

Program Overview for Applicants

Susan Muendl

Assistant Director, Multi-Regional Programs
Fulbright Student and Scholar Programs
Institute of International Education (IIE)

October 19, 2022



Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs





Today's Webinar

- Fulbright Program Overview
- Fulbright Amazonia Details
- Meet the Co-Lead Scholars
- Research Themes
- Eligibility
- Application Components and Tips
- Questions





Mission

- In partnership with 160 countries worldwide, Fulbright offers passionate and accomplished faculty, administrators, artists, journalists, lawyers, and other professionals from all backgrounds an unparalleled opportunity to study, teach, or conduct research.
- Our mission is to foster mutual understanding between nations, advance knowledge across communities, and improve lives around the world.

A Brief History

- Established in 1946 by Congress, Fulbright is the United States government's flagship international educational and cultural exchange program.
- Fulbright is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by the Institute of International Education.





Diversity & Inclusion

Fulbright strives to ensure that it reflects the diversity of U.S. society and societies abroad. We encourage the involvement of people from traditionally underrepresented audiences in all our grants, programs and other initiatives.

Opportunities are open to people regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socioeconomic status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.





Fulbright by the Numbers



The Fulbright Program funds over **8,000 awards annually**:

- **900** U.S. scholars and administrators
- **900** visiting scholars
- **2,200** U.S. students
- **4,000** foreign students
- **400+** language teaching assistants

Approximately 400,000 “Fulbrighters” have participated in the program since its inception in 1946.





Fulbright Amazonia: A Fulbright Cohort Model

- Multi-lateral
- Multi-disciplinary
- Interactive and responsive
- Applied
- Policy relevant
- Community involvement
- Public outreach





Fulbright Amazonia

- Will build on extensive Brazil-U.S. environmental cooperation efforts to conserve the Basin's biodiversity while promoting innovative approaches that preserve Amazonian social and ecological health and community traditions
- will further enhance the collaborative work of nations and NGOs committed to the region's environmental sustainability
- Multidisciplinary and multinational research teams will inform actionable project outcomes and policies, directly improving the quality of life of communities throughout the Amazonian Basin





Program Activities

During the award period of June 2023 – December 2024, grantees will:

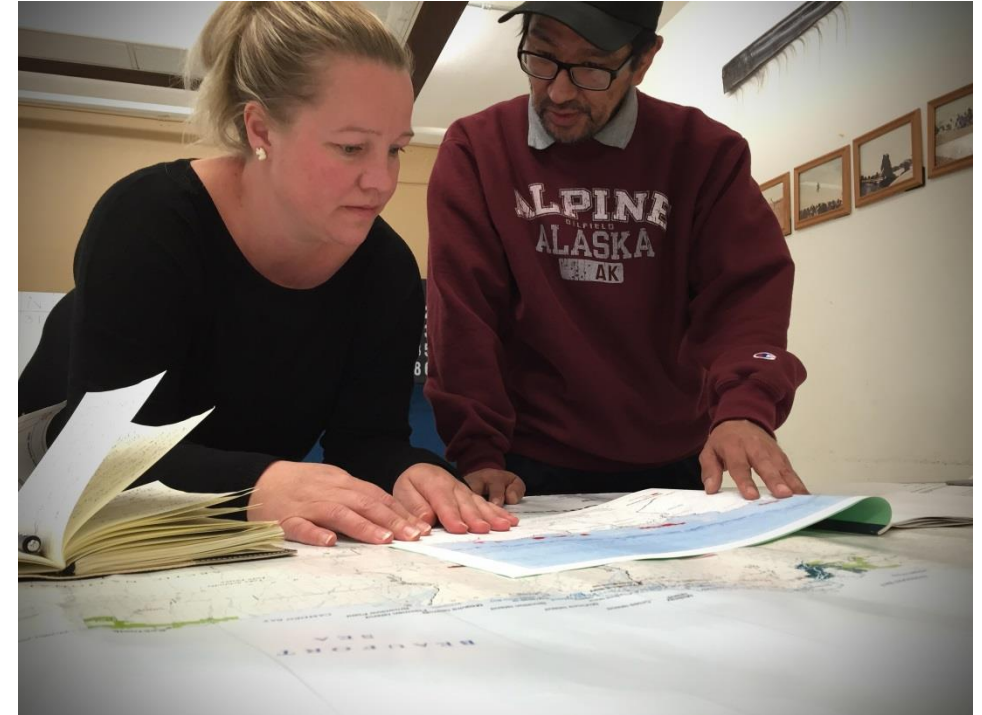
- Participate in three in-person group seminars
- Complete an individual research exchange visit (minimum of 6-weeks up to 3 months)
- Collaborate virtually via regularly scheduled online meetings under the guidance of the lead scholars
- Produce policy recommendations
- Share results of individual and collaborative research





Individual Exchange Visit

- Minimum of 6-weeks up to 3 months
- U.S. grantees will complete exchange visit in one of the participating Amazon countries.
- Non-U.S. grantees will complete exchange visit in the U.S.
- Completed in 1 or 2 visits (3 months total)





Meet the Co-Lead Scholars



Valério Gomes is a Professor at the Amazonian Institute of Smallholder Agriculture (INEAF) at the Federal University of Pará in Belém, Brazil



Jeffrey Hoelle is an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara





Fulbright Amazonia Research Themes

Collaborative research will be built around three overlapping and inter-related themes:

- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
- Strengthening Human and Environmental Health and Security
- Bioeconomy and Sustainable Development





Fulbright Amazonia: Eligibility

- **U.S. applicants** must be U.S. citizens and reside in the U.S. at the time of application.
- **Non-U.S. applicants** must be citizens of and reside within one of the following eight South American nations at the time of application: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, or Venezuela.





Eligibility (cont.)

- Applications accepted from the United States and Brazil as well as Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.
- Open to scholars at all career stages, to include applied researchers, professionals, and Indigenous and traditional knowledge experts active in the academic, public or private sectors.
- Preference will be given to early or mid-career academics, applied researchers and/or professionals with research experience in the public, non-profit, or private sector
- A Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree is preferred. The program is not intended for current graduate students/PhD candidates. For professionals and practitioners outside academe, recognized professional standing and substantial professional accomplishments and research experience are required.
- Applicants should have expertise and research experience in one of the identified thematic research areas.
- Non-U.S. Scholars must demonstrate a proficiency in English





Financial Support and Benefits

- **\$40,000 (USD) grant award per grantee**
 - Supports travel to group program meetings, travel and maintenance for the exchange visit, research materials, and assistance
- **Accommodations and meals for full group seminar meetings are provided independent of the grant award**
- **Accident and sickness benefit while on exchange or participating in program group meetings**





Application Deadline

**Tuesday
December 20, 2022
5:00PM EST**

apply.iie.org/amazonia





Required Application Components

- Biographical, Academic and Professional Background
- Project statement (3-5 pages)
- Bibliography (up to 3 pages)
- Curriculum vitae or resume (up to 6 pages)
- Recommendation Letters (2)
- Language proficiency (non-U.S. applicants)
- Letter of invitation (optional)





Project Statement

The project statement is your opportunity to explain your specific strengths as a candidate to reviewers and potential hosts. It must be persuasive and compelling.

Some key points the project statement should address:

- How your proposed research is connected to one of the program themes
- Your ability to perform collaborative research in a multi-disciplinary, team-based setting
- What you believe the impact and practical significance of your selected research theme is to the Amazonian region.
- How your interdisciplinary research in the selected area will advance understanding of regional development to improve quality of life in communities across the Amazonian Basin.





Project Statement (cont.)

Additional points to address:

- How local stakeholders from a range of sectors might collaborate in and/or inform research activities to maximize effective implementation of projects, development of products, and/or adoption of innovative public policies
- How you will benefit from and contribute to the goals and objectives of the Fulbright Amazonia Initiative.
- How you would disseminate the results of your research.
- Why the research needs to be done; what significance it holds for your discipline, your personal and professional development, and the region's benefit.
- What professional experience has prepared you for this type of program.
- The academic and professional context of the selected research theme





Timeline

- December 20, 2022
- Late March 2023
- Early June 2023
- Late June 2023
- July 2023 onwards
- July 2023-November 2024
- April 2024
- December 2024

Application Deadline

Notification of Selections

Virtual Pre-Program Orientation

Initial Cohort Meeting (Belem, Brazil)

Monthly virtual plenary sessions

Individual Research Exchange Visits

Midterm Cohort Meeting (TBD)

Final Meeting (Washington, DC)





Questions?

Amazonia@iie.org

fulbrightscholars.org/amazonia

