

FULBRIGHT



A M B A S S A D O R

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’s Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)**



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Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

INSTITUTE OF
INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION

 CIES
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Exchange of Scholars



What We'll Discuss Today

- Why and How I applied for a Fulbright Scholar grant
- What I did on my Fulbright Scholar grant
- *Impact* of my Fulbright Scholar grant
 - Personally
 - Professionally
- Additional Fulbright Scholar opportunities
- How to Stay Engaged





Rita Keresztesi

- Associate Professor
- Graduate Director
- Department of English
- University of Oklahoma



Fulbright Scholar 2010-2011 Burkina Faso



- Lecturer and Researcher: Anglophone Studies Department
- University of Ouagadougou
- Topics: West African Cinema and African American Literature and Culture





Why I Chose to Apply

- **Professional Development:** Opportunity to live and work in West Africa and incorporate new knowledge and methods to my teaching and research.
- **Exposure to Different Cultures and Peoples:** Since I teach African Diaspora literary and cultural studies, going to West Africa was the ideal destination to enhance my academic skills.
- **Enrichment:** Chance to contribute to the host country, as well as to bring that expertise back to my own institution and create continued collaboration between them.
- **Prestige:** Recognition of scholarship and cultural exchange internationally.





Teaching African American Literature / Research on African Cinema

Lecture:

- Harlem Renaissance Poetry
- Senior Seminar on Theory
- English Club: Debate and Culture
- Supervise Master Theses
- Film series for students

Research:

- West African cinema
- Cross-cultural education in literature

Mentorship and Curriculum:

- Advising students
- Collaboration with colleagues in the department on course content and exchange of research papers.

Community Development and Cultural Exchange:

- Volunteer work in the community





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Personal and Professional Impact

Networking: Met new colleagues and professionals in literature, film, and music. I continue to exchange ideas and maintain communication with fellow professors and students, several of whom have continued their studies at American universities.

Enriched Curriculum: Introduced a new African Cinema course into my department's program that has attracted students from other disciplines and departments. Increased student diversity in my courses and the department.

New Programs: The university has established an African Studies Institute with programming in film and guest scholar lectures series, as well as the Journey to Africa summer course.

Rewarding Experience: Satisfaction in having left a positive impact on my students and colleagues at my host institution and created new courses and programs at my home university. Renewed cultural awareness and cross-cultural understanding.





Institutional Impact

Curriculum Development: Created a new course on West African Cinema and incorporated more international materials into existing courses, such as the Harlem Renaissance class that now includes a Pan-African unit.

Study Abroad: Advocated for a West Africa study abroad program besides the existing journey to Tanzania course. Will co-lead a summer program to Senegal and the Gambia.

Enhance International Engagement: Participated in several peer reviews for Fulbright scholars locally and nationally. Continue active participation in the African Studies Institute by inviting African scholars and Fulbright scholars to campus for guest lectures. Arranged for the visit of a Nigerian filmmaker to campus. Continue advising students who plan on participating in Fulbright and Study Abroad programs.





Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)

U.S. SCHOLAR Programs offer U.S. faculty, administrators and professionals grants to lecture, conduct research in a wide variety of academic and professional fields, or to participate in seminars.

NON-U.S. SCHOLAR Programs support the research and teaching of scholars visiting colleges and universities in the United States. These programs offer joint collaborative opportunities with U.S. Scholars.

Opportunities for U.S. INSTITUTIONS allow campuses to host Fulbright Visiting Scholars and professionals from abroad to lecture at U.S. colleges and universities.

www.cies.org





Other Fulbright Programs

Fulbright U.S. Student Program: For recent graduates, postgraduate candidates up through dissertation level and developing professionals and artists to study and research abroad

Fulbright Teacher Exchange Programs: Principally for primary- and secondary- level educators

Fulbright-Hays Awards: For faculty research, group projects and seminars abroad in certain social sciences and humanities fields

Learn more about IIE programs:

www.iie.org



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- Invite a Visiting Scholar to your campus through the [Outreach Lecturing Fund](#)
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