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Photo: Barack Obama

Study of the US Institutes participant Kate McMillan will study immigration and media issues in the US presidential election

Unique opportunity for political scientist

Wellington political scientist Kate McMillan is relishing the opportunity to witness the United States' presidential election on US soil, having first had a crash course on the American political system at one of the US Department of State's Study of the US Institutes.

A Senior Lecturer in Political Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, Kate was nominated for the Study of the US Institute on American Politics and Political Thought by Fulbright New Zealand in February, and was one of 18 participants selected from around the world to attend. The six week Institute, scheduled to be held during the American summer at the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, is entitled *Constituting America* and will investigate the American political system from both historical and contemporary points of view.

"The opportunity to learn about American politics and political history from a range of top scholars, to travel to significant political sites and meet officials, lobbyists and media is surely a privilege and joy for a political junkie any year," says Kate. "But to attend it in 2008, election year, with Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton taking it down to the wire? It feels like the political scientist's jackpot!"

Of particular interest to Kate are the Institute's focuses on immigration and media, two topics which are the focus of her current research. Following the Study of the US Institute, Kate will return to New Zealand briefly before taking up another opportunity to visit the US during the American presidential election. She will be a Visiting Scholar at the University of California, San Diego's Centre for Comparative Immigration Studies for the three months leading up to the election, where she will compare how presidential candidates from the

left and right discuss immigration issues in their direct political communications with voters - advertisements, websites, speeches etc.

Another research project Kate is conducting this year will examine televised leaders' debates and post-debate media coverage in the US, New Zealand and Australia, so she will be watching closely both the rules and format of the televised debates leading up to the Democratic National Convention in August.

In addition to successfully nominating Kate for the Study of the US Institute on American Politics, Fulbright New Zealand also secured a place for Christchurch high school teacher David Ivory at an Institute for Secondary Educators. David is Head of the Social Studies Faculty at St Thomas of Canterbury College. He will attend an Institute exploring diversity, democracy and rights in the US at the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, Massachusetts. ➤



Study of the US Institutes for Secondary Educators participant David Ivory from Christchurch

Editorial



Mele Wendt, Executive Director

From the desk of the Executive Director

Kia ora koutou, talofa and warm Fulbright greetings. It is Fulbright New Zealand's 60th Anniversary year and we are celebrating this in various ways throughout the year. Before I go into more detail on this, there are a couple of events not mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter which have occurred since our last edition.

Esteemed Fulbright alumnus, Nobel Prize winner and John F Kennedy Memorial Fellow, Professor Joseph Stiglitz, had a highly successful visit to New Zealand in March as part of the International Arts Festival's New Zealand Post Writers and Readers Week. His public addresses in Wellington and Auckland drew capacity audiences (over 1,700 people at the Michael Fowler Centre and 600 at the University of Auckland Business School). Professor Stiglitz also met with a large number of officials at government agencies. He and his wife Anya said they had thoroughly enjoyed their visit and reconnecting with the Fulbright programme, and hoped to return to New Zealand.

Also in March, Fulbright New Zealand Board member Stephen Jacobi and I visited Eastern Institute of Technology to speak with senior management about the Fulbright programme. We also visited Napier Girls' High School where I was the guest speaker at their Achievers Reception. Stephen and Helen Jacobi, who reside in Napier, were wonderful hosts.

In the next few months we have a very busy but exciting schedule of activities. In May we conduct Outreach visits to campuses around New Zealand and will hold alumni receptions in Hamilton, Christchurch and Dunedin along the way.

In late May, Rt Hon Jim Bolger, Rob McIntosh (Fulbright New Zealand Board member and Deputy Secretary of Education) and I go to the US for the Ian Axford Fellowships Forum and selection interviews, and the Fulbright New Zealand 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner in Washington, DC. This is set to be a grand and special event, with His Excellency Roy Ferguson (Fulbright alumnus and New Zealand Ambassador to the US) hosting, and dignitaries from the US Department of State, IIE and CIES present as well as alumni and grantees from Fulbright and other exchange programmes.

In mid June we have the mid-year programme in Wellington for Fulbright graduate students and the 60th Anniversary reception and Awards Presentation Ceremony at Parliament on Thursday 19th June. And of course we are busy organising the big anniversary conference in November which will have an awesome line-up of speakers and will demonstrate how significant and beneficial NZ-US exchanges and partnerships have been over the last 60 years and continue to be now and in future.

We sincerely hope alumni and friends in the US and New Zealand (and the world) join us at one or more of these events!

Kia ora rā, ia manuia,



60th Anniversary Celebrations

For sixty years the New Zealand-United States Education Foundation (Fulbright New Zealand) has facilitated the exchange of students, scholars, artists and professionals between New Zealand and the United States of America. To celebrate this milestone Fulbright New Zealand is organising a range of anniversary activities in 2008.

US Gala Dinner

For those who cannot come to New Zealand for our conference in November, there will be a Reunion and Gala Dinner at the Embassy of New Zealand in Washington, DC on the evening of Saturday 7th June. This is the only event celebrating Fulbright New Zealand's 60th Anniversary to be held in the United States. Guest speakers will include former New Zealand Prime Minister Rt Hon Jim Bolger and Thomas Farrell from the US Department of State, with a musical performance by current Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Susana Lei'ataua. Places are limited - contact the Fulbright New Zealand office for a registration form.

60th Anniversary Conference

Fulbright New Zealand will host a three day conference in association with the University of Auckland from Thursday 20th to Saturday 22nd November 2008. The theme of the conference is 'Creative Partnerships', and it is intended to highlight the energising and stimulating impact of intellectual exchange.

Speakers in eight main thematic areas - business, law, sciences and health, indigenous leadership, education, humanities and social sciences, journalism and media, creative arts - will show how the coming together of American and New Zealand cultural and academic traditions has enriched the life of both societies.

Confirmed speakers include Andrew Ferrier (Fonterra), Ken Stevens (Glidepath), Sir Kenneth Keith (International Court of Justice), Paul Callaghan (Victoria University of Wellington), Helen Anderson (Ministry of Research, Science and Technology), Hon Shane Jones (MP), Stuart Middleton (Manukau Institute of Technology), John Hattie (University of Auckland), James Belich (Victoria University of Wellington), David Tabacoff (Fox News), Witi Ihimaera (author) and Bill Manhire (poet). Other speakers are yet to be confirmed.

Conference activities will include a pōwhiri (traditional Māori welcome) and conference dinner, both with cultural performances. Art and photographic exhibitions will be on display throughout the conference and a group tour around New Zealand is on offer as an optional extra in the week preceding the conference itself.

Full details will be posted on our website shortly, and a conference registration pack posted to all alumni of Fulbright and other NZ-US exchange programmes.

60th Anniversary Publication

Written submissions are still sought from alumni for a memorial publication of exchange reminiscences. Submissions should be 1,000 words in length, and are **due by 31 July 2008** to andy@fulbright.org.nz

US grantees welcomed to New Zealand

Fulbright New Zealand welcomed this year's cohort of 19 Fulbright US Graduate Students, Senior Scholars and Ian Axford Fellows to New Zealand with its traditional orientation programme in February.

This year's American grantees include 10 Fulbright US Graduate Students who are studying topics as diverse as community theatre, horizontal gene transfer and curation of Māori art, at universities around the country. Five Fulbright US Senior Scholars are researching similarly diverse topics at universities and Crown Research Institutes, whilst four Ian Axford Fellows are conducting research into environmental, education and immigration policy at relevant government agencies in Wellington.

February's orientation programme was designed to give all of the participants an introduction to the history, culture and language of New Zealand and its peoples. Guest speakers included Fulbright alumni Jock Phillips, General Editor of Te Ara - the online encyclopedia of

New Zealand, and Joanna Mossop, Senior Lecturer in Law at Victoria University of Wellington. Other speakers included Harkness Fellowships alumnus Shane Jones, Victoria University of Wellington lecturers in Māori history and politics, Māori language and protocol instructor Piripi Walker and representatives of government organisations including Creative New Zealand and the Department of Labour.

A highlight of the orientation programme for many participants was the overnight stay at Waiwhetū Marae in Lower Hutt. Trips to other destinations around the Wellington region included a behind the scenes tour of Te Papa Tongarewa (the Museum of New Zealand) and a guided tour of Parliament Buildings, but a planned excursion to Otari-Wilton's Bush was cancelled due to bad weather. ➤

The American grantees currently in New Zealand are listed on the following page. More detailed information was given about them in our February newsletter.

Fulbright News



2008 American grantees and their families at Waiwhetū Marae

Executive Directors meet in Indonesia

The American Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF) in Jakarta hosted eight Fulbright executive directors from the region from 17th to 19th April 2008. The meeting was an opportunity for executive directors to update each other on what is going on in their countries, discuss a variety of issues and operational matters, and visit and meet staff of another Fulbright commission in the region.

Mele Wendt, Executive Director of Fulbright New Zealand, attended the meeting and noted afterwards that "I think it's so valuable and important to connect and share with other people who do the same job as me, and they're such a great bunch of people! One of the things that came out of the discussion was a shared reaffirmation and commitment to bi-nationalism, a reinforcement of the Fulbright mission of two-way mutual understanding."

Michael McCoy, AMINEF's Executive Director, was delighted to host the meeting. He organised a special

welcome with a traditional Aceh dance performance by students from a neighbouring tertiary institution, and visits to a local market and restaurants to experience Indonesian culture. ➤



Fulbright Executive Directors at the AMINEF offices in Jakarta

Outreach Tour to New Zealand campuses

Fulbright New Zealand's educational advising team embark on their annual Outreach Tour in May to inform students and staff about opportunities to study, research and teach in the United States of America.

Kara Wood and Rae Holdsworth, who administer the Fulbright graduate and scholar programmes respectively, will give detailed descriptions of the range of awards on offer and what kinds of applicants each award is most appropriate for. In addition, Fulbright alumni will be present at each seminar to discuss their experiences as Fulbright grantees to the US.

Attendees will also be given a general introduction to the higher education environment in the US, with guidelines for students about how and when to negotiate the lengthy application process for American university admission and financial aid.

Fulbright New Zealand alumni functions will again be held in Christchurch, Hamilton and Dunedin during the

Outreach Tour, and all alumni are welcome. See page 7 of this newsletter or our website for details. ➤

Full dates and details for the 2008 Outreach Tour are available on the Fulbright New Zealand website - www.fulbright.org.nz Please help spread the word!



Fulbright Events

Awarded

Fulbright Travel Awards

Isabel Castro (see Departures)

Chanel Clarke from Auckland War Memorial Museum will present a paper entitled *Horiwear - The T-shirt as a Vehicle for Cultural Expression in Aotearoa New Zealand* at the Textile Society of America's 11th Biennial Symposium in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Susan Cunningham (see Departures)

Aroha Dahm will take part in the *Earth & Spirit: Contemporary Indigenous Art from Australia and New Zealand* exhibition at Keene State College's Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery in Keene, New Hampshire.

Fulbright Senior Specialist Awards

The University of Auckland will host Keith Barton from the University of Cincinnati, who will give workshops on history, social studies and citizenship education and research methodology.

Study of the United States Institutes

David Ivory (see Departures)

Kate McMillan (see Departures) ➤

Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals:

Fulbright Senior Specialist Awards

Victoria University of Wellington will host William Clark from the University of California, who will collaborate on research projects exploring immigration, housing and settlement in New Zealand. William arrives in July.

The University of Canterbury will host James Mahshie from Gallaudet University, who will share his expertise in aural rehabilitation in a variety of academic, clinical, research and community settings. James arrives in July. ➤

Departures:

Fulbright Visiting Lectureships in New Zealand Studies

Brian McDonnell from Massey University will teach a course in New Zealand film and literature at Georgetown University for their Fall semester. Brian departs in July.

Fulbright Travel Awards

Brendon Bradley from the University of Canterbury will present a paper entitled *Performance-based Seismic Response of Pile Foundations* at the 4th decennial Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics Conference in Sacramento, California. Brendon departs in May.

Isabel Castro from Massey University will present a series of seminars on kiwi and conservation in New Zealand in San Diego, California. Isabel departs in June.

Susan Cunningham from Massey University will present a series of seminars on kiwi and conservation in New Zealand in San Diego, California. Susan departs in July.

Study of the US Institutes

David Ivory from St Thomas of Canterbury College will participate in a six week Institute for Secondary Educators at the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, Massachusetts. David departs in June.

Kate McMillan from Victoria University of Wellington will participate in a six week Institute on American Politics and Political Thought at the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute in Amherst, Massachusetts. Kate departs in June. ➤

Current Grantees

International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

Irene Ballagh - PhD, neuroscience, Columbia University

Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

Priv Bradoo - MBA, Harvard University

Alex Dunayev - MBA, Stanford University

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards

Tom Algje - PhD research, engineering, University of California, Davis

Richard Conroy - PhD research, engineering, Canesta Inc

Simon Consedine - LLM, energy law, Columbia University

Ulric Ferner - MS/PhD, engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Shane Geange - PhD research, marine ecology, University of Florida

Phillip Hall - PhD, psychology, University of Arizona

Ryan Higgs - MS, animal science, Cornell University

Kyle Lin - MS, engineering, Stanford University

Ross McGurk - medical research, Massachusetts General Hospital

Toni Moyes - LLM, energy policy, New York University

Kenji Sumida - PhD, chemistry, University of California

Brian Walters - MS, financial mathematics, Florida State University

Mark Wheldon - PhD, statistical genetics, University of Washington

Andy Wood - medical research, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

Charlotte Brown - LLM, human rights/media law, Columbia University

Sarah Hill - PhD, public health, Harvard University

Chye-Ching Huang - LLM, constitutional law/economic regulation, Columbia University

Rachel Liebert - PhD, social welfare, Stony Brook University

Ben Steele - MA, anthropology, Columbia University

Saeeda Verrall - LLM, public interest law, Harvard University

Georgina White - MA, museum studies, New York University

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

Alyssa Borowske - BSc (Hons), biology, University of Waikato

Dorien Coray - MSc, biotechnology, University of Canterbury

Christina Gonzalez - GradDipArts, political science, Victoria University of Wellington

Brian Kastl - MSc, geology, University of Auckland

Amanda McRaven - MPhil, community theatre, Massey University

Lana Mitsina - research, biology, Victoria University of Wellington

Siobhan O'Kane - MSocSc, geography, University of Waikato

Lauren Robinson - research, art curation, Victoria University of Wellington

Danya Rumore - PGDipSci, environmental management, University of Auckland

Malia Villegas - PhD research, indigenous education, University of Auckland

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards

Susana Lei'ataua - developing theatre work, New York University

Phil Lester - research, fire ant control, Texas A&M University

Stephen May - research, bilingual literacy programmes, Columbia University

Fulbright Visiting Lectureships in New Zealand Studies

Jo Diamond - lecturing, indigenous art history, Georgetown University.

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

Mark Hostetler - research, conservation, Landcare Research

Sally Kohlstedt - lecturing/research, nature study education/natural history museum exchange, University of Auckland

Charles Nuckolls - lecturing/research, psychological/psychiatric diagnosis, University of Auckland

Karina Walters - lecturing/research, indigenous health measures, University of Auckland

Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy

Shane Reti - research, electronic personal health records, Beth Israel

Deaconess Medical Center/Harvard University

Rhema Vaithianathan - research, insurance design, Harvard University

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

Kacky Andrews - research, Exclusive Economic Zone management, Ministry for the Environment

Penny Bishop - research, middle schooling initiatives, Ministry of Education

Brenda Bushouse - research, early childhood education, Ministry of Education

Patti Grogan - research, refugee integration strategies, Department of Labour

Fulbright New Century Scholars Programme

Stuart Middleton - research, *Higher Education in the 21st Century: Access and Equity*

Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Programme

Oneroa Stewart - research/teaching, education, language, cultural and social sciences, Georgia Southwestern State University ➤

At the epicenter of cancer research

Dr Andy Wood from Auckland received a 2007 Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Award to research new treatments for neuroblastoma at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

When we arrive in Philly it is night time. When I awake the next morning, I rush to the window and open the blinds. The sun is shining, across the street children are playing and yelling with delight in the shadows of a church, squirrels are running up beautiful old trees. I breathe out a long sigh of relief... Phew! I like it here. More importantly, my wife likes it here. That is fortunate because we're going to be spending the next five to seven years here while I complete my clinical and research training to become a paediatric oncologist.

I wander down to the local shops and buy a newspaper. There is an article describing an infamous incident in 1968 when Philadelphia fans pelted Santa Claus providing half time entertainment at a football game. The article was angry that Philadelphia continued to be misrepresented by the press about the infamous incident from long ago. Angrily the author defended Philly - Santa deserved it, and he was lucky he was only pelted with snow balls. I glance up from the newspaper, and abruptly stop strolling. Just 150 yards from where we're staying the beautiful row homes, trees and squirrels are replaced by groups of bored men staring at me, sitting on porches of dilapidated row homes with broken windows. Grass and knee high weeds are growing up from cracks in the pavement, and rubbish is strewn everywhere. It was clearly going to be a tough town.

It has now been ten months since I started work at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), an international Mecca for research and treatment of childhood cancers. The star struck intimidation I used to experience at the hospital conferences has faded... having an international expert at every teaching session and case conference is normal now. The academic atmosphere is rarified, but there are no ivory towers here. Nothing is quite so grounding as walking through a ward of children with cancer.

My primary goal here is to improve outcomes in childhood cancer and that means becoming a physician-scientist. A physician-scientist is both doctor and scientist, trained in both fields, and ideally situated to translate discoveries from the lab to patients. When I left New Zealand I was enjoying the fruits of increasing clinical competence and autonomy as an advanced trainee. Transitioning from the wards to the lab to carry out basic science research was like starting a new career. I was at the bottom of a hierarchy again. Any traces of competence disappeared in this new realm. I was starting from zero.

Seven months into my lab experience my boss dropped a minor bomb shell on me. My main project is working in a consortium with a pharmaceutical company using cancer genetics to guide the development of new therapies. The collaborators group was having a meeting where eminent scientists from top labs were gathering to discuss their progress and present their findings for critique. My boss couldn't make it so I was going to have to give the presentation on behalf of our lab.

I scanned the day's itinerary. Speaking before me was Sir Walter Bodmer from Oxford, knighted for services to science, and speaking after me was a professor from arguably the top adult cancer center in the US. On the day my mouth was dry. As I spoke I could see one guy typing. Phew, I thought, he's ignoring me. Then three slides later he pipes up - "How does that fit with what you showed us just before?" He refers to his laptop, and his finger scrolls down his screen and he reads off it - "Three slides ago you showed copy number variation data showing no variation with risk group, so how do you explain the expression data?" To my surprise out came a sensible answer. That is the power of this place... this learning environment is just so enabling.

Ten months in I have already experienced being on the cusp of a genuine breakthrough in the cancer I have come to study. This environment is why seven months into my lab experience I had the opportunity to present to world class scientists, and produce sensible answers to their questions. That is the power of being at the epicenter.

Walking over South St Bridge I look at large panels of rust peeling off this bridge thirty years overdue for repairs, and a chain of homeless men shuffle by. I look back at CHOP, tall gleaming glass buildings and cranes building even more tall gleaming glass buildings. The juxtaposition is striking. Why is this environment so enabling for some, and disabling for others?

Spring has arrived. The new leaves add brightness everywhere and cover some tired corners of the city bringing scenic relief. As the end of our first year in Philly approaches, I laugh when I realize that to celebrate our one year anniversary in the US we're going to get given our own American citizen when our first baby is due. I wonder if that will be the sort of cultural exchange the good Senator had in mind? A part of America with us forever. ►

Grantee Voice



Andy Wood

"The academic atmosphere is rarified, but there are no ivory towers here. Nothing is quite so grounding as walking through a ward of children with cancer."

Alumni Voice

Dancing back down to New Zealand



Emily Cross

“While writing my dissertation, I engaged in the most fun and productive procrastination of all - helping to organize a dance tour to New Zealand!”

Dancer and neuroscientist Emily Cross came to New Zealand as a Fulbright US Graduate Student in 2002, completing a Master of Science in Psychology at the University of Otago and performing with Dunedin modern hip-hop dance company Slightly Synthetic throughout her stay. She has since completed a PhD at Dartmouth College investigating functional changes within dancers' brains as they learn complex new sequences of movements, and joined the college's Dartmouth Dance Ensemble. In March Emily was fortunate to return to New Zealand with the Ensemble in tow, to perform, collaborate and report on her research findings.

In August of 2003, I was incredibly reluctant to begin the voyage that comprised a mind-numbing string of five flights across the Pacific and the expanse of North America and would convey me from Dunedin back to Chagrin Falls, Ohio, after 19 spectacular months in Aotearoa. I remember thinking that I was leaving behind a lab where I made some of my first autonomous (and thrilling!) research discoveries, an inventive dance company where I was able to create and perform dance, many dear Kiwi friends, and three islands of achingly beautiful landscapes. In short, I knew I was moving away from the most amazing months of my life to begin a new adventure as a PhD student at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire.

When I began my PhD studies, I wanted to continue a line of work I had begun as an MSc student in Dr Elizabeth Franz's lab at the University of Otago. There I had looked into how knowledge for language and actions (including gestures and actions associated with everyday objects, such as tools) interacts. During my doctoral studies, I hoped to take this line of work further by investigating how such interactions are represented at the neural level. I began by learning the ropes of functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) at Dartmouth, a methodology that enables scientists to examine not only the anatomy within the human cranium, but also how different parts of the brain respond when perceiving images or feeling emotions.

The real breakthrough in my doctoral research came halfway through my second year as a PhD student. The Dartmouth Dance Ensemble, the modern dance company I had danced with since my first term at Dartmouth, began learning a work called *Skylight* by dance luminary Laura Dean. As rehearsals began, I was struck by how complex and new the movement vocabulary was. That first week, I approached my PhD advisor and explained to him that my dance company was learning a challenging new work that had a distinctive movement vocabulary, and wouldn't it be interesting to have a look at all of our brains as we learn this complex new work? I was expecting him to give me a list of reasons why it would be impossible to actually study this in an empirical manner. To my surprise, he was very interested and encouraged me to design a study that would allow me to start looking at the dancers' brains as soon as possible.

Those next several days were a blur of filming stimuli, programming an fMRI experiment, and begging my fellow dancers to come in every week for the next six weeks so I could scan their brains as they watched *Skylight's* movements. Looking back now, I am amazed that any of this worked - that I was able to get the experiment together in record time, that all the dancers

agreed to take part, and even more astonishingly, that the study actually worked! We found that as the dancers acquired performance expertise across the weeks of training, several key regions of the human mirror neuron network (a network that matches observed with executable actions) showed increases in activity. This was my first taste at how rewarding it could be to combine one's greatest passions in life, and throughout the rest of my PhD career I continued to work on projects that examined the various aspects of dancers' brain functions as they learn dance.

The absolute crowning moment of my graduate career, however, came just after I defended my dissertation. The Dartmouth Dance Ensemble organizes an international tour once every 4-5 years, and this year was a scheduled tour year. I was overwhelmingly excited when the director mentioned to me last August that he was thinking about New Zealand as the tour venue for 2008. I was, of course, 110% behind this idea, and while writing my dissertation, I engaged in the most fun and productive procrastination of all - helping to organize a dance tour to New Zealand!

Fulbright New Zealand was instrumental in helping to make this tour successful. Not only did they offer generous financial support, but they also put us in touch with Jennifer Shennan, a New Zealand Fulbright alumna, world-class dancer and dance historian who presented a captivating lecture on the Turnbull Library dance archives to the Dartmouth Dance Ensemble during our time in Wellington. We had incredible experiences performing our repertory (including *Skylight*) for audiences of all ages at Waiwhetū Marae in Lower Hutt, the Memorial Hall in Kaikoura, the Teacher's College in Dunedin, and perhaps most excitingly of all, outside under the sun, clouds, and suspended fern sphere in Civic Square in Wellington.

Back at Otago, I was invited to present a lecture on my dance research. It was amazing to present the *Skylight* study to an audience comprising my former advisor, professors, colleagues, and the Dartmouth Dance Ensemble. I certainly felt like my time in New Zealand as a Fulbright fellow who danced and did brain research had come full circle, and I am exceedingly grateful for the opportunity to bring both dance and science back to my most favorite place in the world! ►



Dartmouth Dance Ensemble limber up for their performance in Wellington's Civic Square

Grantee and Alumni News

Fulbright grantee **Rachel Liebert** (2007 NZ Graduate Student) was awarded a Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarship valued at \$123,526 in March, funding the remainder of her PhD research into antidepressant use by young New Zealanders which she will complete at The City University of New York. Presented by the Tertiary Education Commission, the Top Achiever scholarships recognise, support and reward excellence among postgraduate students in New Zealand.

Fulbright alumnus **Professor C. K. Stead** (1987 Visiting Writer's Fellowship) published a new book in March, chronicling his own literary life. *Book Self: The Reader as Writer and the Writer as Critic* (Auckland University Press) is a collection of writing that documents a personal journey from Stead's discovery of poetry as a young man through to recent experiences on the literary trail. It offers a unique insight into one of New Zealand's leading poets, novelists, essayists and literary critics.

Fulbright alumnus **Dr Bob McElvaine** (2007 US Senior Scholar) also published a new book in March. *Grand Theft Jesus* (Crown) is a satirical response to the "hijacking" of Christianity by the religious right, in which the author claims that Christian ideals of love and peace have been "drowned out by the bluster, the hate, and the selfishness that often passes for Christianity in America".

Fulbright grantee **Susana Lei'ataua** (2008 NZ Senior Scholar) premieres the score for her new theatre work *Breaking The Surface* at two special performances in New York in May. The score was written in collaboration with Fulbright alumnus **Gareth Farr** (1990 NZ Graduate Student), who will make his New York performance debut for the two performances on May 6th and 7th. For full details see the website for New York University's Asian/Pacific/American Studies Institute, where Susana is currently Artist-in-Residence - www.apa.nyu.edu

Compositions by several New Zealand Fulbright alumni are being posted online by SOUNZ, the Centre of New Zealand Music, to celebrate New Zealand Music Month in May. **Jack Body** (2005 Travel Award), **Gareth Farr** (1990 NZ Graduate Student) and **John Psathas** (2008 Travel Award) were among 12 renowned composers commissioned to write "miniatures" for New Zealand pianist Stephen de Pledge's concert *Landscape Preludes* in the New Zealand International Arts Festival. Videos of each performance and interviews with the composers will be posted to SOUNZ's YouTube channel - www.youtube.com/nzmusicsounz ►

In Brief



Gareth Farr

In Memoriam

We are saddened by the recent passing of the following alumni:

Howard Alden, 1975 US Research Scholar

Lorelei Parker, 1964 New Zealand Exchange Teacher

Important Dates

- May**
- 2 **Harkness Fellowships Report Back Seminar**
12:30pm, Function Room 220, School of Population Health, University of Auckland
 - 7 **Harkness Fellowships Report Back Seminar**
12:30pm, Fulbright New Zealand, Wellington
 - 13 **Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Function**
5:30-7:00pm, Staff Club, University of Canterbury, Christchurch
 - 15 **Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Function**
5:30-7:00pm, Staff Club, University of Otago, Dunedin
 - 20 **Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Function**
5:30-7:00pm, Station Café, University of Waikato, Hamilton
- June**
- 1 **Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards applications due**
Fulbright Visiting Lectureships in New Zealand Studies applications due
 - 7 **Fulbright New Zealand 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner**
7:00-10:00pm, New Zealand Embassy, Washington, DC
RSVPs essential - contact info@fulbright.org.nz for a registration form
 - 19 **Fulbright New Zealand Awards Presentation Ceremony**
5:30-7:30pm, The Beehive, Wellington
RSVPs essential by email to info@fulbright.org.nz or phoning (04) 472 2065
- July**
- 1 **Fulbright Travel Awards applications due**
Fulbright Senior Specialist Awards applications due
- August**
- 1 **Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship applications due**
Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science & Technology Graduate Awards applications due
Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research applications due
Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards applications due
Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards applications due
- November**
- 20 **Fulbright New Zealand 60th Anniversary Conference - 'Creative Partnerships'**
20-22 November, University of Auckland

See www.fulbright.org.nz or contact the Fulbright New Zealand office for more details



OUTREACH TOUR 2008

STUDY/RESEARCH/TEACH IN THE U.S.

Visiting the US is an opportunity to gain world class qualifications and overseas experience, explore America, share your culture and make friends and colleagues from around the world.

The quality of teaching, facilities and resources in the US education system is renowned worldwide.

Fulbright New Zealand's educational advising team are visiting campuses nationwide on an Outreach Tour to inform students and staff about educational opportunities in the US and the Fulbright awards which can help you get there.

See www.fulbright.org.nz for further information



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We welcome your letters and articles. Any material submitted may be edited for publication. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of material in this newsletter, Fulbright New Zealand does not accept liability for any errors or omissions. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Fulbright New Zealand.

Address Changes

Is Fulbright New Zealand Quarterly being sent to your correct address? Are you changing address in the near future? Please keep us updated so we can keep you updated!

E-Newsletter

This newsletter is also distributed electronically by email. If you would prefer to receive this format, please let us know.

Fulbright New Zealand gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of:



Awards

Fulbright awards recognise individuals who show academic or professional excellence, leadership potential and the ability to be cultural ambassadors for their country. Fulbright New Zealand offers or administers the following awards and fellowships:

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in the US for three to five months. A small number of awards valued at up to US\$32,500 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 June 2008**

Fulbright Visiting Lectureships in New Zealand Studies

For New Zealand academics to teach New Zealand Studies and conduct research at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for one or two semesters. Two lectureships - one per semester - valued at up to US\$32,500 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 June 2008**

Fulbright Travel Awards

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to visit the US for 12 to 90 days in order to present papers at conferences, deliver lectures, collaborate with American colleagues or visit relevant institutions. Eight to twelve awards valued at up to NZ\$5,000 are offered each year. **Applications close 1 July and 1 November 2008, 1 March 2009**

Fulbright Senior Specialist Awards

For New Zealand academic institutions to host US academics, artists or professionals for two to six week programmes of lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences or symposiums. Approximately six awards valued at up to NZ\$8,400 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 July and 1 November 2008, 1 March 2009**

Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

For a promising New Zealand graduate student in a knowledge economy-related field to complete a Masters degree at a US university and gain professional work experience in the US and New Zealand. One award valued at US\$100,000 (plus travel expenses and a paid internship) is offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2008**

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science & Technology Graduate Awards

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 11 awards valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2008**

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research

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) is offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2008**

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

For promising New Zealand graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field at US institutions. Approximately eight awards valued at up to US\$25,000 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2008**

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

For US academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in New Zealand for three to five months. A small number of awards valued at up to NZ\$32,500 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 August 2008**

Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice

For promising New Zealand health policy researchers and practitioners to conduct a policy-orientated research project and work with leading health policy experts in the US. One or two fellowships valued at up to US\$95,000 are offered each year. **Applications close 5 September 2008**

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

For promising US graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field at New Zealand institutions. Approximately 10 awards covering travel, tuition and living costs are offered each year. **Applications close 17 October 2008**

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

For outstanding mid-career US professionals to research and gain first-hand experience of public policy in New Zealand for six months. A small number of fellowships valued at up to NZ\$39,000 (plus travel expenses) are offered each year. **Applications close 1 March 2009**

Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

For a New Zealand writer in any genre to carry out work on an approved creative writing project exploring Pacific identity, culture or history at the University of Hawai'i for three months. One residency valued at NZ\$30,000 is offered each year. **Applications close 1 April 2009**

International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

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 25 awards with an estimated value over NZ\$250,000 are offered internationally each year. **Applications close 1 May 2009**

Fulbright-Cognition Education Research Trust Scholar Award in Education Research

For a New Zealand scholar to pursue research in the US designed to have an impact on New Zealand schooling and student achievement, for three to five months. One award valued at up to US\$20,000 (plus travel expenses) is offered each year. **Applications close 1 May 2009**

Eisenhower Fellowships

For emerging American leaders to visit New Zealand to meet with local experts in their field of interest. One or two awards covering travel, accommodation and living costs are offered each year. **Application dates vary - see the Eisenhower Fellowships website (www.eisenhowerfellowships.org) for details.**

For further information and application forms please visit www.fulbright.org.nz/awards or contact Fulbright New Zealand's Programme and Advising Team.