James William Fulbright was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1944. He promoted the passage of legislation establishing the Fulbright Program in 1946. This program of educational grants was established to increase mutual understanding between the peoples of the U.S. and other countries through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. James was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1942. Before his political career, he was appointed president of the University of Arkansas in 1939, making him the youngest university president in the country. James received his law degree from The George Washington University Law School. He studied at Oxford University, on a Rhodes Scholarship, and earned a history degree from the University of Arkansas.