We are back. This issue highlights FA events organized in late 2014 and early 2015.

Introducing New FA Leadership

Jennifer Gennaro Oxley is the Interim Executive Director of the Fulbright Association. She joined the staff as Director of Outreach and Development in March 2014 and was promoted in January of this year. She is keen to apply her global immersive experiences to the Fulbright mission of supporting international educational and cultural exchange. She brings in-depth experience as an innovator, advocate, manager of legacy and greenfield initiatives and as a development, marketing and programs director in multiple environments (non-profit, corporate, chambers of commerce). She has a life-long commitment to volunteerism and has helped to transform multiple non-profits and primary schools.

During her time with FA, she has been inspired countless times by the sheer will, dedication and generosity of our community. Her philosophy is reflected in a quote from Michael Korda, Editor-in-Chief of publisher Simon & Schuster: “One way to keep momentum going is to have constantly greater goals.” She states, “Every alumnus/alumna, chapter leader, and international partner has a vital role to play in the future of the Fulbright Exchange program and the success of our global community. We will make every effort to connect, engage and support you in an environment where you can achieve your aspirations.” Jennifer’s family has origins in Massachusetts and New York City and come from the fields of banking and non-profit management. She holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (UMASS), and is also a proud member of her UMASS alumni club. She has worked and travelled abroad to Europe and South America, and has also lived in India for a short time. She is married and is the proud Mom of one young son, Maximus (Max). Jennifer can be reached at jennifer@fulbright.org

The Fulbright Association Prize for Peace and Understanding

The Fulbright Prize Ceremony and Gala was held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC on October 17, 2014. The elegant affair honored the work of Hans Blix, Swedish diplomat and former head of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Hans Blix, a dedicated leader, served during a period of tension in the Middle East, and is credited with reducing the threat of war in Iran and managing the potential for nuclear capabilities in Iraq. He is currently Honorary President of the World Federation of United Nations. A recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship at 19-years-old, Blix has served the international community for more than six decades.

The ceremony subsequently focused on the experiences of the Fulbright community—four alumni, in addition to several current Fulbright recipients, presented on how the Fulbright Program changed their lives. These testimonial segued to a far-reaching tribute to Nelson Mandela, which invoked the global leader’s efforts to create a more just and fair world.

The ceremony also honored the memory of Washington, DC portrait sculptor Gretta Bader who created a well-known bronze full-length likeness of former Senator J. William Fulbright (D-Arkansas).

The ceremony ended with the presentation of the 2014 Fulbright Prize for International Understanding to Hans Blix by Thomas Pickering, former ambassador to the United Nations. During his acceptance speech, Blix spoke about the importance of multilateralism. His insight into international affair, and his warm sense of humor served as an inspiration for all the attendees.

Have something newsworthy? Email shaz.akram@fulbright.org
Intersections: Fulbright Association Alumni Photography Exhibit  
Oct. 13 – Nov. 15, 2014

“The Fulbright Program aims to bring a little more knowledge, a little more reason, and a little more compassion into world affairs and thereby increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship.” — Senator J. William Fulbright

A photography exhibit hosted by U.S. Fulbright Program alumni opened in Washington, DC on October 13, 2014. The exhibit, containing 30 documentary photographs by 12 photographers, was displayed at the Ronald Reagan Building Atrium, coinciding with the annual FotowebDC photography festival. The exhibit was made possible through support from the Fulbright Association National Capital Area Chapter, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Fulbright Association and the Office for Trade Promotion, Ronald Reagan Building.

The photos exhibited revealed elements of local culture invisible to the casual traveler. Since these Fulbright alumni were deeply immersed in their host countries, their photos portrayed their personal friendships, joy and hope of human connections across cultures. The exhibit served as a reminder of transformative aspects of the Fulbright Program experience.

Pictured below are photographs from (left to right) Amy Thomp- son Avishai, Collete Fu, Lida Suchy, Erika Larsen, and on the top right Josh Meltzer.
Speakers presenting at the Fulbright Association’s Annual Conference “Dare to Act” held on October 16-18, 2014 in Washington DC.

Photos: Ralph Blessing
Fulbright Association’s Annual Conference Dared Us to Act in Inspiring Ways

By Cris Ramón
Dare to Act: The 37th Annual Fulbright Conference and Prize

On October 17 and 18, 250 Fulbright alumni and friends of the Association gathered in Washington, DC to attend the Fulbright Association’s 37th Annual Conference and Prize gala. Using the theme “Dare to Act,” the conference gave participants the opportunity to hear and interact with a roster of international dignitaries, political and intellectual leaders, and innovative Fulbright alumni whose innovative and vital work embodied the spirit of this year’s theme.

Day 1: Dare to Lead, Impact, Diversify, Create, and Advocate

The conference started with a reception at the Swedish Embassy on October 16. In addition to hearing remarks from Ambassador Björn Lyrvall, from Sweden to the US, alumni and their guests had their first opportunity to hear from Dr. Hans Blix, the 2014 Fulbright Prize Laureate and Fulbright alumnus. Dr. Blix spoke about his pursuit of international relations work, which included leading the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission. The attendees subsequently had a chance to see old friends and make new ones through conversations about their experiences as Fulbrighters in the 1950s through the last decade.

These exchanges carried into the conference’s first day of panels and speakers. During the opening plenary session, Dr. Blix joined Rose E. Gottemoeller, Under-secretary for Arms Control and International Security at the U.S. Department of State, and Dr. Allison Macfarlane, Chairwoman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to engage in a wide-ranging discussion on the increased need for nuclear regulation, east-west interdependence, the role of regulators, and the importance of effective soft power diplomacy programs such as Fulbright. The panel’s audience extended beyond the individuals in the room: C-SPAN recorded and broadcasted the event through its channels, marking an important milestone in the Annual Conference’s history.

After the plenary session, participants joined the Dare to Impact panel, which featured Fulbrighters who have launched social innovation projects such as the Millenial Trains Project, Sound Impact, and Restoring Vision to promote social change in areas as diverse as India, Paraguay, and Costa Rica. Restoring Vision, for instance, utilizes networks of collaborators to distribute reading glasses to developing countries, which in turn improve productivity outputs – and income – for individuals whose eyesight prevents them from reaching their full potential.

The theme of social change carried into the Dare to Diversify and Include luncheon, where speakers Dr. Wayne Frederick, President of Howard University, and Troy Mooyoung, Senior Vice President of Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley, spoke about how their personal experiences as individuals of color shaped their efforts to create more inclusive institutions. Clarissa Felts, Vice President of Collaboration, Diversity and Inclusion at Lowe’s Companies, and Jay Doeden, Director in Deloitte’s Enterprise Risk Services, also discussed how inclusion shapes their efforts to address consumer needs and recruit their industries’ best talent.

In the afternoon, John Zogby, Founder of Zogby Polls, took his audience through an overview of the current start of critical races in the 2014 congressional and gubernatorial elections. He noted the political implications of these races and tied the outcomes to issues related to the funding of the Fulbright Program. After this analysis, he discussed his research on the political and social views of the Millennial generation. In particular, he noted that Millennials rejected old political divisions and embraced greater openness to travel and learning foreign languages – a factor that bodes well for the future of the Fulbright Program.

The afternoon concluded with two panels that highlighted the manner that the Fulbright program has changed the lives of its participants. During the Dare to Advocate, Collaborate, and Act session, speakers Dr. Alejandro Toledo, a Fulbright alumnus who is the former President of Peru, and Rita Bruun Akhtar, Executive Director of the United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan, gave clear and passionate cases for alumni to promote an effective government program that builds the human capital of developing countries and promotes greater global equality through mutual understanding.

Dr. Patrick Alcedo, the 2014 Selma Jeanne Cohen Awardee and Professor at the York University Department of Fine Arts, put these words into practice. He discussed and demonstrated how the folk dance of the Philippine diaspora in Canada reflected the nation’s experiences under different colonial powers, the challenges of its post-colonial experience, and the experience of its immigrants, whose remittances serve as one of its largest sources of income. Through Dr. Alcedo’s analysis and performance, audiences had an opportunity to understand how mutual understanding – and the programs that promote these experiences – can serve as a liberating experience for all individuals.

Day 2: Dare to Engage, Innovate, Transform, Empower, and Educate

The second day of conference gave participants more opportunities to gain new perspectives on the event’s theme. In the first session, Mike McCurry, Executive Director for the Alliance for International Education and Cultural Exchange, provided attendees with updates on the organization’s efforts to advocate for the Fulbright Program after the White House tried to cut $30.5 million from the Program’s Fiscal Year 2015 budget. Dr. Mona Anita K. Olsen, Assistant Academic Director at Cornell University, facilitated discussions among participants on ways that the Fulbright community could create stronger networks to promote the Program’s interest in the United States.
“Dare to Act”

Innovation remerged as the theme in the day’s Plenary Session on Innovation in the MacArthur Fellowship Program. The session, which was moderated by Dr. Cecilia Conrad, the Vice President of the MacArthur Fellows programs, featured presentations from two Fellows, Dr. Janine Jagger, Professor of Medicine at the University of Virginia School of Medicine and a 2002 MacArthur Fellow, discussed how the fellowship allowed her to learn more about the transmission of infectious diseases, a topic vitally important in the midst of the current Ebola crisis.

Corey Harris, a multi-instrumentalist and singer who received the MacArthur Fellowship in 2007, discussed how the fellowship allowed him to study West African music to bridge the harmonic and historical gap between music from this region and American music influenced by the musical traditions of African slaves. The discussion about inspiration and innovation helped highlight the shared values between the MacArthur Fellowship and the Fulbright Program.

The morning’s activities ended with two concurrent sessions that returned to the theme of social transformation. In one session, Dr. Pat Burr, Distinguished Chair of the HEB School of Business, UIW, discussed how faculty members and graduate students from the HEB Center for International Peace Studies utilized field study of different facets of life in Guatemala to gain greater understanding of the conflict resolution process. In the other session, Fulbright-mtvU Fellowship alum Aaron Shneyer discussed the work of his organization, Heartbeat. In between sets of his music, Shneyer discussed how Heartbeat uses musical collaboration between Israeli and Palestinian teens in Jerusalem to promote peaceful relations between these groups. A music video of Israeli and Palestinian girls from the project singing a song of hope and peace helped audiences visualize the transformative possibilities of Shneyer’s project.

The afternoon’s sessions built on these themes by exploring issues related to the power of collaboration. In one session, Dr. John Leslie, Department Head at Kansas State University, and Dr. Tangerine Holt, Executive Director of the Australian-American Fulbright Commission, highlighted the importance of international collaborations by discussing how work between the Australian Commission and Kansas State helped increase the number of Fulbright participants, deepen their experiences, and expand professional and personal networks. In the other session under the same banner, three Fulbright alumni affiliated with the Ashoka organization – David Nahmias – Global Security Manager, Jenni Schneiderman, Changemaker School Leader, and Kara Andrade, Fellow and Founder, HablaCentro Informatics – discussed how their Fulbright experiences reinforced their dedication to making positive social change. Echoing the message of the first day’s session on social innovation, the speakers emphasized that “change making” must be the center of the Fulbright Program.

The transformative power of technology served as the next area of exploration for two concurrent panels working under the theme of Dare to Use Technology. In one session, Missy Sherburne, Chief Partnerships Officer and EVP Business Development at DonorsChoose.org, discussed how the organization allows 200,000 teachers to utilize its crowdfunding platform to raise more than $260 million for nearly 500,000 projects.

In another session, Josephine Dorado, a Fulbright alumna and Professor at the New School, moderated a panel that focused on the manner that citizen activists have used social media to mobilize activism against corruption and anti-democratic practices under the Yanukovych regime in Ukraine. Given the state of the ongoing violence in Eastern Ukraine, this panel drew a crowd eager to learn more about the situation in the country.

The day’s activities ended with a series of panels that focused on the importance of empowerment in promoting social change. Dr. Melda Yıldız, Associate Professor at Kean University, Dr. Tina Lesher, Professor at William Paterson University, and Dr. Nabil Marshood, Professor at Hudson County Community College, used an interactive presentation that demonstrated how their work with Muslim female students could give insights into developing culturally and linguistically responsive curriculum.

In another session, Dr. Harold Mortimer, Associate Professor at the University of Oklahoma, explored the complexities of changing American musicals to adjust to the cultural dynamics of South Africa. Collin Bjork, PhD Candidate at Indiana University, used her experiences as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Montenegro to discuss how English Teaching Assistants could use their supplementary research projects to promote social change.

Finally, a series of presentors demonstrated how education could promote social change. Emily Sendin, Associate Professor Senior at Miami Dade College and Director of Human Rights at FNE International, discussed the formation of the Tengo un Sueño/I Have a Dream program that aims to utilize grassroots efforts to promote educational outcomes of children in Chacraseca, Nicaragua. Meghan Lazier, a MFA Candidate at the School of Visual Arts, discussed how she developed a game to help social workers identify young female victims of human trafficking. These panels served as the ideal conclusion to a conference that inspired individuals to use innovation and action to promote positive change and empowerment in their communities.

After a successful and dynamic conference, participants can look forward to next year’s conference. Fulbright Association members can read about forthcoming details on www.fulbright.org. The Association would like to thank the conference’s sponsors, speakers, volunteers for providing vital assistance with funding and organization of the event.

Cris Ramón, Fulbright to Spain in 2008-2009, was a 2011 Fulbright Alumni Ambassador. He is a Senior Research Associate, at Hanover Research.
Annual Conference Poster Fair
Photos: Ralph Blessing
Fulbright New Zealand Executive Director Mele Wendt resigned in December 2014

Fulbright New Zealand’s executive director, Mele Wendt, announced her resignation from the organisation, effective December 2014, after 10 years in the role. Increasing Fulbright New Zealand’s engagement with alumni has been a key goal and achievement of Mele’s tenure as executive director. Under her leadership the first ever Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association was established in 2009. The Association is run “by alumni, for alumni”, but is supported with funding from Fulbright New Zealand so that membership can be free to all alumni of Fulbright exchanges between New Zealand and the US. Alumni of other like minded NZ-US exchange programs are also welcomed as members. The Association runs regular events including lectures, seminars and social events to engage alumni with one another and the broader public, and facilitates New Zealand alumni to welcome and host American Fulbright grantees upon their arrival in New Zealand.

Alumni have also been engaged in fundraising to provide for additional Fulbright awards. An endowment fund was established to commemorate Fulbright New Zealand’s 65th anniversary last year with a goal of raising NZ$800,000, the interest earned from which can fund one additional graduate exchange award every year in perpetuity. The endowment fund was seeded with $550,000 of reserves by the Fulbright New Zealand Board. Artist alumni donated artworks for a fundraising art auction which raised $18,000 towards the endowment, and donations and interest have already added a further $172,000, meaning the campaign is well on the way to meeting its target.

Mele’s resignation was announced at a reception at the New Zealand Embassy in Washington, DC in June, at which Matt McMahon from the US Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs presented her with a memorial Fulbright globe and an official certificate of appreciation signed by Evan Ryan, Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs. The certificate acknowledged Mele’s “ten years of exemplary service as Executive Director of Fulbright New Zealand and noteworthy contributions to the success of the Fulbright Program between the United States and New Zealand.” Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board chairman Tom Healy also attended the reception to pay tribute to Mele’s strong leadership of New Zealand’s Fulbright program.

Mele says she has been overwhelmed by the support and feedback of alumni and others since announcing her resignation from what has been a “dream job”. “I have enjoyed every minute, learnt a lot, implemented changes, worked with lots of fantastic people and had an array of amazing opportunities!”

Introducing the new Executive Director Penelope Borland

The Board of Directors of Fulbright New Zealand is delighted to announce the appointment of Penelope Borland as the next Executive Director of Fulbright New Zealand. Penelope Borland was Chief Executive of the Screen Production and Development Association (SPADA) for ten years. She is a lawyer and former journalist, has worked in communications and has significant experience and networks in government, business and the creative sector in New Zealand, the United States and internationally.

Penelope was appointed to the Executive Director role after an exhaustive process which attracted more than 120 applications for the opportunity to lead the Fulbright programme of educational and cultural exchange between New Zealand and the United States of America.

Penelope replaced Mele Wendt, who resigned recently after ten years as Executive Director in a period of significant growth and consolidation that has seen Fulbright New Zealand cement itself as a model commission in the Fulbright exchange program, which operates in more than 150 countries worldwide. Mele was formally farewelled at a reception for stakeholders and supporters in December, and Penelope began her tenure as Executive Director when the Fulbright New Zealand office opened on January 5th 2015. The Fulbright Association welcomes Ms. Penelope Borland.
FARMINGTON - U.S. Sen. Angus King, or “King of Maine” as he is known on Capitol Hill, stopped off to talk about the issues to a packed house at the University of Maine at Farmington on his way to ski at Sugarloaf on Friday afternoon. Co-sponsored by UMF and the Maine Chapter of the Fulbright Association, King hit on 10 different important issues ranging from climate change to challenges abroad in the Middle East and Russian President Vladimir Putin. His speech was followed by a lively, sometimes heated, Q&A session as King defended his upcoming negative vote on the Alaskan pipeline, volatile events in the Gaza Strip in Israel, as well as other domestic and foreign affairs.

Outgoing president of the Maine Chapter, Jane Knox, professor emerita of Bowdoin College, originally of Farmington, and incoming Fulbright chapter president, Robert Lively, UMF dean emeritus, attend a reception with Kathryn Foster, UMF president, at left, with featured guest Sen. Angus King on Friday in Farmington.

The Fulbright Program was awarded the Prince of Asturias Award October 2014, Oviedo, Spain

On October 24, 2014 King Felipe VI presented the 2014 Prince of Asturias Award for International Cooperation to the Fulbright Program at the annual award ceremony in Oviedo, Spain. Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs Evan Ryan, joined by Fulbrighters Nomua Mazwai (South Africa), Sidrotun Naim (Indonesia), Shehzad Hameed (Pakistan), Félix González (Spain), and Russell Quiñones (U.S. Grantee to Spain) accepted the award on behalf of the Department of State.
Virginia Hall recently published her book, ‘Seeing Quantumly.’

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Virginia H. Hall is an Oxford in Residence and Fulbright Scholar and of late a Professor of Quantum Studies. She has authored and co-authored more than 20 books and approximately 25 Journal articles. She has taught quantum culture and related courses in the U.S. and countries around the world, including South Africa where she completed her Fulbright Program. She is the mother of one daughter Raquel Miranda Milhouse and resides in Roswell, GA.

Fulbright National Capital Area Chapter Young Professionals Host Speaker Series

The Emerging Leaders Series (ELS) aims to give Fulbright alumni the unique opportunity to talk over dinner with rising leaders in fields such as politics, media, and international affairs about their professional development. The first ELS event featured U.S. State Department Spokeswoman Jen Psaki. Ms. Psaki, who worked extensively with the Obama Administration and presidential campaigns before joining the State Department, opened the evening with remarks about her professional development and career for 20 minutes before engaging the audience in a wide-ranging conversation about a series of international relations and professional development issues. After the event, guests had an opportunity to speak and network with Ms. Psaki and continue networking and talking with other attendees.

The highlight was the question and answer session with Ms. Psaki. The session covered topics related to recent complications in U.S.-Russian relations; media coverage of Boko Haram terrorist attacks in Nigeria; Ms. Psaki’s views on the importance of mentorship in women’s professional development; Ms. Psaki’s experience working as a young woman in international affairs; the role of free press in democracy promotion; an average day in Ms. Psaki’s professional life; and the importance of the Fulbright program in addressing current global problems. Ms. Psaki actively took on these challenging questions – and solicited them in some instances – with candor and a welcoming attitude that made for an incredibly engaging and inspirational evening.

The event aimed to provide members of the Fulbright community with substantial insight into a rising leader’s professional development. The event also aims to give Fulbrighters the opportunity to network with the speaker and attendees. In both ways, this event met these objectives by giving individuals the opportunity to gain insight into Ms. Psaki’s professional development and views of international affairs. The event also allowed guests to network with each other and the speaker as well.

Pictured below: Jen Psaki

Check out our exciting programs for 2015. Visit our website www.fulbright.org for frequent updates.

Save the date: September 26, 2015 TEDxFulbright Los Angeles “Fights Worth Fighting”

For more information email TEDxFulbright@gmail.com
RON DU BOIS

President Kennedy wrote, "The life of the arts; far from being an interruption, a distraction in the life of a nation, are close to the center of a nation's purpose - and a test of the quality of a nation's civilization."

Ron states in a letter to President Obama, "The Fulbright Program is at the very center of our humanity. It represents the best of who we are as a nation and as a species. The Fulbright Program embodies our aspirations to "make visible the reality of hope."

"Every cultural exchange program creates life-long friends around the world, and contributes to the image of America as a great nation, not because of great wealth or military might, but because of cultural contributions, ability to generate new ideas, and its ability to create a better world. As a Fulbrighter with wife and children, we were observed to be ambassadors and exemplars of America. For each Fulbright awarded, my wife, a pianist, volunteered her "sunbeam personality", her piano performance, and her music teaching skills."

Ron du Bois, Professor of Art Emeritus is a graduate of the California College of Arts and Crafts and of the University of California, Berkeley, California. Until retirement in 1986 he was a Professor of Art and coordinator of the ceramics program at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

He was Fulbright professor in Korea in 1973-75 where he taught ceramics at three Korean Universities. (Hong-Ik University, Seoul, Keimoung University, Daegu, Youngnam University, Daegu. His award winning documentary, "The Working Processes of the Korean Folk Potter" was filmed at that time.

In 1970-80 he was a long term grantee under the Indo-American Fellowship Program where he traveled extensively to film the traditional working processes of Indian potters. Among other projects he filmed the entire construction of perhaps the last massive terra-cotta horse to be built in India, a documentary completed under National Endowment for the Humanities auspices and shown in conjunction with the Festival of India exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution in 1985. In 1987-88, du Bois was awarded a Fulbright Senior Research Scholar Grant, African Regional Research Program, to research and film document Nigerian women potters. "Yoruba Potters: Mothers and Daughters - Dada Compound" is the first documentation of the superb Yoruba craftswomen at work. The documentary shows the entire production of monumental size perfectly symmetrical water vessels made without a potter’s wheel to the dramatic firing of more than 1,000 vessels... the largest "open field" firing in the world.

A second documentary, "Yoruba Potters: Mothers and Daughters - Ogbena Compound" documents the process of hand building lidded cooking bowls, using a combination of slab, hump mold, and coiling techniques. When fired to a low temperature it is ideal for cooking over an open fire essential to life in a Nigerian village.

He continues to exhibit on a regular basis. His work is included in the State Art Collection, and was selected for the 2009 Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition's (OVAC) VisionMakers exhibition spotlighting excellence by Oklahoma artists working in three dimensional and high craft media.

Ron is a WW2 Veteran, wounded in France, and awarded the Purple Heart. The French government honored Ron with their Knight of the Legion of Honor (Chevalier légion d’honneur) medal in a ceremony in October 2014. The French nation is grateful to Americans who fought, died, or were wounded on French soil. After the war Ron was educated under provisions of the G.I. Bill. Later as a university professor he was awarded three Fulbright awards to Korea, India, and Nigeria. In each case he was able to film document the working processes of artisans in clay and the social and religious context in which they labored. The documentaries are used as part of education through the ceramic arts in universities and museums throughout the nation and world.

"Fulbright has done more to bring about friendship amongst the nations of the world than any cultural exchange program I can think of," du Bois said. Ron turns ninety on April 22, 2015.
Featured National Board of Directors

Dr. Hildy J. Teegen is professor of international business and former Dean at the Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina. Dr. Teegen joined the University of South Carolina in September 2007. Prior to this, she served as Director of the George Washington University’s Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) in Washington, D.C. She also held a joint appointment at GW as Professor of International Business at the School of Business and Professor of International Affairs at the Elliott School. As director of CIBER at the George Washington University, she focused on brokering relationships and forging links—with the greater university, with students, with alumni, and with other “outside constituents” such as the government and the private sector.

Dr. Teegen has served as a Director at Certus Holdings, Inc. since February 2011. She also serves on the boards of the United Way of the Midlands, Engenuity SC, the Center for International Private Enterprise and the Midlands Business Leadership Group. She is a member of several professional organizations, including the Young President Organization, the Aspen Global Leaders Network and the Liberty Fellowship.

She earned bachelor’s degrees in Latin American Studies, International Business and Finance from the University of Texas at Austin in 1987. In 1993, Dr. Teegen received her Ph.D. in International Business (with a sub-speciality in Marketing Strategy and Economic Development), also from the University of Texas at Austin. Her Fulbright was to Peru. Her global background and interests make her a natural fit for the Fulbright Association Board of Directors.

Dr. M. Gail Sanders Derrick is a Professor in the EdD program and director for the adult learning concentration in the School of Education at Regent University. Gail received her Doctor of Education from The George Washington University in 2001 in Higher Education Administration. Dr. Derrick has held several positions in the SOE including interim dean, associate dean, program chair, and advisor. She has over 30 years in education including 20 years with VA Beach City Public Schools and 13 years in higher education. Her influential research in understanding persistence in learning has served as the foundation for numerous dissertations and research endeavors in self-directed and adult learning. Her research interests are motivation, persistence, problem solving, and cultural aspects associated with learning. Dr. Derrick has served as a DOE and VDOE grant evaluator and reviewer, presented at numerous conferences at the national and international level, received several awards, and participated on numerous committees at the University. She has served on community boards including the Community Service Board, Chesapeake, the Virginia Wesleyan Alumni Awards Committee, and foundation boards such as From One Hand to Another- the Pharrell Williams Advisory Board, Abkuloi, the Fulbright Association, and is collaborating on an international proposal for teacher training in Kenya.

Lori Alspaugh is the newly appointed Executive Director of the Edmond Chamber Orchestra. Lori is a professional fundraiser with over 20 years of experience in the arts and higher education. Her Fulbright was to Germany as a university administrator. As Director of Development for the University of Central Oklahoma’s College of Fine Arts and Design, she was instrumental in building the program Global Arts, which brought international guest artists and students to Oklahoma. Lori is dedicated to the ideals of Fulbright and the ideas of the arts as a universal language. She is also a professional artist and serves the needs of many philanthropic causes in her hometown.

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The Fulbright Association is the private, nonprofit membership organization of the Fulbright Program alumni and friends. The Association is dedicated to promoting the flagship program for international educational and cultural exchange, enriching the experiences of visiting Fulbright students, teachers, and scholars in their host communities throughout the United States, and fostering a global network of Fulbright alumni.

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