



Annual Report

Australian-American Fulbright Commission

04



Promotion of mutual understanding through educational exchange



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“The Fulbright Program 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.”

Senator J. William Fulbright



James William Fulbright, the founder of the Program, was born on April 9, 1905 in Sumner, Missouri. He was educated at the University of Arkansas where he was awarded a B.A. degree in Political Science in 1925. He then attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar where he received an M.A. degree.

When Fulbright returned to the United States, he studied law at George Washington University in Washington, DC. During the 1930's, he served in the

Justice Department and was an instructor at the George Washington University Law School. In 1936 he returned to Arkansas where he was a lecturer in law and from 1939 to 1941 he was president of the University of Arkansas, the youngest university president in the country at the time.

In November 1944, he was elected to the U.S. Senate and served through to 1974, becoming one of the most influential and best-known members of the Senate. His legislation to establish the Fulbright Program, funded by war reparations and foreign loan repayments to the United States, was passed through the Senate without debate in 1946.

In 1949 Fulbright became a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. From 1959-1974 he served as Chairman, the longest serving Chairman of the Committee in history. After leaving the Senate in 1974, he became counsel to a Washington law firm but remained active in support of the international exchange program that bears his name.

In 1963 Walter Lippman wrote of Fulbright: "The role he plays in Washington is an indispensable role. There is no one else who is so powerful and also so wise, and if there were any question of removing him from public life, it would be a national calamity".

Fulbright received numerous awards from governments, universities, and educational organisations around the world for his efforts on behalf of education and international understanding. In 1993 he was presented with the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Clinton.

Senator J. William Fulbright died on February 9, 1995 at the age of 89 at his home in Washington, DC.

Board Report

David W Benn
Chairman



With a fifty-five year history, and over 5000 alumni, the Fulbright Scholarship is positioned as the most successful and distinguished educational and cultural exchange program between Australia and the United States.

The Commission's 2004 objectives focussed on continuous improvement in administration, alumni networking and wider community awareness of our Mission. Management systems were reviewed critically and restructured, including financial reporting; human relation policies; and selection processes.

Importantly the Board took outright responsibility for our growing endowment funds. Sincere thanks to the Australian National University for their assistance with our investments over the past twenty years.

It is most pleasing to report that the Alumni Directory project is now on-line. The Directory allows members to maintain their profile and ensure a long-term professional network. A further networking opportunity for our American Alumni arose in September, via a Reunion Seminar and Dinner in Washington D.C., celebrating the past five decades.

Our warmest appreciation is extended to Boeing USA, Southcorp and the Academy for Educational Development in Washington DC for making that event possible. We will be enhancing the U.S. Alumni Endowment Fund and Award that was launched at the reunion as an important strategic objective.

The 2004 National Awards Dinner was held outside Canberra for the first time, graciously hosted by the University of Sydney in the splendid MacLaurin Hall. This fine venue, with support from Southcorp wines, gave us the opportunity to network with a wider range of business and educational representatives, Fulbright Alumni and sponsors.

Dr Ziggy Switkowski, CEO of Telstra, presented the keynote address at the Dinner with a message

of considerable interest on his U.S. experiences as a postdoctoral researcher and the value of educational exchange. He took the occasion to announce the establishment of the Fulbright Telstra Award in Technology & Communication, the first Award in this important field.

There were several changes in the membership of the Commission's Board. We were pleased to welcome as new members Professor Denise Bradley AO, Vice Chancellor and President, The University of South Australia; and Mr Richard Maude, Assistant Secretary, America's Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Our special thanks to Professor Ashley Goldsworthy AO, OBE, who retired from the Board in January after seven years of committed service.

The Fulbright Commission gratefully acknowledges the continuing generous support of the U.S. and Australian Governments as well as our corporate, institutional and individual sponsors and supporters listed in this Report. Similarly, our national selection committees and state alumni groups again made effective, valuable and much appreciated contributions.

On behalf of the Board, a special vote of thanks to U.S. Ambassador, Thomas Schieffer as he moves to Tokyo, Japan. He has been a great supporter over the past three years and we wish him well.

Mark Darby and all of the staff at the Commission have done fine work in another year of accomplishments. Their enthusiasm and professionalism makes a positive difference to all our stakeholders.

After serving a five-year term, along with the honour of being Chair during the last two years, I will be stepping down in February and joining the ranks of the Friends of Fulbright. I am very grateful for the enriching experience of having been part of a true bi-national continuum, answering to a wonderful Mission. I know the Fulbright Program will deservedly continue to go from strength to strength and I send my very best wishes to all.

Executive Director's Report

Mark Darby
Executive Director



Australian-American Fulbright Commission

The Australian-American Fulbright Commission is governed by a Board of Directors composed of; five Australians appointed annually by the Minister of Education Science and Training under delegated authority of the Prime Minister; and five Americans appointed by the U.S. Ambassador to Australia.

The Prime Minister and the Ambassador serve as joint Honorary Co-Chairs of the Commission, while the Board of Directors elects its Chairperson each year amongst its members. The Fulbright Commission office is based in Canberra and is administered by an Executive Director and four staff.

The past year has been very productive at the Australian-American Fulbright Commission, with new initiatives implemented and an exciting range of new activities undertaken.

Our thanks to Thomas Schieffer, U.S. Ambassador and Greg Hunt, National Alumni Association President for welcoming the 2003 U.S. Fulbright Scholars to Canberra for their Enrichment Seminar in February. This event has become a highlight for the Commission and the U.S. Scholars.

In recognition of the 2004 Australian Scholars, state receptions were held in Melbourne, Perth and Sydney during April. Thank you to the U.S. Consuls General in each state, who graciously hosted the receptions and welcomed alumni, sponsors and selection committee representatives.

As noted in the Board Report, the National Awards Dinner set new standards with its first interstate visit starting in Sydney at the majestic MacLaurin Hall, University of Sydney. Thanks to Vanessa Bando, Event Manager for her creativity that cemented the National Awards Dinner as one of the highlights in the Fulbright calendar. Also to board member, Paula Latos-Valier and the Fulbright staff for successfully facilitating the transition to Sydney of the National Awards Dinner and associated activities.

The 2004 Fulbright Symposium, "Civil-Military Cooperation and the War on Terror" was hosted by the School of Political Science and International Studies, University of Queensland in July. The impressive panel tackled topics such as terrorism in the region, the impact of war on non-government organisations, homeland security, and the lessons learnt from peace operations.

A major highlight of the year, was meeting many of our U.S. Alumni at the Reunion Seminar and Dinner in Washington D.C. It was truly an honour to meet the Alumni and share their memories and experiences from

their time in Australia over the past five decades.

My thanks to the Australian Ambassador, Michael Thawley, Mrs Harriet Fulbright and Ambassador Thomas Pickering, Vice President International, Boeing and Fulbright Alumnus to Australia, for their great support of this event.

In October, U.S. Ambassador to Australia, Thomas Schieffer hosted the Annual Reception for the Australian Fulbright (Alumni) Association to recognise distinguished alumni and thank members for their work in supporting the Fulbright Program. The night included a presentation by Randin Graves, 2003 U.S. Fulbright Scholar, on his study of the didgeridoo in northern Australia. He was accompanied by indigenous performer Milkayngu Mununggurr, who gave a memorable rendition on his didgeridoo.

The financial position of the Commission remains strong thanks to the support from the Australian and United States governments and our corporate partners. We offered a smaller number of scholarships this year due to a one-off adjustment in the management of US\$ income and foreign exchange. The restructure has placed the Commission in an excellent position to increase the number of scholarships offered in 2005, back to the original level of up to forty awards.

There were a number of changes in the Fulbright Commission staff team during 2004; Kate Lyall replaced Sandra Lambert as Administrative Officer and Lyndell Wilson replaced Judith Gamble as Program Manager. Our thanks to Sandra and Jude for their contribution to the Fulbright Commission over the past years and best wishes in their new jobs.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to extend a special thank you to outgoing Chair, David Benn, for his hard work, commitment and good humour over the past five years. It has been a pleasure working with David and the initiatives he has guided will have a positive and long lasting impact on the Fulbright Commission and Program for years to come.

Honorary Chairs

The Hon John Howard MP	Prime Minister of Australia
Ambassador J. Thomas Schieffer	United States Ambassador to Australia

Commission Board Members

American Members

David Benn	Chair, Fulbright Commission Board, Retired Managing Director, Korn/Ferry Australia
Susan Crystal	Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy, Canberra
David Hopper	U.S. Consul General, Melbourne
Paula Latos-Valier	General Manager, Biennale of Sydney
Jeff Smith	Chief Information Officer, Telstra Corporation

Australian Members

Professor Denise Bradley AO	Vice-Chancellor and President, University of South Australia
Bill Burmester	Group Manager, Higher Education, Department of Education, Science and Training
Professor Peter Coaldrake	Vice-Chancellor, Queensland University of Technology
Richard Maude	Assistant Secretary, Americas Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Elizabeth Whitelaw	Partner, Minter Ellison Lawyers

Advisory Board Members

Paul Fletcher	Director, Corporate and Regulatory Affairs, SingTel Optus Pty Ltd
Professor Ian Goulter	Vice-Chancellor, Charles Sturt University
Professor Paul Kerin	Professor of Strategy, Melbourne Business School
Professor Robert McLean	Dean and Director, Australian Graduate School of Management

Commission Staff

Mark Darby	Executive Director
Joanna Monaghan	Finance Manager
Lyndell Wilson/Jude Gamble	Program Manager
Melinda Hunt	Executive Assistant
Kate Lyall/Sandra Lambert	Administrative Officer

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Fulbright Commission is to further mutual understanding between the peoples of Australia and the United States through educational and cultural exchange. This is primarily achieved through the administration of Fulbright Awards to support research and study of Australians in the United States and Americans in Australia each year.



Prime Minister of Australia, The Hon John Howard MP

The relationship between Australia and the United States has never been deeper or stronger. The recently finalised Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which entered into force on 1 January 2005 elevates our already significant economic ties to the same level as our long standing political and security alliance.

Our ability to negotiate the FTA, and our willingness to continue to work closely together as allies, is based on an honest and robust friendship, shared values and a commitment to a free and prosperous world.

Such an agreement would not be possible without the strong people-to-people links we enjoy, and to which the Fulbright Program, through its educational and cultural exchanges, makes a very important contribution. These exchanges are important to the relationship between our two countries and to Australia's academic, scientific and professional development.

Fulbright awards are very prestigious and are highly regarded by leaders in a wide variety of fields both in Australia and around the world. They have formed the basis of many long-lasting professional collaborations and friendships. I am proud to be an Honorary Co-Chairman of this vital and distinguished program, which has been established in Australia for over 50 years.



U.S. Ambassador to Australia, J. Thomas Schieffer

Now more than ever, international education opens doors to more than just academic achievement. The insights and perspectives gained through study abroad can give new meaning to the humanistic impulse which, through the good offices of Senator Fulbright, gave birth to a program that bears his name and stands as a monument to his enduring vision of a peaceful world.

During my tenure in Australia, my interaction with both American and Australian Fulbright Scholars has underscored how the Fulbright Program has, with rare success, broadened the best and brightest among us and thereby promoted a better understanding of both themselves and the world in which they live.

I cannot think of a finer legacy that anyone could have, than of this great man and the Program that was created in his name. The Fulbright Program and the effects of this one idea, will live many generations hence. It will continue to contribute to a better and safer world and that is in all our interests.

Fulbright Scholars 2004

Australian Fulbright Scholars

Postgraduate	Field of Study	Host University
Dr Andrea Yi-Ling Ang	Medicine	Harvard Medical School
Richard Doumani (Pratt Award)	Clarinet Performance	New York University
Cheryle Hislop	Political Science and Public Policy	Woods Hole Oceanographic Inst.
Warren Hogarth (Clough Award)	Chemical Engineering	Princeton University
Tse-Hui Teh	Architecture	Columbia University
Jock McOrist (BHP Billiton Award)	Physics & Mathematics	Princeton University
Catherine Penhallurick	Law	Harvard University
John Provis	Chemical Engineering	University of Illinois
Regina Saunders (ATSIC Award)	Visual Arts (Digital Photography and Glass)	San Francisco Art Institute
Dr Ranjana Srivastava (WG Walker Award)	Medical Ethics	University of Chicago

Postdoctoral	Field of Study	Host Institution
Dr Lorrae van Kerkhoff	Resource & Environmental Management	John F. Kennedy School of Government

Senior Scholars	Field of Study	Host Institution
Assoc. Professor Anthony Hulbert	Comparative Physiology	City University of New York
Professor Paul Turnbull	History	Michigan State University

Professionals	Field of Study	Host Institution
Dr Michael Bange (Business/Industry Award)	Agriculture	Texas A&M University
Ms Judith Buckley (ANTA Award)	Education	Portland State University
Dr Jefferey Looi	Geriatric Psychiatry	UCLA, School of Medicine
Dr Rod Lyon (DFAT Award)	Australian-U.S. Alliance Studies	Georgetown University

American Fulbright Scholars

Postgraduate	Field of Study	Host University
Vanessa Adams	Ecology	University of Queensland
Jennifer Blundo	Biomedical Engineering	University of New South Wales
Amanda Cass	Biology	Australian Museum, Sydney
Christen Fornadel	Biology	University of Melbourne
Chris Henry	Agriculture	University of Southern Queensland
Heather Henry	Environmental Studies	University of Melbourne
D Ross	Performance Studies	The University of Sydney
Marie Schroeder	Biomedical Engineering	University of New South Wales
Jonathan Volk	Medical Sciences	University of New South Wales
Rob Wilsey	International Relations	Australian National University

Senior Scholars	Field of Study	Host University
Professor Virginia Brooks	Physiology	The University of Sydney
Professor Richard Kaner	Material Chemistry	University of Wollongong
Professor Tom McPoil	Kinesiology	University of Queensland

Senior Specialists	Field of Study	Host University
Professor Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld	Industrial Relations	The University of Sydney
Professor Perry Eubank	Environmental Science	RMIT
Professor Jane Maxwell	Public Health	QLD University of Technology
Em. Professor Fred Newmann	Education	University of Newcastle
Professor Philip Nyden	Sociology	University of Technology, Sydney
Professor Sally J. Reel	Public Health	Curtin University of Technology
Professor Patricia Search	Indigenous Education	University of Technology, Sydney
Professor Melvin Urofsky	Law	University of New South Wales
Professor Ken Zeichner	Education	Charles Sturt University

A selection of the Australian and U.S. Fulbright Scholars are profiled in this report.

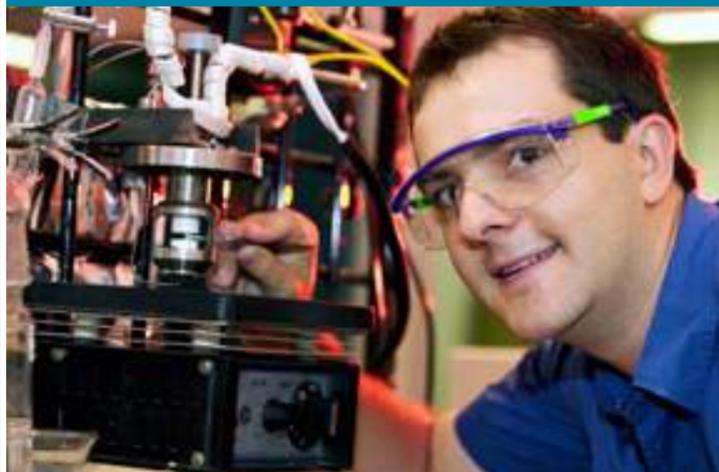
“Halfway through my Fulbright year and the experience has been exhilarating, informative, inspiring and occasionally, quite challenging. I’m bursting with inspiration.”

Cheryle Hislop
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar



“The first six months of my journey from the sunburnt country to Princeton have been amazing. As other Fulbright Scholars will understand, the experience has been far beyond my wildest expectations.”

Warren Hogarth
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar in Engineering
Sponsored by Clough Ltd



“The greatest professional value for me has been to see the ‘best’ and the ‘worst’ of what methods are used in U.S. agriculture research and extension institutions.”

Dr Michael Bange
Fulbright Professional Business/Industry
(Coral Sea) Scholar



“My Fulbright Fellowship at Harvard has given me a new lens with which to view Australia, academically, socially and culturally. It feels truly inspiring to be a part of one of the greatest intellectual melting pots of the world.”

Dr Lorrae van Kerkhoff
Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar



Cheryle Hislop is a graduate from the University of Tasmania, where she is undertaking a PhD in Political Science and Public Policy.

Through her Fulbright Award she is conducting research on the feasibility of creating high sea marine protected areas using an institutional analytical development framework.

Constructed around a number of key questions which underpin protection policy development, Cheryle’s research incorporates geopolitics, practical philosophies, socio-cultural complexities, legal and policy intrigues, and centuries of history.

Cheryle spent her first six months at the University of Delaware’s Centre for Marine Policy, researching and contributing to the U.S. Ocean and Coastal Policy Course. She is now in Woods Hole, Massachusetts where she will spend the final six months at the Marine Policy Centre, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

During her studies Cheryle also participated in a Natural Resources Forum in Arizona, which was one of the many Fulbright Enrichment Programs being offered by the U.S. Department of State. Cheryle writes: “I was curious to learn the views of others involved in natural resource management and contribute to the discourse. The Natural Resources Forum proved to be another enlightening and enriching American Fulbright experience”.

“The village [Woods Hole] is breathtakingly beautiful, the people incredibly warm and friendly and I have been reassured that ‘unconventionality’ is actively encouraged at the Marine Policy Centre.”

A graduate from the University of Queensland, Warren Hogarth is conducting research on the development of proton exchange membranes (PEM) for PEM fuel cells, at Princeton University amongst the world leaders and cutting-edge researchers in PEM technology.

The U.S. has identified PEM technology as the replacement for combustion engines and the solution to carbon reduction. Warren’s research is looking specifically at using this technology to power cars.

Warren plans to share the research with industry to enhance Australia’s competitive advantage in the development of PEM fuel cell powered motor vehicles.

During his studies he has established two further international research collaborations and in November participated in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) conference with over 5000 delegates. He has also been invited to present at three conferences and is looking forward to promoting Australian research in the field of hydrogen fuel cells (clean energy technology).

“As Harold Clough told me before I left, ‘make sure you have fun’. With Fulbright events in Washington DC and New York, skiing (Colorado, New Mexico and hopefully Washington soon), New Orleans, and the North East coast, I have had a fantastic opportunity to meet and greet a large variety of Americans and do my Ambassadorial duty.”

“My comment to any prospective Fulbrighters is ‘challenge yourself, you’ll be amazed at how you will enjoy it and change as a result’ ...”

Michael Bange, a graduate of the University of Queensland is a Principle Research Scientist for CSIRO based in Narrabri, New South Wales.

He was the recipient of the 2004 Fulbright Professional Business/ Industry (Coral Sea) Award that promotes research in a business or industry issue relevant to both Australia and the U.S.

Through his Fulbright program, Michael undertook research on sustainable cropping systems with Texas A&M University and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Florida, to identify techniques that may contribute to the overall sustainability of the rural sector in the U.S. and Australia.

For over ten years, Dr Bange has devoted his time to agricultural research. His research focus is ‘directed systems’ that he hopes will contribute to the overall sustainability of the rural sector.

“I am convinced that investment in resources and mechanisms to improve integration and collaboration in agriculture research are essential for the future of agriculture in both Australia and the U.S.”

“I travelled to the U.S. with my young family...While visiting Florida we were lucky enough to visit Disney World, Orlando. What we will remember most is sitting out a hurricane that was to devastate Orlando and other parts of Florida. For us it was a lesson in reality to experience the impact of disaster when a large population is involved.”

Lorrae van Kerkhoff is a Science and Commerce graduate and a Postdoctoral Fellow with the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health at the Australian National University.

Through her Fulbright Award, Lorrae has been working with a group at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government on an innovative and exciting project that aims to create a better understanding of the relationships between science and society and highlight the consequences of these changes for sustainability.

Working closely with an international team of leading researchers, Lorrae has created a forum to focus on the research and knowledge of scientists throughout the world to address major world problems such as global warming and combating HIV/ AIDS.

Lorrae has been overwhelmed by the warmth and generosity, the ‘can do’ attitude and the intellectual passion and energy of her U.S. friends and colleagues. Her experience has cemented a goal to continue the collaborative work, so she has plenty of reasons to continue returning to the U.S.

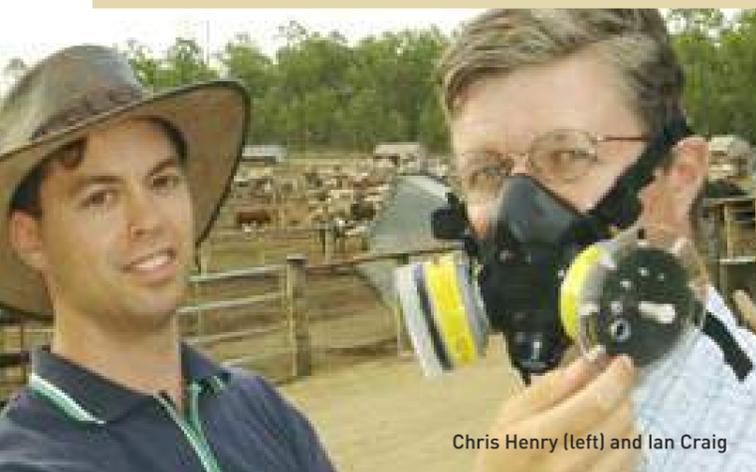
“The Fulbright network has added depth to our experience as a family. In New England we have had a run of extraordinary experiences.”

“I have come to realise that Australia’s experience in this area is at the cutting edge, something that is difficult to see from within Australian shores.”

AMERICAN FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

“Fulbright has provided a means of exchange, progress towards this goal, and a memorable journey that would never have occurred unless ‘my feet were on the ground’ in southern Queensland.”

Chris Henry
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar



Chris Henry (left) and Ian Craig

Chris Henry, an Extension Engineer and PhD candidate from the University of Nebraska, is using his Fulbright Award to undertake research in air quality for livestock operations at the National Centre for Engineering in Agriculture, at the University of Southern Queensland in Toowoomba.

In association with research leaders, Chris and his colleagues have gained a new perspective on modeling odours and regulation of livestock operations, as well as generating further discussion into intensive livestock’s impact on society and the environment. Chris said “...The Fulbright experience has created invaluable relationships with colleagues in government, private industry, and academia that will, no doubt, continue throughout my professional career”.

As a long-term goal, Chris is looking forward to developing a tool which will educate livestock entrepreneurs and community planners about the risk of experiencing odours from new and expanding livestock operations. Its importance will be highlighted through the ever-increasing problem of urban dwellers moving to and infringing upon the rural landscape.

“Helping people understand livestock odours and the impact they have on their daily lives is the goal of my work here”, Chris commented.

“Australia is a long way from my family farm in Kansas. I have learned about Australian culture, language, land use, history, agriculture, and how to crack a stock whip.”

“I have learned more about my own country in the two months I have been abroad, than I had learned in the last 30 years living in it. But also, I have been able to share the American perspective with those around me.”

“Fulbright has given me the opportunity to spend a whole year observing classes, participating in active research, and discussing ideas.”

D Ross
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar



D Ross (right) with Gay McAuley

D Ross is a graduate in Theatre Studies from the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor and through her Fulbright Award is conducting research in the new field of rehearsal ethnography.

D Ross was drawn to the Centre for Performance Studies at the University of Sydney as the only place in the world that ‘had developed a methodology, ethics and institutional framework to support and archive the study of rehearsals’.

In 1999, Gay McAuley at the University of Sydney, published a book titled *Space in Performance*. McAuley’s descriptions of actors and directors in rehearsal represented a significant departure from typical studies of finished performances.

McAuley’s methods are extremely rare and inspired D to work towards first-hand experience and collaboration with McAuley.

“Since actors and directors are extremely protective of their rehearsals, I feel privileged to be able to gain access to study the dynamics and purpose of the rehearsal process,” D commented.

D will use her time in Australia to experience the unique Australian born program and review fifteen-years of archived documented rehearsals, looking specifically at how the human body takes on social and cultural meanings in performance.

“The oddest performance I’ve seen so far was near an old gold mine in Ballarat. The show, *Blood on the Southern Cross*, was billed as a ‘re-enactment’ of the miners’ rebellion at Eureka Stockade. The entire 90-minute show took place in four different outdoor locations, utilized expensive and elaborate sets, but contained no human figures at all except a single actor employed in the last five minutes of the production!”

“The opportunity to live in such a diverse community has been one of the best parts of my Fulbright experience.”

Rob Wilsey
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar



A graduate in Political Science from Pacific University in Oregon, Rob Wilsey is conducting research at the Department of International Relations in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University.

His Fulbright research centres on the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), a policy put forward by the Bush administration to coordinate the interdiction of ships at sea suspected of carrying weapons of mass destruction.

Rob specifically chose Australia because the Australian government has taken the lead on developing the Proliferation Security Initiative in East Asia and has been very active in PSI related exercises.

“Counter-proliferation, as an aspect of alliance relationships, focuses on the cooperative rather than the conflictual relationships. These relationships need to be highlighted to remind both Americans and Australians of the wide range of mutually beneficial ties they have to one another, ties that often get overlooked in the heat of the political moment,” Rob stated.

The Australian National University and the Australian National Archives have provided an abundance of fruitful material for Rob’s project.

“When I leave Australia... I’ll take away a lifetime’s worth of friendships and international connections that will serve me well in my future academic career. I intend to continue studying international law at Willamette University, in my home state of Oregon. I’ll always treasure my time in Australia, the people I’ve met and the work that I have done.”

“Australia has many unique ecosystems and species with unmatched conservation approaches to preserving these systems.”

Vanessa Adams
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholar



Vanessa Adams is a graduate of Biology and Mathematics from Washington and Lee University in Virginia. Through the Fulbright Scholarship, Vanessa is spending a year at the University of Queensland researching conservation and management of the environment through the study of spatial ecology.

“Australia is at the forefront of conservation ecology using computational methods. Dr. Hugh Possingham’s lab at the University of Queensland is one of the leaders in the field,” states Vanessa. Through studying with Dr Possingham, Vanessa aims to develop tools that will aid conservationists in designing optimal reserves and protection plans.

“I have found the opportunity to work with international scientists particularly enriching. I have not only learned about the methodological approaches to reserve design and conservation biology in other countries, but also about the cultural values of other countries with regards to the environment,” Vanessa added.

Vanessa’s Fulbright has allowed her to participate in fieldwork, workshops and attend major conferences. She aims to share her skills, research and international knowledge to make the best conservation decisions for global ecosystems through established and ongoing scientific relationships.

“My year in Australia is marked by tremendous academic, personal and professional growth. Whether it is bushwalking in the wilderness, travelling to conferences, collaborating with international scientists, or reviewing management plans for such reserves as the Great Barrier Reef, I am grateful for every experience that the Fulbright has afforded me.”

Program Report

Scholarships

The primary activity of the Australian-American Fulbright Commission is the promotion, selection and administration of the annual Fulbright Awards. In 2004, the Commission awarded the following Fulbright Awards to Australians: ten postgraduates; two senior scholars; one postdoctoral fellow and four professionals. Fulbright Awards to Americans included: ten postgraduates; three senior scholars and nine senior specialists.

The Fulbright U.S. Senior Specialist Program, a recent initiative, continues to gain interest and assist Australian universities to build links with leading U.S. researchers and institutions.

The Program supports visits to Australia by leading U.S. Specialists for two-to-six weeks. The objective of this program is to build collaboration on curriculum and faculty development, institutional planning and a variety of other activities.

Nine senior specialists were selected to visit Australia in 2004 from a wide range of academic fields including: communications, social work, sociology, education and law.

Enrichment

Enrichment activities continue to be held as an integral part of the Fulbright experience. For the fourth consecutive year, two distinctive events were held to meet the Commission's aim of enriching the Fulbright experience.

U.S. Enrichment Seminar - February

The U.S. Enrichment Seminar in Canberra has proved an excellent opportunity for U.S. Fulbright Scholars to meet each other, build professional contacts, be recognised as a group and experience Australia's national capital.

Activities during the Canberra visit included a cocktail reception hosted by the U.S. Ambassador Thomas Schieffer, a tour of Parliament House and a morning tea hosted by The Hon Greg Hunt MP, Federal Member of Parliament and National President of the Australian Fulbright (Alumni) Association. The three-day seminar was concluded with a dinner hosted by the ACT Alumni Chapter.

Once again the Program was a great success and greatly appreciated by all U.S. Fulbright Scholars.

U.S. Ambassador, Thomas Schieffer
(front row, centre)
and 2004 U.S. Fulbright Scholars
at the U.S. Embassy, Canberra.

National Orientation Program - May

The National Orientation Program for Australian Fulbright Scholars was held in Sydney and provided recipients with the opportunity to meet other current Australian and U.S. Fulbright Scholars studying in Australia, along with members of the Australian Fulbright (Alumni) Association.

The Orientation Program provided a background on the Fulbright Program and information to prepare and assist Fulbright scholars to gain the most from their experience.

National Awards Dinner - May

The National Awards Dinner was held for the first time in Sydney, at MacLaurin Hall, University of Sydney. The Australian Fulbright Scholars were recognised at this very special evening.

(Full details of the National Awards Dinner, page 14)

Fulbright Selection 2005 / 2006

Competition for Australian and American Fulbright Awards for 2005 / 2006 remained strong with high quality applications across a wide range of fields. Australian State Selection Committees met in late September and early October to assess and interview applicants. Offers were made in December to the 2005 Australian Fulbright Scholars.

Our thanks to the State Selection Secretaries and Selection Committee members for their assistance in the implementation and review of the Fulbright selection process during the year. A range of recommendations and data collection from the review will ensure continued commitment to 'best practice' in the selection process.

It was a pleasure to welcome State Selection Secretaries and Selection Committee members to the National Awards Dinner and have them meet with the Fulbright Scholars they selected.



Fulbright Symposium 2004

General Peter Cosgrove, Chief of the Australian Defence Force, presents the keynote address at the 2004 Fulbright Symposium.



Civil-Military Cooperation and the War on Terror

The Fulbright Symposium is supported by a grant awarded to an Australian institution by the Australian-American Fulbright Commission. The Symposium is held annually on a topic of current bi-national interest between Australia and the United States and engages leading speakers from both countries.

The 2004 Fulbright Symposium was held by the University of Queensland to address the topic of "Civil-Military Cooperation and the War on Terror".

The symposium explored ways to improve civil-military cooperation in the fight against terrorism and its causes, through bringing together leaders in government, defence and the non-government sector from Australia and the United States.

Distinguished speakers during the three-day symposium included:

- **Col. Thomas P. Baltazar**, Chief, Iraq Team in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Stability Operations, US Army
- **Juan Carlos Brandt**, Director, United Nations Information Centre in Australia & the South Pacific
- **Professor Thomas Bruneau**, Director, Center for Civil-Military Relations, Naval Postgraduate School, California
- **General Peter Cosgrove**, Chief of the Australian Defence Force
- **Reverend Tim Costello**, Chief Executive, World Vision Australia

- **Mick Keelty**, APM, Commissioner of Police, Australian Federal Police (AFP)
- **Dr Ellie Wainwright**, Program Director, Strategy & International Program, Australian Strategic Policy Institute
- **Jenny Wells**, Program Coordinator, Humanitarian Issues, Australian Council for International Development

A selection of papers is available at the Fulbright Symposium link www.polsis.uq.edu.au/fulbright

General Peter Cosgrove

Chief of the Australian Defence Force, General Peter Cosgrove AC MC, presented the keynote speech at the Fulbright Symposium on the 'Military Perspective on Civil-Military Cooperation'.

"It's my pleasure and honour to present the keynote speech at this year's Fulbright Symposium hosted by the University of Queensland.

...The founder of the [Fulbright] organisation, as you know, was a distinguished U.S. politician and academic who had a passion for international affairs.

He was instrumental in garnering United States support for the establishment of the United Nations, and in a complementary move he convinced Congress to establish an international scholarship program which now fittingly bears his name.

The work of the Fulbright Commission and Symposium makes a significant contribution to the robustness of this [Australia/U.S.] relationship."

National Awards Dinner

MacLaurin Hall, The University of Sydney



Richard Doumani, 2004 Australian Fulbright Scholar in Visual and Performing Arts sponsored by Anthony Joseph Pratt.

On Thursday 20 May, over 200 government, business and educational representatives gathered with distinguished alumni and family and friends of the 2004 Fulbright Scholars for the Fulbright National Awards Dinner. The evening of celebration and entertainment, hosted by The University of Sydney and supported by Southcorp wines, recognised the seventeen Australians who won Fulbright Scholarships in 2004.

Guests of honour included Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC, Governor of NSW; Dr Ziggy Switkowski, CEO Telstra Corporation; The Hon Justice Kim Santow OAM, Chancellor of The University of Sydney; and Mr Bill Stanton, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy.

A musical performance was provided by Richard Doumani, a clarinetist from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and winner of the Fulbright Scholarship in Visual and Performing Arts sponsored by Anthony Joseph Pratt.

The Scholars received a certificate signed by the Prime Minister and U.S. Ambassador, a personal letter of congratulations from the Prime Minister and a Fulbright Scholar pin.



Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC, Governor of NSW (5th from left); Bill Stanton, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy (3rd from left) and Mr Greg Hunt, Alumni President (2nd from left) with the Australian 2005 Fulbright Scholars.

“A principal value-add emerging from the Fulbright program is that it is an excellent, highly effective means of leveraging Australia’s international links”

Dr Ziggy Switkowski, CEO Telstra Corporation



Dr Ziggy Switkowski, CEO Telstra Corporation, was the keynote speaker at the National Awards Dinner where he announced Telstra’s support of the first Fulbright Award in Technology & Communication. Dr Switkowski confirmed Telstra’s support of a postgraduate scholarship in this field for the next three years.

In his speech Dr Switkowski stated:

“...In accord with its high ideals, the Fulbright program acts as a crucible for innovation. It offers the rare opportunity of a shared experience that contributes to international understanding, and stands as a symbol of hope in an uncertain and troubled world.

Its role today continues to fulfil the principles upon which it was established. We should acknowledge that tribute is due to the Australian and U.S. Governments for their ongoing involvement in a program that sought to find light in the world from its foundation as people and nations emerged numbed and shattered from the Second World War.

Time and change have strengthened the global vision of Senator J. William Fulbright that is embodied in this program.

Telstra offers its support for the program (through the establishment of the Fulbright Telstra Postgraduate Award in Technology and Communication) – and we take this step with pride. Our commitment stems from a firmly held belief it is essential these ideals endure. We hold the future in trust and exercise that responsibility by helping to nurture the generation that will take the helm over the next half a century, whose ideas and leadership will shape the future of our world.

It is pivotal to Australia’s future that we push the frontiers in technology and communications in the true spirit of

the Fulbright program as a means of bringing the world together as never before. I hope that in some small way, the Fulbright Telstra Postgraduate Award in Technology and Communication will help to achieve this goal.

From my own history and experiences, I bring a sincere personal enthusiasm for this bilateral U.S. – Australia program in support of professional excellence. Indeed, the times I have spent living, studying and working in the U.S. have probably been of greatest influence to my professional development.

A principal value-add emerging from the Fulbright program is that it is an excellent, highly effective means of leveraging Australia’s international links. It enables us to participate in the scientific and technological development taking place globally and bring home the benefits. As a consequence, it contributes enormously to Australia’s international standing in a world where knowledge, technology and communications knows no borders.

This Awards night affords us an invaluable opportunity to gain insight into the Fulbright program, and an appreciation of the benefits it generates.

The program expands our collective knowledge bank and understanding in a way that is not confined only to scholarship but creates enduring relationships and ongoing mutual benefit. The Scholars are the primary beneficiaries of course, but we all stand to gain from the way it enriches their lives and the things they will achieve as a consequence.

If we were to attempt a concise definition of the fundamental quality of the Fulbright program, let me suggest it would be something like – innovation for the greater good of all peoples.

In this, our scholarship winners can be seen as ambassadors in innovation and a decided brain gain for Australia. They embark on this adventure in learning with our best wishes.”

Financial Statements

Comparative Statement of Financial Performance for year ended 31 December 2004

	Note	2004 \$	2003 \$
Funding for ordinary activities			
Australian Government		565,734	562,411
United States Government		616,152	1,200,711
Scholarship sponsorships		196,293	221,424
Coral Sea Endowment Fund	1	435,000	0
Total funding		1,813,179	1,984,546
Other revenue			
Interest earned	1	73,435	56,277
Foreign currency exchange		6,222	0
Other income		3,533	12,376
Total other revenue		83,190	68,653
Total revenue		1,896,369	2,053,199
Expenses from ordinary activities			
Program expenses		825,257	1,645,436
Program returns		(86,385)	(139,743)
Administration		428,861	481,201
Non-program expenses		150,507	194,846
Foreign currency exchange		558	155,175
Total expenses		1,318,798	2,336,915
Operating surplus/(deficit)		577,571	-283,716
Accumulated fund previous year		-55,386	182,691
Transfer (to) from reserves		99,543	45,639
Balance for year taken to accumulated fund		621,728	-55,386

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2004

Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		1,029,630	344,206
Funds receivable from governments		26,927	262,978
Other current assets		43,081	61,901
Funds on deposit	1	556,035	873,445
Total assets		1,655,673	1,542,530
Current liabilities			
Provision for unpaid program costs		337,273	476,040
Funding in advance		291,285	592,276
Provision for employee entitlements		16,824	31,910
Creditors		13,798	23,383
Total liabilities		659,180	1,123,609
Net assets		996,493	418,921
Equity			
Reserves		374,765	474,307
Accumulated funds		621,728	(55,386)
Total Equity		996,493	418,921

Note 1. The Coral Sea Endowment Fund balances at 31 December 2004 have only been recognised as revenue and assets for the first time in these accounts.

The summarised Financial Statements are extracted from the Commission's complete Financial Statements, which PricewaterhouseCoopers gave an unqualified audit report. A complete set of the Audited Financial Statements are available upon request.

Sponsors

The primary funding for the Fulbright Program in Australia is provided by the Australian and United States governments. This core funding is complemented by the generous support of a select group of companies, organisations and government agencies.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC)

ATSIC is a statutory authority established by the Australian Government to provide a national policy making and service delivery agency for Indigenous people. The Fulbright ATSIC Award for Indigenous Australians was established in 1993.

Australian National Training Authority (ANTA)

ANTA is an independent statutory authority that provides a national focus for vocational education and training (VET). ANTA has sponsored a Fulbright Professional VET Award since 1995.

BHP Billiton

BHP Billiton is the world's largest diversified resources company, formed through a merger between BHP, one of Australia's oldest and largest companies, and Billiton one of the world's premier mining companies. The Fulbright BHP Billiton Award in Engineering and Science was established in 2000.

Clough Ltd

Clough is a diversified public company providing multidisciplinary engineering, construction, operations and maintenance organisations in the international oil & gas, minerals, infrastructure and property industries. Board Member Harold Clough, is a Fulbright Scholar who studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. The Fulbright Clough Award in Engineering was established in 1994.

Coral Sea Endowment Fund

The Coral Sea Endowment Fund was originally established in 1992 by U.S. Ambassador Mel Sembler and U.S. companies to recognise the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. This fund, managed by the Fulbright Commission, supports a Fulbright Professional Business/Industry Award focusing on an issue of relevance to Australia and the United States.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

To recognise the 50th Anniversary of the ANZUS Treaty during 2001, the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Alexander Downer MP announced the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's support for a Fulbright Professional Award in Australia-United States Alliance Studies. This Award encourages new research and discussion on issues affecting Australia and the United States.

Anthony Joseph Pratt

The Fulbright Postgraduate Award in the Visual and Performing Arts has been supported by Anthony Joseph Pratt since 1996. It has provided the opportunity for many young distinguished Australian artists and musicians to study in unique institutions throughout the United States.

Telstra

Telstra is Australia's leading telecommunications and information services company. The inaugural Fulbright Telstra Award in Technology & Communication will be granted in 2005.

Supporters of Australian-American Fulbright Commission

Australian Universities

Australian Universities support the state selection process for Australian applicants and waive the tuition fees for visiting U.S. Postgraduates. The universities representing the Fulbright Program in each State are the University of Adelaide, Griffith University, Monash University, Murdoch University, The University of Sydney and the University of Tasmania.

Academy for Educational Development (AED)

Associated Planner Financial Services Ltd

Boeing USA

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Southcorp

The University of Sydney



The Australian Fulbright (Alumni) Association

Washington DC Reunion of U.S. Fulbright Scholars to Australia

Australian Ambassador Michael Thawley (left), Harriet Fulbright and Ambassador Thomas Pickering.



The Australian Fulbright (Alumni) Association continued to provide valuable support to the Fulbright Commission and Program. The State Chapters coordinated a range of functions and events for members and Australian and American Fulbright Scholars throughout the year.

The Association's Annual General Meeting was held in Sydney on 19 May, following the National Awards Dinner at the University of Sydney. The Hon Greg Hunt, MP, Federal Member for Flinders, Victoria was re-elected as the National Association President.

New Association Committee members included Amelia Simpson, a 2001 Alumnus and lecturer in law at the Australian National University who was elected as Vice-President and Dr Tony Worby, 1999 Alumnus and Senior Research Scientist with the Australian Antarctic Division based at the University of Tasmania, as Secretary.

The Alumni Scholarship Fund, which annually supports the prestigious Fulbright WG Walker Award for the highest ranked Australian Postgraduate Scholar, is now valued at over \$250,000. Special thanks to the generous contributions by Alumni in supporting the Alumni Scholarship Fund and a Fulbright experience for future young Australians.

The Australian-American Fulbright Commission was pleased to establish a similar fund with our U.S. Alumni in 2004 and look forward to offering a new Fulbright U.S. Alumni Postgraduate Award in future years.

In cooperation with the Association, the Fulbright Commission continued to offer discounted membership to new Fulbright Scholars in 2004. One-third of recipients took up this offer and were invited to meet with Greg Hunt on their return to talk about their experiences and provide input to the Association.

The Association successfully introduced a multi-year membership option, that over one-third of members have taken up. This initiative will continually reduce cost and administration for both the Association and the Fulbright Commission.

The Commission thanks the Fulbright Association Committee Members and Alumni for their ongoing support and commitment to the Fulbright Program in Australia.

The first ever reunion of U.S. Fulbright Scholars to Australia was held in Washington DC on 18 September. The reunion brought together U.S. Alumni from 1953 to 2003 for a range of nostalgic, poignant and entertaining activities. The weekend was also a celebration of the 50th anniversary for the 1954 Alumni.

An afternoon session, "A Fulbright Affair: The Australian Experience", brought all the groups together and one Alumnus from each decade spoke about their experience in Australia. Their stories highlighted the diversity of the Fulbright experience and provided an intriguing historical perspective of Australia and the Fulbright Program over the past fifty-five years. Photos were compiled electronically and presented to each Alumnus, adding a rich visual perspective to the stories told.

The Guest of Honour, Harriet Fulbright, introduced the keynote speaker, Ambassador Thomas Pickering. His speech gave an insightful and entertaining perspective of his Fulbright experience.

The Australian Ambassador to the U.S., Michael Thawley, welcomed Alumni and current Australian Fulbright Scholars to a formal dinner on the evening. Also attending were representatives from the U.S. Department of State and other agencies involved in the Fulbright Program. Australian Fulbright Scholar and jazz singer, Jo Lawry, gave a talented performance demonstrating the value of her Fulbright year at Purchase College in New York.

At the dinner, Ambassador Pickering launched an Endowment Fund Appeal, aimed to establish a Fulbright U.S. Postgraduate Alumni Award. This Award will provide an extra scholarship for a talented young American to travel to Australia each year.

The reunion was such a success the Commission looks forward to developing further events with U.S. Alumni and Australian Fulbright Scholars.

For details on how to contribute, follow the links under 'Alumni' on our website at www.fulbright.com.au.



Ambassador Michael Thawley (centre back) and Harriet Fulbright (fourth from right) with 1953/1954 U.S. Alumni.

The Fulbright Impact on Life and Career

Ambassador Thomas Pickering,
Senior-Vice President International Relations, Boeing

Former U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and held the rank of Career Ambassador, the highest in the U.S. Foreign Service. Six appointments as U.S. Ambassador, including the Russian Federation and Israel, as well as U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Fulbright Scholar to Australia in 1954.

[The following is an extract of Ambassador Pickering's speech from the Reunion Dinner, 18th Sept 2004].



"In a long career as an American diplomat, I've had more opportunities than I know to thank the Fulbright Program. In many countries where I served around the world, the Program was a mainstay of American diplomatic efforts to build stronger relationships locally.

I consider myself extremely fortunate to have had an early opportunity to benefit from the [Fulbright] Program. Tonight, I want to talk about some of my reflections on, and experiences in, Australia. Perhaps many of these will match yours; perhaps they will not.

Many books and articles have been written about how Americans and Australians are alike. My experience in the country convinced me that we have many common threads of understanding. I also learned that we are different. And this helped me begin to know and understand people all around the world as a diplomat.

For many of us the Fulbright Program is a program that truly changed our lives.

I chose Australia and my project for many reasons. My project involved looking at how Australia developed the capacity to conduct foreign relations. I was attracted to the Australian idea of independent study for an advanced degree. I was also blessed by having taken a course from Professor Zelman Cowan, then head of the Melbourne University Law School who helped me put my project together and gave me some of his valuable time and advice.

Like most of us, I ended up crossing two continents (for the first time), three oceans, and travelling around one world as a result of my Fulbright experience. My first months in Melbourne permitted me to have the good fortune to live in a university college for the summer. I was extremely fortunate to join Donald Seaman in the outer Melbourne suburbs for the remainder of the time.

I look back on many experiences with great fondness. Travel was one of them. Canberra had much to offer me in terms of research for my project and interviews. Sydney and Brisbane were icing on the cake during early vacation periods. And I was lucky enough to make my way home via Adelaide and Perth.

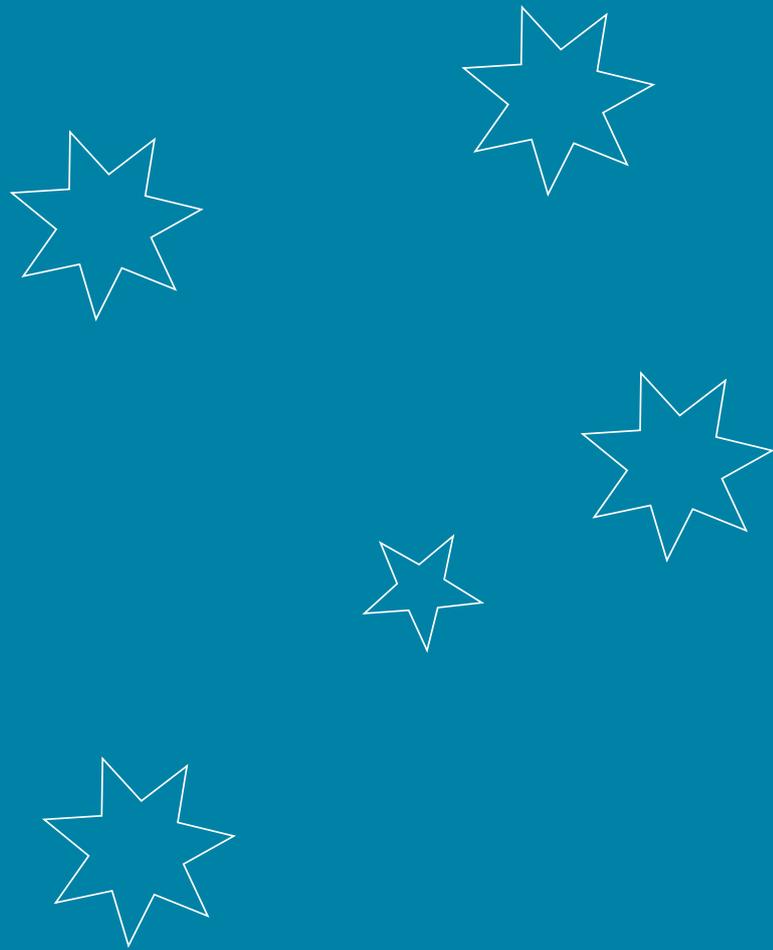
I was particularly struck in my up-country travel with several facets of Australia. Hot tea on a hot day was not necessarily a bad thing. Cold beer anytime was welcome. In those early years too, I was impressed by the growing flood of people from all over Europe beginning to make their way in this new country and even beginning to introduce some of their ideas and their food tastes.

But we were oh so lucky to be an American in the mid-50's in Australia. It was something to be welcomed almost everywhere. The huge debt that we owe to our older brothers, cousins, uncles and aunts, fathers and mothers, and others who went there in uniform in the 40's, is incalculable. One still sees many extensive signs of it continuing as I have noticed on later visits.

My years as a research student solidified my interest in working all over the world. It raised with me the sense of new opportunities out there in meeting new people and in new places, and indeed in the potential value of government service.

On a personal basis, for me the Fulbright Program was an inspired, unique and irreplaceable gift. The pleasure and the honor of meeting the Senator in later years, and some of the tension, pain and difficulty in testifying before him is only equaled by the pleasure I have had in meeting Harriet - and as an American Ambassador, being a kind-of unofficial "Godfather" to the Program in many of the countries where I served.

Australia and the United States have been friends for a long time through good times and bad. Those of us who have lived there feel the common thread of this experience intimately. There is one strong common thread that increasingly stands out. It may touch only a limited number of people, but it does so in a way that makes a serious difference, not only for us as people, but for our two countries and their work together. That is the [Fulbright] Program that sent us to Australia, that has brought many wonderful Australians to this country and that brings us here together tonight."



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