



# 2008

## Fulbright New Zealand

### Annual Report

**FULBRIGHT**  
  
**NEW ZEALAND**  
CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS  
1948-2008



## Fulbright New Zealand Annual Report for the period 1 October 2007 - 30 September 2008

The Fulbright Programme was an initiative of US Senator J. William Fulbright to promote international understanding through educational and cultural exchanges between the US and other countries. He believed the programme could play an important role in building a lasting world peace in the aftermath of World War II.

The New Zealand-United States Educational Foundation (trading as Fulbright New Zealand) was established in 1948 through a bi-national treaty between the governments of the US and New Zealand.

[www.fulbright.org.nz](http://www.fulbright.org.nz)

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# The Fulbright Programme



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

“We must try and expand the boundaries of human wisdom, empathy and perception, and there is no way of doing that except through education.”

Senator J. William Fulbright

## Founder of the Programme

Senator J. William Fulbright was born in Sumner, Missouri in 1905. He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Arkansas in 1925 and then went to Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, where he received his Master of Arts.

After returning to the US, Fulbright studied law at George Washington University before working in the Justice Department and at the George Washington University Law School. In 1936 he returned to Arkansas to lecture in law. From 1939 to 1941 he was President of the University of Arkansas (the youngest university president in the country at that time).

Fulbright was elected to the US House of Representatives in 1942 and entered Congress in January 1943, where he became a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee. He quickly came to national attention when the House adopted the Fulbright Resolution which supported US participation in what became the United Nations.

Fulbright served as a Senator for 29 years until 1974, becoming one of the most influential and best-known members of the Senate. His legislation to establish the Fulbright Programme of international exchange, initially funded by war reparations and foreign loan repayments, was passed in 1946.

In 1949 he became a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and was its longest serving chairman, from 1959 to 1974. After leaving the Senate he was a legal counsel in Washington and continued to actively support the international exchange programme that bears his name.

Senator Fulbright received numerous awards from governments, universities and educational organisations around the world, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded by President Clinton in 1993.

He died on 9 February 1995 at his home in Washington, DC.

## History of the Programme

The Fulbright Programme has been described as one of the largest and most significant movements of scholars across the face of the earth.

In Senator Fulbright's words, the 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.” This goal has always been as important to the programme as individual scholarship.

The New Zealand-United States Educational Foundation (trading as Fulbright New Zealand since 1999) was set up in 1948 to administer the Fulbright Programme in New Zealand. New Zealand was the fifth country to join the programme, and is now one of over 150 participating countries. Fulbright New Zealand receives funding from both the US and New Zealand governments.

Since 1948 more than 1,300 New Zealanders and 1,100 Americans have received Fulbright awards under the New Zealand programme. Worldwide, the Fulbright Programme has assisted more than 300,000 people from over 190 countries to study, research and teach abroad.

The programme has produced numerous remarkable alumni internationally, many of whom have gone on to make significant contributions to scholarly knowledge and public life.

Fulbright New Zealand celebrated its 60th Anniversary in 2008 with a number of events for alumni, friends and the public in New Zealand and the US.

# Chairperson's Report



Welcome to the Fulbright New Zealand Annual Report for 2008, the year in which we celebrated the 60th Anniversary of our programme. I was elected Chairperson of Fulbright New Zealand in September to replace Ruth Harley who stood down after accepting a new job abroad. Ruth was a dedicated and long-serving Board member and on behalf of my fellow Board members I thank her for a remarkable 13 years of service.

As a Fulbright alumna, Ruth knew well the transformative nature of international exchange, and she has strived to provide similar opportunities for other New Zealanders. As Chief Executive of the New Zealand Film Commission for the past decade, her ambassadorship for New Zealand film opened new international opportunities and audiences to local filmmakers. In her work for Fulbright New Zealand, she pushed for the creation of new awards in all fields, and we must thank her in particular for leading the Board through a recent strategic planning exercise which has seen us set ambitious goals for increasing award numbers and diversity amongst our applicants and grantees over coming years. Ruth's creativity and drive were great assets to the Board and will be missed.

I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of Roy Glover and Carl Worker who both also left the Board in September after four and two years of service respectively. We look forward to the renewed energy and vigour that several new members will bring to the Board in the new year.

The year under review saw Fulbright New Zealand adopt a new five year Strategic Plan for the period 2008-2012. I was heartened on a recent visit to Washington, DC (the first in my official capacity as Chairperson) to hear that the US Department of State and other partner organisations there view New Zealand's Fulbright programme as a model to others around the world. However, there is always room for improvement and our new strategic goals focus on increasing and improving exchanges, engaging our alumni in new and greater ways, growing the reputation and influence of our organisation, and continuing to demonstrate leadership and innovation in what we do.

It has also been heartening in this, our 60th Anniversary year, to once again hear so many of our alumni reminisce about the life-changing and positive experiences of their Fulbright exchanges. Our awards continue to be oversubscribed and every year we have to regretfully decline many more deserving applicants than we have awards for. Thus we will strive to increase the number of Fulbright awards on offer by 2012. Looking back sixty years, there were 31 awards presented in the first full year of our programme. By this year that number has more than doubled to 65, and we aim to achieve the same level of growth again within the next five years. On that note, I thank Cognition Education Research Trust for partnering with us this year to sponsor a new scholar award in the field of education. Our sincere thanks also to the New Zealand and US governments for their continuing commitment as our core funders and to existing award partners the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology, the Earthquake Commission (EQC) and Creative New Zealand, as well as the private donors who give generously to support Fulbright awards.

The services we provide to applicants and grantees are another core part of our business - from educating them about their options under the Fulbright programme through such avenues as our ever-expanding Outreach Tour and new Campus Advisers network, to the support we give them leading up to and during their exchanges. To this end we will continue to seek new ways to support and encourage applicants and add value to the exchanges of our grantees.

We have been delighted with the attendance, well wishes and

expressions of support from alumni and supporters of the Fulbright programme at various 60th Anniversary events throughout the year. This has served to highlight the amount of goodwill towards our activities and the need for increasing engagement with our many alumni and stakeholders in New Zealand and abroad. A year of celebrations culminated in our successful 60th Anniversary Symposium and Reception at the University of Auckland in November. Special thanks need to be given to long serving Fulbright New Zealand Board member Jock Phillips, who headed up our efforts for the Symposium.

A steering group of committed alumni has been formed to pursue establishing a formal Fulbright New Zealand alumni association so that we may enjoy the lifetime engagement of our programme's participants. The Board's External Relations Committee will continue to develop strong and positive partnerships and relationships with other key stakeholders, so that we may increase our participation and influence in the New Zealand and US tertiary education sectors, and in the New Zealand policy arena of international education relating to the US.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution of my fellow Board members and their support of me as their new Chairperson. Their work on the Board and its subcommittees, as well as on award selection committees and in promoting the Fulbright programme and wider NZ-US relations, is a great service to both nations. I acknowledge in particular Stephen Jacobi, Deputy Chairperson and Richard Nelson, Treasurer.

We have all been so very proud this year to celebrate the success of our programme and the many talented participants who have profited from Fulbright exchanges over the past 60 years. Our thanks to everyone who contributed to or attended one of our many successful anniversary events in New Zealand or the US. The other big events of the year were of course elections in both countries. For an American living abroad, it was deeply humbling to see the whole world look to America and unite behind one man's vision for hope, change, equality and a free and fair world, something those involved in the Fulbright programme have done for the past six decades. We know we will enjoy the support of new governments in both the US and New Zealand for many years to come.

Lastly, I would like to thank Mele Wendt and the staff for providing a high quality service and demonstrating a strong commitment to Fulbright New Zealand. They continue to do the Fulbright programme, its founder and its partner nations proud.

Here's to another successful 60 years of Fulbright New Zealand!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Johnson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Barbara Johnson, Chairperson of the Board

# Board Members and Staff



**L TO R (BACK):** Roy Glover, Richard Nelson, Scott Optican, Rob McIntosh, Carl Worker, Stephen Jacobi, David Keegan, Jock Phillips  
**FRONT:** Suzanne Snively, Mele Wendt, Ruth Harley, Barbara Johnson  
**ABSENT:** Charles Royal



**L TO R (BACK):** Kara Wood, Andy Mitchell, Patrick Teahan, Kameswari Vanka  
**FRONT:** Val Leach, Rae Holdsworth, Mele Wendt, Tracy Blower

## Fulbright New Zealand Board

### Honorary Chairs

Rt Hon Winston Peters Minister of Foreign Affairs, New Zealand  
 Hon William McCormick US Ambassador to New Zealand

### American Members

Barbara Johnson (Chair) US Immigration Attorney  
 Roy Glover US Embassy, Fulbright alumnus (until September 2008)

David Keegan US Embassy  
 Richard Nelson Taylor Investment Ltd  
 Scott Optican University of Auckland  
 Suzanne Snively PricewaterhouseCoopers, Fulbright alumna

### New Zealand Members

Ruth Harley New Zealand Film Commission, Fulbright alumna (until September 2008)

Stephen Jacobi New Zealand United States Council  
 Rob McIntosh Ministry of Education  
 Jock Phillips Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Fulbright alumnus

Charles Royal Mauriora-ki-te-Ao/Living Universe Ltd Fulbright alumnus

Carl Worker Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (until September 2008)

## Staff

Mele Wendt	Executive Director
Tracy Blower	Programme Administrator (from September 2008)
Rae Holdsworth	Programme and Advising Team Leader
Val Leach	Receptionist/Administrator
Andy Mitchell	Communications Adviser
Theresa Taylor	Programme Administrator (until May 2008)
Patrick Teahan	Accountant (from February 2008)
Kameswari Vanka	Programme Administrator
Kara Wood	Programme Manager and Educational Adviser
Maree Yong	Accountant (until November 2007)

# Executive Director's Report



Tēnā koutou katoa, talofa lava and warm Fulbright greetings. 2008 was our 60th Anniversary year. As it ends, we remember that 60 years ago the Fulbright programme was formed in the aftermath of World War II through Senator J. William Fulbright's proposal to establish an educational exchange programme to foster international understanding and mutual goodwill.

As Harriet Fulbright told us in December 2007, "It was [Senator Fulbright's] Rhodes Scholarship which taught him that studying and living in another country for long enough to confront and understand a different culture actually made him appreciate the differences between peoples. It convinced him that if future potential leaders could follow in his footsteps they would, when in actual leadership positions, be far more willing to exchange ideas instead of bullets."

The Fulbright Act was signed on 1 August 1946 and the agreement with New Zealand was signed on 14 September 1948 - the fifth agreement in the world to be signed - providing for the establishment of the New Zealand United States Educational Foundation which would administer the Fulbright programme in New Zealand. The first Fulbright grantee in our programme was Dr Olaus Murie, a distinguished American wildlife expert who came in 1948 to research the American elk population in the South Island. The first New Zealand Fulbrighters, 13 of them, left New Zealand for the US in 1949. They were research scholars and lecturers, exchange teachers and graduate students. Since then over 2,500 students, teachers, academics, artists and professionals have moved between our two countries and they have come to better understand, appreciate and in many cases to love the other country.

We celebrated our 60th Anniversary year by way of a range of events, starting with a launch reception with Mrs Harriet Fulbright in Wellington in December 2007. Harriet had a productive and enjoyable visit to Wellington for a week, and she was the keynote speaker at the parliamentary reception hosted by the Minister of Education and the Prime Minister. Then in June 2008 in Washington, DC the New Zealand Embassy hosted a wonderful gala dinner to celebrate the Fulbright 60th Anniversary with a number of American alumni and US government folks. That same month but back in Wellington we had a huge parliamentary reception with over 380 alumni and friends, hosted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Then to end the Anniversary, there was a very successful symposium and reception held at the University of Auckland on 22 November 2008 which attracted over 180 people. These events provided opportunity to bring alumni and grantees together, to garner increased support from the Fulbright community and beyond, and to have increased profile in the media. They also allowed positive reflection on the last 60 years and to think ahead to the next 60 years.

The 2008 programme year was constantly busy with the business-as-usual of managing a large number of different award programmes, supporting grantees, promoting educational exchange/study in the US to New Zealanders, and maintaining positive relationships with a wide range of people. On top of this, there were a number of new alumni initiatives. In March 2008 we fully implemented the Fulbright Campus Advisers programme and conducted training of those volunteer alumni who are providing great advice about Fulbright on the various university campuses around New Zealand. Also, an alumni working party was convened and met in Wellington in September 2008 to advance the establishment of a Fulbright New Zealand alumni association. Chaired by Graeme Cochran (1978 Fulbright New Zealand Exchange Teacher), this group of 17 alumni is working towards launching the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association in June 2009.

Regular annual events were organised by our office and are detailed elsewhere in this report. Events of note taking place during the year included the regional Executive Directors meeting in April 2008 hosted by the American Indonesian Exchange Foundation in Jakarta. The meeting with six other Executive Directors from the Southeast Asian region was enjoyable and fruitful. The US Presidential Election on 4 November was an exciting event watched with huge interest by the world. Only four days later, New Zealand had its elections, and of course there were changes in government in both countries. We look forward to working with, and benefiting from the support of, these new administrations. In December we said farewell to the US Honorary Chairperson of Fulbright New Zealand and US Ambassador to New Zealand, Bill McCormick, and his family, whose term had ended and were returning to the United States. The McCormicks were wonderfully supportive of Fulbright New Zealand during their three years here.

Staffing changes this year saw the departure of Maree Yong, our Accountant over the last nine years, and Theresa Taylor, part-time Programme Administrator. Replacing them were Patrick Teahan and Tracy Blower. Overall, staff worked with huge commitment and purpose for which I am most thankful. Feedback from grantees was extremely positive about the services received and their overall experiences.

There were various changes on the Board. Ruth Harley, the longest serving Board member (13 years!), stood down as Chairperson in September 2008 as she was relocating to Australia for a new job. Deputy Chairperson Barbara Johnson was elected as Chairperson and Stephen Jacobi elected as Deputy Chairperson. One of the Board's biggest tasks this year was to finalise and implement a new five-year Strategic Plan (2008-2012) which identifies increasing opportunities for educational exchange as its main priority. Thank you to all Board members for your great contributions and support.

To end, I thank everyone whose support was given in whatever way in the last year. I thank all those who provided financial support especially the American and New Zealand governments and other sponsoring agencies and individuals. Without your support, we would not exist. Our warm appreciation to everyone who participated in 60th Anniversary activities and those who sent congratulatory messages. We know that those who could not join us in person were with us in spirit. It was wonderful reconnecting with many alumni who have had little or no contact with us in a while. To everyone out there, please continue to support us in whatever way you can and support our ever-lasting mission of increasing understanding between peoples and building a more peaceful world through educational exchange.

Mele Wendt, Executive Director

# Graduate Student Programme

The Fulbright Graduate Student Programme enables New Zealand graduate students to go to the US and American graduate students to come to New Zealand to undertake postgraduate study or research. Applicants are selected on the basis of academic excellence, personal and ambassadorial qualities and the feasibility and benefits of their proposed projects.

## Fulbright New Zealand Graduate Awards

With the exception of the three year International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards and two year Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship, Fulbright New Zealand Graduate Awards fund grantees towards one year of study or research in the US. Fulbright grantees generally have no difficulty winning places in top US universities and attracting the balance of their requisite funding from these institutions.

All New Zealand grantees travelling to the US attend a three day predeparture programme in Wellington in June, and enrichment programmes while in the US.

## International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards are granted for PhD study at top US universities in fields of science, technology or engineering. The awards fully fund three years of PhD study, with the grantee's host institution funding the remaining two years of study. Nominations are accepted from any participating countries in the Fulbright exchange programme, and the winners selected by open and rigorous competition. Around 40 awards are offered internationally each year.

Fulbright New Zealand received eight applications for 2009 awards and nominated two candidates to US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. 43 award recipients were selected from 120 nominations submitted by 73 countries, including one New Zealander – Jessica Rodrigues.

## Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

The Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship is granted for study in a knowledge economy-related field, and is valued at US\$100,000 plus travel expenses. In addition, it includes an internship in the US and employment or start-up capital opportunities upon the recipient's return to New Zealand. Eight applications were received this year and one recipient selected for 2009.

We acknowledge the support of the Ministry of Education and a number of private donors in making this award possible.

## Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards are granted for study or research in areas targeted to support growth and innovation in New Zealand, and are valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel expenses. 25 applications were received this year

and 13 recipients selected for 2009.

We acknowledge the support of the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology in making these awards possible.

## Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research

The Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research is granted for study or research in the field of natural disaster research, and is valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel expenses. One application was received this year and one recipient selected for 2009.

We acknowledge the support of the Earthquake Commission (EQC) in making this award possible.

## Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards are granted for study or research in any field, and are valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel expenses. 53 applications were received this year and nine recipients selected for 2009.

## Supplementary Awards

Fulbright New Zealand offers two supplementary awards for New Zealand graduate students. The Robin W. and Avril Flockton Winks Award, sponsored by The Lois Roth Endowment, provides US\$1,500 towards research costs and book purchases to a student in the field of humanities and/or social sciences. This year's award was granted to Bethany Edmunds.

The Sir Wallace Rowling Memorial Award provides US\$2,500 towards the cost of taking up an internship in Washington, DC for a student in the field of political science, international relations, journalism or international law. This year's award was granted to Shaun McGirr.

## Fulbright US Graduate Awards

Fulbright US Graduate Awards are granted for study or research in any field, and provide full tuition fees, a cost of living stipend and travel expenses for one year in New Zealand. 98 applications were received this year and 13 recipients selected for 2009.

An additional US graduate student, Ainsley Breault, was selected to visit New Zealand in 2009 as a Fulbright-mtvU Fellow.

All American grantees travelling to New Zealand attend a week-long orientation in Wellington in February, a mid-year report back in June and Thanksgiving dinner and a year-end report back in November.

# New Zealand Graduate Students

The following students commenced Fulbright grants this year:

## International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

**Alana Alexander** from Auckland is completing a PhD in Wildlife, specialising in the population genetics and evolution of sperm whales, at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

**Wynton Moore** from Dunedin is completing a PhD in Physics, specialising in structure formation in the early universe, at the University of Chicago.

## Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

**Fiona Miller** from Hamilton is completing a Master of Business Administration degree at the University of California, Berkeley.

## Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards

**Josephine Beck** from Christchurch will research the vocal repertoire of orangutans at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Adam Forbes** from Wellington is completing a Master of Science degree in Management Science and Engineering, specialising in information science and technology, at Stanford University in Stanford, California.

**Rick Henry** from Auckland is researching seismic behaviour of precast concrete wall systems at Iowa State University in Ames, towards a PhD in Engineering from the University of Auckland.

**William Kelton** from Te Pahu is completing a PhD in Chemical Engineering, specialising in bioresponsive polymers and drug delivery techniques, at the University of Texas, Austin.

**Shaun McGirr** from Christchurch is completing a PhD in Political Science, specialising in policy effects on software, infrastructure and telecommunications markets, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

**Josie McVitty** from Palmerston North is completing a Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering, specialising in the relationships between science, technology and society with regard to energy and climate change challenges, at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Rahul Mehta** from Auckland will complete a PhD in Electrical Engineering, specialising in wireless communication technology, at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

**Hiren Mulchandani** from Auckland is completing a Master of Science degree in Materials Science and Engineering, specialising in applications of novel biomaterials, at Stanford University in Stanford, California.

**Hiten Mulchandani** from Auckland is completing a Master of Science degree and PhD in Aeronautics and Astronautics, specialising in aircraft systems engineering, at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge.

**Monique Ryan** from Auckland is completing a Master of Science degree in Computer Science, specialising in software design for safety critical applications, at Stanford University in Stanford, California.

**Damian Scarf** from Dunedin is researching episodic memory in non-human species at Columbia University in New York, towards a PhD in Psychology from the University of Otago.

**Dmitri Schebarchov** from Wellington is researching metal nanoparticles and their applications in nanodevices at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, towards a PhD in Physics from Victoria University of Wellington.

**Jethro van Ekeren** from Hamilton is completing a PhD in Mathematics, specialising in representation theory, at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge.

## Fulbright-EQC Graduate Awards in Natural Disaster Research

**Geoff Rodgers** from Christchurch is researching damage free structural design at Texas A&M University in College Station, towards a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Canterbury.

**Aaron Wilson** from Auckland is researching unreinforced masonry buildings in New Zealand at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, towards a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Auckland.

## Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

**Luke Di Somma** from Christchurch is completing a Master of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theatre Writing, specialising in composition of musical theatre and opera, at New York University.

**Bethany Edmunds** from Auckland is completing a Master of Arts degree in Visual Culture, specialising in costume studies and textile conservation, at New York University.

**Olivia Kember** from Auckland will complete a Master of Arts degree in Security Studies, specialising in terrorism and sub-state violence, at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

**Jessica Kerr** from Omapere is completing a Master of Laws degree specialising in the role of the judiciary at the interface between public and private law at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

**Jono Paulin** from Invercargill is completing a Master of Science degree in Clinical Exercise Physiology, specialising in rehabilitation of patients with chronic conditions, at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

**Simon Thode** from Auckland is completing a PhD in History, specialising in the history of science and technology, at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Rob Vosslander** from Christchurch is researching taxation ethics at Boston University, towards a PhD in Commerce from the University of Canterbury.



### Fiona Miller

Fulbright-Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship recipient Fiona Miller from Hamilton is completing a Master of Business Administration degree at the University of California, Berkeley.

In her welcome speech to our incoming class, our MBA Association President confessed to averaging four hours sleep a night. There are so many great opportunities to get involved beyond the classroom in our two years at the Haas School of Business that the general philosophy is that sleep can come later. I'm organising a *Dragons Den*-style Venture Capital Investment Competition and have been selected as a Venture Innovation Program fellow

to help facilitate commercialisation of medical devices developed at UCB and UCSF. And then there are the professional clubs, networking functions and social events!

Another thing I love about being at Haas is the diversity. My classmates include people who have marketed global brands, worked for NGOs in Madagascar, established start-ups in Israel, traded on Wall Street, advised leading Japanese corporations and improved infrastructure in India. They are truly amazing people with a real passion for their chosen careers, and I know that my friendships and networks with them will be amongst the most valuable things I will gain from my time here. Being in the US during the historical election of the first African American President and a global financial meltdown has also been fascinating.

It's hard to believe I'm nearly a quarter of the way through my MBA already. Time has flown by since I arrived in August and my only hope is that my remaining time here doesn't pass by too quickly!



### Aaron Wilson

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research recipient Aaron Wilson from Auckland is researching unreinforced masonry buildings in New Zealand at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, towards a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Auckland.

What a year to come to Philadelphia! For someone who thinks that New Zealand's support of the All Blacks is impressive, to experience the riotous jubilation of an entire city united over the Phillies' Baseball World Series victory, which included tens of thousands filling the streets and a parade fit for a king, was truly memorable. If that wasn't

enough, a week later I was privileged to witness a predominantly democratic city rejoice when America voted for its first black president, Barack Obama. I can't help but feel like I'm part of the history books!

I am also fortunate to be completing one year of my PhD research under the guidance of my US supervisor at Drexel University. His knowledge and advice have proved invaluable as I prepare for my first phase of testing that I will conduct in Drexel's world class testing facilities.

My Fulbright exchange has been incredible so far. I have met some wonderful people and enjoyed seeing many great sights of America. Assimilating into an unfamiliar city and culture has been a challenging but extremely rewarding experience, so thank you Fulbright for providing me this life-changing opportunity.



### Wynton Moore

International Fulbright Science and Technology Award recipient Wynton Moore from Dunedin is completing a PhD in Physics, specialising in structure formation in the early universe, at the University of Chicago.

Looking out on the wintry streets of Hyde Park, I feel very fortunate to have landed in Chicago during such an eventful period for the city. The presidential campaign has obviously been a focal point. As it unfolded I realised I was in for something special, and election night in Grant Park was an experience to remember! Hyde Park is a unique community with a wide variety of people, and this is reflected in the residents of my apartment building. People are warm and

welcoming, and the capacity of everyone to engage in conversation about each other's disciplines was quite startling at first. I'm not sure what I would have done without this large family away from home.

The first quarter of the PhD program in physics at the University of Chicago has been a real challenge. The reward has been learning from faculty who are knowledgeable, approachable and pragmatic. One really valuable experience has been learning to teach undergraduates in such a structured and professional academic environment. I'm sure this will serve me well in future. It has also been intriguing to see the response of the department to Yoichiro Nambu receiving a Nobel prize – it was a fond celebration of a friend and colleague, in a refreshingly down-to-earth manner.

Having found my footing here, I am keenly anticipating the winter quarter. Chicago is an enormous, beautiful, gritty place full of culture and contrasts, and is worthy of a lot of exploring over the next few years!

# US Graduate Students

## Fulbright US Graduate Awards

**Alyssa Borowske** from Barre, Vermont is completing a Bachelor of Science degree (with Honours) in Biology, specialising in the effects of Australian magpies on native New Zealand bird species, at the University of Waikato.

**Dorien Coray** from Soldotna, Alaska is completing a Master of Science degree in Biotechnology, specialising in the implications of horizontal gene transfer, at the University of Canterbury.

**Christina Gonzalez** from Brooklyn, New York is completing a Certificate of Proficiency in Māori Studies, specialising in the impact of government policy on urban Māori, at Victoria University of Wellington.

**Brian Kastl** from Poulsbo, Washington is completing a Master of Science degree in Geology, specialising in volcanic debris avalanche hazard assessment and river rehabilitation, at the University of Auckland.

**Amanda McRaven** from Free Union, Virginia is completing a Master of Philosophy degree in Community Theatre, specialising in the portrayal of myths in a multicultural theatre performance, at Massey University Palmerston North.

**Lana Mitsina** from Pasco, Washington is researching the cellular effects of drug abuse at Victoria University of Wellington.

**Siobhan O’Kane** from Ridgefield, Connecticut is completing a Master of Social Science degree in Geography, specialising in watershed management and environmental planning, at the University of Waikato.

**Lauren Robinson** from Wilton, Connecticut is researching the curating of Māori art by the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa at Victoria University of Wellington.

**Danya Rumore** from Sandpoint, Idaho is completing a Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Environmental Management, specialising in environmental management and sustainability in New Zealand, at the University of Auckland.

**Malia Villegas** from Fife, Washington is studying policy and research for improving education of indigenous peoples at the University of Auckland, towards a PhD from Harvard University.



**Alyssa Borowske**

Fulbright US Graduate Student Alyssa Borowske from Barre, Vermont is completing a Bachelor of Science degree (with Honours) in Biology, specialising in the effects of Australian magpies on native New Zealand bird species, at the University of Waikato.

My year at the University of Waikato is characterized by the word ‘too’ – too fast, too much to explore, and too good to be true. I cannot decide what has left the most lasting impression on me – living and working with students and faculty members from literally every continent (including Antarctic researchers!), as well as New Zealand; immersing myself into Kiwi life via bush

walks and beach tramps; or watching myself transform from an undergraduate into a graduate student in a stimulating and supportive environment.

Also notably, from my background in Ecology and Environmental Science, I discovered a love for Animal Behaviour. Under the guidance of a superb supervisor at Waikato, I completed a project on threat recognition in birds which is simultaneously relevant to the contemporary New Zealand conservation challenge of dealing with aggressive exotic birds such as magpies and mynas, and is theoretically interesting because it addresses the fundamental topic of how a bird perceives its world. Overall, this year has helped me to refine my research interests and develop skills as a scientist which will be invaluable when I begin a PhD in 2009.

As I left for New Zealand a year ago, the recurring farewell was “Aw, you’re never coming back to the US.” Now that I am returning home, the statement is reversed as my Kiwi friends state confidently “You’ll be back.” New Zealand, with its enchanting mix of the familiar and the exotic, is now an extension of “home” and I think my New Zealand friends are right – plus I have yet to track down a kiwi!



**Amanda McRaven**

Fulbright US Graduate Student Amanda McRaven from Free Union, Virginia is completing a Master of Philosophy degree in Community Theatre, specialising in the portrayal of myths in a multicultural theatre performance, at Massey University Palmerston North.

I spent the year working with members of the Palmerston North community to create a piece of theatre based on their own stories. I count the twelve people I worked with as good friends who have shown me the culture of this country in a way no studies ever could. Reviews of our production *Suitcase* said it was an astonishing conception and was performed with precision and passion... “Stunning to watch.”

Having directed in mainstream American theatre for many years, I came to New Zealand searching for a transformative theatrical experience. It was. I watched community grow among a group of strangers and I helped those who had never been on stage to find their creative voice. It was the most difficult artistic experience I have ever had, but the most satisfying.

I jumped off a bridge, learned to kayak, spent the holidays on a marae, hitchhiked around the North Island and learned that red wine is a food group. I plan to get out into the wilderness now that I am through with my production! I’m a country girl and I miss the stars and the space. After that, who knows? I’m a restless soul and there is so much more of the world to see...

# Senior Scholar Programme

The Fulbright Senior Scholar Programme enables New Zealand academics, artists and professionals to visit the US, and American academics, artists and professionals to visit New Zealand to undertake research, share their specialist knowledge and participate in collaborative projects.

## Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards are for New Zealand artists, academics or professionals to pursue research or practical experience in the US for three to five months, and are valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel expenses. Seven applications were received this year and two recipients selected for 2009.

## Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies are for New Zealand academics to conduct research and teach a course in New Zealand Studies at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for one or two semesters, and are valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel expenses. Four applications were received this year and two recipients selected for 2009.

## Fulbright-Cognition Education Research Trust Scholar Award

The Fulbright-Cognition Education Research Trust Scholar Award in Education Research is for a New Zealand educator to pursue research in the US designed to have an impact on New Zealand schooling and student achievement for three to five months, and is valued at up to US\$20,000 plus travel expenses. Five applications were received this year and the inaugural recipient selected for 2009.

We acknowledge the support of Cognition Education Research Trust in making this award possible.

## Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

The Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency is 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, and is valued at NZ\$30,000. Seven applications were received this year and the award granted to David Young.

We acknowledge the support of Creative New Zealand in making this award possible.

## Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards are for New Zealand academics, artists and professionals to visit the US for 10 to 90 days in order to

present papers at conferences and/or deliver lectures in the US from a New Zealand perspective, and are valued at up to NZ\$5,000. 24 applications were received this year and 12 recipients selected.

## Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards are for American artists, academics or professionals to pursue research or practical experience in New Zealand for three to five months, and are valued at up to NZ\$32,500 plus travel expenses. 29 applications were received this year and six recipients selected for 2009.

## Fulbright Senior Specialist Awards

Fulbright Senior Specialist Awards are for New Zealand academic institutions to host US academics, artists or professionals for lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences or symposiums for two to six weeks, and are valued at up to NZ\$8,400 plus travel expenses. 11 applications were received this year and six recipients selected.



**Chanel Clarke**

Chanel Clarke from Auckland War Memorial Museum received a Fulbright Travel Award to 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.

The humble T-shirt was the subject matter that took me to the sunny isles of Hawai'i in September 2008 to participate in the Textile Society of America's 11th Biennial Symposium. This year's theme – Textiles as Cultural Expressions – provided me with the opportunity to explore how indigenous peoples, and particularly Māori, have used the

vehicle of the T-shirt to express their unique identities and shared cultural values in what is an increasingly commercialised, digitised, and global world.

Twenty three different countries participated in the symposium and it was a wonderful opportunity to gain cross-cultural understanding in textile studies and see the breadth of work being done internationally in this field. Pre- and post-conference tours, exhibitions, site seminars and workshops provided opportunities to see and learn about many unusual and one-of-a-kind textile collections and other diverse cultural resources in Hawai'i.

A particular highlight of the trip for me was the opportunity to visit the Cultural Learning Centre at Ka'ala on the Waianae Coast. This not-for-profit community organisation was doing wonderful work to reclaim and preserve the ancient agricultural practices of the *Po'e Kohiko* (people of old) and transfer this cultural knowledge from one generation to the next. The site was a superb resource for schools and the local community and I have no doubt that they will achieve their vision to see that every *ahupua'a* (subdivision of land from mountain to shore) in Hawai'i will be a place where traditional practices, healthy land and healthy families live. Of course no visit to Hawai'i is complete without a spot of shopping for presents to bring home for the family. And what were they, you ask? T-shirts of course!

# New Zealand Senior Scholars

The following scholars commenced Fulbright grants this year:

## Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards

**Cameron Grant** from the University of Auckland researched the importance of nutrition to the health of children at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Sarah Leberman** from Massey University investigated the roles of women in sports leadership at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities in Minneapolis.

**Susana Lei'ataua** from Wellington developed a full length theatre work entitled *Breaking The Surface* and edited a Pacific Worlds Reader at New York University.

**Phil Lester** from Victoria University of Wellington investigated the control of red imported fire ants using pheromones at Texas A&M University in College Station.

**Stephen May** from the University of Waikato researched successful bilingual literacy programmes for minority school students at the University of Arizona in Tuscon and Columbia University in New York.

## Fulbright Visiting Lectureships in New Zealand Studies

**Jo Diamond** from the University of Canterbury taught a course in indigenous art history at Georgetown University for their Spring semester.

**Brian McDonnell** from Massey University is teaching a course in New Zealand film and literature at Georgetown University for their Fall semester.

## Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

**David Young** from Wellington is writing a series of essays for publication under the title *Hidden Sanctuaries: Waters of life in the Pacific and beyond* at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in Honolulu.

## Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

**Brendon Bradley** from the University of Canterbury presented a paper entitled *Performance-based seismic response of pile foundations* at the 4th decennial Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics Conference in Sacramento, California.

**Isabel Castro** from Massey University presented a series of seminars on kiwi and conservation in New Zealand in San Diego, California.

**Chanel Clarke** from Auckland War Memorial Museum presented 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** from Massey University presented a series of seminars on kiwi and conservation in New Zealand in San Diego, California.

**Des Kahotea** from Victoria University of Wellington presented a paper entitled *The legacy of British and American archaeology and Māori heritage* at the American Anthropological Association's 106th annual meeting in Washington, DC.

**Emily Nelson** from Clive presented a paper entitled *Co-constructing early adolescence education through image-based research* at the National Middle School Association's 34th annual conference in Houston, Texas.

**John Psathas** from the New Zealand School of Music undertook a three week professional and academic tour of the US.

**Aroha Puketapu-Dahm** from Lower Hutt took 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.

**Huia Tomlins-Jahnke** from Massey University presented a paper entitled *Challenges at the Tribal/State interface in the provision of indigenous social services* at the 2008 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting in New York.

**Louise Tu'u** from the University of Auckland attended a reading of her play *Le Tavvaga (The Competition)* at the Indigenous World Theatre Reading Series in New York.

**Graeme Wake** from Massey University gave lectures on industrial and applied mathematics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge and the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

**Gwenda Willis** from the University of Canterbury presented a paper entitled *The quality of community reintegration of child molesters: Effects on sexual recidivism* at the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers' 26th annual treatment and research conference in San Diego, California.

# US Senior Scholars

## Fulbright US Senior Scholars

**Mark Hostetler** from the University of Florida worked on a guide for conservation and promotion of biodiversity in residential developments at Landcare Research in Lincoln.

**Sally Kohlstedt** from the University of Minnesota taught and researched nature study education and natural history museum exchange at the University of Auckland.

**Charles Nuckolls** from the University of Alabama taught and researched cultural construction of psychological and psychiatric diagnostic categories in New Zealand at the University of Auckland in Hamilton.

**Reed Scherer** from Northern Illinois University researched Antarctic climate change during Pleistocene interglacial climate intervals at Victoria University of Wellington.

**Karina Walters** from the University of Washington taught and researched indigenous health measures at the University of Auckland.

## Fulbright Senior Specialists

The University of Auckland hosted **Keith Barton** from the University of Cincinnati, who gave workshops on history, social studies and citizenship education and research methodology.

Victoria University of Wellington hosted **William Clark** from the University of California, who collaborated on research projects exploring immigration, housing and settlement in New Zealand.

Lincoln University hosted **Mary Firestone** from the University of California, Berkeley, who shared her expertise in soil microbial ecology teaching and research with students and faculty.

The University of Canterbury hosted **James Mahshie** from Gallaudet University, who shared his expertise in aural rehabilitation in a variety of academic, clinical, research and community settings.

The University of Otago hosted **Amjad Umar** from the University of Pennsylvania, who taught and assisted with the development of course material on the subjects of telecommunications and computing.



**Mark Hostetler**

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Mark Hostetler from the University of Florida worked on a guide for conservation and promotion of biodiversity in residential developments at Landcare Research.

The year my family and I spent in Lincoln was truly magical. We quickly became embedded within the local community and remain in contact with many of our new colleagues and friends. Lincoln had a wonderful sense of community and we thoroughly enjoyed walking everywhere within the town. Plus, we were close to tramping in the Port Hills and Southern Alps. We all enjoyed the up close encounters with the "cheeky" keas found at Arthur's Pass.

I was struck by the similarities between Florida and New Zealand in terms of growth management and biodiversity conservation. Often a gap exists between policies and implementation, requiring that various stakeholders become engaged. I worked with Landcare Research's fabulous Low Impact Urban Design and Development team to develop a biodiversity course targeting landowners, planners, developers, and policymakers. My colleague Dr Colin Meurk was particularly instrumental in helping me understand New Zealand biodiversity issues and local stakeholders. The course was successfully pilot tested in Nelson in association with the city council.

In addition, we had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout New Zealand and I gave public seminars sponsored by several regional councils. The talks were on growth management in Florida, with lessons learned for New Zealand. On one trip, staying in a "bach" on Stewart Island was a highlight for our family. Overall, the experience helped shape my future work in sustainable development, and currently I am planning to help expand the biodiversity course to other regions in New Zealand.



**William Clark**

Fulbright Senior Specialist William Clark from the University of California collaborated on research projects exploring immigration, housing and settlement in New Zealand at Victoria University of Wellington.

My six week visit to Victoria University of Wellington's (VUW) School of Geography, Geology and Environmental Sciences was a rewarding and challenging experience. The visit began with a keynote speech to the biannual New Zealand Geographical Society meeting and was followed by talks and seminars at relevant government agencies and visits to Auckland and Waikato Universities where I spoke to graduate students and to the New Zealand Geographical Society's Auckland branch. The interaction with both academic and government audiences allowed me to contribute to, and learn about, New Zealand debates about population growth and change, especially the issues of diversity and how immigration is being managed within the context of a "new settler" society – that is a society with large scale recent immigration.

My discussions with Professor Philip Morrison, who was my host at VUW, have begun what will be a long and productive research program on migration, mobility and neighbourhood outcomes. With the interest of Statistics New Zealand (who conduct the government's population census) we will continue our teaching and research program in the next decade. We also plan to continue work on further projects which were initiated during my Fulbright exchange. On a personal note, I enjoyed exploring and getting to know Wellington and the communities around the harbour.

# Other Fellowships and Awards

Fulbright New Zealand administers a range of other exchange programmes between New Zealand and the US on behalf of their various agencies.

## Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy are for outstanding mid-career American professionals to study public policy in New Zealand for six months, and are valued at up to NZ\$45,500 plus travel expenses. Fulbright New Zealand administers the Ian Axford Fellowship programme on behalf of the Board of the Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy.

The Ian Axford Fellows for 2008 were:

- **Kacky Andrews** from the Coastal States Organization, who compared the use of marine protected areas in New Zealand and the US at the Ministry for the Environment;
- **Penny Bishop** from the University of Vermont, who researched middle schooling reform policy in New Zealand at the Ministry of Education;
- **Brenda Bushouse** from the University of Massachusetts, who researched the creation and implementation of New Zealand's 20 hours free early childhood education programme at the Ministry of Education;
- **Patti Grogan** from the Florida Department of Children and Families, who compared refugee integration strategies in New Zealand and the US at the Department of Labour.

The findings of their fellowships were published in reports which are downloadable from the Fulbright New Zealand website.

We acknowledge the support of the 22 New Zealand government agencies which fund these fellowships.

## Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice

Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice are for promising New Zealand health policy researchers and practitioners to conduct a policy-oriented research project and work with leading health policy experts in the US for seven to twelve months, and are valued at up to US\$107,000. Fulbright New Zealand administers the New Zealand selection and report-back process for Harkness Fellowships on behalf of the Commonwealth Fund of New York.

The Harkness Fellow for 2008 is Robin Gauld from the University of Otago, who is researching policy and organisational strategies to reduce clinical performance variations at Boston University's Health Policy Institute and Massachusetts General Hospital for Health Policy.

## John F Kennedy Memorial Fellowship

The John F Kennedy Memorial Fellowship is for New Zealand organisations and institutions to bring eminent Americans to New Zealand on high profile visits. Fulbright New Zealand administers the John F

Kennedy Memorial Fellowship on behalf of the New Zealand government.

The Kennedy Fellow for 2008 was Nobel Prize-winning economist **Joseph Stiglitz** from Columbia University, who participated in the New Zealand International Arts Festival's Writers and Readers Week in Wellington.

## Study of the United States Institutes

Study of the United States Institutes are intensive, multinational, six week programmes for foreign secondary educators and university faculty with little or no experience in the US to deepen their understanding of American society, education, culture and politics. The awards cover the full costs of programme participation. Fulbright New Zealand nominates New Zealand candidates for Study of the United States Institutes to the US Department of State.

Two New Zealanders were selected to attend Study of the United States Institutes this year:

- **David Ivory** from St Thomas of Canterbury College participated in a six week Institute for Secondary Educators at the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, Massachusetts;
- **Kate McMillan** from Victoria University of Wellington participated in a six week Institute on American Politics and Political Thought at the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute in Amherst, Massachusetts.



**Penny Bishop**

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellow in Public Policy Penny Bishop from the University of Vermont researched middle schooling reform policy in New Zealand at the Ministry of Education.

My exchange to New Zealand far surpassed my hopes both professionally and personally. I was able to expand my understanding of schooling for young adolescents to an international scale and to learn in the policy venue. I was hosted by the Ministry of Education's outstanding Learning Policy Frameworks team, where I helped construct and guide a cross-division steering group on middle years education. My research identified general agreement

across stakeholder groups about the need for specialised middle years preparation and resulted in four key policy recommendations. I have since published the findings in two academic journals and presented them at an international conference. New Zealand's emphasis on evidence-based policy development is truly impressive and provided lessons I have brought back to the States to guide my work in the educational policy arena. I am very excited to have established an international area of research and to continue that work on New Zealand education in collaboration with two New Zealand colleagues.

The personal value of this experience matched the professional! My family travelled both islands and saw a lot of this beautiful and diverse country. Living in New Zealand for seven months enabled us to move past tourism to a much more valuable understanding of this bi-cultural nation. That spending time as a family in unknown circumstances would bring us even closer together was a delightful and unanticipated surprise. The people of New Zealand were warm and welcoming and we have made life-long friends as a result. New Zealand truly feels like our second home.

# Events



## New Zealand Events

In November 2007 the US Ambassador to New Zealand, Hon William McCormick, and his wife Gail hosted a group of current Fulbright US Graduate Students, staff and Board members for our traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

In December the annual dinner for Harkness Fellowship in Health Care Policy and Practice fellows and alumni was held at The Drake in Auckland, with John Craig, Robin Osborn and Karen Davis from the Commonwealth Fund of New York in attendance. The newly-selected 2008 Harkness Fellow, Robin Gauld, was announced and introduced at the dinner.

Later in December we were delighted to host Mrs Harriet Fulbright, widow of the Fulbright programme's founder Senator J. William Fulbright, who launched our 60th Anniversary year at a special reception in Parliament's Grand Hall. She was welcomed to New Zealand by Prime Minister Helen Clark.

In January 2008 we launched the new Fulbright-Cognition Education Research Trust Scholar Award in Education Research with a small function at our offices for education sector stakeholders.

In February we welcomed 19 new American grantees to New Zealand with a week-long orientation programme in Wellington, which included seminars on New Zealand and Pacific history, culture, politics and people, an overnight stay at Waiwhetū Marae and visits to Te Papa Tongarewa The Museum of New Zealand and Parliament.

In March Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz visited New Zealand as a John F Kennedy Memorial Fellow. He was welcomed at a reception hosted by Fulbright New Zealand and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before participating in the New Zealand International Arts Festival's Writers and Readers Week and giving a public lecture in Auckland.

Harkness Fellowship in Health Care Policy and Practice seminars were held during May at Dunedin Public Hospital, the University of Auckland and Fulbright New Zealand's offices in Wellington. 2006 Harkness Fellow Mark Booth reported the findings of his research at all three seminars, alongside the other 2006 Fellow Mihi Ratima in Wellington and 2004 Fellow Elana Curtis in Auckland.

In May we held alumni functions in Christchurch, Dunedin and Hamilton whilst visiting these centres on our Outreach Tour. It was great

to catch up with alumni and grantees in those cities during our 60th Anniversary year.

In June we held our 2008 Fulbright New Zealand Awards Ceremony at the Banquet Hall of the Beehive in Wellington, hosted by Rt Hon Winston Peters, Minister of Foreign Affairs. The event doubled as a 60th Anniversary celebration and we were delighted by the huge turnout of alumni to mark this special occasion. It was a pleasure also to have former Executive Director Laurie Cox propose a toast to mark our anniversary.

In July Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy fellows Kacky Andrews, Penny Bishop, Brenda Bushouse and Patti Grogan reported the findings of their research at the BP Theatre in Wellington.

In August, we held a panel discussion in Wellington to mark New Zealand Leadership Week, with Fulbright and Harkness Fellowships alumni Ruth Harley, Karen Poutasi and Rob Rabel sharing their experiences and views on leadership in their respective fields.

## US Events

Fulbright New Zealand's Executive Director Mele Wendt visited the US in May-June, during which the New Zealand Embassy in Washington, DC hosted the annual Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy Forum for recent fellows to report their research findings, followed by a reception for applicants, alumni and friends at New Zealand Ambassador Roy Ferguson's residence.

The following day the Embassy kindly hosted more than 100 American alumni and supporters of the Fulbright programme for a 60th Anniversary gala dinner. We were delighted to have former New Zealand Prime Minister and Ambassador to the US Rt Hon Jim Bolger as a guest speaker, and 2008 Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Susana Lei'ataua to give a special performance of songs composed during her exchange to the US.

# Non-Grant Programme Activities

Fulbright New Zealand promotes educational and cultural exchange between New Zealand and the US. Our educational advising services include informing New Zealanders and Americans about university study in each other's countries.

## Educational Advising and Testing Services

Fulbright New Zealand's Educational Advising Service provides the most comprehensive source of advice on study in the US available in New Zealand.

Our dedicated educationUSA advising centre provides US university catalogues, directories and application guides, a resource library and computers as well as test registration and preparation materials. The centre is open to the public during office hours, by appointment.

Our Educational Adviser conducts high school and tertiary campus visits to promote study in the US and to explain the application process.

This year, our Educational Advising Service answered 590 inquiries in person or by mail, phone, email and fax. The Fulbright New Zealand website is a popular source of information about study in the US or New Zealand.

Our Educational Advising Service also gives advice about and/or administers the following standardised tests for US university admissions:

- ACT
- SAT
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT)
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

Fulbright New Zealand administered the GRE test in October 2007 and February 2008 to a total of 56 participants. We administered the SAT test in November 2007 and January 2008 to a total of 27 participants, and the ACT test in December 2007 and June 2008 to a total of 6 participants.

This year we expanded our advising services by appointing a network of 11 Fulbright Campus Advisers at major university campuses around New Zealand. These advisers are all Fulbright alumni who are available to discuss their exchange experiences with students and staff, as well as to give basic information about our awards and studying in the US.

## Outreach Tour

From June through September 2008 Fulbright New Zealand's Educational Advising team undertook their annual Outreach Tour, visiting 21 tertiary education institutions around the country with 483 attendees. EIT in Napier, Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi in Whakatāne, The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand in Lower Hutt and UCOL in Palmerston North were all visited for the first time.

Students and staff were introduced to the range of awards available on the Fulbright programme, heard the experiences of Fulbright alumni and found out more about studying in the US.



**Phil Lester**

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Phil Lester from Victoria University of Wellington investigated the control of red imported fire ants using pheromones at Texas A&M University in College Station.

My wife, two boys and I had a fantastic time in Texas and at Texas A&M University. The people at the university were very welcoming and friendly, and the facilities were excellent. I found the opportunity to focus for four months on a specific question to be very enjoyable. We've made substantial progress towards synthesizing artificial trail pheromones for fire ants, which will hopefully prove to be a novel control technique for this internationally

important pest. I've been back to Texas since finishing my sabbatical in June and will continue working on this project over the next year. My sabbatical will hopefully be the beginning of a long-term collaboration between our laboratories.

I'm pleased to report that as a result of my sabbatical, Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) now has a signed Memorandum of Agreement with Texas A&M to allow student exchanges. VUW students will now be able to take courses at Texas A&M without paying fees, and similarly Texas A&M students can spend a semester at VUW without paying New Zealand fees. We are looking forward to seeing more cowboy hats in Wellington! I'll take the first New Zealand students to Texas A&M in 2009.

While in the US we had great trips to dude ranches (with big cooked breakfasts at the end of horse trail rides), NASA, and even a trip to the University of Tennessee to meet with ecologists and give a seminar. It was a great experience.



**Sarah Leberman**

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Sarah Leberman from Massey University investigated the roles of women in sports leadership at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities in Minneapolis.

It is hard to believe that only a year ago my family and I were skiing in Como Park whilst I was a Fulbright Senior Scholar at the University of Minnesota's Tucker Centre for Research on Girls and Women in Sport. As a family we had a fantastic time meeting many new people and, through my daughter's school, gaining an insight into Primary Education in the US.

I had the privilege of working with an outstanding group of women who all share my passion for women in sport. The highlights for me professionally were the opportunities to engage with faculty, staff and graduate students who are researching to make a difference in girls and women's lives through sport and physical education. Being able to focus exclusively on this area for four months without the pressures of day-to-day academic life was a luxury. It gave me time to reflect on the research I was doing collaboratively with the Tucker Centre and to develop new projects for us to work on together in the future.

For us as a family being able to spend Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas in the US gave us an insight into North American culture we had not had before, and having a truly white Christmas was just magic. Returning to New Zealand was harder than I thought and it took my husband and I a good six months to settle back into New Zealand life. A day rarely goes by when we do not think about our time in Minnesota. It is hard to express in words what the Fulbright award has meant to me and my family – it was a privilege and an honour to represent New Zealand in this capacity and it will have a lasting effect on me personally and professionally.

# Related Organisations

Fulbright New Zealand works closely with various partner organisations and groups in the US and New Zealand who are involved in different aspects of the Fulbright programme.

The following organisations and groups work closely with Fulbright New Zealand:

## J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB)

The FSB is composed of 12 educational and public leaders appointed by the President of the US. This board establishes worldwide policies and procedures for the international Fulbright programme in over 150 countries and approves all Fulbright award selections.

## US Department of State

The US Department of State is the government agency that, through its Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, promotes and administers educational and cultural exchange programmes to bring about greater understanding between the people of the US and the peoples of the world. The US Ambassador to New Zealand is an Honorary Chairperson of Fulbright New Zealand and the Deputy Chief of Mission and Public Affairs Officer from the US Embassy in Wellington serve as ex-officio members on the Fulbright New Zealand Board.

## New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade is the main agency through which the Fulbright programme is supported by the New Zealand government. The Minister of Foreign Affairs is an Honorary Chairperson of Fulbright New Zealand and the Director of the Americas Division at MFAT serves as an ex-officio member on the Fulbright New Zealand Board.

## Institute of International Education (IIE)

IIE is an independent, non-profit organisation based in New York which administers over 250 international education programmes including the Fulbright Graduate Student Programme in the US. IIE manages the application process for Fulbright US Graduate Awards and supports grantees before they depart for New Zealand. They also support New Zealand Fulbright graduate students while they are in the US.

## Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)

CIES is a division of IIE based in Washington, DC that administers the Fulbright Senior Scholar Programme in the US. CIES manages the application process for the Fulbright US Senior Scholar programme and supports grantees before they depart for New Zealand. They also support New Zealand Fulbright scholars while they are in the US.



### Reed Scherer

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Reed Scherer from Northern Illinois University researched Antarctic climate change during Pleistocene interglacial climate intervals at Victoria University of Wellington.

I came to Wellington as a Fulbright Senior Scholar to work with Professor Tim Naish and colleagues at Victoria University of Wellington's Antarctic Research Centre. Our time there was fun, enriching, and terrifically successful.

My specific research goal was to attempt to tie intervals of time identified in the remarkable record of past climate change recovered by the multinational Antarctic drilling program ANDRILL with similar aged marine deposits exposed along the beach at Wanganui, northwest of Wellington. We sought (and, I believe, found) evidence that part of the Antarctic ice sheet "collapsed" during certain intervals of the past few million years, raising global sea level by at least six meters. These past collapses demonstrate the sensitivity of the West Antarctic ice sheet to global warming, and provide a basis for modelling current and future behaviour of this dynamic body of ice.

Everyone who travels to New Zealand falls in love with the people and the place, and my family is no exception. My daughter really loved her time as a student at Wellington High School, and remains in close contact with the good friends she made there. I look forward to returning to Wanganui in February 2009 to see friends and for follow-up research.



### Malia Villegas

Fulbright US Graduate Student Malia Villegas from Fife, Washington is studying policy and research for improving education of indigenous peoples at the University of Auckland, towards a PhD from Harvard University.

My time in Aotearoa has been characterized by never-ending manaakitanga (hospitality) and a real willingness on the part of those I met with to share their experiences, ideas, and cultures. This has been a life-changing experience for me as I have had the opportunity to study with Māori scholars and doctoral students, to participate in Māori higher education conferences and scholar retreats, and to learn more about the international indigenous higher education network.

I will always treasure the time I spent with iwi (tribal) communities learning about their leadership development efforts and meeting with youth, elders, and community leaders. It was in one of these meetings that I gained a real appreciation of the "exchange" aspect of the Fulbright fellowship. I was invited by one iwi to learn about their efforts on Māori student success and found that much of the work had been informed by a long-standing research initiative in Alaska. While I had been prepared to "receive" a great deal of insight from the people in Aotearoa, I had not realized how important it was for me to share about our work in Alaska. I am so grateful to have been given the gift of this realization, and, as a result, hope to be working together with these communities to advance our shared goals for many years.

I plan to return home and apply what I learned from the successful effort to graduate 500 Māori doctorates in five years to Alaska Native and American Indian communities. Additionally, I hope to share some of my experiences volunteering for the Māori Party with our political leaders within the Alaska Federation of Natives to guide our ongoing political advancement. I will carry these memories close to my heart forever!



“Our future is not in the stars but in our minds and hearts. Creative leadership and liberal education, which in fact go together, are the first requirements for a hopeful future for humankind. Fostering these - leadership, learning, and empathy between cultures - was and remains the purpose of the international [Fulbright] scholarship programme.”

Senator J. William Fulbright

# Audit Report



## To the readers of the financial statements of the New Zealand-United States Educational Foundation

We have audited the summary financial report of the New Zealand-United States Educational Foundation (the "Foundation") for the year ended 30 September 2008 as set out on page 20.

### Responsibilities of the Trustees and Auditor

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of a summary financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. It is our responsibility to express to you an independent opinion on the financial report presented by the trustees.

### Basis of Opinion

Our audit was conducted in accordance with New Zealand Auditing Standards and involved carrying out procedures to ensure the summary financial report is consistent with the full financial report on which the summary financial report is based. We also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the summary financial report against the requirements of *FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements*.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no other relationship with or interests in the Foundation.

### Unqualified Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary financial report has been correctly extracted from the full financial report; and
- the information reported in the summary financial report complies with *FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements* and is consistent in all material respects with the full financial report from which it is derived and upon which we expressed an unqualified audit opinion in our report to readers dated 10 December 2008.

We completed our work for the purposes of this report on 20 January 2009.

A handwritten signature of the KPMG firm, written in dark ink.

KPMG, Wellington

# Summary Financial Statements

## New Zealand-United States Educational Foundation for the year ended 30 September 2008

	2008	2007
	NZ\$	NZ\$
<b>Balance sheet as at 30 September</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
Non-current assets	452,905	583,314
Current assets	1,976,556	1,520,626
Total assets	<u>2,429,461</u>	<u>2,103,940</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Programme commitments	1,115,912	820,625
Other liabilities	85,217	105,846
Total liabilities	<u>1,201,129</u>	<u>926,471</u>
<b>Equity</b>	<u><b>1,228,332</b></u>	<u><b>1,177,469</b></u>
<b>Income statement</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>		
United States government grants	1,143,293	834,267
New Zealand government grants	1,361,000	1,353,000
Other operating income	271,916	245,321
Total revenue	<u>2,776,209</u>	<u>2,432,588</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Grants awarded	1,821,774	1,580,220
Operating expenses	858,009	777,199
Write down of investments	45,563	17,610
Total expenditure	<u>2,725,346</u>	<u>2,375,029</u>
<b>Net surplus</b>	<u><b>50,863</b></u>	<u><b>57,559</b></u>
<b>Statement of movement in equity</b>		
Balance of fund as at 1 October	1,177,469	1,119,910
Total recognised revenues and expenses	50,863	57,559
<b>Balance of fund as at 30 September</b>	<u><b>1,228,332</b></u>	<u><b>1,177,469</b></u>

### Note

This is a summary of the Foundation's audited full financial report for the year ended 30 September 2008 which was authorised for issue on 10 December 2008.

The summary financial report has been extracted from the full audited financial report dated 10 December 2008, which has been audited and on which an unqualified opinion has been issued. Therefore it cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full financial statements of the financial performance, financial position and movements in funds of the Foundation. The full financial statements are available from Fulbright New Zealand.

The auditor has examined the summary financial report for consistency with the audited financial statements and has issued an unqualified opinion.



## **Fulbright New Zealand**

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