Fulbright Specialist Program: Locating Collaborators and Developing a Project Proposal

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Goals for Today

• Explore ways to find a site and collaborator
• Understand the project proposal requirements and process
Overall Specialist Grant Process

Official

• US Academic applies to Specialist Roster
• Peer Review of Roster Application
• Host University consults Roster and identifies needed expertise.
• Host University develops proposal
• Project Proposal is approved by local Fulbright Commission
• Project Proposal is approved by US State Department.

Actual

• US Academic applies to Specialist Poster
• Peer Review of Roster Application
• US Academic contacts potential collaborators at Host Universities.
• US Academic and Collaborator develop proposal.
• Project Proposal is approved by local Fulbright Commission
• Project Proposal is approved by US State Department.
Identifying Potential Collaborators

• Colleagues and former students.
• National and International Conference Proceedings
• Publication Searches
• Fulbright Campus Liaison (& Info on Specific Countries)
• CIES Webinar on Opportunities in Education: [http://www.cies.org/event/fulbright-opportunities-education-0](http://www.cies.org/event/fulbright-opportunities-education-0)
• Fulbright Catalog of Awards (Experienced Institutions): [http://www.cies.org/program/core-fulbright-us-scholar-program](http://www.cies.org/program/core-fulbright-us-scholar-program)
• Fulbright Scholars Directory (Advise) [http://www.cies.org/fulbright-scholars](http://www.cies.org/fulbright-scholars)
Factors To Consider in Choosing a Collaborator/Host Institution

• Potential Impact of the Project
• Opportunity for Long Term Collaboration
• Competitiveness (number of awards per year)
• Host Institution Prestige (given competitiveness)
• Host Institution Fulbright Experience
• Collaborator’s Willingness to Shepherd the Proposal through institutional channels
Initial Contact

• E-mail Collaborator directly
• E-mail Institution, Sample letter on CIES site:
  http://www.cies.org/programs-us-scholars-specialist/find-specialist-project-opportunity

• My 1st Specialist Project: Cold Call (12 emails, 4 responses, 2 potential projects)
• My 2nd Specialist Project, Referrals from Colleagues (2 contacts, 1 project proposal)
Email to Collaborator

• Describe your interests in collaborating with the person and your shared teaching, program development and/or research interests.

• Propose Fulbright Specialist as a vehicle for supporting the initial stages building a long term collaboration

• Describe general characteristics of Fulbright Specialist Projects, attach flyer: http://www.cies.org/sites/default/files/documents/specialist-flyer-042114.pdf

• Describe host institution responsibilities

• Described desired long term prospects for collaborative work (after Specialist Project)
• International Projects with short term travel (6 weeks or fewer)
• Projects involve higher education curricular or instructional improvement (not research).
• Preference for projects that have promise of leading to long term institutional collaborations (e.g. collaboration agreements between universities).
Eligible Project Activities

Fulbright Specialist projects must address the needs of universities and education-focused institutions.

• Eligible activities include:
  – institutional or faculty development
  – lecturing,
  – teacher-training
  – leading special conferences or workshops
  – curriculum development.

• Projects are encouraged that:
  – contribute to the creation of new academic programs or fields of study at host country institutions of higher education
  – building of institutional relationships with U.S. academia
  – strengthening of newly established or developing host country universities.

• Personal research and clinical medical research are not eligible.
Specialist Project Proposal Elements (AKA Project Request Form)

- Contact Information Host Institution
- Types of Activities (Checklist)
- Project Description
- Project Purpose
- Project Impact on Host Institution
- Potential for Institutional Linkages
- Specialist Description
- Name and Qualifications of Person Requested
- Cost Share Commitment
Project Request Form Review

• Reviewed in Host Country
• Reviewed in DC

• My 2nd Specialist Project Timeline for PRF Development and Approval
  – Draft of PRF form sent to Host University 7/1/15
  – PRF Submitted to India Fulbright Commission 8/15/15
  – PRF Approved by IFA 12/29/15
  – PRF Approved by State Department 4/8/2016
Essential Websites

• Fulbright Specialist Program Home page
http://www.cies.org/program/fulbright-specialist-program

• Finding a Specialist Project Opportunity
http://www.cies.org/programs-us-scholars-specialist/find-specialist-project-opportunity