

Inaugural Michigan Fulbright Symposium



**Celebrating the impact of Fulbright
in the Great Lakes State**

Sponsors

Michigan/Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association

West and Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Fulbright Association

Michigan State University—International Studies and Programs

Ferris State University Fulbrighters & Friends

12 April

2025

Location:

East Lansing

Starting At:

9:30 AM



Notes & Networking



Program

Registration | Welcome Coffee **9:30AM - 9:45AM**

Opening Remarks **9:45AM - 10:00AM**

Concurrent Sessions 1 **10:00AM - 11:35AM**

Lunch | Networking | Poster Viewing **11:35AM - 1:00PM**

Concurrent Sessions 2 **1:00PM - 2:35PM**

Break | Cookies **2:35PM - 2:55PM**

Concurrent Sessions 3 **2:55PM - 4:05PM**

Closing Remarks & Advocacy Ideas **4:05PM - 4:30PM**

Evaluations

Sessions

Concurrent Sessions 1

Room 303

Michaelle Sermenio

Visiting Student & Humphrey Fellow | El Salvador to US
Fulbright: A seed well planted

Büşra Coşkun

FLTA | Türkiye to US
Bridging cultures: My Fulbright experience as a Turkish FLTA

Thao Dang

Visiting Student | Vietnam to US
Fulbright: A challenging but rewarding experience

Larisa Ilaria Tabără

Visiting Student | Romania to US
Nine months in the US: My Fulbright experience

Room 201

Jacob VanHouten

US Scholar, Specialist | US to Czech Republic
Hockey Town to Brno: Hockey and hunting in the Czech Republic

Janey Berends

US Student | US to Peru
How late is too late? and other lessons in Andahuaylas living

Tanusree Basak

FLTA | India to US
Tracing the linguistic history of the Indian subcontinent

Bill Weiner

US Scholar | US to Germany
Germany 2004: Watching the EU Expand

Concurrent Sessions 2

Room 303

Shabnam Heydarzade

FLTA | Azerbaijan to US
Historical thinking and critical thinking in teacher education

Diane Rodriguez-Kiino

US Scholar | US to Japan
Female academics in STEM: Japan policy and practice in conflict

Solo Mercene

Visiting Student | Philippines to US
Fighting fall armyworms with maysin: A Fulbright experience

Jeanine Refsnider

US Student | US to New Zealand
Conservation of the tuatara, New Zealand's "living fossil"

Room 201

Phillip Sterling

US Scholar | US to Belgium, Poland
"The Poet as Immigrant"

Gregory Dykhouse

US Student | US to Austria
Wiener Komödie on the US stage: Nestroy's Der Talisman

Brendan Kredell

US Student | US to Canada
Film festivals and culture-led urban development strategies

Nailya DeLellis

US Scholar | US to Kazakhstan
Health services research in Kazakhstan

Sessions cont'd

Concurrent Sessions 3

Room 303

András Komáromy

US Scholar | US to Australia

Development of improved therapies for glaucoma

Volodymyr Tarabara

US Scholar, Specialist | US to Georgia, France, Singapore, Ukraine

Environmental forensics for microbial safety in critical settings

Odhiambo Otieno

FLTA | Kenya to US

Decolonizing stereotypes: A path to authentic cultural competence

Room 201

Delilah Pacheco

FLTA | India to US

Community reflections: Connecting Greater Lansing to the world

Richard Scott Cohen

US Student | US to Spain

The Community Band Movement in Valencia Spain: A 30 Year Update

Jagienka Timek

US Student | US to Austria

Weaving a web of wonder: My Fulbright experience in Austria

Posters

Posters are displayed in the Third Floor hallway and can be explored at your leisure.

Jooyoung Choi

FLTA | South Korea to US

Connecting Greater Lansing to the world

Somneang Oul

Visiting Student | Cambodia to US

Primary determinants of strawberry quality and consumer preference

Fulbright Types

Our Symposium attendees represent at least 30 home and host countries and have participated in widely varied Fulbright programs.

Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA):

International educator coming to US to teach their language

Fulbright-Hays Programs: Multiple projects formerly administered by the Department of Education, including Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad fellowships, Group Projects Abroad, and Faculty Research Abroad

Fulbright Specialist: US-based faculty going abroad for short-term, 2-6 week Fulbright partnerships

Humphrey Fellow: International professional coming to US for professional development

International Education Administrator (IEA): US-based administrator going abroad for two-week Fulbright seminar

US Scholar: US-based faculty going abroad for Fulbright

US Student: US-based student going abroad for Fulbright

Visiting Scholar: International faculty coming to US for Fulbright

Visiting Student: International student coming to US for Fulbright

Connect

Feel free to continue making connections with symposium attendees at Lansing Shuffle. All are welcome to join us for further discussion, dinner, drinks, and more (pay your own way). Lansing Shuffle features five local chefs and their spin on upscale street food, as well as a full service bar.

Fulbright Association

<https://fulbright.org/>

Michigan/Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association

<https://michigannwohio.fulbrightchapters.org/>
michigannwohio@fulbright.org

West and Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Fulbright Association

<https://wmmichigan.fulbrightchapters.org/>
wmmichigan@fulbright.org

Michigan State University Fulbright Programs

<https://www.isp.msu.edu/fulbright>

<https://www.lansingshuffle.com/>
325 Riverfront Drive
Lansing, MI 48912
(15-minute drive west of MSU)



Thank You

Thank you for attending the Inaugural Michigan Fulbright Symposium! We hope this will become an annual event, gathering Fulbrighters from across the Great Lakes State to network, learn, share, and celebrate the transformative nature of the Fulbright program. Please submit your conference feedback using the QR code or a hard copy evaluation (available in Room 303) to help us plan for future years.

Michigan Fulbright Symposium 2025 Planning Committee

Daniel Hayes | US Student 2011-2013 | South Korea

State of Michigan, Michigan/Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association—President

Richard Scott Cohen | US Student 1993-1995 | Spain

Ferris State University, West and Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Fulbright Association—President

Joy Campbell | Fulbright Program Advisor & Scholar Liaison

Michigan State University

Nailya DeLellis | US Scholar 2023-2024 | Kazakhstan

Central Michigan University

Evaluation

