

SDSU U.S. Student Fulbright Grantees  
2005-2016

**2016-2017**

**Daniel Gerardi** (English honors, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Indonesia. He plans to establish a writing and conversation club for students to discuss culture and learn new vocabulary.

**Zachariah Martinez** (Biology, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Bulgaria and create a health and wellness program for his students.

**Bogdan Matuszynski** (International Security and Conflict Resolution/Latin American Studies, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Spain, where he plans to create a virtual dialogue forum to connect with peers and mentors from other parts of the world.

**Raheal Mengisteab** (Communications, B.A., Teaching Credential/special education) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in the Czech Republic. She also plans to host monthly workshops to discuss race, class and gender issues in the United States.

**Monica Murtaugh** (Women's Studies, M.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Turkey and create a digital literacy workshop. She will also work with university students committed to community service and nonprofit agencies.

**Jacqueline Ramos** (Political Science, B.A.) will document the correlation between women migrants and sex trafficking in Mexico City with the support of Instituto para las Mujeres en La Migración A.C. while pursuing a master's degree in social work.

**Marna Shorack** (International Security and Conflict Resolution, B.A.) will conduct research on the challenges faced by deported Honduran youth and the support provided to them by governmental and non-governmental organizations. Based in Tegucigalpa, she will participate in community activities and work with at-risk youth.

**Madison Sindorf** (Linguistics, Arabic and Islamic Studies, Spanish, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Jordan. As a climbing instructor and trip leader, she will establish an outdoor education program providing a relaxed environment for students to use English outside of the classroom.

**Emmeline Wilson** (Linguistics, German Anthropology, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Germany, developing an after-school program focused on cultural exchange.

**2015-2016**

**Benjamin Aceves'** (Public Health and Latin American Studies, M.A.) research will focus on a program evaluation of the Mexican National Guidelines for Action in Schools. This policy seeks to reduce childhood obesity by promoting healthy lifestyles. In partnership with the National Institute of Public Health in Mexico, he will conduct the qualitative analysis of multiple focus groups and interviews of various stakeholders at schools in Mexico City to identify barriers and enablers to policy implementation.

**Sarah Alvy** (Business Administration, M.B.A) will explore the corporate governance reforms implemented by India's recently enacted Companies Act of 2013. She will perform qualitative and quantitative research to analyze the effectiveness of major reform provisions related to board

composition & corporate social responsibility. Her work will be supported by the Centre for Corporate Governance at the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, where she will serve as a research fellow.

**Keanna Cash** (Japanese and Linguistics, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Turkey. As part of her civic engagement she will make a guidebook for US universities' study abroad offices. To create this book she will work with members of the local community to learn about topics like, but not limited to: Turkish food and home recipes, music, art, education and language. While learning how to make a certain dish or stringing together a particular sentence, she will capture these moments using her DSLR skills.

**Jannet Cueva** (Spanish, M.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Spain. She will use her previous teaching experience as a foreign language teacher in her position as ETA. Her plans for civic engagement outside the classroom include organizing an after school creative writing workshop in which students will employ what is learned in the classroom through writing a variety of topics of their choice.

**Elaine Flores** (English Single Subject Teaching and Spanish, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Thailand. Her goal is to teach English to students in Thailand with the help of her poetry background and experience with diverse cultures. She will promote cultural awareness by leading a poetry program that includes activities such as sensory writing outside of the classroom.

**Dillon Scalzo** (Creative Writing Poetry, M.F.A) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Uruguay. For his civic engagement project he will introduce students to class focusing on the folk music traditions of the United States via the craftsmanship of the lyrical activists Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, and Bob Dylan. He will work with local poets and songwriters to visit the workshops for the students on poetry and song writing.

**Katie Sievers** (Ecology, M.S.) will work in the Philippines to increase our understanding of how habitat influences fish distribution and whether marine protected areas are conserving heavily fished species effectively. Her research will contribute to creating sustainable management practices in an area where the majority of the population relies on coastal resources.

**Katherine Vilchez** (Education: Counseling, M.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Brazil. She wants to empower Brazilian university students as English language learners. She plans to promote a cultural group that promotes U.S. culture by studying topics, like race, gender, and dance. We would use U.S. current events and discuss them with English as a Second Language students here in the U.S via Skype sessions.

## **2014-15**

**Veronica Arteaga**, (Environmental Public Health, M.P.H.) will conduct research in Mexico. She will work with researchers at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) to investigate the relationship between air pollution and birth outcomes in Mexico City. She will also give presentations at hospital prenatal care classes and provide educational pamphlets to expecting mothers.

**Estefania Castañeda Pérez**, (Political Science/Philosophy, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Spain. She will use her experience from the Model United Nations to assist students in public speaking and start an after-school program to allow Spanish and American students to connect to one another.

**Jesse Elias**, (Political Science/International Relations, M.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Turkey. He will establish organize weekly language exchanges to allow students to practice other

languages with native speakers as well as a poetry club where students can share and discuss contemporary Turkish and American Poems. He hopes to translate and compile an anthology of student's favorite works as a resource for future Fulbright grantees.

**La'Shanea Johnson**, (English/Business Management, B.A./B.S.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in India. She will facilitate discussions led by students at an adolescent book club, create a community lending library focusing on early literary development, and teach martial arts to showcase self-worth and inner strength.

**Claudia Santana**, (Psychology, B.A.) will embark on her second Fulbright Award as a Senior English Teaching Assistant. She will assist with program coordination and organization of events that will benefit the incoming cohort of Fulbright ETAs. She will also be a mentor to the next group of ETAs and teach at Universidad Minuto de Dios in Bogotá.

**Idmantzi Torres**, (Psychology, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Associate in Brazil. She will establish an extracurricular stress reduction group geared towards university level students in Brazil. through a variety of activities including yoga, breathing exercises, music listening and discussion.

**Heriberto Vasquez**, (Comparative Literature/Spanish, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Colombia. He will use his experiences in facilitating community based learning and working with the LGBT community as well his background in the Arts to creatively engage students in English retention. In addition, he will host weekly art workshops that promote art as a means of expression.

## **2013-14**

**Jessica Antonel**, (Environmental Health, M.P.H) will conduct research in Benin. She will study air quality in the region to help environmental organizations address health threats to the population from largely unmonitored particulate matter and toxins in the atmosphere.

**Sarah Bedrouni**, (Applied Linguistics M.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Morocco. She will incorporate her knowledge and understanding of education in the Middle East to her work as an English as a Second Language instructor.

**Ryan Driscoll**, (Ecology, M.S.) will conduct research in Germany. He will examine the seasonal variability in the diet and energy content of an Antarctic species of krill.

**Lauren Farrington**, (German/Art History, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Germany. She will integrate her experience in teaching art and art history in to her program in order to enrich students' learning and foster a relationship between German and American art culture.

**Abril Jimenez**, (Spanish, M.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Brazil. She will promote language development through the use of real language production settings and interdisciplinary activities.

**Erica Johnson**, (Creative Writing/Poetry, M.F.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Brazil. She will utilize her experience and education in literature, creative writing, and spoken word poetry to teach students and promote cross-cultural literacy.

**Elizabeth Kennedy**, (Geography, Ph.D.), will conduct research in El Salvador. She will interview children, youth, and families to help organizations strategize regional responses to unaccompanied and undocumented child migrants.

**Nicholas Noel**, (Russian, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Russia.

**Lee Reeve**, (Ecology, M.S.), will conduct research in Denmark. She will study otolith samples and trawl data collected over around western Greenland to determine how changes in climate, ocean conditions, and prey communities affect halibut demographics and foraging.

**Naomi Ramirez**, (Latin American Studies, M.A.) will conduct research in Mexico. She will explore religious expansion and population growth of Muslims in Tijuana.

**Claudia Santana**, (Psychology, B.A.) will serve as an English Teaching Assistant in Colombia. She will incorporate art and music in to the classroom environment in order to expand cultural awareness and help students create personal learning strategies.

## **2012-13**

**Kimberley Miller**, SDSU doctoral student in ecology, will study in Finland. As part of her research she will examine the poorly-understood interaction of climate change and microbial methane production in wetland soils in the Lappi region of Finland, in affiliation with the Finnish Forest Research Institute and the University of Eastern Finland.

**Jessica Floyd** (English) will serve as an English teaching assistant in Turkey. She will draw upon her interest in how graphic narratives can shape national and collective identity.

**Susan Phay** (sociology, M.A.) will travel to the Southeast Asian country of Laos, where her family is from. She will teach English at the National University of Laos and conduct research in early Lao immigration histories. She also plans learn about and document the country's food history in hopes of turning it into a cookbook, helping preserve Lao culture abroad.

**Aran Skalman**, a master's student in fine arts-sculpture, plans to design, create and install a contemporary, collaborative, site-specific sculpture in India. The piece will be influenced by Modernism and informed by regional folk art practices. The sculpture will incorporate an interactive sound element, inspired by traditional Indian music.

**Blog:** <http://askalman.posterous.com/>

## **2011-12**

**Fabiola Beylouni (French Government Grant)** who graduated with a bachelor's degree in French and art history, will be an English teaching assistant in France and host an art club in order for students to understand the differences and similarities between U.S. and French culture.

**Arik Brown** has a bachelor's degree in international business and plans on using his photography skills to start a photo journal and blog with students in Spain, while helping them become more proficient in English.

**Jennifer Cheung** received her master's in applied mathematics and will study quantum cryptography with a research team at Aarhus University in Denmark.

**Jefferson Gamoning** will study South Korean land use, urban form and transportation as part of his master's in public administration program at SDSU.

**Johnathan Hecht (declined grant)** received a grant to study philosophy in Finland.

**Disly Juarez-Munoz** will conduct a health study investigating pediatric cancers related to pesticide exposure in Brazil as part of her master's in public health.

**Eric McDermott** a psychology student will conduct research on Huntington's disease in Bangalore, India, at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences.

**Dana Morton** is a graduate student in biology and will study the population dynamics of reef fishes in New Zealand.

**Zia Salim** will study housing compounds for foreign professionals in Bahrain as part of a joint Ph.D. program in geography.

**Isabel Velasco Atarejos** received her bachelor's degrees from SDSU in psychology and women's studies in 2008, as well as her master's in public health from the University of Illinois in 2010. She will teach English in Morocco and work with a local, community-based health organization.

**Monica Zobel** is a fine arts student who will study contemporary poetry in Austria, focusing on how the country's multicultural and multilingual history informs its poetics.

## **2010-2011**

**Gabriel Chait**, a biology graduate student, will conduct ethno-botanical research in Peru designed to assist in conserving endangered species of traditional medicinal plants in the northern Andes of Peru.

**Jolie Colby** will complete her master's in philosophy this summer and will be a Fulbright English teaching assistant in Indonesia. She will work at an Islamic boarding school as the on-campus English expert and plans to design a project to encourage environmental awareness.

**Cassandra Conboy**, who received her bachelor's degree in liberal studies from SDSU in 2009, will be a Fulbright English teaching assistant in Turkey.

**Amy Ebersole** graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in comparative literature. She will be an English teaching assistant in the Czech Republic.

**Dexter Hough-Snee** will travel to Peru after receiving his master's in Spanish and Portuguese this month. His Fulbright project will analyze the contributions of African and indigenous modes of representation to Peruvian theater traditions. He will conduct research at the National Library and the *Pontificia Universidad Católica* and collaborate with Lima's vibrant theater community.

**Anthony Jerry** will conduct research in Oaxaca, Mexico, on coastal communities of Afro-Mexican heritage. He graduated in 2006 with a master's degree in anthropology and is pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Illinois.

**Carlos Moya Linares** is currently a graduate student in political science. He received a Fulbright English teaching assistant grant to Macau and plans to use his multicultural and electrical engineering

backgrounds, plus martial arts experience, to enhance his community involvement and impact students' lives.

**Jeffrey Peterson**, a graduate student in anthropology, will travel to Indonesia to investigate the Balinese transmigration to Sulawesi and how this resettling has affected their feelings regarding the sacredness of local macaque populations.

**Linda Richardson** received her bachelor's degree in humanities in 2007. She will study flamenco dance in Sevilla, Spain. She will supplement her curriculum by studying the flamenco *puro* style of dance from prominent gypsy artists.

**Natalie Selinski** is graduating in May 2010 with a master's degree in mathematics. During her Fulbright project in Germany, she will study how students develop concepts and reasoning in linear algebra as taught in the 12th and 13th grades at the German Gymnasium and in the first year at the German University.

## **2009-2010**

**Alexander Eastman**, a recent SDSU graduate in Spanish and journalism, taught English to university students in Colombia and investigated how literature shapes national and collective diversity.

**Leah Bremer**, a doctoral student from SDSU's joint Ph.D. program in geography, researched the causes and biophysical outcomes of changing burning regimes in Ecuadorian alpine grasslands. She worked in collaboration with the *Fundación Cordillera Tropical* and the University of Azuay.

**Martin Woodside** received his masters of fine arts in creative writing and worked with the American Studies Program at the University of Bucharest in Romania to study the relationship between U.S. culture and contemporary Romanian poetry.

**Tonya Warren** headed to Taiwan for an intensive language study program and examined the role of meditation in the Buddhist drug treatment program at *Mingde* prison as part of her philosophy master's degree program at SDSU.

**Kyndra Turner** was an English teaching assistant in Hong Kong and worked on instituting an extracurricular flute choir ensemble. She completed her master's degree program in American literature.

## **2008-09**

**Iliana Angulo-Arreda**, SDSU graduate student from Public Health and Latin American Studies, traveled to Brazil to study psycho-social factors affecting women living with HIV/AIDS. She worked with the *Oswaldo Cruz Foundation*.

**Brian Camblin**, a student from the Bilingual Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development (BCLAD) program at SDSU, taught English in Brazil, incorporating environmental topics in the classroom.

**Andres Deza** worked at the *Universidad Católica del Norte* in Coquimbo, Chile, where he conducted research on the significance of kelp forests for fish populations. He is an SDSU graduate with an MS degree in Biology/Fish Ecology.

**Erica Hashiba** received a Fulbright grant to teach English in Macao. She completed her master's degree at SDSU in Linguistics and an undergraduate degree in Asian Studies.

**Eli Magana** was awarded a Fulbright grant to Korea, where he enrolled in Yonsei University's Korean Studies program. He was particularly interested in the formation of the Zainichi-Korean cultural identity and history. Mr. Magana graduated with a degree in Political Science.

**Martin Lacayo-Emery** received a Fulbright grant to Switzerland, where he conducted research on visual analytics at the University of Zurich's Division of Geographic Information Visualization and Analysis. **Megan Strang**, a full-time employee in the International Business program, received an Austrian Government grant to Teach English in Austria. These grants are administered by the Austrian Fulbright Commission.

## **2007-08**

**Kristal Bivona** received a Fulbright to teach English in Argentina.

**Carey Galst** received a Fulbright for research in Brazil.

**Yassar Arain** received Fulbright to Egypt and studied the effects of forced migration.

## **2006-2007**

**Paul Alexander** received a Fulbright Islamic Civilization Grant to Syria.

**Jon Bowermaster** received a Fulbright to teach English in Slovakia.

**Shannon Maraghy** received a Fulbright to teach English in France.

**Brit Toven** received a Fulbright to study the integration of immigrants to universities in Norway.

## **2005-2006**

**Drew Fagan**, a student in the Linguistics department, received a Fulbright to the Slovak Republic where he taught English.

**Kristin Mueller** received a Fulbright to study public health issues in Oaxaca, Mexico.

**Michael Marks**, a 2003 graduate of SDSU, received a Fulbright to teach English in Austria.

**Greg Sevik**, a graduate from SDSU in English and German, received a teaching assistantship award to teach in Germany and participated in research on 20th century German literature with an emphasis on contemporary poetry.

**Dale Russell** received a Fulbright to conduct research in the Amsterdam School of Communications at the University of Amsterdam. His focus was on the production, consumption and cultural consequences of entertainment products- specifically films in the Netherlands.

**Aaron Pratts** received a Fulbright to teach English in the Terengganu Region of Malaysia. While there he conducted independent research and study language.