



2011

Fulbright New Zealand

Grantees Booklet

FULBRIGHT

NEW ZEALAND
TE TŪĀPAPA MĀTAURANGA
O AOTEAROA ME AMERIKA

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Messages of Congratulations



“The United States and New Zealand are good friends, with strong and longstanding connections across the full range of the relationship. As was recognised in the Wellington Declaration, social and educational connections are an important element in maintaining and developing that relationship. The Fulbright Programme is one of the longest standing activities that underpins and strengthens the personal links between our two countries.

Congratulations to this year’s grantees, their teachers and their families on receiving this prestigious honour. We look forward to seeing the results of your work in encouraging innovation and creativity, and building on the rich diversity between our societies. All the best for your Fulbright exchanges, and looking ahead, I am sure you will contribute fully to the personal links that are an essential foundation in the bilateral relationship.”

Hon Murray McCully
Minister of Foreign Affairs, New Zealand
Honorary Chairperson, Fulbright New Zealand



“Congratulations to all of this year’s Kiwi and American Fulbright participants. The Fulbright program is the flagship of American academic exchanges, and your inclusion in the program is a testament to your excellence, imagination and dedication.

With the emphasis that the US Embassy is placing on both youth outreach and science/technology exchanges, it is my expectation that together we can position the Fulbright program as an even more powerful engine for bringing our two countries together. Senator Fulbright’s vision was founded on knowledge, reason, compassion, and friendship. Those keystones – if preserved and strengthened – will serve successive generations extremely well as they step forward to lead our two countries.”

Hon David Huebner
US Ambassador to New Zealand
Honorary Chairperson, Fulbright New Zealand



“On behalf of the Fulbright New Zealand Board, congratulations to all of this year’s grantees. You join a long and rich tradition of academic and personal exchange between the people of New Zealand and the United States of America, of which we are very proud. Your collective number and excellence reflects success in our aims to grow, improve and diversify our programmes.

Fulbright New Zealand’s Board and staff wish you the very best for your exchanges. We are confident that your exchange experiences will benefit you both professionally and personally, and will help better our two partner nations and the strong bond between us.”

Barbara Johnson
Chairperson of the Board, Fulbright New Zealand

Fulbright New Zealand

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The Fulbright Programme

The Fulbright programme of international educational exchange was an initiative of American Senator J. William Fulbright from Arkansas, who in the aftermath of World War II believed that mutual understanding between different countries and cultures was crucial to ensure a peaceful future for the world.

The Fulbright Act, an ingenious piece of legislation passed by the United States Congress in 1946, directed proceeds from the sale of surplus war property, foreign loan repayments and reparations to fund the “promotion of international good will through the exchange of students in the fields of education, culture, and science.”

In Senator Fulbright's own words, the Fulbright programme aims “to bring a little more knowledge, a little more reason and a little more compassion into world affairs and thereby to increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship.”

New Zealand was the fifth country to sign up to the Fulbright programme by bilateral treaty with the United States of America, in 1948. Since then Fulbright New Zealand has sent more than 1,400 New Zealand graduate students, artists, academics and professionals to the US and welcomed more than 1,100 Americans on exchanges here.

Fulbright New Zealand is jointly funded by the US and New Zealand governments with additional funding from award sponsors, private philanthropists and alumni donors. It is governed by a twelve member Board of Directors comprised of six New Zealanders and six Americans.

The Fulbright programme has been described as one of the largest and most significant movements of scholars across the face of the earth and now operates in over 155 countries, funding around 8,000 exchanges per year for participants to study, research, teach or present their work in another country.

The more than 300,000 Fulbright alumni worldwide include heads of state, cabinet ministers, ambassadors, politicians, judges, heads of corporations, university presidents, journalists, artists, professors and teachers.

Esteemed alumni of the Fulbright programme include Alan MacDiarmid, Dame Marie Clay, Sir Wallace Rowling, Allen Curnow, Dame Jean Herbison, Sir Kenneth Keith, C. K. Stead, Bill Manhire, James Belich, Michael King, Witi Ihimaera, David Cunliffe and many other significant New Zealanders.

Fulbright grantees make the most of their exchanges to get to know and understand a different country and culture, to advance themselves academically or professionally and to make lifelong friendships and professional relationships. Many look back on their Fulbright exchange as a life-changing experience and a defining moment of their career.

Pictured: J. William Fulbright as University of Arkansas President, ca. 1941
Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville

Fulbright Student Programme

Fulbright New Zealand offers a range of awards to New Zealand and American graduate students to study or research in each other's countries. Grantees are selected on the basis of academic excellence, leadership potential and ambassadorial qualities.

In addition to award payments towards study or research, all grantees receive return airfares, insurance cover and programme support during their exchange.

International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

These awards are for promising graduate students from around the world to undertake fully-funded PhD study at top US universities in fields of science, technology or engineering.

Approximately 40 awards with an estimated value over NZ\$350,000 are offered internationally each year to students who are nominated by their home country's Fulbright commission and selected by rigorous international competition.



Nicholas Fancourt

Nicholas Fancourt from Auckland will complete a PhD in Public Health, specialising in international children's health and health systems, at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

Nicholas graduated with a BMedSc (Hons) in 2006, an MBChB in 2007, and an MBHL in 2010 from the University of Otago.

Fulbright-Ministry of Science and Innovation Graduate Awards

These awards are for promising New Zealand graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research at US institutions in fields targeted to support growth and innovation in New Zealand.

Approximately 10 awards valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses and insurance) are offered each year.



Sara Burgess

Sara Burgess from Palmerston North will research the link between endospore production and biofilm formation by thermophilic bacilli, at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts, towards a PhD from Massey University.

Sara graduated with a BSc from the University of Otago in 2001 and an MSc from Massey University in 2006.



Jeffrey Hawke

Jeffrey Hawke from Auckland will complete a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, specialising in mechatronics engineering for control of autonomous vehicles and robots, at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Jeffrey graduated with a BE (Hons) and a BSc from the University of Auckland in 2010.



Kate Holland

Kate Holland from Palmerston North will complete a Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology, specialising in infectious disease epidemiology, at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

Kate graduated with a BBS in 2010 and a BSc (Hons) in 2011 from Massey University.



Ipshita Mandal Indian

Ipshita Mandal from Auckland will complete a PhD in Plant Health, specialising in agricultural crop genomics, at Louisiana State University in Eunice.

Ipshita graduated with a BTech (Biotechnology) (Hons) from the University of Auckland in 2011.



Eryn Newman

Eryn Newman from Wellington will research cognitive mechanisms driving human memory distortions and biases in decision making, at the University of California, Irvine, towards a PhD in Psychology from Victoria University of Wellington.

Eryn obtained a BSc (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington in 2007.



Simon Ngawhika Te Arawa

Simon Ngawhika from Wellington will complete a Master of Business Administration degree, specialising in distributive issues within the agricultural food production system, at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon.

Simon graduated with a BA (Hons) and a BCom from the University of Auckland in 2007.



William Perry

William Perry from Christchurch will complete a Master of Public Health degree in Health Policy, specialising in policy development for surgical safety and quality improvement, at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts.

William graduated with a BSc in 2005 and an MBChB in 2010 from the University of Otago.



Julia Talbot-Jones

Julia Talbot-Jones from Christchurch will complete a Master of Arts degree in Environmental Economics, specialising in valuing water resources, at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Julia graduated with a BSc in 2005 and a BAppSc (Hons) in 2006 from Massey University, and a GradDipEcon from the University of Canterbury in 2010.



Claire Whelen

Claire Whelen from Wellington will complete a Master of Science degree in Health Policy and Management, specialising in the use of data to assist decision-making and improve healthcare quality, at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Claire graduated with a BA from the University of Canterbury in 2002, and a BA (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington in 2006.



Laura Woods

Laura Woods from Auckland will complete a PhD in Organic Chemistry, specialising in natural synthesis of biologically-active compounds for medicinal use, at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana.

Laura graduated with a BSc (Hons) from the University of Otago in 2010.



Xiaowen Yu Chinese

Xiaowen Yu from Wellington will complete a PhD in Neuroscience, specialising in the pathology of Alzheimer's disease, at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.

Xiaowen graduated with a BBMedSci (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington in 2011.

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research

This award is for a promising New Zealand graduate student to undertake postgraduate study or research at a US institution in the field of natural disaster research.

One award valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses and insurance) is offered each year.

No award is being presented this year.



Fulbright-Ng Pae o Te Māramatanga Graduate Award

This award is for a promising New Zealand graduate student to undertake postgraduate study or research in the US in a field of indigenous development.

One award valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses and insurance) is offered each year.



Natalie Coates Ng ti Awa, Ng ti Hine, T hoe, Te Arawa, Ng ti T wharetoa

Natalie Coates from Whakatane will complete a Master of Laws degree in Human Rights and Indigenous Law, at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Natalie graduated with a BA (Hons) and LLB (Hons) from the University of Otago in 2009.

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

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

Approximately eight awards valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses and insurance) are offered each year.



Tessa Bromwich

Tessa Bromwich from Wellington will complete a Master of Laws degree in Tort Law and Constitutional Law, at New York University.

Tessa graduated with a BA in 2006 and an LLB (Hons) in 2007 from Victoria University of Wellington.



Jennifer Devlin

Jennifer Devlin from Wellington will complete a Master of Laws degree in Financial Regulation, at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Jennifer graduated with a BA from the University of Adelaide in 1998 and an LLB (Hons) from the University of Auckland in 2009.



Divya Dhar

Divya Dhar from Auckland will complete a Master of Public Policy degree in Pharmaceutical Policy, specialising in policies to promote research and development of pharmaceutical products for neglected diseases, at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Divya graduated with a MBChB from the University of Auckland in 2009.



Rachel Fairhurst

Rachel Fairhurst from Dunedin will complete a Master of Arts degree in Peace Studies, specialising in peace building, development and human rights, at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana.

Rachel graduated with a BA from the University of Otago in 2005, a BA (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington in 2006, and a PGDipArts from the University of Otago in 2010.



Ghazaleh Golbakhsh Iranian

Ghazaleh Golbakhsh from Auckland will complete a Master of Fine Arts degree in Film Production, specialising in directing, at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

Ghazaleh obtained a BA (Hons) in 2010 from the University of Auckland and is currently completing an MA there.



Alexandra Greig

Alexandra Greig from Auckland will complete a Master of Public Health degree in Health Care Management and Policy, specialising in health policy development and analysis for patients with disabilities, at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Alexandra graduated with a BHB in 2004 and an MBChB in 2007 from the University of Auckland.



Fulbright New Zealand

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