



Special Topic Session: Lessons Learned from the Fulbright Award Applications and Experiences: Advice to Future Fulbrighters

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The Fulbright program is a meaningful opportunity to forge international connections through research and teaching. Due to the wide variety of countries, topics, and program lengths available, the diversity of expertise areas of ITAA scholars is well-matched to Fulbright funding. However, some clothing and textile scholars may not know how a Fulbright grant can benefit professional and personal development. To address this gap, a panel of clothing and textiles professors and graduate students shared their Fulbright experiences in the United States, Japan, El Salvador, Hong Kong, and Australia. Panelists addressed various topics, including contemporary apparel design, international free-trade and apparel manufacturing, global fashion supply chain management, and fashion biotechnology. Presenters shared the different types of Fulbright Programs they participated in, the application process, their international experience, and how the experience impacted their careers since returning. This session was intended to benefit ITAA members by building awareness of funded research and teaching opportunities through Fulbright.

Panelists and their Fulbright affiliations included:

- Jung Ha-Brookshire (USA), Fulbright-PolyU Senior Scholar to Hong Kong, Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2015).
- Miriam Keegan (Ireland), Fulbright-EPA Program Graduate Student Grant to USA. Affiliation: Fashion & Apparel Studies at the University of Delaware.
- Ellen McKinney (USA), Fulbright U.S. Scholar to Japan, Bunka Gakuen University (2021).
- Luis Quijano (USA), Fulbright Future Scholar to Australia, Queensland University of Technology (2020-2022).
- Cydni Robertson (USA) U.S. Student Fulbright Research Grant to El Salvador, Universidad Catolica de El Salvador (2021).