



2006

Fulbright New Zealand

Grantees Booklet

FULBRIGHT

NEW ZEALAND
TE TŪĀPAPA MĀTAURANGA
O AOTEAROA ME AMERIKA



Message from the Chair

On behalf of the Board of Fulbright New Zealand, congratulations to all of this year's grantees!!

This year we are proud to announce our largest ever group of New Zealand graduate students to study in the United States. These 22 young students are just some of over 50 New Zealand and American graduates, scholars and professionals to receive Fulbright awards this year.

Our vision has been to grow the New Zealand Fulbright programme to a point where every year there are 40 Fulbright graduate awards granted to each country. While we have some way to go with that, this year shows that we are on an upward trajectory.

We are pleased to see the new Fulbright-MoRST Graduate Awards coming into fruition with 12 grants to present in this first year. Our thanks again to Steve Maharey, Minister of Research, Science and Technology, to the government of New Zealand and to former Fulbrighter Dr Helen Anderson for MoRST's support.

With so many grantees, our annual awards presentation ceremony has grown as big as a graduation ceremony. I commend this booklet to you as evidence of the range of talent we have in this country, both those home grown here in New Zealand and the US Fulbrighters who have chosen New Zealand as the number one destination for furthering their development.

As alumni, sponsors and taxpayers, you all have made an investment in the further development of these talented people. Our examination of the benefits of these grants shows that the rate of return on investment for each Kiwi we send to the US is high – a US\$25,000 Fulbright grant to a PhD student can be turned into around \$700,000 worth of education!

The value of the extra education itself is priceless, and good news for the future of New Zealand is the fact that our grantees' visas require that they come back home in order that the knowledge gained through study at world class American tertiary institutions can be conveyed back home.

I wish our grantees all the best. We're sure that they will do both New Zealand and the United States proud with their achievements on the programme and in the future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Suzanne Snively". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Suzanne Snively
Chairperson of the Board, Fulbright New Zealand

Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

This highly prestigious and competitive scholarship is for a talented New Zealander in a knowledge economy-related field to study towards a Master's degree at an American university and to gain professional work experience in both the US and New Zealand. The scholarship has the following entitlements:

- return airfare to the US
- cost of university attendance support (fees and living costs) up to US\$100,000
- a paid internship of up to nine months duration
- access to employment or sweat equity venture capital contacts upon return to New Zealand
- basic health and accident insurance up to US\$50,000
- support and enrichment seminars run by the Institute of International Education (IIE) throughout the grantee's stay in the US

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research

This award, created in partnership with the Earthquake Commission, is for a promising graduate student to undertake postgraduate study or research at a US university in the area of natural disaster research, which, for the purposes of this award, is defined as “research into the risks posed by natural disasters, the hazards they present, their impact, society's vulnerability, mitigation and management measures.” The award has the following entitlements:

- return airfare to the US
- a one-off payment of up to US\$25,000
- basic health and accident insurance up to US\$50,000
- support and enrichment seminars run by IIE throughout the grantee's stay in the US





Privahini Bradoo

Privahini Bradoo from Auckland is the second recipient of the prestigious Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship. Privahini will complete a Master of Business Administration degree at the Harvard Business School in Boston.

Born in India, Privahini has lived and studied in New Zealand since 1998. She graduated from the University of Auckland with a Bachelor of Technology with First Class Honours (majoring in Biomedical Science) in 2002. She received a Foundation for Science, Research and Technology Bright Futures Enterprise Fellowship to complete a PhD (majoring in Neuroscience) at the University of Auckland's Liggins Institute. While studying, she served as the inaugural CEO of Spark* - the University of Auckland Entrepreneurship Challenge - and received a School of Business Dean's Award for outstanding leadership and innovation in 2004. She also founded Chiasma, an initiative aiming to encourage the spirit of enterprise amongst the university's biotech community.

Privahini looks forward to the experience and challenge of Harvard Business School, and her dream is to establish an innovative New Zealand biotech enterprise, ensuring that Kiwi ingenuity and excellence are taken to the world.



Clinton Mexted-Freeman

Clinton Mexted-Freeman from Porirua is this year's recipient of the Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research.

Clinton will complete a Master of Science degree, specialising in crisis, emergency and risk management, at the George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Clinton graduated from Victoria University of Wellington with a Bachelor of Commerce (majoring in Economics and eCommerce) in 2004 and a Bachelor of Science (majoring in Geophysics and Maths) in 2005. He received an Australian National University Honours Scholarship and Australian Institute of Geoscientists Honours Bursary to complete his Honours in Physics of the Earth (majoring in Seismology) at the Australian National University in Canberra in 2005.

Clinton plans to specialise his research in earthquake hazards, taking a multi-disciplinary approach to advance knowledge in the use of fault locations and earthquake magnitude for examining the dangers posed to both people and infrastructure. To this end, he will examine areas of both government legislation and engineering principles. Upon returning to New Zealand he hopes to apply his knowledge either within the building and construction industry or through local and central government.

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards

These awards are for promising graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research at a US institution in areas targeted to support growth and innovation in New Zealand. Broadly, this includes enabling technologies such as biotechnology and Information Communication Technology (ICT), emerging areas of science such as nanotechnology, and areas of study relevant to New Zealand's sustainable economic development and future economic growth. This includes, but is not limited to, research on food, agriculture, niche manufacturing, creative technologies, energy and environmental sciences.

The awards have the following entitlements:

- return airfare to the US
- a one-off payment of up to US\$25,000
- basic health and accident insurance up to US\$50,000
- support and enrichment seminars run by IIE throughout the grantee's stay in the US

This year, the inaugural year of Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards, 12 awards are being presented.





Skye Duncan

Skye Duncan from Wellington will complete a Master of Science degree, specialising in architecture and urban design, at Columbia University in New York.

Skye graduated with a BArch (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington in 2002 and has since worked for several architecture firms including, most recently, Athfield Architects Ltd.



Morgan Easton

Morgan Easton from South Canterbury will complete a Master of Science degree, specialising in agribusiness strategy and management, at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Morgan graduated with a BAgSc from Lincoln University in 2005, having spent a year on exchange to Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, where he studied agricultural and life sciences.



Elizabeth Forbes

Elizabeth Forbes from Gisborne will conduct research towards a PhD in Medical Sciences, specialising in allergy and immunology, at Cincinatti Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Elizabeth graduated with a BSc from Victoria University of Wellington in 2004 and has since been studying towards her PhD at the Australian National University in Canberra.



Rebekah Fuller

Rebekah Fuller, Nga Puhī and Te Rarawa, from Auckland will study towards a PhD in Botany, specialising in ethnobotany, at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in Honolulu.

Rebekah graduated with a BSc from the University of Auckland in 2001 and an MSc in 2004. She has since worked for several organisations including, most recently, Te Puni Kōkiri.



Benjamin Gerritsen

Benjamin Gerritsen from Auckland will complete a Master of Public Policy degree, specialising in energy economics and energy policy, at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Benjamin graduated with a BMS/LLB (Hons) from the University of Waikato in 2002. He has since worked at Buddle Findlay and Genesis Energy.



Christopher Loh

Christopher Loh from Auckland will conduct research into mobile services and applications at Columbia University's Institute for Tele-Information in New York.

Christopher graduated with an MSc from the University of Auckland in 1996 and a PGDipBus in 2005. He has since worked for several organisations including, most recently, IDC New Zealand Ltd.



Kathie Overeem

Kathie Overeem from Christchurch will conduct research into nitric oxide signalling and fear learning at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, towards a PhD in Psychology from the University of Canterbury.

Kathie graduated with an MSc from the University of Canterbury this year and is now enrolled in a PhD programme.



David Pattemore

David Pattemore from Auckland will study towards a PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, specialising in conservation ecology, at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey.

David graduated with an MSc from the University of Auckland in 2003 and has since worked for Forest and Bird.



Richard Pender

Richard Pender from Christchurch will complete a Master of Science degree, specialising in plant conservation and ecology, at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida.

Richard graduated with a DipHort (Wisely) from the Royal Horticultural Society in 2001 and a BSc from the University of Canterbury in 2005. He has since worked as a self-employed horticulturist.



Richard Pole

Dr Richard Pole from Christchurch will complete a Master of Business Administration degree, specialising in health management, at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Richard graduated with a MBChB from the University of Otago in 2002, a BA from the University of Canterbury in 2003 and a DipObstMedGyn from Otago in 2005. He has since worked at Wairau Hospital in Blenheim.



Rosanna Rahman

Rosanna Rahman from Dunedin will conduct research into stroke treatment, genetics and neuroimaging at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Rosanna graduated with a BSc (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington and Dalhousie University in 2001 and a PhD from the University of Otago this year.



Christopher Szeto

Christopher Szeto from Lower Hutt will study towards a PhD in Bioinformatics at the University of California Santa Cruz.

Christopher graduated with a BSc (Hons) from the University of Otago in 2004 and a BA in 2005. He has since worked for AgResearch in Wellington.

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

These awards are for promising graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field of study at a US institution.

The awards have the following entitlements:

- return airfare to the US
- a one-off payment of up to US\$25,000
- basic health and accident insurance up to US\$50,000
- support and enrichment seminars run by IIE throughout the grantee's stay in the US

This year 8 awards are being presented.



Aaron Church

Aaron Church from Ashburton will complete a Master of Business Administration degree at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management in Chicago.

Aaron graduated with a BCom from the University of Canterbury in 2000 and has since worked for several organisations including, most recently, the Boston Consulting Group.



Hannah Gerrard

Hannah Gerrard from Auckland will study towards a PhD in Literature, specialising in rhetoric, composition, literacy and pedagogy, at the University of Pittsburgh.

Hannah graduated with a BA from the University of Auckland in 2002 and an MA in 2004. She has since worked for Weldon Owen Education.



Stefanie Head

Stefanie Head from Wellington will study towards a PhD in Literature, specialising in African-American literature and literary theory, at the University of Rhode Island.

Stefanie graduated with a BA (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington in 2004 and an MA in 2005. She has since worked for the New Zealand Defence Force.



Tim Hume

Tim Hume from Auckland will complete a Master of Science degree in Journalism at Columbia University in New York.

Tim graduated with a BA from the University of Canterbury in 2001 and a GrDipJ (Distinction) in 2004. He has since worked for the Sunday Star-Times.



Michelle Menzies

Michelle Menzies from Auckland will study towards a PhD in Literature, specialising in cultural studies, interdisciplinary theory and cinema studies, at the University of Chicago.

Michelle graduated with a BA/BFA from the University of Auckland in 2004 and a BA (Hons) in 2005. She is a practising artist and works as a curator for Window, a University of Auckland contemporary art project.



Nicole Roughan

Nicole Roughan from Wellington will complete a Master of Laws degree, specialising in legal philosophy and international law, at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

Nicole graduated with an LLB/BA from the University of Auckland in 2005 and has since completed an LLM (Thesis) while working as an assistant lecturer at Victoria University of Wellington.



Katherine Sanders

Katherine Sanders from Wellington will complete a Master of Laws degree, specialising in constitutional and administrative law, at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

Katherine graduated with an LLB (Hons)/BA from the University of Auckland in 2004. She has since worked for the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court of New Zealand and, most recently, Chapman Tripp.



Lucila van Dam

Lucila van Dam from Wellington will complete a Master of Laws degree, specialising in criminal procedure and constitutional law, at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Lucila graduated with an LLB/BA from Victoria University of Wellington in 2004 and has since worked at the Wellington High Court.

Fulbright New Zealand Scholar Awards

Fulbright Visiting Lecturer in New Zealand Studies

Giselle Byrnes from Victoria University of Wellington will teach New Zealand Studies and conduct research at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

Victor Rodger from Christchurch will work on the first draft of a film script exploring Pacific identity and culture at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in Honolulu.

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholars

Ian Laird from Massey University is conducting research into the effectiveness of preventative interventions to reduce hazardous chemical exposures in small business at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston.

Euan Mason from the University of Canterbury is conducting research into hybrid modelling of forest growth at Auburn University and Oregon University.

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Ian Wedde from Wellington attended the American Association of Museums' centennial conference in Boston in April, and presented seminars at New York University's Tisch School of Arts, the University of California Santa Cruz and John F. Kennedy University in Berkeley, California.

Hong Di from Lincoln University will deliver a keynote paper at the 18th World Congress of Soil Science in Philadelphia in June, and present seminars at the University of California, Riverside, and the University of Delaware.

David Grattan from the University of Otago will deliver a paper at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behaviour in Naples, Florida, in July.

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

These awards are for promising graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field of study at a New Zealand institution.

The awards have the following entitlements:

- return airfare to New Zealand
- one year's tuition fees at a New Zealand institution
- stipend of up to NZ\$14,820
- basic health and accident insurance up to US\$50,000
- establishment and research allowance of NZ\$1,000
- baggage, project and incidental allowance of NZ\$1,000
- support and enrichment programmes run by Fulbright New Zealand throughout the grantee's stay in New Zealand

This year 9 awards were presented.



Stephen Higgs

Stephen Higgs from Ann Arbor, Michigan, is conducting research into environmental mediation in New Zealand at Victoria University of Wellington.

Stephen graduated with a BA from Colby College in 1998 and an MS/JD from the University of Michigan in 2005.



Anne Jakle

Anne Jakle from Santa Monica, California, is completing a Master of Science degree, specialising in the sustainability of large hydro-electric projects, at Massey University in Palmerston North.

Anne graduated with a BA from Dartmouth College in 2003 and subsequently held the Outreach and Public Information Fellowship at the Rocky Mountain Institute in Snowmass, Colorado.



James Mize

James Mize from Seattle, Washington, will complete a Master of Development Studies degree, specialising in marine reserve implementation and oceans policy development, at Victoria University of Wellington.

James graduated with a BA from the University of Washington in 2003 and is currently on leave from studying towards a JD/MBA at UCLA.



Jessica O'Reilly

Jessica O'Reilly from Scotts Valley, California, is conducting research into Antarctic science, policy and conservation at the University of Canterbury, towards a PhD in Anthropology from the University of California in Santa Cruz.

Jessica graduated with a BA from the University of Michigan in 2000 and an MA from the University of California in 2004.



J. Scott Parker

J. Scott Parker from Gainesville, Florida, is producing a documentary film about ecology and human impact on New Zealand's braided rivers at the University of Canterbury.

J. Scott graduated with a BA from the University of Florida in 2003 and has since worked for various organisations including, most recently, the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps.



Jeanine Refsnider

Jeanine Refsnider from Coon Rapids, Minnesota, is conducting research into reproductive behaviour of female tuatara and the potential effects of global warming at Victoria University of Wellington.

Jeanine graduated with a BA from the University of Minnesota Morris in 2000 and an MSc from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in 2005.



Rebecca Reider

Rebecca Reider from Palo Alto, California, is conducting research into ecologically sound agriculture in market economies at Lincoln University.

Rebecca graduated with an AB from Harvard University in 2000 and an MEd from Yale University in 2005.



Adrienne Wiley

Adrienne Wiley from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is conducting research into international disability policy at Massey University in Wellington.

Adrienne graduated with a BS from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2000 and an MSW/MID from the University of Pittsburgh in 2005.



Matthew Wittmann

Matthew Wittmann from Colorado Springs is conducting research into the circulation of American culture in the late-19th century Pacific, towards a PhD in History from the University of Michigan.

Matthew graduated with a BA from the University of Colorado in 1999 and an MA in 2001.

Fulbright US Scholar Awards

Fulbright US Senior Scholars

Tracy Camp from the Colorado School of Mines is researching into reversing the trends in questionable network simulations and acute gender imbalance at the University of Canterbury.

John Louie from the University of Nevada is researching into developing a Wellington community seismic hazard modelling environment at Victoria University of Wellington.

Mary Beth Oliver from Pennsylvania State University researched media effects of stereotyping of marginalised groups at the University of Otago.

Fulbright Senior Specialist Programme

Michael Luger from the University of North Carolina assisted the University of Auckland Business School in developing its programmes and structures as an entrepreneurial university in May.

Michael Giannitti from Bennington College will conduct lighting master classes at Toi Whakaari: New Zealand Drama School in July.

Ken Muir from Appalachian State University will deliver guest lectures and assist with teacher training and professional development at Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology in June.

Cary Nederman from Texas A&M University will deliver a keynote address at the University of Otago's symposium on Western Political Thought in October.

Awards administered by Fulbright New Zealand

Eisenhower Fellowship

Yiota Ahladas from the Community and Economic Development Office of Burlington, Virginia, explored models of community and economic development initiatives around New Zealand.

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

Linda Blumberg from the Urban Institute is researching the effect of private health insurance on the cost of public coverage in New Zealand at the Ministry of Health and Victoria University of Wellington.

Susan Coppedge from the US Attorney's Office is researching human trafficking at the Ministry of Justice and New Zealand Police.

Saskia Kim from the California State Legislature is researching New Zealand's experience in safeguarding consumer privacy in a technological era at the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and the Ministry of Justice.



Message from the Executive Director

Kia ora koutou, talofa lava and warm Fulbright greetings.

At this time of year we pause to recognise the successes of another year's worth of Fulbright grantees and to wish our next contingent of New Zealand graduate students all the best for their upcoming Fulbright adventure in the United States.

With the extra support of the New Zealand government through the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology we are now able to award over 50 Fulbright awards per year, for which we extend MoRST and our other award partners, the Earthquake Commission and Creative New Zealand, our sincerest thanks.

It is pleasing not only to increase the number of awards we offer, but also to see a continued growth in the number, diversity and quality of applications we receive each year (from both New Zealand and America). With that in mind, the recipients of 2006 Fulbright awards can all be extremely proud to have been selected among this year's grantees. Our current cohort of grantees are a very talented, intelligent, diverse group of people who are great ambassadors for their countries abroad.

I and the staff of Fulbright New Zealand look forward to supporting you throughout the duration of your exchange, and it gives us all great pleasure to follow the success of our grantees on the Fulbright programme and onwards into their careers. You join a Fulbright New Zealand family spanning almost six decades, and we acknowledge the achievements of the over 2000 alumni of the New Zealand Fulbright programme in whose footsteps you follow.

As we approach the 60th anniversary of the passing of the Fulbright Act on 1 August 1946, and edge nearer to the 60th anniversary in 2008 of our own programme's establishment, I can only imagine that the late Senator J. William Fulbright would be pleased with our progress in realising his aims of "fostering leadership, learning and empathy between cultures" through the exchange programme that bears his name.

My congratulations to all of this year's grantees. On behalf of everyone at Fulbright New Zealand I wish you all the very best for the future. May you continue to make us proud!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mele Wendt". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Mele Wendt
Executive Director, Fulbright New Zealand



Fulbright New Zealand

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