



FULBRIGHT Romania



Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR 2019

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019



FULBRIGHT Romania

Grants for Romanian Citizens



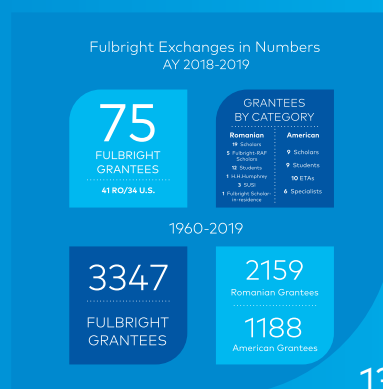
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FULBRIGHT Romania

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Senator J. William Fulbright (1905-1995)

"The essence of intercultural education is the acquisition of empathy--the ability to see the world as others see it, and to allow for the possibility that others may see something we have failed to see, or may see it more accurately. The simple purpose of the exchange program [...] is to erode the culturally rooted mistrust that sets nations against one another. The exchange program is not a panacea but an avenue of hope."

The Fulbright Program in Romania

As the U.S. flagship program for educational and cultural exchange, Fulbright provides wonderful opportunities and fosters relations between the U.S. and Romania on many different levels and in a variety of fields. The Fulbright Program, established in 1946 at the initiative of Senator James William Fulbright, is still the most prestigious exchange program in the world, proving more than ever the value of international education and public diplomacy.

In Romania, the Fulbright Program has been present since 1960, bringing durable changes on Romania's path to progress and democratization, and profoundly influencing lives and professional careers, communities at large.

From 1960 to 2019, over 3300 Romanians and Americans participated in these exchanges, benefitting from funding for graduate studies, research, university teaching and cultural exchanges in general. In the last years, following the provisions of the bilateral agreement, a substantial increase in funding occurred which produced immediate effects on the number of both Romanian and U.S. grantees. This positive trend is expected to continue in the following years as well. This provides the Fulbright Program in Romania the substance to further fulfill its mission of promoting open-mindedness, the advancement of science, humanities and the arts, and ultimately the cooperation and relations between the Romanian and the American people.

The Fulbright Program in Romania is administered by the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission. The Commission was inaugurated in May 1993, with the support of the American and Romanian Governments, following the bilateral agreement between the U.S. Department of State and the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The activities of the Commission are carried out in virtue of Law No. 50/2014 and supervised by its Board of Directors. Their main objective is to "increase mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States of America and Romania through planning, administration and execution of a program of educational exchange."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission is a bi-national body with planning and coordinating responsibilities. The Board has 10 members appointed by the U.S. and Romanian governments.

Honorary Co-Chairs:

Hans Klemm, U.S. Ambassador to Romania

Teodor Viorel Meleşcanu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania (until July 2019)

Ramona-Nicole Mănescu Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania (starting July 2019)

Nicolae-Victor Zamfir – President of the Board (starting July 2019)

General Director, National Institute for Physics and Nuclear Engineering "Horia Hulubei"

Remus Pricopie – President of the Board (until June 2019)

Counselor Rector, National School of Political Studies and Public Administration

Merry Miller

Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy

Scott A. Reese

Cultural Attaché, U.S. Embassy

Dan Neculăescu

Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ioan Aurel Pop

Rector, Babeş-Bolyai University

Adrian Curaj

General Director, The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI)

Ligia Deca

State Advisor for Education and Research, Presidential Administration

Alexandru Mihai Ghigiu

Vice-Rector, National School of Political Studies and Public Administration

Kimberly Vranceanu

CEO, Bucharest Properties, REIT

Dana M. Bates

Founder & Executive Director, New Horizons Foundation

STAFF

Rodica Mihăilă

Executive Director

Corina Dănăilă-Guidea

Romanian Program Director

Mihai Moroiu

American Program Director

Laura Pari

Financial Manager

Loredana Bucuroaia

Program Assistant

Mihaela Doagă

Educational Adviser

Ruxandra Rădulescu

Educational Adviser

Maria Ciobanu

Building Custodian



The Fulbright Grants

Grants for Romanian Citizens

The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission provides grants to Romanian citizens – scholars, students and professionals – for study, research and teaching in the United States, in any subject and at any accredited U.S. higher education institution. Grants are awarded through open merit-based competitions supervised by bi-national boards.

Candidates may apply in any field except clinical disciplines, allowing for the specific timeline of each competition for Romanian citizens. Grant duration varies from three months to one academic year, depending on the category of grant the applicant wants to apply for.

- **The Fulbright Student Awards** for graduate students to start a Master's degree or to conduct non-degree research in a specific field of knowledge, at accredited U.S. universities.
- **The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards** for academics and professionals to undertake lecturing, postdoctoral research programs or a combination of the two at a U.S. accredited university.
- **The Fulbright – Romanian-American Foundation Scholar Award** - designed to enable, develop and implement Entrepreneurship Programs in the universities in Romania by having Romanian academics participate in specialized programs at the University of Rochester – AIN Center for Entrepreneurship.
- **The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship** for mid-career professionals – with a demonstrated commitment to public service and in leadership positions – to pursue a non-degree professional development program at U.S. academic institutions.
- **The Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship** for visiting scholars - expected to contribute to the internationalization of the programs and campus - to teach at U.S. colleges and universities for one academic year.
- **Study of the U.S. Institutes for European Student Leaders (SUSI)** for undergraduates (ages 18-22) to enroll in five-to-six-week academic programs for leadership development, in a specific discipline.
- **The Fulbright Schuman Awards** for EU citizens to study, conduct research, or lecture on a topic relevant to U.S.-EU relations, EU policy, or EU institutions at a U.S. institution (the program is fully administered by the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States of America, Belgium and Luxembourg).

Romanian Grantees 2018–2019

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR AWARD

Victor AMBRUȘ

Home University: West University Timișoara
Host University: Old Dominion University, Virginia
Field: Mathematical Physics
Type of Grant: Research

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Angelica ANDREI

Home University: Institute of Educational Sciences Bucharest
Host University: Boston University
Field: Education/Career Programs
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Camelia BOGDAN

Home University: University of Bucharest
Host University: University of Florida, Gainesville
Field: Business/Corporate Law
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Attila BRASSAI

Home University: University of Medicine and Pharmacy Târgu-Mureș
Host University: University of California, Los Angeles
Field: Medical Sciences
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Florin Ovidiu CĂLȚUN

Home University: "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași
Host University: California Polytechnic State University
Field: STEM Education
Type of Grant: Research

Sorin CONSTANTIN

Home University: University of Bucharest
Host University: University of California, San Diego
Field: Environmental Sciences/Remote Sensing
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Mircea Valeriu DEACA

Home Institution: University of Bucharest
Host University: University of California, Santa Barbara
Field: Film Studies
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Simona GRĂDINARU

Home University: University of Bucharest
Host University: Michigan State University
Field: Environmental Sciences/Urban Planning
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Lavinia IANCU

Home University: Institute of Biology, Bucharest - Romanian Academy
Host University: Sam Houston State University, Huntsville
Field: Forensic Entomology
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Cezar MORAR

Home University: University of Oradea
Host University: University of Illinois at Chicago
Field: Geography/Urban Planning
Type of Grant: Research

Bogdana NEAMȚU

Home University: Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca
Host University: University of Georgia
Field: Public Administration/Education
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Anabella NICULESCU-GORPIN

Home University: "Iorgu Iordan - Al. Rosetti" Institute of Linguistics / University of Bucharest
Host University: Texas A&M International University
Field: Linguistics
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Andreea NIȚĂ

Home University: University of Bucharest
Host University: The Ohio State University
Field: Environmental Sciences
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Eva PATKO

Home University: University of Arts, Târgu Mureș
Host University: University of California, Berkeley
Field: Theater Studies
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Cătălin STOEAN

Home University: University of Craiova
Host University: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Field: Computer Sciences/Medical Image Processing
Type of Grant: Research



Romanian Grantees

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR AWARD (cont.)

Silvia SUMEDREA

Home University: Transilvania
University of Braşov
Host University: Rutgers
University - Newark
Field: Economics/
Entrepreneurial Studies
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Marcela ŞLUSARCIUC

Home University: "Ştefan cel
Mare" University of Suceava
Host University: Indiana
University, Bloomington
Field: International Relations
Type of Grant: Research

Simona Ioana ŞTEFAN

Home University: Babeş-Bolyai
University of Cluj-Napoca
Host University: Boston
University
Field: Psychology
Type of Grant: Research

.....

Paula Andreea TUFIS

Home University: University of
Bucharest
Host University: University of
California, Irvine
Field: Sociology/Migration
Studies
Type of Grant: Research

FULBRIGHT-RAF SCHOLAR AWARD

Lidia Elena ALEXA

Home University: "Gheorghe
Asachi" Technical University, Iaşi
Host University: University of
Rochester, Rochester, NY – AIN
Center for Entrepreneurship
Field: Entrepreneurship
Type of Grant: Research/
Academic Training

.....

Ştefan BODI

Home University: Technical
University of Cluj-Napoca
Host University: University of
Rochester, Rochester, NY – AIN
Center for Entrepreneurship
Field: Entrepreneurship
Type of Grant: Research/
Academic Training

.....

Răzvan CRĂCIUNESCU

Home University: University
Politehnica Bucharest
Host University: University of
Rochester, Rochester, NY – AIN
Center for Entrepreneurship
Field: Entrepreneurship
Type of Grant: Research/
Academic Training (not concluded)

Veronica MAIER

Home University: Technical
University of Cluj-Napoca
Host University: University of
Rochester, Rochester, NY – AIN
Center for Entrepreneurship
Field: Entrepreneurship/
Business Administration
Type of Program: Research/
Academic Training

.....

Anca ŞERBAN

Home University: "Lucian Blaga"
University of Sibiu
Host University: University of
Rochester, Rochester, NY – AIN
Center for Entrepreneurship
Field: Entrepreneurship/
Management/Marketing/Busine
ss Administration
Type of Program: Research/
Academic Training

.....

Mădălina VOICAN

Home University: University of
Craiova
Host University: University of
Rochester, Rochester, NY – AIN
Center for Entrepreneurship
Field: Entrepreneurship/
Law/Business/Public Policy
Type of Program: Research/
Academic Training

FULBRIGHT STUDENT AWARD

Claudia Florinela CHIȚU

Home University: Politehnica University of Bucharest

Host University: University of California, Merced

Field: Engineering/IoT

Type of Program: Research

Ionuț Andrei CRĂCIUN

Home Institution: University of Bucharest

Host University: University of Pennsylvania

Field: Sociology

Type of Program: Research

Georgian Marius GHINCEA

Home Institution: University of Bucharest/CEU Budapest

Host University: George Washington University

Field: Public Policy/Security Studies

Type of Grant: Master's

Timea KACSO

Home University: "Iuliu Hațieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca

Host University: Louisiana State University

Field: Chemistry/Pharmacy

Type of Program: Research

Ștefan NICULAE

Home University: University of Bucharest

Host University: University of Southern California

Field: Artificial Intelligence

Type of Program: Master's

Radu PLĂMĂNESCU

Home University: Politehnica University of Bucharest

Host University: Colorado State University

Field: Power System Engineering

Type of Program: Research

Sînziana POPESCU

Home University: University of Bucharest

Host University: University of California, Los Angeles

Field: Biology

Type of Program: Research

Ioan PUIU

Home Institution: University of Bucharest

Host University: Fordham University

Field: International Law

Type of Program: Master's

Maria PURCARIU

Home Institution: Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Host University: University of Georgia, Athens

Field: Communication Studies

Type of Grant: Research

Nicu SPRÎNCEAN

Home University: "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași

Host University: University of Michigan–Flint

Field: Economics/Financial Markets

Type of Program: Research

Daniela STAICU

Home University: Bucharest University of Economic Studies

Host University: Pennsylvania State University

Field: Economics/Social Entrepreneurship

Type of Program: Research

Anca ȚENEĂ

Home University: University of Bucharest

Host University: The City University of New York

Field: Digital Humanities/New Media

Type of Program: Research

HUBERT

H. HUMPHREY

FELLOWSHIP

PROGRAM

Vlad Alexandru MIXICH

Host University: Emory University, Atlanta

Home Institution: Romanian Health Observatory

Field: Public Health Policy & Management

STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTES FOR EUROPEAN STUDENT LEADERS (SUSI)

Alexandra Ioana BEREZKI

Home University: Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Host University: University of Oregon

Field: Environmental Issues

Georgiana Raluca POPEANGĂ

Home University: West University of Timișoara

Host University: University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Field: Social Entrepreneurship

Mihai Christopher Marian RADOVICI

Home Institution: University of Craiova

Host University: University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Field: Social Entrepreneurship

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Doru Stelian BĂNĂDUC

Home Institution: "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu

Host University: Broward College, Florida

Field: Environmental Sciences



The Fulbright Grants

Grants For American Citizens

"Hyphenated" grants are partly sponsored by the Romanian universities and mirror both the interest of higher education institutions in Romania in the Fulbright program and the intention of the Fulbright commission to increase the number of grants it offers. We currently have six Fulbright hyphenated grants with: University of Bucharest, Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, "Ovidius" University of Constanţa, Politehnica University of Bucharest, Transilvania University of Braşov.

Applications in any field are welcome. According to the policies established by the Romanian Fulbright Board, the program tries to reach as many local universities and students as possible. The Commission strongly encourages grantees to travel to other university centers to give talks and lectures, attend conferences and participate in American Corners events and other similar activities.

- **The U.S. Scholar Program** is intended for U.S. assistant, associate or full professors with a minimum of three years of academic/teaching experience. The awards are designed by the Fulbright Commission, after consultation with relevant Romanian institutions of higher education and the Fulbright Board of Directors.
- **The U.S. Student Program** provides an opportunity to applicants, preferably advanced graduate students, who plan to carry out individual research and study. Knowledge of Romanian is to be commensurate with the needs of the position.
- The program also offers a number of positions for **English Teaching Assistantship**, for candidates at all degree levels, preference being given to graduate students enrolled in a degree program, irrespective of field of study, who are interested in international education and teaching. Previous teaching experience is helpful.
- **The Fulbright Specialist Program (FSP)** promotes linkages between U.S. academics and professionals and their counterparts at host institutions in Romania. The program is designed to award grants to qualified U.S. faculty and professionals, in select disciplines, to engage in short-term collaborative 2 to 6 week projects at host institutions, funded by the U.S. Department of State and the Romanian inviting institutions.

American Grantees 2018–2019

SCHOLAR GRANTEES

Roger HAMLIN

Home University: Michigan State University

Host University: Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Field: Public Administration

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Elizabeth LIGHTFOOT

Home University: University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Host University: University of Bucharest

Field: Social Sciences, Social Work

.....

Constantin CRÂNGANU

Home University: Brooklyn College, The City University of New York

Host University: "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iaşi

Field: Geology

.....

E. Patrick MCDERMOTT

Home University: Salisbury University, Maryland

Host University: University of Bucharest

Field: Law - Labor/Industrial Relations

.....

Seyed MEHDIAN

Home University: University of Michigan-Flint

Host University: "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iaşi

Field: Business Administration

.....

Woden TEACHOUT

Home University: Union Institute and University, Cincinnati, Ohio

Host University: "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu

Field: American Studies

Margareta THOMSON

Home Institution: North Carolina State University

Host University: Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Field: Social Sciences, Education

.....

Paula ZIMBREAN

Home University: Yale University

Host University: "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca

Field: Medical Sciences

.....

FULBRIGHT-UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST GRANTS

Oana GODEANU-KENWORTHY

Home University: Miami University, OH

Host University: University of Bucharest

Field: American Studies

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STUDENT GRANTEES

Catherine ANDRE

Home University: Princeton University

Host University: National University of Theatre and Film "I.L. Caragiale", Bucharest

Field: Theater, Directing

.....

Jenny Lucienne KEROACK

Home University: University of Chicago, IL

Host University: Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Field: Public Health

Priscilla MOLLARD

Home University: University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Host University: Maramureş County Museum of History and Archeology, Baia-Mare

Field: Archeology

.....

Barbara OKEKE

Home University: University of Iowa

Host University: Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Field: Public Health

.....

Eric PETERSON

Home University: University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Host University: "Horia Hulubei" National Institute for R&D in Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Bucharest

Field: Physics

.....

Trent SANDERS

Home University: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Host University: Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Field: Creative Writing

.....

Flora KIRK

Home University: University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Host University: Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Field: Archeology

.....

Stephanie COXON

Home University: New York University

Host University: Ovidius University, Constanţa

Field: English Teaching Assistantship



American Grantees

STUDENT GRANTEES (cont.)

Natalie DAVIS

Home University: Ohio State University

Host University: West University of Timișoara

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

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Kellie FERGUSON

Home University: San Diego State University, CA

Host University: Ștefan cel Mare University of Suceava

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

.....

Jeremy FRIEDLANDER

Home University: Washington and Lee University

Host University: "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

.....

Kimber GUINN

Home University: University of Louisville, KY

Host University: "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

.....

Joshua KURTZ

Home University: Brown University, NJ

Host University: "Transilvania University of Brașov

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

.....

Katherine RUPRECHT

Home University: Azusa Pacific University, CA

Host University: "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

Michelle TOMEI

Home University: State University of New York College, Oswego

Host University: University of Craiova

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

.....

James WILSON

Home University: Southern Methodist University, TX

Host University: University of Bucharest

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

.....

Hannah YOUNG

Home University: Ohio State University

Host University: "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu

Field: English Teaching Assistantship

.....

Aleksej Demjanski

Home University: University of Texas at Austin

Host University: National University of Political Studies & Public Administration, Bucharest

Field: Political Science (Romanian-Bulgarian Award)

.....

William III TYNER

Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship

Home University: Wesleyan University, CT

Host University: University of Bucharest

Field: Anthropology

2018–2019

FULBRIGHT SPECIALISTS

Kathleen Laraia MCLAUGHLIN

Home University: Loyola Marymount University, College of Communication and Fine Arts

Host University: University of Art and Design Cluj-Napoca

Field: Communication and Journalism

.....

Jeffrey William SOMMERS

Home Institution: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Host University: Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Field: Economics

.....

Thomas Joseph COUSINEAU

Home Institution: Washington College, Chesterton, MD

Host University: "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu

Field: American Studies

.....

Mohsen RAZZAGHI

Home University: Mississippi State University

Host University: University of Bucharest

Field: Math Education

.....

Jay NATHAN

Home University: St. John's University

Host University: University of Oradea

Field: Business Administration

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Steven D. ROPER

Home University: Florida Atlantic University

Host University: Ovidius University of Constanța

Field: Peace & Conflict Resolution

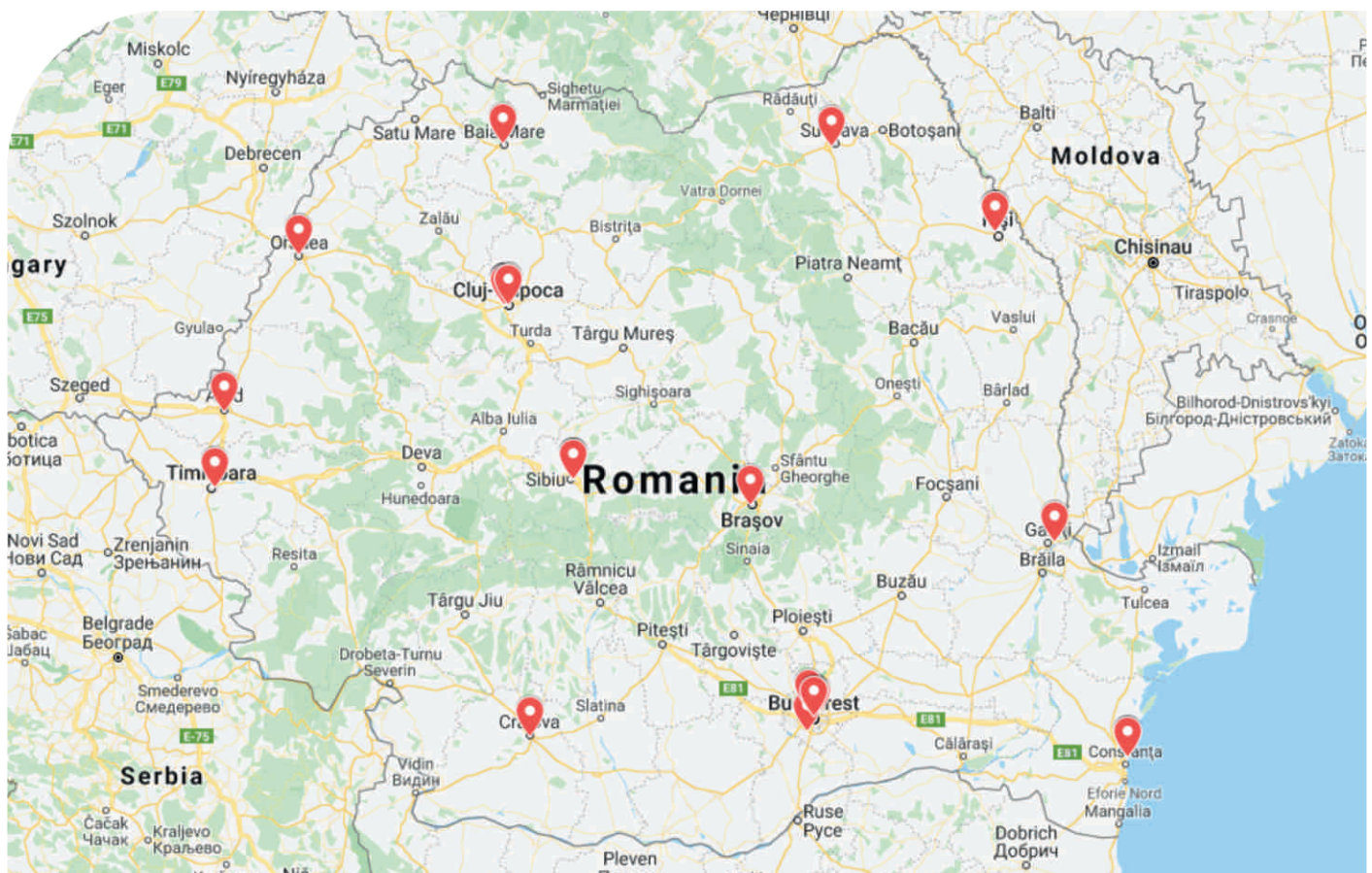


RO and US Grantees: Geographical Distribution

Geographic distribution of the 2018-2019 Romanian Fulbright Grantees (by host universities):



Geographic distribution of the 2018-2019 U.S. Fulbright Grantees (by host universities):



Fulbright Exchanges in Numbers

AY 2018-2019

75

FULBRIGHT
GRANTEES

41 RO/34 U.S.

GRANTEES BY CATEGORY

Romanian

19 Scholars
5 Fulbright-RAF
Scholars
12 Students
1 H.H.Humphrey
3 SUSI
1 Fulbright Scholar-
in-residence

American

9 Scholars
9 Students
10 ETAs
6 Specialists

1960-2019

3347

FULBRIGHT
GRANTEES

2159

Romanian Grantees

1188

American Grantees

Highlights of FY 2019

Fulbright Think Tank Workshop: "American Studies in Romania: Best Practices and Future Perspectives"



workshop from previous editions was the fact that, for the first time since the launch of the project, the Think Tank became a forum open to students and faculty alike.

The workshop opened with welcome addresses by Ms. Abigail Rupp, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy in Romania, Ms. Irina Kovacs, Secretary of State, Ministry of National Education, and Prof. Rodica Mihăilă, Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission, who underlined the timeliness and relevance of the workshop.

The Fulbright Think Tank workshop closed with a reception hosted by Ambassador Hans G. Klemm, honoring the participants and celebrating yet another successful event, meant to strengthen cooperation between the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission and Romanian universities.

The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organized the sixth edition of the Fulbright Think Tank workshop, which took place on March 22, 2019. The Fulbright Think Tank initiative was launched in 2013, with the kind support of the U.S. Embassy in Romania, aiming to bring into academic, scientific and public discussion topical issues in Romanian society, against the backdrop of educational and cultural relations with the U.S.

This has been the second workshop in the Fulbright Think Tank series dedicated to American Studies in Romania, bringing together American Studies coordinators, faculty members and administrators, undergraduate and graduate students from 15 of the main universities of the country, as well as U.S. Fulbright grantees and alumni, in a lively and topical debate on the future of American Studies in Romania. What distinguished this year's

The 10th edition of the American Studies Student Conference, co-organized and hosted by the Fulbright Commission



On April 16, 2019, the Fulbright Commission had the pleasure of hosting the 10th edition of the American Studies Student Conference organized by the Center for American Studies at the University of Bucharest. Established in 2006, the American Studies Student Conference has sought to bring together young scholars interested in exploring new facets of U.S. literature(s) and culture(s) and in reinterpreting critical paradigms in light of recent cultural developments. This 10th edition also represents a special moment in the evolution of the field of American Studies in Romania, bringing together, for the first time, undergraduate and graduate students from all

American Studies programs in the country, based in Bucharest, Braşov, Constanţa, Iaşi, and Timişoara, as well as international students from Austria and Spain.

The opening remarks were delivered by Melissa Wong, Strategic Content Coordinator, U.S. Embassy, by Octavian Roske, Head of the English Department, University of Bucharest, and by Rodica Mihailă, Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission. Ms. Wong also delivered this year's keynote address, titled "There Is No Place Like Home: American Culture of the Midwest", and kindly took many questions from the audience, engaging in a lively and interesting dialogue with the 30+ participants.

The generous theme of the conference, "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness: Reconsidering American Values in the 21st Century", afforded the participants and the audience ample opportunities to investigate and further discuss topics of interest in literary and cultural studies, from film culture to poetry and to representations of mental illness in American literature and culture.

Also of interest was the newly established "Dan Grigorescu" prize, awarded by the jury to Oana Adina Ciobanu for her paper titled "'Category Is...': Acceptance, Abandonment, and the Queer Family in RuPaul's Drag Race".

Fulbright Roundtable @ The 2018 RAAS-Fulbright Conference

The "Ovidius" University of Constanța held its 2018 RAAS – Fulbright Conference "Ideology, Identity, and the US: Crossroads, Freeways, Collisions" on October 4-6.

On the first day of the conference, the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organized the roundtable "Sharing the Fulbright Experience."

The roundtable was attended by U.S. Fulbrighters (Esther Thyssen, Rhode Island School of Design; Barbara Nelson, University of Bucharest; Monica Cure, Biola University) and Romanian Fulbright alumni (Adina Ciugureanu, "Ovidius" University of Constanța; Monica Got, Bucharest University of Economic Studies; Diana Benea, University of Bucharest). The participants approached the topic from the perspective of their own experience and expectations, sharing whatever they found most relevant for the Fulbright academic exchange program. The roundtable, hosted by the American Corner, was moderated by Prof. Rodica Mihăilă, Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission.



The 35th Annual Meeting of the Executive Directors of European Fulbright Commissions



From April 3 to 5, 2019, the Executive Directors of the European Fulbright Commissions met for their annual conference to share their experiences, compare good practices, and discuss current policy changes and cooperation among commissions and with the U.S. partners. The annual meeting was hosted by the Austrian-American Educational Commission in Salzburg, Austria. The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission was represented by ED Rodica Mihăilă.

Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission @NAFSA 2019

Between May 26 and May 31, 2019, Rodica Mihăilă, Executive Director, and Mihaela Doagă, Educational Adviser of the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission, took part in the 2019 NAFSA conference. This year's theme was "Global Leadership, Learning, and Change". The director of the Commission attended several events, panels and workshops for Fulbright executive directors and talked about recent developments and strong points of Fulbright grants to Romania for U.S. students and scholars.



The NAFSA participation also included a country poster fair, in which the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission had a booth where prospective educational and institutional partners had a chance to stop

by and discuss avenues for future cooperation between U.S. institutions and the Fulbright Commission, as well as ways of reaching out to potential Romanian applicants.

The 41st Annual Fulbright Association Conference: "One World, Many Voices"

The Fulbright community gathered in Puebla, Mexico from November 1-3, 2018 for the Fulbright Association's 41st Annual Conference. The conference titled "One World, Many Voices" included two full days of sessions, as well as workshops prior to the event. The conference sessions touched on important issues such as the impact of the Fulbright program, climate change, and human rights among others. Grantees and alumni talked about the ways in which they can positively contribute to the relations between countries through academic exchanges. The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission was represented by Executive Director Rodica Mihăilă.

Parallel to this event, a dozen Fulbright Executive Directors from different parts of the world met and discussed

important issues for their commissions and the relationships within the Fulbright world.



Grant-supporting

Pre-Departure Orientation for 2018-2019 Romanian Fulbright Grantees



On June 29, the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission hosted its Pre-departure Orientation Seminar devoted to the Romanian Fulbright grantees and independent students leaving for the U.S. to study or conduct research in the academic year 2018-2019. The proceedings started with a series of welcome speeches by distinguished guest speakers representing the U.S. Embassy in Romania, the Fulbright Board of Directors, the U.S. Fulbright Scholars and the alumni community.

The speakers insisted on the importance of the Fulbright

program, which has helped build bridges of friendship and understanding between our two countries.

The agenda was intense and comprehensive: Romanian Alumni and U.S. Fulbright Scholars participated in several panel discussions, offering practical information to the current grantees starting their U.S. Fulbright experience in the coming months. We were also joined by representatives of the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy Bucharest who provided specific details and advice on J & F visas. The workshop "Emotional Tools for

Shaping a Satisfying Fulbright Experience," which concluded the Orientation, offered guidance and practical tips to all the students and scholars preparing for their forthcoming departure to the U.S., to help them overcome the pressure of adjusting to a new environment.

The Romanian grantees and independent students had the unique opportunity this year to also take part in the celebration of the Independence Day organized by the U.S. Embassy in the evening.

Fulbright Orientation for 2018-2019 U.S. Fulbright Grantees



The beginning of every new academic year in Romania coincides with the arrival of the new group of American Scholars, Researchers and ETA Student grantees. In their honor, the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organizes every October the Orientation Seminar aimed at introducing them to the new environment and helping them adapt, meeting each other and Romanian academics, colleagues and alumni of the program. The 2018-2019 group of American Fulbright grantees

consists of professors and students who teach and do research in the fields of American Studies, Public Administration, Engineering, Social Sciences & Social Work, Law, Public Health & Medical Sciences, Business Administration, Geology, American Studies, Theater, Physics, Political Science and English Teaching Assistantships at universities and institutions in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Iași, Brașov, Constanța, Timișoara, Suceava, Bacau, Arad, Sibiu and Galati.

Activities

Winter Holidays Celebration, December 2019

The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organized its Winter Holidays Celebration on December 13 & 14. The event started with a reception organized at Casa Oamenilor de Știință, where the impressive group of U.S. Fulbright grantees met and interacted with representatives of the U.S. Embassy, of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Fulbright Board of Directors, as well as Romanian alumni and friends of the program. The evening program included Christmas Carols interpreted by a group of professional musicians.

On the second day of the event, the group of American Fulbrighters visited the Parliament Building, Cotroceni Museum and in the evening participated in a concert at the Romanian Athenaeum. The grantees had a chance to learn more about Romania's past, and cultural traditions.



The two-day event was an excellent opportunity to discuss with the twenty-one grantees plus dependents about their experience during their first months in Romania, about their academic activities and adjustment to the new environment, as well as about their perspectives and plans for the 2nd semester.

Final Meeting of the 2018-2019 U.S. Fulbright Grantees

The Final Meeting of the year for the American Fulbright grantees present in Romania in 2018-2019 was hosted by The Multicultural Center of Transilvania University of Brașov, on June 10 and 11.

The U.S. Fulbright Scholars, Student Researchers and ETAs, as well as their accompanying dependents, traveled to Brașov from Bucharest, Cluj, Craiova, Timișoara, Iași, Sibiu, Constanța, Arad, and Galați. They presented their teaching

and research activities, as well as an outstanding number of events in which they participated, such as attending conferences, writing of articles and volunteering work. All in all, an absolutely impressive amount of good work and added experience for the U.S. participants in the program and invaluable benefits for their Romanian colleagues, students, and friends. On the second day of the meeting, the group visited the Liberty Bear Sanctuary in Zărnești.



Fulbright Educational Advising Center (FEAC-EducationUSA)

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

1. Outreach

FEAC-EducationUSA took part in several kinds of outreach activities in the last quarter of 2018 and the first three quarters of 2019, acquainting an average 2,000 prospective applicants with the opportunities afforded by the U.S. higher education system and the advising services and generous resources awaiting them at FEAC-EducationUSA.

These included participating in two major university fairs and in the International Study Day project and visiting high schools and universities in Bucharest and elsewhere, in order to present opportunities to study in the U.S. and the advising services provided by FEAC-EducationUSA.

a) University Fairs

We reached an average 700 prospective undergraduate and graduate students through our participation in the 2018 Fall and 2019 Spring edition of the **Romanian International University Fair/RIUF** in Bucharest, as well as the 2019 QS World Grad School Tour in Bucharest.

We received significant positive feedback and several of the visitors voiced an interest in availing themselves of our services and taking part in future events hosted by FEAC-EducationUSA.

b) Outreach Sessions in High Schools and Universities

An additional 200 undergraduate students and scholars were provided with valuable information on study and research opportunities in the US, FEAC-Education USA's services and resources, and the Fulbright Student Award during our on-site outreach sessions organized at 3 universities in Bucharest – the **University of Bucharest**, the **Bucharest University of Economic Studies**, and the **Politehnica University of Bucharest**, as well as the **"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași**.

We also reached an average 500 high school students through a series of school visits in Bucharest, at **"Sf. Sava" National College**, **"George Coșbuc" National Bilingual College**, **"I. L. Caragiale" National College**, and **Laure-Reut Educational Complex**.

c) International Study Day

The Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission and FEAC-EducationUSA also took part in the 2018 fall edition of International Study Day, with stopovers in **Galați** and **Pitești**, and the 2019 spring edition, which included outreach presentations in **Brăila**, **Tulcea**, and **Râmnicu Vâlcea**, attended by an average 600 high schoolers.

The International Study Day project (ISD) consists of a series of outreach presentations jointly organized by the British Council, Campus France, DAAD, and the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission in various cities throughout the country, targeting the underserved student population.



Outreach @ Mircea cel Bătrân National College, Râmnicu Vâlcea



International Study Day @ Brăila

2. Opportunity Funds Program

FEAC-EducationUSA kicked off the first Opportunity Funds program in Romania in the spring of 2016. In March 2019 we started working with our fourth cohort, made up of four highly promising high school students from Bucharest, Câmpina, and Braşov, who are currently receiving funding from EducationUSA to cover their application-related fees and personalized guidance every step of the way to boost their chances of admission, with a full scholarship, at a U.S. university.

The EducationUSA Opportunity Funds program assists highly qualified students who are likely to be awarded full financial aid from U.S. colleges and universities but lack the financial resources to cover the up-front costs of obtaining admission, such as testing or application fees.



Bard College Berlin Rep Connects with Romanian Students in Bucharest



Essay Writing Workshop
taught by Fulbright ETA James Wilson @FEAC



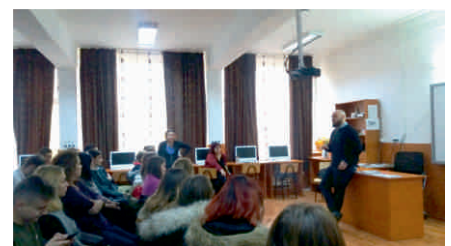
International Study Day @ Pitești



University of Akron Rep Connects with Romanian Students in Bucharest



RIUF 2019 Spring Edition



International Study Day @ Galați

Student-Centered Instructional Strategies: An Interactive Workshop



Professors Oana Godeanu-Kenworthy (Miami University, Ohio) and Woden Teachout (Union Institute and University, Vermont), 2018-2019 U.S. Fulbright Scholars at the University of Bucharest and "Lucian Blaga" University in Sibiu, participated in an Interactive Workshop on Student-Centered Instructional Strategies organized by the Department of British, American and German Studies at the Faculty of Letters, University of Craiova.

It was a day-long workshop and they covered many topics including syllabus development, developing learning objectives, creating rubrics, supporting formal student writing, informal writing exercises, teaching

public speaking, interactive lecture techniques, and teaching with technology.

In Oana Godeanu's words: "I find student-centered learning a very effective antidote to student apathy in the classroom. Woden and I thank Dr. Sorin Cazacu for the invitation and are very excited about this event."

As an alumna of the University of Craiova, it is a very special opportunity for me personally to share some teaching tips to my colleagues from this institution and from the larger teaching community of Craiova."

See more at:

<https://oanagody6.wixsite.com/craiovaworkshop2019>

Humphrey Alumna Launches First Guide for the Implementation of the Right to Education for the Children with Disabilities in Romania

In October 2018, the European Center for the Rights of Children with Disabilities (CEDCD) has launched the first Guide for the Implementation of the Right to Education for the Children with Disabilities in Romania (Rentrop & Straton Publishing House, Bucharest, 2018).

The book launch, held on October 11, was hosted by the National Institute for Magistrates and conducted by Mădălina Turza, the author of the guide. Mădălina is also President of CEDCD and a

Hubert H. Humphrey Alumna, University of Minnesota. Designed as an intense active dialogue, the event addressed current important topics such as the discrimination in education affecting children with disabilities, landmarks concerning the implementation of the rights to inclusive education for children with disabilities in Romania, and the access to education of children and young people with disabilities in the special protection system.



ALUMNI AND GRANTEES

Five Trends to Watch in Journalism

Professor Linda Austin, Project co-director at Associated Press Media Editors' NewsTrain, visited Romania as a Fulbright Specialist. Linda was a keynote speaker – on **Five Trends to Watch in Journalism** – at "Media Culture Days", an International Media Conference organized at the Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca and delivered presentations on social media

in journalism. She was interviewed twice: on the student online radio station and on the local FM radio station, EBSRadio.ro. In both her discussions with students and Romanian colleagues and the radio interviews, Linda promoted the Fulbright Program to scholars and students and the Humphrey Program for mid-career professionals.



Book Launch by Fulbright Alumnus Răzvan Voinea

Historian and Fulbright Alumnus Andrei Răzvan Voinea has launched his first book, **Idealul locuirii bucureștene: familia cu casă și grădină (Parcelările Societății Comunale pentru Locuințe ieftine-București 1908-1948)**, [English translation: **The Housing Ideal in Bucharest: Family, Dwelling, Garden. The "Lotissements" of the Municipal Company for Low-Cost Housing (1908-1948)**], on March 4, 2019 at "I.L. Caragiale" National Theatre of Bucharest.

Răzvan Voinea graduated from "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest and was a Fulbright Junior Visiting Researcher at the University of Pittsburgh, Department of Arts and Architecture between 2016 and 2017.

The Ph.D. which stands at the basis of the book was mainly written during his Fulbright year in Pittsburg.

The book is part of a larger project which aims to acquaint the citizens of Bucharest with the history of their neighborhoods.

The launch gathered more than 300 people.



Presentations on Health Literacy in Bucharest

That is why it is so important to study and reveal the human networks and ideological infrastructure supporting the anti-vaccine movement in both Romania and the U.S. While in Bucharest, I got to do just that, discussing my findings with students at the Faculty of Sociology and the Center for American Studies, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, as well as with experts and diplomats in the city. These conversations gave me the opportunity to share my findings and further explore the many nuanced layers of the anti-vaccine movement. I was particularly impressed with questions from students who wanted to understand which news sources traffic in conspiracy ideation, not just about vaccines but about GMOs and Soros as well, and how they can improve their media diet. I look forward to continuing to work with researchers in Romania to improve health literacy discourse and achieve our shared goals."



Jenny Keroack, U.S. Fulbright Student Researcher in the field of Public Health at Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, held a series of presentations in Bucharest on health literacy.

"The Romanian anti-vaccine movement is much more complex, organized, and connected than most people realize. Like all counter-scientific movements, it flourishes in public spaces enamored with the intrigue of conspiracy.

Humphrey Fellow Promotes Quality Improvement in Healthcare

Romanian Humphrey Fellow Vlad Mixich, affiliated with Emory University, organized a field visit on quality improvement in healthcare for six key Romanian healthcare executives and opinion leaders. The group visited five hospitals in Atlanta and had meetings with twenty-four medical doctors, nurses, and engineers who work in patient safety and healthcare quality improvement.

Reflecting on the study visit, Vlad said: "It was a transformational visit for the Romanian team and I know that back home they will start changing things around them. Sharing knowledge is the most powerful change tool we have."

Read more at:
<https://mailchi.mp/iie/humphrey-fellowship-weekly-report-may-6-10-2019>



ALUMNI AND GRANTEES

Fulbright Presentations for High School Students in Cluj-Napoca

Kimber Guinn, a 2018-2019 Fulbright ETA in Iași, led two presentations for 29 students and 3 teachers from "Victor Babes" High School in Cluj-Napoca and Waldorf High School on March 29, 2019 at the American Corner Cluj-Napoca.

The first topic detailed the U.S. Education System. Highlights included public vs. private schooling, K-12 academic year and daily structure, curriculum expectations, legislative bills and policies impacting education such as the National School Lunch Program and

Kentucky's HB 205 Bill, and challenges education in the U.S. encounters.

The second topic covered Everyday Leadership and allowed students to develop their own service action plan. Participants were led through the five stages of project development which included identifying relevant issues, creating a mission statement, and goal setting. Students left with the knowledge and power to enact change within their community.



Fulbright Researcher Attends White House Launch of Global Women's Initiative

On February 7, 2019, Daniela Staicu, a 2018-2019 Romanian Fulbright researcher at Penn State University, was among those invited to attend the launch of US-based Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative. The event was hosted by Ivanka Trump and included 24 participants ranging from Wilbur Ross, U.S. secretary of commerce, Marie Royce, assistant secretary of state for educational and cultural affairs, and Henriette Fore, executive director of UNICEF, to Humphrey Fellows and Fulbright Scholars.

Daniela is a doctoral candidate in business administration with a focus on social entrepreneurship at the University of Economic Studies in Bucharest, Romania, and



© Image: Penn State

she completed her research with the School of Engineering Design, Technology, and Professional Programs' Humanitarian Engineering and Social Entrepreneurship (HESE) program.

Fulbright Fellow William Tyner Leads Workshop on Civic Participation



On April 9, 2019, the Fulbright Educational Advising Center-EducationUSA had the pleasure of hosting a workshop on civic participation led by William Tyner, Fulbright-National Geographic Fellow, anthropologist and documentary filmmaker.

High school students from "I. L. Caragiale" actively and enthusiastically participated in group tasks and discussions centered on topics pertaining to Romanian identity, Romanian history, civic participation and migration. The discussions led by Will

Tyner revealed, on the one hand, the insight and open-mindedness of young Romanians vis-a-vis their country's future and, on the other hand, their wish to see these kinds of discussions continue on a more regular basis.

Government of Children 3D

Fulbright alumna Ioana Mischie directed the first Romanian 3D documentary, titled *Government of Children 3D*. The documentary, released in cinemas on June 1st, 2019, invited 100 Romanian children to imagine the next 100 years of society in all its dimensions: educational, economic, architectural, social, technological.



Ioana Mischie, director and transmedia producer, created the concept in 2017, during her Fulbright grant at the University of Southern California, and continued nationally as a PhD arts-based research project. The creative producer of the documentary is Ioana Țurcan, Fulbright grantee in 2014-2015 at Syracuse University.

ALUMNI AND GRANTEES

Administration and Public Management International Conference in Bucharest



Dr. Roger E. Hamlin, Professor Emeritus at Michigan State University and a 2018-2019 Fulbright Scholar at Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, was a keynote speaker at the 14th edition of the International Conference organized by the Bucharest University of Economic Studies, October 25-26, 2018. The Conference theme was Human

Resource Management and Public Organizational Performance. Drawing on his vast experience of theory and practice in this field, Dr. Hamlin lectured on "Intersectoral Relationships and the Demand for a New Public Sector Human Resource" in front of a large public of Romanian and foreign specialists and students.

Book Launch by Fulbright Alumna Irina Trocan @ Gaudeamus



Fulbright alumna Irina Trocan, together with Andra Petrescu from the National University of Theatre and Film "I.L. Caragiale", co-edited a book on documentary film theory, one of the few books on this topic in Romanian. The work titled *The Reality of Fiction, the Fiction of the Real* was launched on November 16 at Gaudeamus International Book Fair.

Irina was a 2017-2018 Fulbright Student Researcher in the field of essay cinema at the University of Pennsylvania.

Essay Writing Workshop for Graduate School Applicants



On March 5, 2019, the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission hosted the workshop titled "Building Your Way to U.S. Admission: Essay Writing Strategies for Graduates", coordinated by James Wilson, Southern Methodist University, Fulbright ETA 2018-2019 at the University of Bucharest, and Ioana Mischie, Fulbright Grantee 2017-2018 - USC School of Cinematic Arts.

James and Ioana provided the participants with useful tips on how to make a strong case for themselves, encouraging them to use relevant examples and a concise but expressive

language while avoiding clichés and stereotypes. They spoke about their own experience as applicants and also encouraged the participants to start searching for programs fitting their profile, as prioritizing and narrowing down university options can be an important step in crafting well-defined study or research plans. Excerpts of essays belonging to former successful applicants were also discussed, enabling the audience to identify what a practical approach means and grasp the differences between a strong and a weak personal statement.

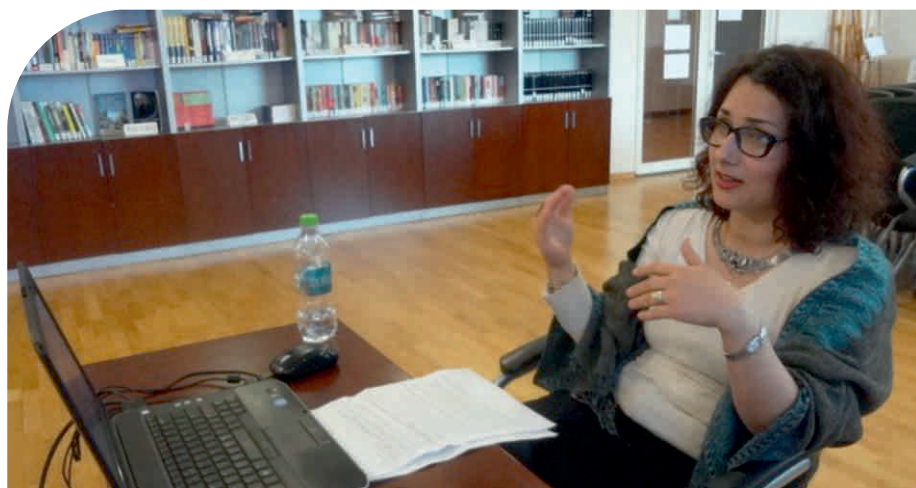
FROM FULBRIGHT

Influential Women who Changed American History

Part of the U.S. Embassy's outreach events in March 2019, during Women's Month, Oana Godeanu-Kenworthy, 2018-2019 Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the University of Bucharest, met with students from the "I. L. Caragiale" National College

in Bucharest (March 6), and, via DVC, spoke to high-schoolers in Bacău and Baia Mare (March 26 and 27) at the American Corner in Bucharest.

The topic of Dr. Godeanu-Kenworthy's lectures was "Influential Women who Changed American History", followed by an interactive section. The high-schoolers enthusiastically brainstormed what type of events, monuments, and actors would best help local communities to learn about, and celebrate, the women who made an impact on Romanian history, and together came up with creative ways to enhance the overall visibility of women in the Romanian national narrative.



Interactive Lectures with Fulbrighters

On June 13, 2019, Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca in collaboration with the Romanian-U.S. Fulbright Commission organized "Interactive Lectures with Fulbrighters: Sharing Ideas for Global Education", an event aiming to promote exchange of ideas and good practices in research and education among Fulbright scholars and members of the Romanian academic community. The hosts of the event were Fulbright Alumnus Mihai Bogdan Iovu, Associate Professor (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, UBB) and Fulbright Ambassador Alina Rusu, Associate Professor (Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, UBB).



The invited speakers of the event were Rebecca T. Davis, PhD, Associate Professor at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Fulbright Scholar in Romania 1992-1994, and Margareta M. Thomson,

PhD, Associate Professor, College of Education, North Carolina State University, U.S. Fulbright Scholar in Romania 2018-2019.

ALUMNI AND GRANTEES

World Social Work Day



Professor Elizabeth Lightfoot, a 2018-2019 Fulbright Scholar at the Social Sciences Department, University of Bucharest, participated in the World Social Work Day celebrated by the Faculty of Sociology and Social Assistance of Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca on March 21, 2019. Dr. Lightfoot

spoke to social workers in the Cluj region about "International Grand Challenges in Social Work".

On March 20, she conferenced on "Case Management in Situations of Violence against Children" within the Master's Program on Children's Rights.

Presentations on the U.S. Labor Law by U.S. Fulbright Scholar Patrick McDermott

Dr. E. Patrick McDermott visited the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University in Iaşi, May 14-15, 2019, where he delivered two lectures on the subject of Negotiation.

He also attended a meeting of the Iaşi Chamber of Commerce, where he met with some local business owners and discussed their business strategies and issues. He is continuing to help one entrepreneur introduce his energy-saving invention in the U.S.



On May 21-22, 2019, Dr. McDermott visited the Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca.

He met with a class of undergraduate labor law students and Masters of Law students and lectured on the topic of the U.S. employment law model and the rise of the "gig economy".

The following day he delivered a lecture on the topic of "Labor Law Today and How Negotiation is Taught and Implemented in the U.S."

Fulbright Presence at "1 Decembrie 1918" University in Alba Iulia

Professor Woden Teachout, from Union Institute and University, Cincinnati, Ohio and ETA Fulbright lecturer Hannah Young, from Ohio State University, U.S. Fulbright grantees at "Lucian Blaga" University in Sibiu, were invited to visit "1 Decembrie 1918" University in Alba Iulia. Dr. Teachout conferenced on "Student Centered Learning:

Practical Strategies for an Engaged Classroom", while Hannah Young delivered a presentation on "The Fulbright Program: An international educational exchange" to a public made up of Romanian and international faculty and students present in Alba Iulia for the International Week of the University.



Fulbright Visiting Scholar Enrichment Seminar on "American Security: Economic and Food Solutions"

Paula A. Tufis, Sorin Constantin and Andreea Niță participated to the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Enrichment Seminar on "American Security: Economic and Food Solutions", where they explored aspects of the U.S. society and culture. During the seminar, they engaged with local organizations, residents of Minneapolis, and Fulbrighters from around the world.

Hosted by Global Minnesota, this Fulbright Enrichment Seminar provided a multifaceted overview of economic challenges that the United States faces in the 21st century. During their time in Minneapolis (24-27th of April 2019), they attended plenary sessions, panel discussions, site visits, and roundtable meetings. They also engaged with experts from across Minnesota to broaden their exposure to new ideas, strategies, and policies that impact American security and explored how development policies impact citizens' lives.

Overall, Paula A. Tufis, Sorin Constantin and Andreea Niță shared ideas and collaborated with other Fulbright faculty and researchers, forging connections and friendships. They had the pleasure to meet with U.S Fulbright alumni and local supporters of the Fulbright's mission to increase mutual understanding.



„Guidance and Counseling in Romania”, a presentation by Fulbright Visiting Scholar Angela Andrei



On March 5, 2019, Fulbright Scholar Angela Andrei gave a presentation on 'Guidance and Counseling in Romania' for a group of Doctoral students and their supervisor, Professor V. Scott Solberg from Boston University, the Wheelock College of Education and Human Development. Among the most important topics discussed were: the role of guidance and counseling in the educational

system, how guidance and counseling are embedded in the national school curriculum, examples of specific competences and learning activities included in the curricula at elementary and middle school level, the research and publications of the department of Counseling and Educational Management from the Institute of Educational Sciences Bucharest, Romania.

ALUMNI AND GRANTEES

Joint Assignment Miami University/University of Bucharest



Third-year students in American Studies at the University of Bucharest ended their spring semester seminar in American Icons by completing a joint assignment with undergraduate students at the University of Miami, Ohio.

Their instructor, U.S. Fulbright Scholar Oana Godeanu-Kenworthy and Miami instructor, Dr. Allison Wanger, coordinated a project where Romanian students and American students in a similar class at Miami had the opportunity to interview one another.

Each student was assigned a partner from the other institution, and together they discussed the cultural significance of specific American icons. Their findings were then integrated in written papers submitted for the two respective classes.

The project used various online platforms to connect Bucharest students in real time with their American peers at Miami University. Despite technical challenges and the 7-hour time difference that sometime complicated setting up the interviews, both groups

reported that they enjoyed discovering the variations in cultural perspectives about the same icons, but also the commonalities they shared.

As one student at University of Bucharest, Ioana Hangu, commented in her paper, "All in all, this assignment was helpful in seeing how, because of globalization and the Internet, two people that live at such a great distance from each other, one in America and one in Romania, can have such similar views."

Picturing the Postcard

On January 25, 2019, the book launch for Dr. Monica Cure's new book, *Picturing the Postcard: A New Media Crisis at the Turn of the Century* (University of Minnesota Press), took place at Orest Tafrali bookstore at "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași.

The book launch was hosted by Dr. Dana Bădulescu (Faculty of Letters, UAIC). It featured a lively panel discussion with Dr. Rodica Mocan (Faculty of Theater and Film, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca) and Dr. Liviu Ciortuz (Associate Professor UAIC).



FROM FULBRIGHT ALUMNI AND GRANTEES

Fulbright Researcher Andreea Niță @ The 10th Annual Fulbright Week at Ohio State

On March 26, 2019, Fulbright Researcher Andreea Niță attended the Fulbright reception at The Ohio State University Faculty Club, where President Michael V. Drake, MD recognized students, faculty and staff members from The Ohio State University who were recent Fulbright and Fulbright-Hays recipients and finalists, as well as visiting Fulbright students and scholars from around the globe.

The Graduate School, the Undergraduate Fellowship Office and the Office of International Affairs combined their efforts to plan a week full of events designed to inform potential faculty, undergraduate and graduate student applicants about the opportunities available through the Fulbright and Fulbright-Hays programs during the week of March 25 - 29, 2019.



Under the Surface of American and British Cultural Contrasts



Flora Kirk, a research Fulbright grantee at Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, was invited to give a talk on American culture at the West University of Timișoara. She presented for the "Intellectual History of Culture and Diversity in the USA" course co-taught by Fulbright ETA Natalie Davis, discussing her experience acclimating to American culture, and the

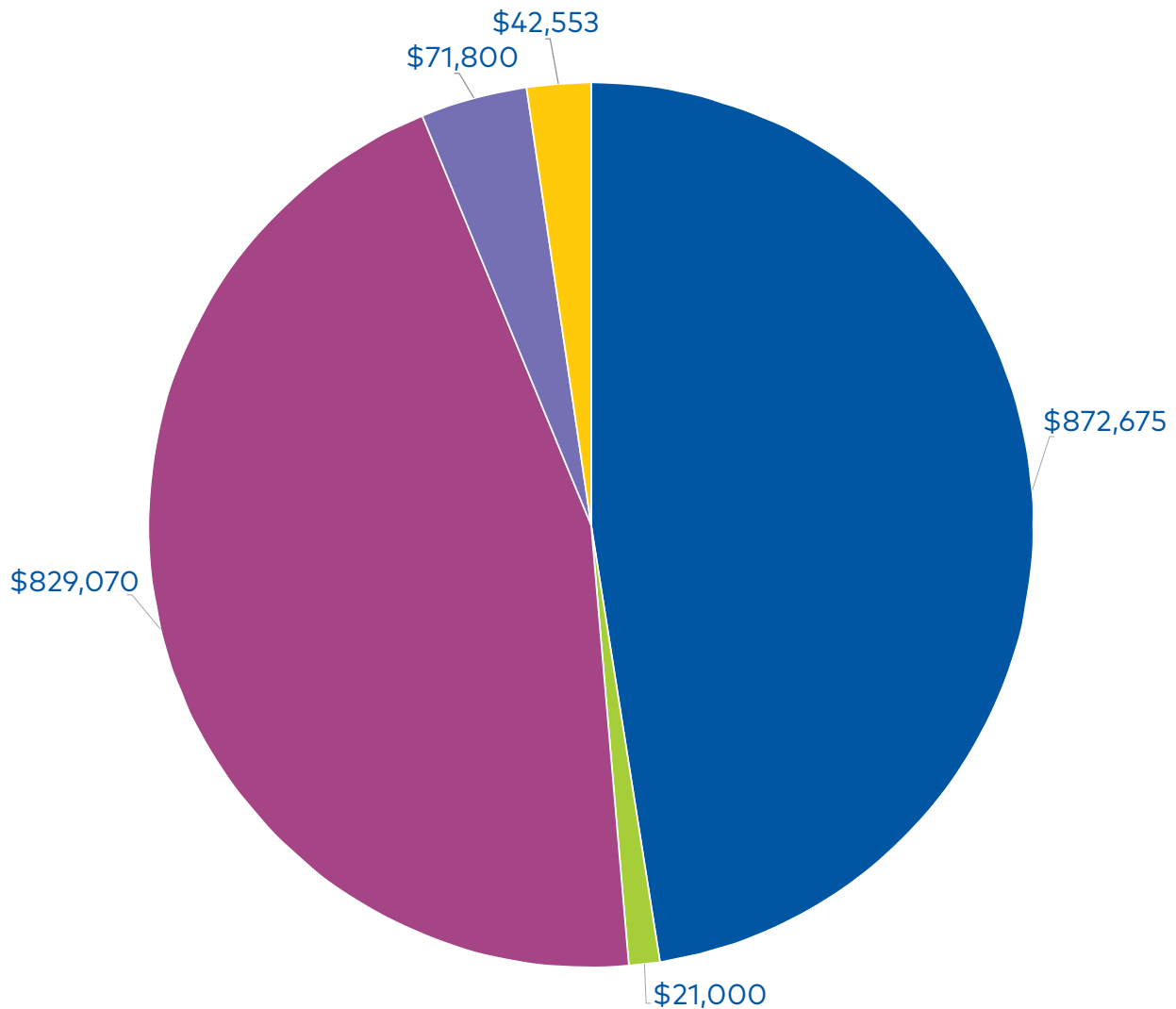
underlying elements that shape American identity, expression, and demeanor. She began by discussing what it was like to change from a British to an American school, and what she found immediately different about American life. Initially it was the accents, certain vocabulary, and even different approaches to solving math problems. However, as time passed, she began to notice

more inherent differences: an optimistic outlook in life, general gregariousness, and the courage to be direct in conversation and honest about feelings.

During discussion the class noted that Romanian and American attitudes have a lot in common, especially the confidence to be straightforward without skirting around an issue.

FY 2019 BUDGET

In FY 2019 the Commission's total budget amounted to \$1,837,098



\$872,675 funding from ECA/US Department of State (\$852,875 allocation; \$19,800 End of Year Funds)

\$71,800 funding from the Romanian-American Foundation to support six Fulbright-RAF Scholar Awards

\$21,000 EducationUSA grant for advising and Opportunity Funds Program

\$42,553 US Embassy grants (\$14,920 support for advising and Opportunity Funds Program; \$5,700-Think Tank Project: American Studies in Romania; \$21,933 Education USA Academy)

\$829,070 funding from the Romanian Government (amount received in Romanian currency)

Additional Support:

- 1) \$73,000 (estimated amount) - In kind support from the Romanian Government (office space and utilities)
- 2) \$6,220 Hyphenated grants (funding from Romanian Universities)



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