

Second Annual
**Michigan
Fulbright
Symposium**



**Celebrating the impact of Fulbright
in the Great Lakes State**

Sponsors

Michigan/Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association
West and Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Fulbright Association
Michigan State University—International Studies and Programs
Ferris State University Fulbrighters & Friends



March 21, 2026



East Lansing



9:30AM–4:45PM



Notes & Networking

International Center Information

- **Parking**
 - Parking is free today in Lots 39 and 40
- **Wifi**
 - MSUnet Guest 3.0 (no password required)
- **Restrooms**
 - Women's restrooms on every floor
 - Men's restrooms on first and third floor
 - Gender-inclusive restrooms on second floor and lower level
- **Elevator & Stairs**
 - There is one elevator, at the east end of the building.
 - Stairs are located at the east and west ends of the building, as well as the north end of the lobby (to lower level only).
- **Spartan Bookstore**
 - The Spartan Bookstore on the lower level of the International Center is open today from 10:00am to 5:00pm.
 - The bookstore offers MSU apparel and souvenirs, snacks, and sundries.

All large-group activities today will take place in Room 115.

Concurrent sessions will be held in Rooms 115, 201 (second floor, far west end), and 303 (third floor, middle).



MSU folks familiar with this building and area are wearing **green "Can I Help?" badges**. Please let us know how we can help welcome you to our campus!



FULBRIGHT

Program

Registration | Welcome Coffee

9:30AM - 9:45AM

Opening Remarks

9:45AM - 10:00AM

Concurrent Sessions 1

10:00AM - 11:35AM

Lunch | Networking

11:35AM - 1:00PM

Concurrent Sessions 2

1:00PM - 2:35PM

Break | Cookies

2:35PM - 2:55PM

Concurrent Sessions 3

2:55PM - 4:25PM

Closing Remarks & Advocacy Ideas

4:30PM - 4:45PM

Evaluations

Sessions

Concurrent Sessions 1

Room 115

Solika Akter

FLTA | Bangladesh to US

Cultural differences in academic practices: From East to West

Abderrahim Er-Ragragi

FLTA | Morocco to US

Language, identity, and cross-cultural adaptation

Jennifer Pope

US Scholar | US to Slovenia

Collaboration across many cultures: Research and other insights

Luis Montalván

Humphrey Fellow | Nicaragua to US

Leveraging community, academia, and entrepreneurship as a Fulbrighter

Room 303

Jeremy Cripps

US Scholar, Specialist | US to Zimbabwe, Bulgaria

Opera, incentives, and accountability: Lifetime learning

Jasmin Durmišević

Visiting Student | Bosnia and Herzegovina to US

Bosnian coffee to American breakfast: Cultural food perspectives

Jon Keune

US Scholar | US to Japan, Taiwan, UK

Transnational Buddhism and Ambedkarite migration

Nina Sumirat

Visiting Student | Indonesia to US

A Fulbright student's cultural and academic journey in the US

Room 201

Raghu Echempati

US Scholar, Specialist | US to India, Thailand

Engineering education: Teaching, research, and cultural experiences

David Stairs

US Scholar | US to Uganda, India

Okuwangaala: 25 Years of African everyday material culture

Sri R. Kolla

US Scholar | US to India

AI techniques for faults identification in microgrids

John H. Daly III

US Specialist | US to Canada

A comparison of asset management strategies in Canada and the United States

Lunch Logistics

Feel free to spread out anywhere you like to enjoy lunch with new connections! We will reconvene in the various rooms at 1:00 for the second set of concurrent sessions.

- You are welcome to stay in the **International Center**, using session rooms or the tables and conversation nooks in the lobby.
- The **trail along the Red Cedar River** north of this building is lovely and has a number of benches.
- The **Multicultural Center** just east of Farm Lane has beautiful seating areas inside and outside.
- There are a few **tables outside** the International Center, and several on the patio of the Multicultural Center.

Sessions

#StandForFulbright

get involved at
Fulbright.org

Concurrent Sessions 2

Room 115

I Putu Ade Andre Payadnya

Visiting Student | Indonesia to US
When mathematics speaks English

Petro Okoth

Visiting Student | Tanzania to US
Citizen diplomacy: The global journey no one talks about

Jenny Nogales

FLTA | Bolivia to US
Experiences teaching Quechua as an FLTA

Odhiambo Otieno

FLTA | Kenya to US
Loss and transnational dislocation among international students

Room 303

Cassie Lopez-Jeng

US Scholar | US to Taiwan
Aging across the lifespan: Family, community, and public health

Ormond MacDougald

US Scholar | US to UK
Beyond the muffin top: Fat's role in health and disease

Michael Boivin

US Scholar | US to Dem. Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya
Public health risks and child development in sub-Saharan Africa

Sri Wulan Kamukten

Visiting Student | Indonesia to US
Between two worlds: The US through an Indonesian lens

Room 201

Jagienka Timek

US Student | US to Austria
From palace to pavement: Democratization of culture in Vienna

Gregory Dykhouse

US Student | US to Austria
A mirror of the past? Immigrants, refugees, and SOS-Mitmensch

Fayyaz Hussain

US Scholar | US to Pakistan
Critical analysis of violence against women in South Asia: Focus on Pakistan

Fulbright Photo Exhibit

During lunch or after the symposium, we encourage you to stop by Snyder Hall (a 15-min. walk from the International Center) to view *Ukraine: War and Resistance*, a travelling exhibit of photos captured by Ukrainian and American Fulbrighters between 2015 and 2023. MSU is currently hosting Anna Smolko, a Fulbright visiting student from Kyiv, Ukraine. Anna worked with MSU's Center for European and Eurasian Studies and the Graduate School Office of Wellbeing to bring the exhibit to campus. The gallery opened on February 24, the fourth anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.



Sessions

Concurrent Sessions 3

Room 115

Giang Võ

FLTA | Vietnam to US

Wearing many hats: My journey as an FLTA in the United States

Barbara Powers-Harris

Fulbright-Hays | US to Poland, Russia

Human dynamics in education / Learn with life

Panel Session 3:45–4:25pm

Life in the Midwest: The Visiting Fulbrighter Experience

Moderator: Daniel Hayes | US Student | South Korea

Jimena Alviar Rueda | Visiting Student | Colombia

Jasmin Durmišević | Visiting Student | Bosnia and Herzegovina

Odhiambo Otieno | FLTA | Kenya

Saravuth Vong | Visiting Student | Cambodia

Rohullah Wahidi | Visiting Student | Afghanistan

Room 303

Ilaria Tabără

Visiting Student | Romania to US

Looking back, looking ahead: My Fulbright experience

Diego Piraquive Gómez

Visiting Student | Panama to US

From newcomer to community builder: My Fulbright story at MSU

Panel Session 3:45–4:25pm

Applying for a Fulbright: Tips and Advice for Students or Faculty Considering a Fulbright

Moderator: Joy Campbell | FPA & Scholar Liaison

Michelle Metro-Roland | DDRA | US to Hungary | FPA & Scholar Liaison

Taylor Quillinan | Recent Applicant | US to India

Scott Riggs | FPA & Scholar Liaison

Kristi Stewart | US Scholar 2022-2023 | Greece | US Specialist 2024 | Indonesia

Fulbright Types

Our Symposium attendees represent at least 30 home and host countries and have participated in widely varied Fulbright programs.

Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA):

International educator coming to US to teach their language

Fulbright-Hays Programs: Multiple projects formerly administered by the Department of Education, including Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) fellowships, Group Projects Abroad, and Faculty Research Abroad

Fulbright Specialist: US-based faculty going abroad for short-term, 2-6 week Fulbright partnerships

Humphrey Fellow: International professional coming to US for professional development

International Education Administrator (IEA): US-based administrator going abroad for two-week Fulbright seminar

US Scholar: US-based faculty or independent scholar going abroad for Fulbright

US Student: US-based student going abroad for Fulbright

Visiting Scholar: International faculty coming to US for Fulbright

Visiting Student: International student coming to US for Fulbright graduate study



Connect

Michigan/Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association

<https://michigannwohio.fulbrightchapters.org/>
michigannwohio@fulbright.org

West and Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Fulbright Association

<https://wmmichigan.fulbrightchapters.org/>
wmmichigan@fulbright.org

Michigan Fulbright Symposium

mifulbrightsymposium@gmail.com

Fulbright Association

<https://fulbright.org/>

Michigan State University Fulbright Programs

<https://www.isp.msu.edu/fulbright>

Our Fulbright chapters are always looking for passionate members who want to join the board in service to current and future alumni. If you have ideas and a desire to help others, ask how you can become more involved!

- To join the Michigan/Northwest Ohio Chapter or learn more about board opportunities, speak to Daniel Hayes here today or email him at: mr.dphayes@gmail.com.
- To join The West and Mid-Michigan Chapter or learn more about board opportunities, speak to Richard Scott Cohen here today or email him at: richardscottcohen@ferris.edu.

Evaluation

Please submit your conference feedback using the QR code or a hard copy evaluation (available in Room 115) to help us plan for future years. Feedback from last year was instrumental in making the event even better this year!



Join Us!

Feel free to continue making connections with symposium attendees at Lansing Shuffle. All are welcome to join us for further discussion, dinner, drinks, and more (pay your own way). Lansing Shuffle features six restaurants with local chefs putting their spin on upscale street food, as well as two full service bars.

LANSING SHUFFLE

<https://www.lansingshuffle.com/>
325 Riverfront Drive
Lansing, MI 48912
(15-minute drive west of MSU)

Thank You

Thank you for attending the Second Annual Michigan Fulbright Symposium! We are pleased that this has become an annual event, gathering Fulbrighters from across the Great Lakes State to network, learn, share, and celebrate the transformative nature of the Fulbright program.

[Michigan Fulbright Symposium 2026 Planning Committee](#)

Daniel Hayes | US Student 2011-2013 | South Korea

State of Michigan, Michigan/Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association—President

Richard Scott Cohen | US Student 1993-1995 | Spain

Ferris State University, West and Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Fulbright Association—President

Joy Campbell | Fulbright Program Advisor & Scholar Liaison

Michigan State University

Nailya DeLellis | US Scholar 2023-2024 | Kazakhstan

Central Michigan University

Kristi Stewart | US Scholar 2022-2023 | Greece | US Specialist 2024 | Indonesia

Michigan State University

Benjamin Frey | US Student 2023-2024 | Belgium

Université de Lorraine (France)

Notes & Networking



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