



Building Bridges: The Fulbright Legacy and the Future of International Exchange

International Conference at the University of Arkansas, May 17 - 19, 2019

Conference Program

International exchange programs connect an ever-widening circle of students, scholars, and professionals around the world. Exchange nurtures their appreciation of the value of international engagement, their understanding, and empathy, and fosters important collaborations among nations on such issues as global education, international trade, and mutual security: “Turning nations into people,” to quote the late Senator Fulbright.

Established in the aftermath of the Second World War, the Fulbright Program was founded upon such principles and expectations. Led by the United States government in partnership with 49 binational commissions worldwide, Fulbright offers unique international and cultural exchange programs.

The Fulbright Program has been an especially important component of forging transatlantic ties between Germany and the United States. Throughout the past 67 years, the binational Fulbright Commission has remained the largest and most varied of the Fulbright programs worldwide. By enabling Americans and Germans to experience each other’s communities and culture firsthand, Fulbright exchanges between our two nations have proved critical to supporting German-American diplomacy in the past, and continues to do so in the present and future.

Part of the “Wunderbar Together” campaign focusing on German-American friendship, the international conference seeks to investigate the role Fulbright’s educational and cultural exchanges have played in American public diplomacy and foreign policy since the end of the Second World War. The conference also seeks to demonstrate how educational exchange can empower individuals to “build bridges” in society and to become citizen ambassadors advocating for continued international understanding.

Building Bridges

May 17-19, 2019

If not stated otherwise, all conference locations are on campus of the University of Arkansas.

A Campus map can be found [here](#).

Friday, May 17

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm **Welcome Reception** (*Honors College, Gearhart Hall*)

Saturday, May 18

8:00 am – 9:00 am Registration (*Faulkner Performing Arts Center*)

9:00 am – 9:15 am **Welcome Remarks: Building Bridges** (*Faulkner Performing Arts Center*)
Dr. Laurence Hare (Associate Professor of History and Director of International & Global Studies, University of Arkansas)
Friederike von Reden (Strategic Development, Fulbright Germany)

9:15 am – 11:00 am **Expert Talks & Plenary Discussion** (*Faulkner Performing Arts Center*)
The Times they are a-Changin': Fulbright's Impact on Transatlantic Ties
Moderator: DeDe Long (*Director, Office of Study Abroad & International Education, University of Arkansas*)

9:15 am – 9:35 am **J. William Fulbright - the Person behind the Program**
Dr. Randall B. Woods (Distinguished Professor of History, University of Arkansas)

9:35 am – 9:55 am **Fulbright's Legacy and the Institutional History of the Fulbright Program**
Dr. Lonnie R. Johnson (Executive Director, Fulbright Austria)

9:55 am – 10:15 am **Transatlantic Cultural Exchange During, After and Beyond the Cold War**
Dr. Oliver Schmidt (Executive Director, Fulbright Germany)

10:15 am – 11:00 am **Plenary Discussion**

11:00 am – 11:30 am Coffee break

11:30 am – 12:45 pm Panel and Plenary Discussion: Open Doors of Internationalism?

(Faulkner Performing Arts Center)

Moderator: Dr. Oliver Schmidt (Executive Director, Fulbright Germany)

Dr. Alessandro Brogi (Professor of History and Director of Undergraduate Studies, University of Arkansas)

Dr. Laura Belmonte (Professor of History and Associate Dean, Oklahoma State University)

12:45 pm – 1:00 pm Group picture *(Fulbright Statue, Old Main)*

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch break *(Fulbright Peace Fountain)*

11:00 am – 2:00 pm Concurrent Exhibition: The Fulbright Papers
(Mullins Library, Special Collections)

During the lunch and coffee breaks, come visit the Special Collections Department at the University of Arkansas, which is home to the J. William Fulbright Papers and related collections documenting the history and impact of the Fulbright Program and international education. Explore highlights from these collections, including Fulbright's senatorial papers, founding documents from the Fulbright Program, and photographs of Fulbrighters at work.

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm Beyond Fulbright: Profile and Potential of Citizen Ambassadors

(Faulkner Performing Arts Center)

Moderator: Dr. Stephanie Ricker Schulte (Associate Chair and Associate Professor of Communication, University of Arkansas)

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm **On & Off the Road to Fayetteville: Making Sense after a Week-Long Roadtrip across the U.S. Heartland**

Participants of Fulbright Germany's Roadtrip

2:45 pm – 3:30 pm **World Café on Citizen Ambassadorship**

Facilitators: Roadtrip Participants and Fulbright Alumni

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Coffee break

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm **Keynote & Plenary Discussion** (*Faulkner Performing Arts Center*)
"Die Mauer muss weg!" ("The Wall must go!"): Remembering the Berlin Wall
Dr. Hope M. Harrison (Associate Professor of History and International Affairs,
George Washington University)

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm **Dinner & Party** (*Chancellor Hotel, 70 N East Ave, Fayetteville*)

Sunday, May 19

9:30 am – 10:30 am **Divisions, Connections, Transgressions**
(*School of Architecture, Vol Walker Hall*)
Moderator: Sara Kouchehbagh (*Department of Geosciences,*
University of Arkansas)

9:30 am – 9:45 am **Introduction**
Dr. Kathleen Condray (German Program Head and
Associate Professor of German, University of Arkansas)

9:45 am – 10:30 am **Panel Discussion**
Representatives of Immigrant Communities in Arkansas

10:30 am – 11:00 am Coffee Break

11:00 am – 12:00 pm **Small Group Discussions:**
Back to the Future: Visible Borders, Invisible Walls

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm **Closing Remarks:**
**Multiple Legacies, Global Impact – J. William Fulbright and the Promise
of Transnational Exchange** (*School of Architecture, Vol Walker Hall*)
Dr. Curt Rom (Associate Dean of International Education,
University of Arkansas)
Dr. Oliver Schmidt (Executive Director, Fulbright Germany)