# Fulbright Advocacy Meetings Report for 2024

Focus on advocacy in the Arkansas offices of US Congressmen



District 3
Steve Womack
Office - Rogers



District 2
French Hill
Office – Little Rock

## **Arkansas Congressional Districts**





District 1
Rick Crawford
Office – Jonesboro



District 4
Bruce Westerman
Office – Hot Springs

## Meetings with Congressional Staff

- Meetings were scheduled with the staff from:
  - District 1, Rick Crawford's office, Jonesboro
  - District 2, French Hill's office, Little Rock
  - District 4, Bruce Westerman's office, Hot Springs
- DeDe Long is handling District 3, Steve Womack's office, Rogers
- FA members from each congressional district were recruited to go to the different advocacy meetings.

## Focus of the Advocacy Meetings

- None of the staff in the 3 meetings were familiar with the Fulbright Scholarship Program. The focus of the meetings was mostly on education about the Fulbright Scholarship Program and the benefits for international relations and for Arkansas.
- The Arkansas and World maps below helped give the staff a better understanding of the impact of the program.
- Each member of the advocacy team discussed the impact the Fulbright Scholarship had on them and their institutions.
- A Thank You letter was sent following each meeting.
- Advocacy meeting reports were sent to HQ FA.

### District 1, Rick Crawford's office, Jonesboro

### **Meeting Participants**

- Jackie McBride, Professor of Education at Arkansas State University
- Charles Landrum, Director of Grants and Community Management
- Glen Harrison

#### Comments

 Jackie brought a table showing the number of Fulbright Scholars that ASU had produced from 1917-2021 and two news articles on additional Fulbright Scholars from ASU in the last two years.



### District 2, French Hill's office, Little Rock

### **Meeting Participants**

- Mariofanna Milanova, Department of Computer Science at University of Arkansas Little Rock
- Raegan Sharp, District Representative
- Veronika Brázdilová, Fulbright Scholar from the Czech Republic
- Hunter Sadler, Director of Constituent Services
- Glen Harrison

#### Comments

- Mariofanna gave an overview of her Fulbright experiences and the impact on UALR.
- Veronika brought a handout showing her and her family's activities visiting several presidential libraries around the US.



### District 4, Bruce Westerman's office, Hot Springs

### **Meeting Participants**

- Henry Sirgo, Department of Political Science at McNeese University, ret.
- Cody Burkham, District Director
- Pamela Moore, Associate Dean for Global Engagement, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
- Glen Harrison

#### Comments

- Henry talked about his Fulbright in South Korea.
- Pamela talked about the benefits of the Fulbright Program for UAPB students from the Delta and her Fulbright in Germany.



### Arkansas Fulbright Association Member Location by County



### Home Country of Foreign Fulbright Scholars In Arkansas (2023-2024)

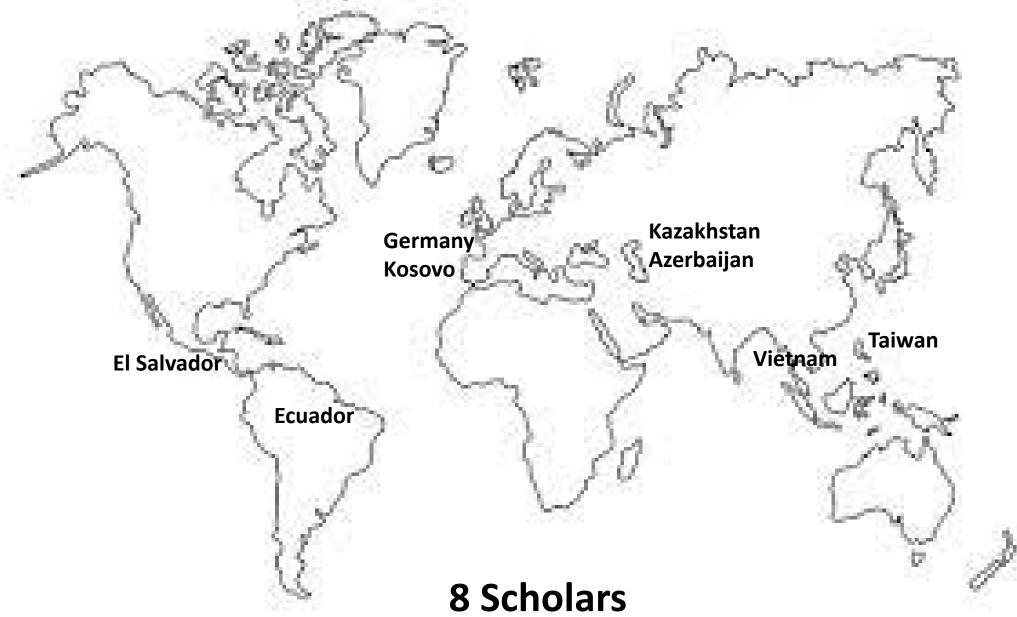


### Host Institutions for Foreign Fulbright Scholars In Arkansas (2023-2024)



21 Scholars

### **Arkansas Fulbright Scholars Overseas (2023-2024)**



### Institutions of Arkansas Fulbright Scholars Overseas (2023-2024)



**8 Scholars** 

### Supporting Documentation



#### Support America's flagship international exchange program

Invest in the Fulbright Program at \$317.5 million for FY 2025 (\$30m over \$287.5m for FY 2024)

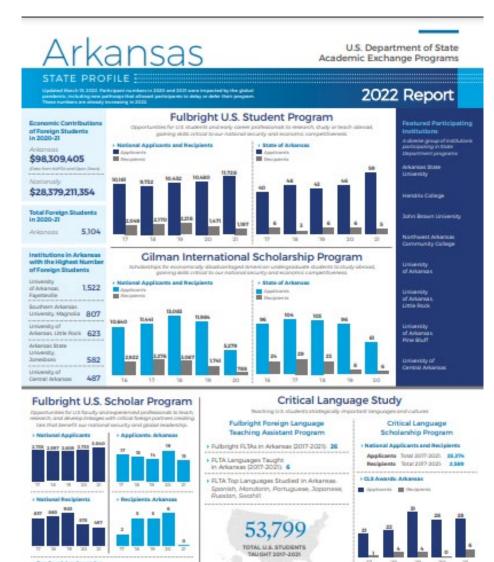
Defray mounting tuition and living costs worldwide

10 years of underfunding has limited the Program's impact

For more than 75 years, the Fulbright Program has strengthened U.S. national security by facilitating exchanges and building partnerships with 165 countries. Fulbright efficiently and effectively promotes American values and mutual understanding, funds American higher education, and builds a network of accomplished alumni leaders worldwide (More at <a href="https://www.fulbrightprogram.org">www.fulbrightprogram.org</a>).

#### How is the Fulbright Program so effective?

- Half of all participants are Americans who travel abroad to teach, conduct research, and
  consult, often in areas that would otherwise never meet an American such as remote
  villages. These diverse and widely representative "citizen-ambassadors" build enduring
  relationships, economic and academic partnerships, and affection for America.
- The other half comes to the U.S. from overseas, spending their grants locally at universities in all 50 states. Higher education in your state benefits from increased funding and resources such as strategic language instructors. Visiting Fulbrighters actively engage with their host communities.
- In 49 countries, the Program is managed by binational commissions, representing key partnerships with valued allies such as Germany, South Korea, and Mexico. In 116 other countries, the Program is administered by U.S. Embassies.
- Funding from the United States is matched by an average of \$100 million annually from other countries, making Fulbright a rare program that leverages taxpayer monies.
- After a one-time investment in potential, alumni return how to become leaders in their communities, their fields, and their countries. (400,000+ grantees, 62 Nobel Prize Laureates, 41 heads of state.)
- Fulbright alumni live in every state and serve their communities through outreach and education programs by Fulbright Association chapters nationwide. See <a href="https://www.fulbright.org">www.fulbright.org</a>.



FULBRIGHT

France India Spain, Brazil, United Kingdom, Conada Finland

Education, Mintigs, Environmental Sciences, Literature, History, Area Studies, Political Science, Engineering, Low Psychology

Austria second report Manualy

Top 10 Disciplines