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Fulbright Arctic Initiative: Program Overview for Applicants

September 6, 2017

Presenters:

Susan Muendl

Institute of International
Education (IIE)

Steve Money

U.S. Department of
State



Presentation Overview

- Introduction
- Fulbright Scholar Program Overview
- Arctic Initiative Overview
- Application Process
- Q&A



*“The Fulbright Arctic Initiative operates on the premise that the application of **innovative collaborative research** models and the **growth of educational networks** are essential to create the problem solving capacity required to address Arctic issues and policy challenges.”*

- Michael Sfraga and Ross Virginia, Fulbright Arctic Initiative Co-Lead Scholars



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Fulbright Scholar Program: Legacy



Senator J. William Fulbright (1905-1995)

“International education exchange is the most significant current project designed to continue the process of humanizing mankind to the point, we would hope, that nations can learn to live in peace.”

- Established 1946
- Sends U.S. academics and professionals overseas and brings scholars and professionals from abroad to the U.S.
- Sponsored by U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- Administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE)
- 360,000+ Alumni worldwide including 53 Nobel Prize winners and 30 heads of state or government



Fulbright's Engagement in the Arctic

- Inaugural Fulbright Arctic Initiative 2015-2016
- Robust history of grants to students and scholars from the U.S. and partner countries to study climate, environment, and people of the Arctic
 - Lecturing or Research Grants
 - Grant lengths from 2 weeks to 18 months
 - All fields
 - Norway, Canada, Iceland, and others



The Arctic Initiative: A Different Fulbright Model

- Multi-lateral
- Multi-disciplinary
- Interactive and responsive
- Applied
- Policy relevant
- Community involvement
- Public outreach



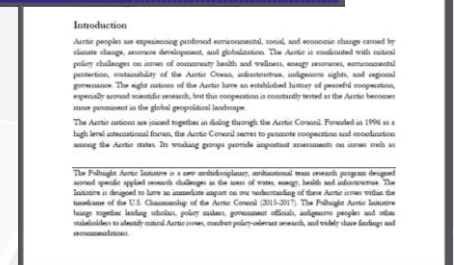
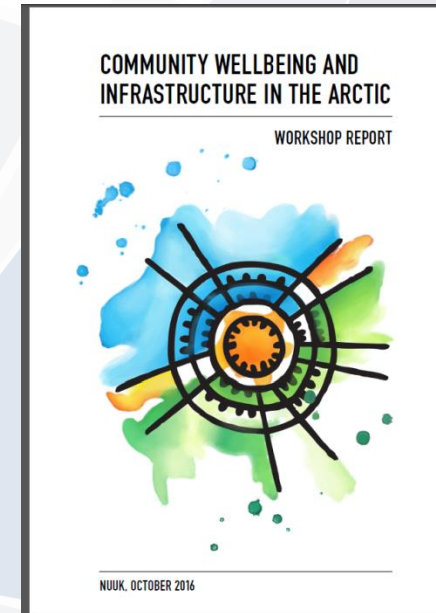
Fulbright Arctic I: by the Numbers

- 8 Nations
- 17 Scholars, 2 Co-Lead Scholars
- 12 Disciplines
Anthropology, Biological Sciences, Economics, Engineering, Environmental Sciences, Geography, Law, Political Science, Public Health, Sociology, Studio Art, Urban Planning
- 3 Thematic Working Groups, 4 Focal Areas
Water, Energy, Health and Infrastructure
- 18 Months



Fulbright Arctic I: Products and Outcomes

- Original research
- Policy recommendations
- Conferences and workshops
- Leveraged funding
- Community engagement
- Post-program collaborations



Fulbright Arctic Initiative II

- Will engage a network of scholars to stimulate international collaboration on Arctic issues
- Multidisciplinary and multinational research teams will address public-policy research questions relevant to Arctic nations' shared challenges and opportunities.



Lead Scholars

- Lead Scholars will provide Fulbright Arctic Initiative Scholars:
 - Intellectual leadership
 - Mentoring
 - Facilitate discussion and collaboration



Dr. Michael Sfraga
Director of the Polar
Initiative at the
Woodrow Wilson Center



Dr. Ross Virginia
Director of the
Institute of Arctic
Studies, Dartmouth



Fulbright Arctic Initiative II: Program Details

- 18 months: Spring 2018-Fall 2019
- Three in-person seminar meetings
- Individual Fulbright research exchange visit (6 – 12 weeks)
- Ongoing virtual collaboration
- Research Themes: **Resilient Communities & Sustainable Economies**



Research Themes

- Collaborative research will be built around two overlapping and inter-related themes:
 - **Resilient Communities**
 - **Sustainable Economies**
- Applicants will select a theme and explain how their research fits into these overarching areas of inquiry



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Program Activities

During the award period of Spring 2018 – Fall 2019, grantees will:

- Participate in three group seminars
- Complete a research exchange visit (minimum of 6-weeks up to 3 months)
- Collaborate virtually via regularly scheduled online meetings under the guidance of the lead scholars
- Share results of individual and collaborative research



Individual Exchange Visit

- Minimum of 6-weeks up to 3 months
- U.S. grantees will complete exchange visit in one of the 7 other Arctic countries.
- Non-U.S. grantees will complete exchange visit in the U.S.
- Letter of invitation recommended but not required



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Fulbright Arctic Initiative II: Eligibility

- Open to scholars at all career stages, to include applied researchers, professionals, and Indigenous and traditional knowledge experts active in the academic, public or private sectors.
- At least four of the scholars will be selected from the United States; at least one scholar will be selected from each of the other Arctic Council member states.



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Eligibility (cont.)

- Applications accepted from Arctic Council nations: United States, Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden or Russia.
- Non-U.S. applicants must be citizens of the country from which they are applying and residing in that country at the time of application
- U.S. citizenship and permanent residency in the United States is required for U.S. applicants
- Preference will be given to early or mid-career academics, applied researchers and/or professionals with research experience in the public, non-profit, or private sector
- A Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree is preferred. For professionals and practitioners outside academe, recognized professional standing and substantial professional accomplishments are required.
- Non-U.S. Scholars must demonstrate a proficiency in English



Financial Support and Benefits

- \$40,000 (USD) grant award per grantee
 - Supports travel to group program meetings, travel and maintenance for the exchange visit, research materials, and assistance
- Accommodations and meals for full group seminar meetings are provided independent of the grant award
- Limited accident and sickness insurance coverage



Application Deadlines

- International Applicants:
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017
 - International applicants should contact the Fulbright Commission in their home country
- U.S. Applicants:
MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2017
 - U.S. applicants submit applications to IIE



Timeline

- Notification of Selection: February 2018
- Opening Group Meeting (Canada): May 2018
- Mid-year Group Meeting (TBD): February 2019
- Individual Research Exchange Visits: Complete by September 2019
- Final Group Meeting (United States): Fall 2019



Required Application Materials

- Online application form
- Project statement
- References (3)
- Language proficiency (non-U.S. applicants)
- Curriculum vitae or resume
- Bibliography
- Letter of invitation (optional)



Project Statement

The project statement is your opportunity to explain your specific strengths as a candidate to reviewers and potential hosts. It must be persuasive and compelling.

Some key points the project statement should address:

- How your proposed research is connected to one of the program themes
- Your ability to perform collaborative research in a multi-disciplinary, team-based setting
- The public policy impact and practical significance of your research
- How you will integrate public outreach into your individual and team research agenda



Project Statement (cont.)

Additional points to address:

- How your personal and professional experience has prepared you for this type of program
- Why your research is important – what significance does it hold for your discipline?
- Why your research project needs to be carried out in the country you've selected
- How will your results be disseminated?

Please refer to the application instructions for detailed guidelines



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Q & A

We will answer as many questions as possible during today's broadcast.

If we do not get to your question, please contact arctic@iie.org

