

Navigating Intersectionality as Diverse Grantees on U.S. Government Funded Programs

October 5, 2022



Panelists



Dineo Brinson
(she, her, hers)

U.S. Department of
State, ECA
Academic
Exchange
Specialist,
Fulbright Program



**Alice Michelle
Augustine**
(she, her, hers)

Director, Lehman
College Center for
Campus Honors
And Scholar
Engagement
(CHASE)



Mario Nguyen
(he, him, his)

Fulbright U.S.
Student in
Business
Mexico
2012-2013



Gerti Wilson
(she, her, hers)

Gilman Scholar
South Africa
2016
Fulbright U.S. Student
in Law
Kenya
2018-2019

Learning Objectives

1. Participants will walk away with a more nuanced understanding of how multiple identities influence application processes and international experiences.
2. Attendees will develop framework for respectful inquisitive practices designed to guide students through application processes.
3. Student attendees will develop tools for self-reflection, codifying personal narratives, and tips for navigating their identities in an international context



ECA General Overview

- Programs sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs
- Mission is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange that assist in the development of peaceful relations.
- 15,000 American participants travel abroad on exchanges each year
- Gilman Scholarship & Fulbright Programs administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE)





Benjamin A. Gilman
International Scholarship



Program Overview

- Undergraduate Scholarship to Study or Intern Abroad
- Federal Pell Grant recipients
- Scholarships up to \$5,000
 - Up to an additional \$3,000 for critical need languages
- Minimum three weeks (21 days) OR two weeks (14 days) if at two-year institution
- In a country with an overall Travel Advisory level 1 or 2
- Credit-bearing program
- Gilman-McCain Scholarship
 - Recipient of any type of Title IV federal financial aid
 - Dependent child of an active duty military member (Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard)





FULBRIGHT

Program Overview

- The Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards more than 2,100 grants annually
- Opportunities to study, conduct research, and serve as assistant English teachers in 140 countries around the world, for 8-10 months
- Award for graduating seniors, recent graduates, graduate students and early career professionals
- U.S. Citizen by the application deadline
- Bachelor's degree of equivalent by start of grant
- No terminal doctorate at the time of application
- Fulbrighters represent the richness and diversity of America through their varied backgrounds, home communities, professional and academic skills, and academic institutions



Engage in International Education

- Globalization is everywhere
- Institutional priority
- Transformational/pivotal experience
- Chance to think deeply about identities, interests, goals, and values
- Build 21st century skills





Alice Augustine: Background

- Fulbright Research Grantee
2006: Turkey, Law
- Gilman Advisor – 2015 to present
- Fulbright Program Advisor – 2017
to present
- Top Producing Fulbright
Institution – 2019
- Top Producing Fulbright
Institution – 2020
- Inaugural HSI Leader – 2021



Lehman College Fact Sheet

- 48.1% 22 years-old and under
- 13.7% 35 years-old and over
- 57% First generation students
- 33% of students born outside the U.S.
- 136 cultures in student population
- 54% household income below \$30,000
- 49.9% Hispanic
- 32.3% Black/Non-Hispanic
- 7.3% White/Non-Hispanic
- 7.5% Asian/Pacific Islander
- <1% American Indian/Native Alaskan

Fast Forward 5 years

In 2015...

- 2 Fulbright and 1 Gilman recipients in 50 year

Since Then...

- Top Fulbright Producer
- Top Gilman Producer
- First two Boren winners
- First two CLS winners
- First Schwarzman winner
- First DAAD award
- And so many more achievements!



What Made a Difference?



- Annual Prestigious Awards Day
- 17 representatives from nationally competitive awards on campus for workshops
- Summer Awards Advising & Application Support
- Hundreds of students working on awards and grad school applications in the summer
- Scholar's Lounge
- Students are mentored by their peers in home away from home family space on campus
- Wednesday Workshops, Fellowship Fridays and Tea Chats
- Students learning about awards from their peers who are past award winners
- End of Year Student Recognition Events, Cultural & Special Events
- Moments of celebration for students who are seldom celebrated, chances to network and reflect on culture

Mario Nguyen: Background

- Child of Immigrants
- First-Gen High School Grad
- LGBTQ+
- Latiné
- Asian
- Chronic Illness



Grant Experience

- Western Kentucky University Graduate 2012
- Fulbright Binational Business Grant to Mexico
- Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, M.B.A. Certificate
- Ashoka Social Entrepreneurs



Professional Experience

- Harvard Law School (2017)
- White-Collar Criminal Defense Attorney at Locke Lord LLP (2017–2021)
- Adjunct Professor of Law at Texas A&M School of Law (2020–Present)
- Federal Prosecutor at U.S. Department of Justice (2021–2022)
- Judicial Law Clerk at U.S. District Court (2022–Present)



Panel Discussion



Group Activity

Questions for discussion will be outlined here...

