

# New Fulbright Distinguished Chair program created

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The Australian-American Fulbright Commission acting Executive Director, Ms Lyndell Wilson, has welcomed the establishment of a new Distinguished Chair program through a partnership with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation and the Commission.

[The Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Advanced Science and Technology was launched today at Parliament House by the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon.](#)

The Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Advanced Science and Technology will bring to Australia a distinguished U.S. researcher to share knowledge and build links with Australian researchers in key issues facing both countries.

“We are delighted to partner with the DSTO to create this opportunity,” Ms Wilson said. “The Fulbright Distinguished Chair Program is held in high esteem globally, and as such, attracts eminent U.S. scholars with impressive research and publication records.”

The Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Advanced Science and Technology will complement the Commission’s existing programs for U.S. Scholars which include another Distinguished Chair in American Political Science hosted by Flinders University; and a postgraduate scholarship sponsored by the CSIRO, which brings a U.S. postgraduate scholar to work with the organisation in one of its Flagship Programs.

“We look forward to welcoming the recipients of the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Advanced Science and Technology to Australia over the coming years,” Ms Wilson said.

The prestigious Fulbright Program is the largest educational scholarship of its kind and was created by U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright and the U.S. Government in 1946. Aimed at promoting mutual understanding through educational exchange, it currently operates between the U.S. and 155 other nations.

The Australian-American Fulbright Program was established in 1949 through a bi-national between the Australian and U.S. governments. The Prime Minister of Australia and the U.S. Ambassador serve as Honorary Co-Chairs. The Program is funded by both governments and a generous group of sponsors, and awards about 50 Fulbright Scholarships every year to Australians and Americans.

Applications for the Distinguished Chair Program open in February and close in August each year. The first applications for the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Advanced Science and Technology will be received in 2012.