

scholar exchanges



Patti McGill Peterson, IIE Vice President for Scholar Exchanges and CIES Executive Director, center, with CIES staff members (from left) Taeko Nogochi, Aziz Raad and Tamara Floyd.



Left: Carlos Enrique Peruzzotti, a professor of political science at Torcuato Di Tella University in Buenos Aires, Argentina, spent three months at Columbia University in New York conducting research on his project entitled "Challenging Corruption: The Politics of Societal Accountability in the New Latin American Democracies."

Below: Dr. Dima Qato, a clinical pharmacist from Champaign, Illinois, does rounds with students at the University of Jordan in Amman. Dr. Qato is using her Fulbright grant to lecture and conduct research on the rational use of drugs in module training courses and impediments to rational drug use.

The Institute's Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) has administered the 56-year-old Fulbright Scholar Program since its inception, updating and expanding the traditional program to offer more options to faculty and professionals in the 21st century.

Three new programs — Fulbright New Century Scholars, Fulbright Senior Specialists, and Fulbright Alumni Initiatives Awards — have recently been added to the traditional scholar exchange program. With nearly a 20 percent increase in applications in 2002, the program continues to thrive and sends some 800 U.S. faculty and professionals to 140 countries each year to teach and do research. It also brings a similar number of overseas academics and professionals to the U.S. to do the same.

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs supports each component of the Fulbright Scholar Program.

Fulbright New Century Scholars

"New Century Scholars has made possible the convening of the first international policy meeting on the mental health recovery of post-conflict societies, which will lay the groundwork for a major congress in Rome of Ministries of Health from all 60 post-conflict nations that is expected to result in new major guidelines and recommendations."

— Richard Mollica, M.D., Director of the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma and a 2001-02 New Century Scholar.

The very successful international policy meeting that New Century Scholar Richard Mollica convened in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina in September of 2002 brought together Ministry of Health officials from seven strife-torn countries (Afghanistan, Bosnia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Peru, Rwanda and Uganda), representatives of the World Bank and other international donor organizations and aid groups, academics and scientists who are experts on mass violence, and representatives from the U.S., Japanese and Italian governments and the Vatican. Together they worked on formulating a policy framework for implementing and financing a culturally effective, sustainable mental health program in conflict/post-conflict societies.

The conference was just one of the individual projects that the first group of 30 Fulbright New Century Scholars completed. The scholars, drawn from the U.S. and 18 other countries, also worked collaboratively with a focus on the year's global health theme, "Challenges of Health in a Borderless World."

In November, the New Century Scholars presented the results of their year's work in a Final Plenary Seminar at the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, DC. Some 150 global health specialists, government policy makers and representatives from the World Bank, foundations and think tanks attended the day-long plenary, entitled "Health in a Borderless World: New Directions in Global Cooperation."

In a joint statement released at the meeting, the New Century Scholars said that both their individual and collaborative research confirmed that good health is as much a political and economic challenge as a medical and scientific one. They also expressed their





Left: The Fulbright New Century Scholars presented the results of their research during a day-long plenary entitled "Health in a Borderless World: New Directions in Global Cooperation." The plenary was held in November at the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, DC. Right: Serigne Gueye, professor in the Faculty of Medicine at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Senegal, received a Fulbright grant to conduct research at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine on the molecular genetics of prostate cancer in black Africans.



Aziz Raad, 2002

John Consoli, 2002

concern that health conditions in many countries are deteriorating rather than improving.

"Disparities among and within nations remain an issue of great concern," the statement noted. "Globalization increases cross-border traffic in health-threatening risks and sometimes adversely affects key determinants of health throughout the world."

Fulbright Senior Specialists Program

"The hunger and gratitude of Egyptian students and faculty for information, sympathetic attention and appreciation would be hard to exaggerate. . . . All I can suggest is that more projects in the arts and humanities be created and more professors go to places like Minya University and Egypt to convey the American spirit and discover the Egyptian one. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity the Senior Specialists Program afforded me."

— Kenneth Rosen, professor of English at the University of Southern Maine, who spent three weeks lecturing on American studies at Minya University in Cairo.

As this excerpt from Fulbright Senior Specialist Kenneth Rosen's final report illustrates, even a relatively short stay in an unfamiliar country can have a tremendous impact on both the visitor and faculty and students he encounters.

Rosen was one of 137 U.S. academics and professionals who went abroad under the new Fulbright Senior Specialists Program, a short-term (two to six weeks) grant opportunity. The program is a popular

one that sent grantees to 53 different countries in 2001-02 to consult on curriculum, assist in institutional planning, offer teacher training, help build library collections, and keynote major international conferences and meetings.

The program's application, peer review and appointment process is unique in that it is all online. The 865 academics and professionals who have been selected to be on the Senior Specialists roster are matched with requests coming from bi-national Fulbright Commissions in 51 countries and U.S. Embassies and diplomatic posts in another 89. Thanks to a new data access system implemented in 2002, Commissions and Embassies can log into the database, view the roster of candidates available, and submit a request for a scholar. CIES then assists with the final match.

Fulbright Alumni Initiatives Awards Program

"The Alumni Initiatives Award is a wonderful opportunity. It has allowed me to extend important work and relationships begun while I was on my original Fulbright grant to Mexico."

— Maria Gonzalez, 1998-99 Fulbright Scholar from Arizona State University.

Maria Gonzalez is one of 19 former Fulbrighters who, in 2001-02, received a Fulbright Alumni Initiatives Awards grant to help sustain links between their home and host institutions. In Gonzalez's case, her project will bring together faculty and students from Arizona State University and Escuela Libre de Psicologia, A.C., in Mexico to work

collaboratively on creating a bilingual online journal on Mexican Ethnography and Performance in Communication and Psychology.

CIES launched the Fulbright Alumni Initiatives Awards Program two years ago in order to offer grants to former U.S. and overseas Fulbright Scholars to support projects that continue work and partnerships initiated while they were abroad. Since its inception, over 43 former Fulbrighters have been awarded grants.

The program has resulted in the creation of a number of promising institutional relationships. In 2002, these included a collaboration on public health between Case Western Reserve University and Birzeit University in the West Bank; a project on biodiversity between the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Lyon in

France; an online clinical nursing development program between Felician College and the University of Jordan; joint curriculum development on human rights and international relations between the College of New Jersey and Mahidol University in Thailand; and a faculty and student exchange initiative between Auburn University and Hunter College and the Foreign Affairs College in China.

Part of the funding for the Alumni Initiatives Awards Program comes from the Fulbright Legacy Fund. The Fund was established with a \$2.5 million endowment created by the IIE Board of Trustees, and a grant of \$1 million from the C.V. Starr Foundation, to provide opportunities that add value to the Fulbright experience. Principal funding for the program comes from the U.S. Department of State.