls General - Innes Willox from Los Angeles, Bob Charles in Chicago and John Olsen in New York - updating the U.S. Alumni and welcoming the 2007 Australian Fulbright Scholars to America.

The recent Alumni Initiative Grant is also a clear indication of the value of the ongoing connections that Fulbright Scholars build at an institutional level, with long term impact. We look forward to establishing this as an ongoing grant that articulates the long term value of the Fulbright program.

My congratulations to the University of Western Australia, Centre for Muslim States and Societies and their Director, Dr Samina Yasmeen for a very successful Fulbright Symposium on "Muslim Citizens in the West - Promoting Social Inclusion" in August. The symposium featured a wide range of quality speakers and visits to Canberra with government Ministers and departments.

Following on from the inaugural Fulbright ANU Distinguished Chair in 2006 we look forward to welcoming two Fulbright ANU Distinguished Chairs in 2008. In a U.S. presidential election year the Commission will welcome Associate Professor Patricia Sykes, from American University (Jan - May) as the 2007-2008 Chair; and Associate Professor James Lingle (Aug - Dec) as the 2008-2009 Chair. Both will undertake national speaking tours during their terms and be involved in commentary on the U.S. presidential primaries and election.

My thanks to our sponsors, Board members, Alumni, Fulbright staff and Selection Committees for their contribution to a very successful 2007 for the Australian Fulbright Program. Best wishes from the Commission for a happy holiday season and productive new year.

We look forward to seeing you in Perth for the 2008 Fulbright Presentation Dinner on 13 March. This will be the first Fulbright Dinner ever held in the West and will recognise the 2008 Australian Fulbright Scholars, including the inaugural Fulbright Western Australian and Queensland Scholars.

Mark Darby, Executive Director

Women as Executive Leaders

Dr Patricia Sykes, an Associate Professor in the Department of Government at American University, is the 2007 Fulbright Australian National University (ANU) Distinguished Chair in American Political Science.

Patricia will join the ANU for five months from January 2008 to continue her current research on women as executive leaders in Anglo-American systems. She will also start collaborative projects with ANU faculty members and deliver a series of visiting guest lectures throughout Australia on the 2008 presidential election.

"Anglo-American systems often serve as models of democracy in political science and in global politics, but the experiences of women leaders as executives call into question the democratic character of those regimes," explained Patricia.

"Political scientists in the U.S. tend to study the U.S. alone, an approach that fosters American exceptionalism in scholarship and practical politics. Comparative analysis highlights the significance of the fundamental ideas and institutions that the U.S. shares with other Anglo nations," she said.

Patricia believes gender analysis of executive leadership in Anglo-American systems can reveal why so few women succeed. "Gender studies and research on executive leadership constitute separate subfields that rarely overlap empirically or theoretically. Scholars

who investigate the role of women in politics have increased our knowledge about women legislators and the under representation of women in politics across countries," she said.

To date Patricia has conducted field research and interviewed women leaders in four of the six countries she is focusing on for her book. She will complete interviews in the remaining two, the U.S. and Canada, this year. Patricia will have most of her book drafted by the time she arrives in Australia and she intends to use her Fulbright to conduct the additional interviews she needs for her work on Australia.

Patricia will work with ANU faculty members, in particular John Hart, on a project on parties and another on the presidentialisation of the post of prime minister, and also with Professor Marian Sawer on a study of the fate of 'femocrats' and their Anglo counterparts in conservative times.

Patricia is a graduate of Boston College and completed a PhD in Political Science at Yale University.

She was a Fulbright Senior Scholar at Trinity College Dublin in Ireland in 1997-98. Her publications include two books: *Presidents and Prime Minister: Conviction Politics in the Anglo-American Tradition* and *Losing from the Inside: the Cost of Conflict in the British Social Democratic Party*. She has also published articles in such journals as



Dr Patricia Sykes

The Australian National University (ANU) Distinguished Chair in American Political Science was established by the ANU and the Fulbright Commission in 2005.

The Scholarship brings a noted U.S. Scholar in political science to Australia each year to undertake research, build collaborative links and share their knowledge through a range of speaking events around Australia. The intention is to increase awareness of the study of American politics and government in Australia and promote collaborative and comparative research in political science between the two countries.

Presidential Studies Quarterly and Studies in American Political Development. Patricia was the recipient of the National Endowment for Humanities Award in 1990. Patricia's speaking schedule for March - May 2008 will be available in the new year on the Commission website - www.fulbright.com.au



2007 Visual & Performing Arts Scholar, Amy Ellks, performs at the New York reception.



Australian Consul General, John Olsen; Fulbright Alumna, Donna Langley-Peck; and Edward Peck at the New York reception.



San Diego weekend participants enjoying a tour of the Birch Aquarium.

U.S. Events

The U.S. Alumni Seminar Weekends and Receptions held across the U.S. during October, were a celebration of the links between Australia and the United States that have grown out of Fulbright experiences over the last 58 years. Alumni and current Scholars came from across the U.S. to attend the events.

They began in La Jolla, San Diego with UC San Diego welcoming U.S. Alumni and current Scholars to their campus. The highlight of the weekend was the seminar where U.S. and Australian Alumni and current Scholars shared their Fulbright experiences, exploring a range of exciting projects and ongoing links between Australia and the U.S.

One of the inaugural Fulbright Alumni Initiative Grant recipients, Scott Carroll from UC Davis (fresh off the plane from Australia), gave a report on his project and its exciting long term outcomes. (see page 4)

Whilst the majority of the Fulbright Scholars at the weekend were based in California, some current scholars travelled from as far as New York to experience a different part of the USA. The reunion took place in La Jolla, a beautiful seaside town that reminded some scholars of Sydney's Bondi. We were given a tour of the UC San Diego campus, including the bizarre-shaped library named in honour of benefactor Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss).

The scholars were from an amazing range of fields and careers and their presentations were enjoyably mind-opening for those of us who live and work in narrow academic circles, such as myself in chemistry. I was especially interested to hear about Margo Wixsom's work with primary school children in Australia, and to see her coat that was made entirely from brushtail possum skins. Leah Curtis talked about her studies and exciting career in film scoring. Other activities included a tour of the Birch Aquarium and a guided walk along the sea cliffs.

The west coast seminar was one of my best experiences in the USA so far.

Oscar Potter, 2007 Postgraduate Scholar at UC Berkeley

The San Diego program included dinner with the Australian Consul General in LA, Innes Willox, who spoke about the depth of relationships that connect Australia and the U.S. He commented about the breadth of partnerships between the two countries and advocated activities that maintain these relationships.

The Midwest weekend was hosted at Northwestern University in Chicago and also included a seminar which highlighted the ongoing collaboration to come out of Fulbright scholarships. The Northwestern dinner was attended by the Australian Consul General in Chicago, Bob Charles, who encouraged building more linkages and student mobility between Australia and the Midwest.

The U.S. events finished in New York City with a reception to welcome the 2007 Australian Scholars to the U.S. The Australian Consul General, John Olsen, welcomed Scholars and Alumni to New York, and introduced the G'day Australia Week initiative that is now a central focus of the promotion of Australia in the U.S. every January. The reception featured a flute performance by Amy Ellks, the 2007 Australian Visual and Performing Arts Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar currently studying at Mann's College in NYC.

In connection with these events presentations in collaboration with John Hayton and Krista Northrup from Australian Education International (AEI)

It's always interesting being around accomplished people, but this was an event where the group - Americans and Australians - was also outgoing and friendly. Thoroughly enjoyable.

Michael Sharpe, 1963 Australian Scholar

The Australian-American Fulbright Seminar was great fun. This was my first ever face-to-face contact with Fulbright. When I visited Australia in 1990/91, I had no contact with anyone from the Fulbright organisation. But I am a big fan of this exchange. My Fulbright changed the course of my career and, based on my discussion with others over the weekend, I am not alone in that regard! I was extremely pleased to be embraced by the Fulbright Alumni family. It was also wonderful to meet some of the extremely bright and talented class of Australian Scholars visiting the States this year.

Tom Hertel, 1990 U.S. Senior Scholar

The Enrichment Seminar at Northwestern University provided us with an excellent opportunity to meet, and share experiences with, former U.S. Fulbright scholars who undertook their scholarships in Australia. Hearing their stories, not only in relation to their time in Australia but also about the continuing links and projects they have developed since returning to the U.S., gave us the chance to reflect on our own opportunities as future Fulbright alumni.

Rowena White, 2007 Australian Postgraduate Scholar at Harvard University

were also given on study and research opportunities in Australia (including Fulbright) at a number of local universities.

U.S. Alumni chapter formation

The Australian Fulbright Alumni Association (AFAA) has taken an exciting decision to establish three regional chapters in the U.S. and the recent U.S. events provided a chance to announce these chapters and call for nominations for Chairs and Secretaries.

The establishment of U.S. chapters has the support of the Fulbright Commission and it is hoped they will link into the Australian Consulates in New York City, Los Angeles and Chicago. The chapters will therefore focus on the East, West and Midwest regions, and have similar goals and responsibilities to each of the Australian chapters.

The announcement of Chairs and Secretaries for the new U.S. chapters will be in the March newsletter.

Alumni Initiative Grant winners

Elizabeth Madin from the University of California, Santa Barbara and Scott Carroll, University of California, Davis are the inaugural winners of the Fulbright Alumni Initiative Grant for 2007. The Fulbright Grant is designed to assist alumni of the Australian-American Fulbright Commission to continue to cultivate collaboration and relationships with institutions which the alumnus was involved with during their Fulbright Scholarship. (The 2008 grant year application process will open on 1 February 2008 – details can be found at www.fulbright.com.au)



Elizabeth Madin

Elizabeth Madin, currently with the Marine Science Institute and Department of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), is headed to Australia to work with the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) on ocean ecosystems for her Alumni Initiative Grant.

Elizabeth was a Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar to Australia in 1999 and will return to Queensland to work with AIMS on a project to understand how a variety of human impacts on ocean ecosystems alter the way marine food webs work.

"A number of researchers at UCSB and AIMS, and other institutions globally, have been examining whether removing top predators, for example sharks and other large predators, from ocean ecosystems has cascading effects on other parts of the system. Such knock-on effects are known in marine ecology as 'trophic cascades'."

"The AIMS Long-Term Monitoring Program (LTMP) database provides a highly unique tool to explore the community-wide consequences of predator loss on coral reefs over unusually large spatial and temporal scales. Our project will explore the potential use of this comprehensive, high-quality reef monitoring dataset to assess community-level trophic cascades" Elizabeth said.

"The coral reef system of the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) provides an ideal 'natural experiment' by which to examine the community-wide consequences of predator loss over such large spatial and temporal scales."

This project is a natural outgrowth of Elizabeth's original Fulbright research at

James Cook University, which focused on the social, or human-based, dimension of marine conservation.

Elizabeth believes the project will directly benefit AIMS and UCSB in two primary ways: "Scientifically, this work will draw together parallel lines of research currently being pursued by individuals at these institutions in different biogeographic regions. Secondly, and equally importantly, this project will provide a formal institutional linkage between these two world-class marine science institutes."

Scott Carroll

Dr Scott Carroll, currently with the Centre for Population Biology at the University of California, Davis, worked with The University of Queensland on a project on *Evolutionary Conservation Biology* in August-September 2007.

Scott was a Senior Scholar to Australia in 2003 at The University of Queensland and returned to this Australian institution to build on UQ's existing relationship with the University of California, Davis in this area.

"Building on our published discoveries of contemporary evolution in Australian and American ecosystems, we will foster a new applied sub-discipline, 'Evolutionary Conservation Biology'. Ongoing evolution may be harnessed to protect natural communities faced with global change."

"In meetings with colleagues who manage human-altered environments, we will elucidate prospects for evolutionary solutions. We will use the linkages created to initiate an international centre for applied evolutionary biology to coordinate our efforts," explains Scott.

"My original program asked whether members of native Australian communities

could evolve fast enough to serve as agents of a heretofore unrecognised form of containment for invasive organisms, 'adaptive biological control'."

"In fifteen peer-reviewed papers, an edited volume and an edited textbook that have followed since my return to UC-Davis in mid-2004, my colleagues and I have built on that discovery to consider the deeper implications of our findings for evolutionary biology, and the broader implications for conservation biology. Just as other disciplines of biology, from agriculture to medicine, have benefited in recent years from an overdue marriage to Evolutionary Biology, Conservation Biology is poised to take the same productive step."

"This development is mandated by the discovery that many, if not most, organisms in disturbed habitats are evolving in response to environmental change. The organic processes we have set in motion represent the major challenges, and opportunities, for creating a sustainable Conservation Biology in the coming decades," according to Scott. "Promising evolutionary applications in medicine and agriculture are also being developed, but those efforts are mutually isolated, both professionally and conceptually. To unite the strengths of these fields, in 2009 we will convene the first summit of evolutionary biologists with innovators in medicine, agriculture, and environmental sciences, as well as government leaders and industry stakeholders."

The relationship between UQ and UC-Davis will benefit from the greater and more formalised relations that this project can generate, believes Scott. "In addition, as environmental concerns will likely be the chief issue of the century, such relations may be readily extended to other partner institutions, both urban and rural."

Fulbright Symposium promotes social inclusion for Muslims



Mr Ahmed Fahour delivering the Symposium keynote address

The University of Western Australia's Centre for Muslim States and Societies brought together an impressive line-up of local, national and international experts at this year's Fulbright Symposium on the topic *Muslim Citizens in the West: Promoting Social Inclusion*, held in early August.

Symposium convenor Associate Professor Samina Yasmeen, said the Symposium was an opportunity to focus on the interaction between social, political, economic, cultural and religious factors that may contribute to the inclusion or exclusion of Muslims in the West.

There was a wide group of U.S., Australian and international speakers, with the keynote speaker being Mr Ahmed Fahour, Executive Director and CEO of National Australia Bank, who as a prominent Australian of Muslim-Lebanese background shared personal reflections on the topic. The following is an extract from his address.

"The Symposium topic – Muslim Citizens in the West: Promoting Social Inclusion – is a subject never more critically important than today. It is an issue of tremendous concern and symposiums like these help to promote understanding and respect that must lie at the heart of strong, sustainable multicultural communities.

The divide between the Muslim World, or at least substantial parts of it and the west, is an affront to good order. It is an affront to our shared humanity.

In my comments today, I would like to share some personal reflections on being both an Australian and a Muslim. I also want to offer a perspective on social inclusion...to say something on what underpins it and how we might support it.

Back in April this year, I was interviewed by the Sydney Morning Herald as part of a series

of articles entitled "Face of Islam". It was one of the few occasions where I have spoken publicly about my heritage and my religion and how it informs my life and my work. Early in the article, the journalist wrote...

"Until now, Fahour has had little to say about his religion; he does not hide it, but nor does he feel the need to discuss it much in public. He wants to be judged on his work."

It's certainly a fair comment as it applies to me; but I think the comment can apply to Australians more broadly. It is not that religion is unimportant - to me, or to Australian Catholics or Australian Jews for that matter. It is important. But I tend to wear it privately rather than feel the need for public demonstration.

That said, I am a Muslim and I carry the burden and worries about what is happening in the world today. While I have never found it difficult to be Australian and a Muslim, I am profoundly conscious that this is not the case for a significant number of Muslims in Australia today.

I personally have never experienced a fundamental tension between what might be described as Australian values – in the positive sense of values – and the dictates of the Koran.

Clearly the events of September 11, Bali and, more recently, the London Underground bombing, have changed the dynamic for Muslims in the West – and I do not underestimate the consequential challenges which these incidents present.

For my part, growing up in the northern suburbs of Melbourne, I never found it necessary to compartmentalise my Lebanese origins, my Muslim faith or the experience of my newly adopted land.

My schooling was eclectic; I attended state and catholic primary schools and my secondary education was with the Marist Brothers. At school I learnt to make the sign of the cross and prayed for the Pope; at home, we learnt from the Book and spoke Arabic.

It was Mum's job to make me a good little Muslim boy; she was constantly calling on Allah to bless her son and would drag me along to the mosque. I liked the Marist Brothers and I loved our Iman (Sheik Fehmi).

The community was working class; no one had much money and kids played in the streets and in the nearby parks. Turks lived alongside Maltese; Lebs alongside Italians; Yugoslavs alongside the Greeks. We were a large family and large families were the norm. The smells in the street at dinner time are the most joyful of memories.

There was the occasional local tension or spat but there was little time for this given

the sheer industry required of these immigrant families just to get on in life – get a job, buy a car, pay off the house and educate the kids.

It was at university that I really began to appreciate the opportunities opening up for me. Latrobe University in Melbourne was not one of the established "sandstone" universities; but what it lacked in tradition it made up in diversity.

It was a complete melting pot of nationalities, ideologies and opinions. I had wonderful teachers and no problem in being accepted – just another working class wog with a strong work ethic.

After a number of years in management consulting and some further study under my belt, I found myself in New York in 2001. September 11 was a turning point in my life.

I was in Manhattan that fateful day riding in the Subway. I experienced the madness and the terror; I saw the devastation. I knew people who worked in the World Trade Centre. I knew people who died in the World Trade Centre.

Before September 11, I was not self-conscious about my Muslim heritage. After September 11, I couldn't help but feel self-conscious. I was an Australian living in New York and yet I felt the need to plant American flags in my front yard. I needed to feel solidarity with the victims; I needed to indicate which side I was on.

Whatever we think of George Bush, the war on terror is not a figment of his imagination. But it is a war against terrorism, not a war against Islam. It is a war against terrorists, not against Muslims.

It was inevitable that September 11 would change America – how could it not?"

To read Mr Fahour's full address visit the Fulbright website at www.fulbright.com.au

The aim of the annual Symposium, sponsored by the Australian-American Fulbright Commission, is to publicly demonstrate the Commission's mission of "promoting mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and Australia through educational and cultural exchange".

Topics are of binational interest between Australia and the United States and engage leading speakers from both countries.

Hosting rights for the annual symposium are awarded by the Australian-American Fulbright Commission following a national competition. Applications to host the 2009 Symposium close 31 July 2008.

Further information can be found at www.fulbright.com.au/events/fulbright_symposium.htm

Alumni – keeping connected

Professor David Konstan - 1988 U.S. Senior Scholar



FROM: Brown University
TO: Monash University
CURRENTLY: John Rowe Workman Professor of Classics and the Humanistic Tradition, Professor of Comparative Literature, Brown University.

My B.A. was in mathematics; in my senior year of college, I began ancient Greek and Latin, and went on to obtain a doctorate in classics.

I have been at Brown since 1987, and since 1992 have been the John Rowe Workman Distinguished Professor of Classics and the Humanistic Tradition. I am also a Professor in Comparative Literature, and in the Graduate Faculty of Theatre, Speech and Dance. Prior to coming to Brown, I taught for 20 years at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

I have held visiting appointments at various universities, including the Autonomous National University of Mexico, University of Otago in New Zealand, the University of Edinburgh, the Universidade de São Paulo, the University of La Plata in Argentina, the University of Sydney, Monash University, and the American University in Cairo.

As far as my editorial responsibilities go, I am an Associate Editor of *Arethusa*, and on the editorial boards of several journals, including *Scholias* (South Africa and New Zealand), *Intertexts*, *Apeiron*, *Phaos* (Brazil), *Logo* (Spain), *Nova Tellus* (Mexico), *Nigeria and the Classics* (Nigeria), and *Ordia Prima* (Argentina). I am also co-editor of the series *Writings from the Greco-Roman World Series*, published by the Society of Biblical Literature.

David's Fulbright project, 'Ancient Comedy and Society: Comparative Perspectives', involved directing a seminar and delivering a series of lectures on the social interpretation of ancient Greek and Roman comedy, with special attention to the comparative analysis of classical and modern comedy.

Professor Kevin Hart - 1977 Australian Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar



FROM: The Australian National University
TO: Stanford University.
CURRENTLY: Edwin B. Kyle Professor of Christian Studies, Department of Religious Studies, University of Virginia

My Fulbright year at Stanford University in 1977-78 was one of the most important of my life. I was supposed to attend classes run by Professor Donald Davie, though I quickly chose instead to audit Professor Van A. Harvey's graduate seminar on nineteenth- and twentieth-century theology.

Over the year I read a great deal of German idealist philosophy and German theology. I would sit in my apartment and read Hegel in the morning, and Barth in the afternoon. Every couple of days

I would cycle to the campus and come back with another heavy pile of books.

What was most important to me about my Fulbright year is that I didn't have to do any courses or papers. I spent the year in solitude reading and thinking. After that year, I was able to come up with an original topic for my doctoral dissertation and to write it quickly. The topic was using Jacques Derrida's theory of deconstruction as a way of understanding apophatic or negative theologies. As it happens, much of my academic work has become centered on the sort of philosophy and theology that I read in 1977-78.

In my Fulbright year I discovered, mostly by chance, some of the poets whose work has meant a great deal to me over the years. I would not have encountered the range and depth of South American poetry had I not spent time in California. But, once again, it was the silence and solitude that was of overwhelming importance to me. In that year I came to realise who I was and what I wanted to do; and I would have been able to avoid that complex realisation had I been required to do courses, write essays, and get a degree.

Dr Stacey Jupiter - 2002 U.S. Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar



FROM: University of California, Santa Cruz
TO: The University of Queensland
CURRENTLY: Postdoctoral Research Fellow, ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, The Australian National University.

Through my Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarship to the University of Queensland, I was able to initiate research that formed the basis of my doctoral dissertation investigating links between land clearing and

changes to near-shore water quality at the reefs around Mackay, Queensland. During my Fulbright, I co-authored a successful Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant that provided continued funding for the project for the following 3 years. It was largely because of this achievement that I was asked to apply for my current position in the new ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, where I am now a research fellow at both the Australian National University and the Australian Institute of Marine Sciences.

I continue to address issues regarding land-pollution threats to coral reefs, both in Australia and abroad. I am currently organising an international symposium in Kenya, which will bring together researchers and managers to discuss the future of coastal reef systems in a rapidly industrialising world.

In the news



Fulbright alumnus new Universities Australia CEO

Fulbright alumnus Dr Glen Withers AO is the new Chief Executive Officer of Universities Australia and started in the position last month.

Dr Withers graduated in Economics with first-class honours from Monash University.

In 1970, when he was at La Trobe University, he received a Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarship to study economics at Harvard University, where he obtained both a Masters and a PhD.

Dr Withers is delighted with his Universities Australia appointment: "A dynamic university sector is essential for Australia. I relish a central role in enhancing the position of Australia's universities, a case I passionately believe in," Dr Withers said.

Dr Withers has extensive experience working with government, industry, and the university sector. For the past ten years he has been the Professor of Public Policy and Deputy Director, Crawford School of Economics and Government at the Australian National University, and is also a Professor at the Australian and New Zealand School of Government.

He was awarded an Order of Australia in 1992 for service to applied economics, particularly in the areas of immigration and population research.



Dr Surya Singh (left) at his presentation at Murdoch College, Perth

High school robotics

American 2006 Fulbright Scholar Dr Surya Singh got out into the community in August, speaking to over 200 high school students and educators on how robotics and design not only spans disciplines, but also crosses borders.

Coordinated by the U.S. Consulate in Perth, the talk was held at Murdoch College, with an audience made up of students and educators from local Christian, Islamic and public schools.

Dr Singh gave examples from his own research in speaking to the group and explained how numerous gaps in this field create opportunities in the area of design.

He talked about the need to find smarter ways to work and the importance of

working past today's trends and exploring opportunities for the future. Dr Singh was very engaging according to audience members, and a local educator and Sheikh said the talk was brilliant and inspiring: "It left an indelible mark on the students' outlook in this discipline".

Other educators wanted to know how they could use the same material to get their students interested in the field of design and engineering.

Dr Singh is a lecturer of Mechatronics at UWA. He holds a PhD from Stanford and has done research in Japan as well as in Australia. His research includes methods for robot sensing in fields ranging from animal locomotion to landmine clearing.



Carrick award for Amelia

Amelia Simpson, Federal Vice-President of the Australian Fulbright Alumni Association (AFAA), was awarded a Carrick Institute Citation for Teaching for 2007 in August.

Amelia Simpson, Senior Lecturer in the College of Law at the Australian National University, was named a recipient of a Carrick Citation for challenging students to engage critically and reflectively with public law in a spirit of joint enterprise and an empowering classroom environment.

The citation came under the category of Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning for 2007.

The Carrick awards are granted annually by the Carrick Institute, which was set up by the Australian Government in 2004 to promote and reward excellence in tertiary education.

Events and dates for 2007/2008

December

Thursday 6 December

Fulbright Reception for Harriet Fulbright National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Friday 7 December 4pm

International Forum with Harriet Fulbright – Topic: The role of arts and the humanities in building international understanding.

The Assembly Hall, Room 300 Old Teachers' College, The University of Sydney

Friday 7 December 6pm

Fulbright Reception hosted by U.S. Consul General, Judith Fergin

March

Thursday 13 March

2008 Fulbright Presentation Dinner Winthrop Hall, The University of Western Australia

March-May

State Receptions will be held from March to May to recognise the 2008 Australian Fulbright Scholars in each state. More details can we found at www.fulbright.com.au



Dr Sue Stanton



Invitation

Professor James McWha Vice-Chancellor and President



The Fulbright Program is one of the most prestigious educational scholarship programs in the world. It operates between the United States and over 150 countries worldwide.

It was established in Australia in 1949 and since then 103 of our graduates have been awarded with this prestigious Scholarship.

The Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha, invites you to celebrate the unveiling of the University of Adelaide Fulbright Honour Board.

Date: Friday 23 November 2007
Venue: Basten Room, Level 1 Mitchell Building University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus
Time: 5.00pm
RSVP: Maria Mesa
Email: maria.mesa@adelaide.edu.au
Phone: (08) 8303 6381

Drinks and finger food will be provided.



The University of Adelaide will be the first Australian university to honour their Fulbright Scholars over the last 58 years with an Honours Board and a celebration event.

An Indigenous Scholar first

Fulbright alumnus Associate Professor Sue Stanton, a Kungarakan-Gurindji woman, made history in early October when she became the first Aboriginal person to receive a Doctor of Philosophy in Arts (thesis based) from Charles Darwin University (CDU).

Sue has been an Associate Professor at the University of Wollongong in 2007 and in 2008 takes up a position with the School of Australian Indigenous Knowledge Systems at Charles Darwin University.

Her thesis entitled *'Coloureds and Catholics: A colonial subject's narrative of the factors and processes that led to the colonisation and conversion of Coloureds at Garden Point Mission, 1941-1967'*, examined some of the factors and processes involved in the colonisation of the north.

Dr Stanton graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (History) from the former Northern Territory University (now CDU) in 1995.

She was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1995 when she was then a PhD student which enabled her to complete a Masters degree (*American Indian Studies: Law and*

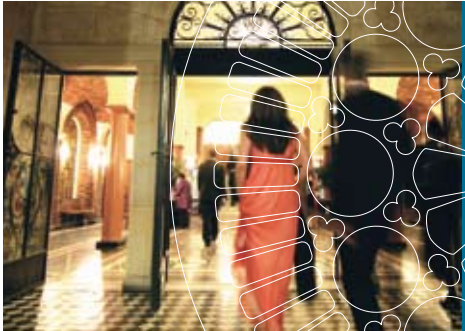
Policy – International Indigenous Human Rights Law) on comparative Indigenous histories and the impact of colonisation at the University of Arizona. Sue also completed a Minority Leaders Fellowship at South Western University, Washington DC, whilst an intern in the Office of Reverend Jesse Jackson.

On her return to Australia Dr Stanton worked in various academic and administrative positions at CDU and in 2007 has been with the University of Wollongong as an Associate Professor in the School of History and Politics, Faculty of Arts.

Dr Stanton said that *Coloureds and Catholics* was a colonised subject's historical narrative establishing some of the truths about the forces of colonialism.

"The aim of the work is to offer alternative narratives which might encourage different views into mainstream history and Aboriginal studies curricula."

Dr Stanton said that the research method involved a mixture of personal interviews as well as a substantive literature review of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous reactions and responses to a wide range of Aboriginal and Indigenous historical and other data.



2008 Fulbright Presentation Dinner

To congratulate and recognise the 2008 Australian Fulbright Scholars

TIME: 6.30pm, Thursday 13 March 2008

PLACE: Winthrop Hall, The University of Western Australia

Invitations will be sent closer to the date

DIARY NOTE

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