



Fulbright

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating Fifty Years of Excellence

Over the past fifty years the Fulbright Program has built an unparalleled reputation for excellence. And for good reason. Every year the program delivers benefits that are literally priceless — fostering global leadership development, promoting mutual understanding, and facilitating the exchange of ideas. It is an enviable example of a U.S. government program that gives back each year in the achievements of its alumni — now nearly 250,000 remarkable individuals from the United States and 130 other countries.

Fulbright is also an excellent investment. The lead funding provided through the sponsorship of the United States Information Agency (USIA) serves as a catalyst, leveraging significant support from universities, corporations, foundations, individuals, and foreign governments. Indeed foreign governments participate so generously precisely because of American leadership. Last year these public/private partnerships at the heart of the Fulbright Program generated more than \$30 million from non-U.S. government sources.

Despite such success, the Fulbright budget was not spared this political season — nearly a 20% cut. While the “savings” can be toted up, the long-term effect of a weakened program is incalculable as international educational opportunities evaporate for those with the potential to become globally engaged, responsible leaders.

IIE is in the forefront of efforts to stem this erosion. As Fulbright Program supporters and IIE volunteers and friends around the country continue to educate legislators, IIE is also forging creative new public/private partnerships to sustain this extraordinary program. In the months and years ahead IIE will continue to do everything possible to ensure that Fulbright’s next 50 years are as fruitful and consequential as its first.

Below: President Clinton greets IIE President Richard M. Krasno at the June 5 White House dinner honoring the fiftieth anniversary of the Fulbright Program.



“For hundreds of thousands of scholars here and abroad, [the Fulbright Program] has cemented America’s mission as a nation that . . . is engaged in the world community . . . Let us pledge to do all we can to give the Fulbright Program to future generations of aspiring young people across the globe.”

President Bill Clinton



Richard Lord

U.S. STUDENT FULBRIGHT FELLOW

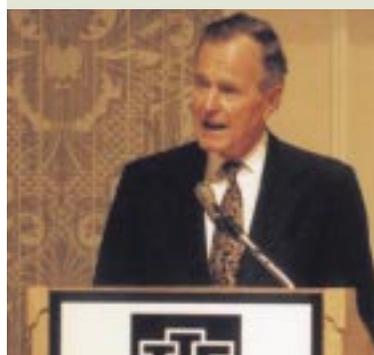
Franco Montalto

When he arrived in Venice, Franco Montalto had wastewater treatment on his mind. Trained in civil engineering at New York's Cooper Union, he wanted to develop a natural wastewater treatment system for the city's islands. The area's architecture and location in a lagoon preclude the use of conventional technologies to treat the wastewater generated by Venice's 70,000 residents — and 12,000,000 tourists. Montalto, a fourth-generation Italian-American from Brooklyn, lived on a largely uninhabited island and worked with local environmental groups to harness the natural filtration properties of the island's wetlands. He designed a prototype that cleanses pretreated wastewater through the island's existing plant life and microorganisms. "Natural treatment systems," he said, "are a form of sustainable development." Montalto's prototype will be built in 1997 on the island of Lazzaretto Nuovo.

A LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

In 1946, IIE began to administer the Fulbright Student Program for the U.S. government. A half century later, Fulbright remains IIE's largest program in partnership with USIA — the U.S. government sponsor for all binational Fulbright exchanges. This year IIE facilitated Fulbright exchanges for 3,800 individuals from 130 countries including the United States. IIE also administers the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program, a Fulbright activity for mid-career professionals, in which 166 people from 85 countries participated this year.

In January 1997, IIE will extend its support of the Fulbright Program by assuming responsibility for the faculty and research components administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES). IIE was chosen by USIA after a competitive process organized by the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils. The Institute is honored to have been chosen to work with CIES, which has, since 1947, served the Fulbright Scholar Program with skill and integrity.



"We know first-hand the work...IIE does...how it broadens horizons. When we extend ourselves and learn more about the world, we begin to feel the future is based more on a common understanding...a respect for each other."

former President George Bush at the IIE/Houston luncheon for volunteers celebrating the Fulbright anniversary