

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

WEBVTT

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00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:01.410

Courtney Giordano: But a minute for folks to

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00:00:03.360 --> 00:00:03.899

Courtney Giordano: Enter.

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00:00:10.830 --> 00:00:12.780

Debi Gianni: Yeah, we'll just upgrade can low

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00:00:15.630 --> 00:00:17.880

Casey Donovan: We are recording to the cloud. It says

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00:00:18.600 --> 00:00:19.890

Fantastic.

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00:00:36.750 --> 00:00:41.100

Courtney Giordano: For those who are joining us. We're just waiting a few moments to allow everybody

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00:00:42.330 --> 00:00:42.930

Courtney Giordano: To

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00:00:44.280 --> 00:00:47.790

Courtney Giordano: Join us and and get settled and will begin shortly.

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00:01:34.350 --> 00:01:41.760

Courtney Giordano: Okay, well, we'll go ahead and get started. Despite others probably joining us over the next few minutes.

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00:01:42.450 --> 00:01:58.110

Courtney Giordano: First, I'd like to say welcome and good morning to our third annual Fulbright day this this year. It looks a little different. Given the current situation, but we're very excited to be able to offer Fulbright day virtually this year and

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00:01:59.100 --> 00:02:10.920

Courtney Giordano: A little background information about three years ago. Global Education really decided to make a concerted effort around supporting promoting and cultivating a culture around Fulbright on our campus.

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00:02:12.150 --> 00:02:23.160

Courtney Giordano: Back in 2018 I believe we were named a top producing institution for scholars and this past year we came very close to making the the top

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00:02:24.030 --> 00:02:33.240

Courtney Giordano: Producing institutions for students. And so it's really heartening to see that these efforts are starting to gain traction. And it's because of events like this.

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00:02:33.570 --> 00:02:45.480

Courtney Giordano: Because of the dedication of our faculty, the dedication of our Fulbright Scholar liaison and student liaison and really the the community coming together at large to

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00:02:46.710 --> 00:02:54.690

Courtney Giordano: Really recognize and support Fulbright as as a program and a conduit for mutual understanding. So with that,

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00:02:55.200 --> 00:03:14.010

Courtney Giordano: I just want to say thank you for joining us. And I'd like to now introduce Dr work Miller. He's our scholar liaison for UC San Diego. He's also a two time Fulbright grantee recipient and the director of our international faculty and scholar office. So Dr. Miller, please take it away.

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00:03:14.940 --> 00:03:16.650

Courtney Giordano: Thank you very much. Welcome, everyone.

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00:03:17.040 --> 00:03:20.190

Roark Miller: I'll get right into the business of the Fulbright Scholar Program.

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00:03:21.570 --> 00:03:22.440

Roark Miller: And

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00:03:27.060 --> 00:03:40.980

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Roark Miller: Okay, of course Fulbright is the preeminent or flagship scholarship program for into international exchange administered by our US Department of State, so it is a very prestigious fellowship

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00:03:42.390 --> 00:03:44.940

Roark Miller: Grant Program and it

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00:03:46.710 --> 00:04:00.510

Roark Miller: Is really focused on creating mutual understanding between folks of US and other countries. It's a very much a people to people diplomacy effort on the part of the Department of State.

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00:04:00.900 --> 00:04:20.430

Roark Miller: So that's going to really be a key component of your award application is really recognizing what makes it so distinct from other grant applications. It's this. People to People diplomacy. So keep that in mind as we go through this morning's presentation.

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00:04:24.210 --> 00:04:32.670

Roark Miller: The distribution of wards. There's quite a variety of words are basically around 460 awards that they give out each year.

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00:04:33.390 --> 00:04:45.180

Roark Miller: And it's very diverse in terms of the kinds of awards. You can be a complete, total totally doing research, totally doing teaching you can combine research and teaching there are

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00:04:45.630 --> 00:05:00.750

Roark Miller: awards that are just for persons in their early career, just for postdocs are also distinguished chair awards, where you're expected to be very preeminent in your field. So there's a wide variety of awards available to you.

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00:05:04.350 --> 00:05:09.240

Roark Miller: To be eligible for the program. Of course, you have to be a US citizen. So that's really critical.

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00:05:10.530 --> 00:05:21.300

Roark Miller: And then, of course, most of the awards are require a PhD or other terminal degree, but there are some words that you do not have to have a PhD for and

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00:05:23.310 --> 00:05:33.870

Roark Miller: I think what's critical also is just to look at the individual award requirements around a foreign and 60 awards. Each one might have slightly different requirements. So you have to

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00:05:34.380 --> 00:05:41.670

Roark Miller: pay very careful attention to what those requirements would be, and we'll look at that a little bit later when we look at the awards catalog.

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00:05:43.980 --> 00:05:49.020

Roark Miller: They're also Fulbright is very sensitive to the needs of faculty schedules.

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00:05:49.260 --> 00:06:02.010

Roark Miller: And they're, they're very flexible in the way they've arranged. Many of these awards. There's many of the awards have varying lengths there some awards for under three months, six to 10 months. Some for more than 10 months.

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00:06:02.520 --> 00:06:13.860

Roark Miller: There's also flex options which allow you to to complete the award over the course of two years with short stays in the country for a shortest one month duration.

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00:06:14.280 --> 00:06:25.320

Roark Miller: And then multiple trips to that country over those two years. So this kind of can help you accommodate your teaching schedule and still obtain a Fulbright award.

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00:06:26.100 --> 00:06:39.330

Roark Miller: They're also awards. This is the global Scholar Award, which are specifically for persons doing research in multiple countries in different regions of the world. So you can cobble together. If your research to say is looking at

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00:06:39.810 --> 00:06:46.860

Roark Miller: Some aspect on two different continents, then the global Scholar Award might be an option for you.

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00:06:48.510 --> 00:06:51.120

Roark Miller: So there's a lot of variety in the awards.

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00:06:52.860 --> 00:06:59.670

Roark Miller: And of course in determining what award will work for you. You want to, of course, look at what you're doing.

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00:07:01.230 --> 00:07:14.100

Roark Miller: Whether there's a language component required for a award and being able to meet that language component disciplines preferences. Some of the awards are specifically for

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00:07:15.210 --> 00:07:24.360

Roark Miller: Discipline or for several disciplines. So you just need to tailor your word choice to the discipline that you're working in

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00:07:25.410 --> 00:07:35.220

Roark Miller: And then relevance to the host country and How will communities benefit from your project. This again goes back to that core principle of the Fulbright mutual understanding between countries.

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00:07:35.700 --> 00:07:47.280

Roark Miller: They want to see the Fulbright Commission wants to see what benefit not just to you and your career, but what benefit to the community. The community will there be that you're going to be working in the host country.

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00:07:47.820 --> 00:07:53.850

Roark Miller: And what potential long term benefits for that community or that relationship between countries.

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00:07:58.020 --> 00:08:02.700

Roark Miller: Okay, so this brings me into the actual understanding the awards.

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00:08:04.530 --> 00:08:16.530

Roark Miller: Catalog. So this is just an excerpt from the catalog and you can see in this particular grant award. It's for all disciplines and it's in the country, Philippines,

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00:08:17.070 --> 00:08:38.070

Roark Miller: And then therefore tabs you were details the award requirements stipend benefits and country area. Overview critical are the award details in the

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award requirements. So what I'm going to do is take a little closer look at the actual words catalog. So let me switch screens here.

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00:08:43.980 --> 00:08:44.940

Roark Miller: Okay.

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00:08:47.040 --> 00:08:58.590

Roark Miller: Are you all seeing the new screen. Okay, great. Thank you. Okay, so I'm just going to go down and take a look at. So, this is this search screen basically

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00:08:59.070 --> 00:09:15.480

Roark Miller: I can search awards or browse all awards, but I'm just going to start out with a basic country search. I know I'm skilled in Portuguese I have research topic in Brazil. Brazil that I'm thinking about. So I want to see what kind of opportunities might exist in Brazil.

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00:09:16.710 --> 00:09:22.020

Roark Miller: So I will search all words in Brazil. So there's six awards that are found.

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00:09:23.160 --> 00:09:34.770

Roark Miller: Now this is not, this is not the total number of grants. This is the total number of award type X. So five of them are distinguished chair. So you would need to be very established in your field.

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00:09:35.160 --> 00:09:53.280

Roark Miller: To be competitive for a distinguished chair award. So I'm going to start out by looking at the all disciplines more standard Brazil. We're here for activity of research or TC teaching and research with a grant link of three to four months. So I'm just going to click on this.

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00:09:54.480 --> 00:09:56.850

Roark Miller: And see a little more information here.

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00:09:58.860 --> 00:10:10.830

Roark Miller: I see right off the bat right here that there are up to 30 of these grants of this award. So 30 grants for this particular word that may be given throughout for the competitive year

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Roark Miller: And I see that some of the details here. It's three to four months. And of course, you must be completed between that time period.

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00:10:20.640 --> 00:10:30.750

Roark Miller: Projects are encouraged in all parts of Brazil specifically beyond the urban areas of Rio and Sao Paulo. So this is an important point to be thinking about a lot of

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00:10:31.350 --> 00:10:36.540

Roark Miller: People doing research might want to be focused in the major metropolitan areas of the country.

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00:10:37.110 --> 00:10:48.450

Roark Miller: But our Fulbright program. They're going to want our Department of State is going to want to see their Fulbright representatives there us ambassadors basically stations throughout a country.

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00:10:49.020 --> 00:11:04.650

Roark Miller: So you might have a more competitive program or application. If you're willing or have worked up a grant proposal that's focused in a more rural or less traveled part of the country because then you're going to

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00:11:05.190 --> 00:11:20.070

Roark Miller: If awarded that Fulbright it's going to be a little place you there and have a representative from their program in that lesser known area of the country. So that's something that you should be considering as you're developing your project application.

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00:11:21.420 --> 00:11:34.950

Roark Miller: Now here it says there is a flex option. So basically the words are going to state whether or not there's a flex option and then give you the description, the particulars of that flex option for that particular Ward here.

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00:11:35.400 --> 00:11:42.930

Roark Miller: The flex grant allows it to be split into two, two months in country visits within that time period.

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00:11:43.680 --> 00:12:00.210

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Roark Miller: And then you have to be out of country for at least two months between those two in country visits. So flex hopefully is there to create more opportunity for folks to accommodate the Fulbright

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00:12:01.500 --> 00:12:06.060

Roark Miller: Award with their own teachings or research schedule in their home country.

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00:12:08.220 --> 00:12:15.330

Roark Miller: So that's kind of an overview of the word details. Let's look at the more specific award requirements for this.

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00:12:15.960 --> 00:12:21.270

Roark Miller: Okay letter of invitation is required. So the letter of invitation is very important again.

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00:12:21.780 --> 00:12:30.210

Roark Miller: The Department of State is investing a lot of money in you when they grant you a Fulbright award and they want to make sure that you're going to be successful in their program.

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00:12:30.840 --> 00:12:34.740

Roark Miller: And one of the ways to success, of course, is having in country support.

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00:12:35.130 --> 00:12:47.820

Roark Miller: So the more that you can establish that you've got good relationships, a good project that's going to be supported by a host institution, whether that's academic nonprofit and NGOs and NGOs, something like that.

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00:12:48.720 --> 00:13:00.510

Roark Miller: The more that you can demonstrate that the more potentially successful, they're going to think that your grant award could be so that's that's going to be a very important component of your

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00:13:01.920 --> 00:13:13.920

Roark Miller: Award, your application language proficiency requirements here. They're saying, English is sufficient. However, you need to make sure, depending on your project if you're out in the field.

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00:13:14.400 --> 00:13:30.930

Roark Miller: And there aren't many people speak English on the field, then you're really going to need to be able to show that you have the proper language capability to make sure that your project is accessible one. So depending on the type of project, you may or may not need that language component

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00:13:33.480 --> 00:13:49.620

Roark Miller: Okay, here's the applicant profile. This is important to see to make sure that you qualify. So for this particular ward. They don't want any early career folks applying they want to make sure that you have at least five years experience past PhD or other terminal degree.

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00:13:52.440 --> 00:13:56.040

Roark Miller: So that's important, of course. Additional comments.

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00:13:57.060 --> 00:14:10.500

Roark Miller: So they're they're showing here that they want to make sure that you have an affiliation with an accredited academic institution or Research Institute. So they're really requiring this they want to make sure that you've got that in country support.

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00:14:11.100 --> 00:14:20.130

Roark Miller: So if you don't have that currently you need to reach out to someone in your field that you're aware of and maybe start creating some kind of

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00:14:21.180 --> 00:14:31.680

Roark Miller: Relationship some network networking with them. And of course you can also reach out to the Fulbright commission and Brazil to get maybe a list of folks who might

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00:14:32.220 --> 00:14:37.050

Roark Miller: That they can provide you with who would be interested in the area of research that you're considering

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00:14:37.740 --> 00:14:50.490

Roark Miller: So this is really important to create those relationships so that you can get a stronger letter of invitation and just a stronger support system to show Fulbright when you're applying for the award.

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00:14:56.250 --> 00:15:06.690

Roark Miller: And then over here, I just want to point out the program staff. So the Fulbright and the organization that administers the Fulbright I International Institute for Education.

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00:15:07.890 --> 00:15:19.260

Roark Miller: Has program representatives who are here to help you in your application process. So right here, they are indicating that Michelle malarkey. I don't know how to pronounce that, but

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00:15:19.620 --> 00:15:28.500

Roark Miller: She would be the person whom you could contact who's overseeing this region's Fulbright grant. So if you have questions about this particular grant

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00:15:29.460 --> 00:15:43.770

Roark Miller: You should feel free to reach out to her to get information they want to make sure that they have the best competitive pool applying for these grants. So they're going to they're going to bend over backwards to give you information that you need to make your application competitive.

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00:15:47.970 --> 00:15:52.680

Roark Miller: Okay stipend and benefits just gives you some basic information about the amount

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00:15:53.310 --> 00:16:08.970

Roark Miller: Particularly if there are going to be dependence, they will give you information on whether they provide money for dependence or not there are oftentimes additional award benefits for regional travel for you to say give seminars or or

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00:16:10.080 --> 00:16:29.430

Roark Miller: talks in local areas. So you can see information about that. And then the country area over overview is just really basic information for you all. It's not quite so critical to your application. So that's just an example of Brazil Me go back and just

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00:16:32.310 --> 00:16:34.290

Roark Miller: So a couple other things.

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00:16:35.670 --> 00:16:37.080

Roark Miller: About the awards catalog.

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00:16:38.310 --> 00:16:47.790

Roark Miller: So you can search all awards, there's this kind of card view and then the list view. And you can see the list when

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00:16:48.480 --> 00:16:59.880

Roark Miller: It all loads. So you can see there's a whole lot there. And of course these are these are number of awards and then each award might have multiple grants associated with it.

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00:17:00.960 --> 00:17:08.310

Roark Miller: And then you can do more advanced search on the left hand navigation bar. You can see this. You can search by country or area.

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00:17:09.420 --> 00:17:15.240

Roark Miller: Or if you want specifically because you want to go to multiple countries, you can check on there and see

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00:17:16.890 --> 00:17:19.560

Roark Miller: Which awards are specifically multi country.

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00:17:21.210 --> 00:17:27.420

Roark Miller: For the activity research or teaching you can screen by that the grant length.

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00:17:29.340 --> 00:17:42.600

Roark Miller: You can screen by if you need a flex award because you're not going to be able to do more than a two month in country stay. You can search by flex or you can look at these award amounts to see whatever accommodates your schedule.

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00:17:43.890 --> 00:17:53.010

Roark Miller: degree requirements candidate profile, etc, etc. So there's a lot here that you can search on to to narrow your search.

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00:17:56.460 --> 00:18:04.110

Roark Miller: But I really really do suggest you explore a lot within the Fulbright catalog, because there are a lot of really unique awards that exist.

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00:18:04.740 --> 00:18:22.920

Roark Miller: As one example, there's a there's a Mexican award a kind of a border crossing award, where they want you to visit Mexico frequently but you basically stay in your border state and you just make one trip a month or so to Mexico.

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00:18:24.060 --> 00:18:30.360

Roark Miller: So, so there's a real variety of award. So really encourage you to explore explore that.

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00:18:32.760 --> 00:18:37.920

Roark Miller: OK, now I'm going to toggle back to a couple more bits of information before we move to our panelists.

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00:19:01.080 --> 00:19:19.710

Roark Miller: Okay, so the application components. Again, there's a basic form and the project statement, the project statement is the critical piece where you want to make sure that you're also including that Department of State person. A person diplomacy elements. So what is your project going to do

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00:19:19.770 --> 00:19:25.140

Roark Miller: For your host country and creating long term relationships.

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00:19:27.300 --> 00:19:29.460

Roark Miller: Um, oops, let me go back.

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00:19:31.680 --> 00:19:36.420

Roark Miller: Yes. Yeah, the rest of self explanatory. And then the

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00:19:37.500 --> 00:19:41.130

Roark Miller: Schedule. So the words cannot open in February.

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00:19:42.240 --> 00:19:50.730

Roark Miller: The deadline for applications to September 15 and then this is kind of behind the scenes. What happens in terms of the processing.

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00:19:52.500 --> 00:20:04.680

Roark Miller: And so finally next year you'll be notified of the final approval and then you start preparing for the grants and most of the grants take place starting July 1 of 2021

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00:20:06.090 --> 00:20:15.120

Roark Miller: And then finally, I want to talk very briefly about academic leaf policy. I'm no expert on academic personnel policies, but I do want to point out that

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00:20:15.660 --> 00:20:31.200

Roark Miller: You should have academic personnel folks in your departments that can help you with understanding what the policies are regarding academic leaves. There are a variety of leave sabbatical leaves, of course exist for latter rank, folks.

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00:20:32.370 --> 00:20:38.730

Roark Miller: For faculty appointments that are ineligible for sabbatical leave there is something called LEAVE WITH PAY in lieu of sabbatical.

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00:20:40.470 --> 00:20:52.560

Roark Miller: There's lead from professorial duties to do research, there's a change in work location, which is not considered leave that allows up to 60 consecutive service days being out of country. So, this

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00:20:53.160 --> 00:21:05.340

Roark Miller: could accommodate a FLEX FLEX FLEX of word could accommodate this kind of leave. Of course appointees duties cannot be assigned to another. So you wouldn't be able to have teaching duties during that quarter.

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00:21:06.840 --> 00:21:19.230

Roark Miller: So anyway, my point is just basically to explore what the leaf policies are. And don't just think that if you don't have sabbatical coming up, there's no possibility for you to get some kind of appropriately for

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00:21:19.710 --> 00:21:25.800

Roark Miller: A Fulbright award given the flex awards that exist and the flexibility of many of the Fulbright awards.

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00:21:27.240 --> 00:21:38.580

Roark Miller: Okay, so with that said, here's some resources. And of course, my name is Don here. I'm the Fulbright Scholar liaison for campus so please feel free to reach out to me if you have questions.

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00:21:39.960 --> 00:21:51.840

Roark Miller: And then finally, I'm real happy to introduce folks on our panel today. These are faculty members from UCSD, who have recently had Fulbright's and are here to share their experiences with you.

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00:21:52.350 --> 00:21:57.870

Roark Miller: We have Scott This is Otto professor in the Department of Political Science, who is currently in Brazil.

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00:21:58.860 --> 00:22:05.130

Roark Miller: Thank you, Scott, and then Kenneth low professor and vice chair department of structural engineering, who did a Fulbright Scholar.

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00:22:05.760 --> 00:22:16.320

Roark Miller: To Taiwan few years back. And what I'd like each of you to do, maybe starting with Scott is just briefly state. Why you pursued the program and then what and

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00:22:16.770 --> 00:22:25.560

Roark Miller: What you did for your Fulbright opportunity and then your most memorable experience for the Fulbright and then before we do that, just for the audience.

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Roark Miller: After that, we'll open the floor to questions. So please submit your questions on the Q AMP, a part of the zoom

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00:22:36.480 --> 00:22:42.720

Roark Miller: Controls up there and then we will moderate your questions. Okay. So Scott, if you can answer those questions. Thank you.

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00:22:44.220 --> 00:23:00.870

Scott Desposato: Sure, thanks for having me here today. I was actually at one of these informational Fulbright days a year or two ago, which led to my upline and here I am. So let me just answer your three questions. First, why did I apply to the Fulbright

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00:23:02.100 --> 00:23:11.700

Scott Desposato: Well, I am my family wanting to have a some time overseas. It's one of the great benefits of being a faculty member, I had some research to do here in

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Brazil.

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00:23:12.360 --> 00:23:20.520

Scott Desposato: The Fulbright prestigious I didn't realize quite how prestigious it was until I sort of got into the process. The second thing is

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00:23:21.240 --> 00:23:37.950

Scott Desposato: If you'd like to be overseas, if you're planning on being overseas. There is varying degrees of financial support from generous in some programs to just helpful, but that's certainly good, it opens a lot of doors. If you want to be overseas, so it

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00:23:39.090 --> 00:23:50.610

Scott Desposato: People were costs federal police visa costs here in Brazil, we saved quite a bit. Instead of getting visas for the family and getting everything set up.

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00:23:51.300 --> 00:24:02.040

Scott Desposato: And then, especially this year, the US government kind of has your back as opposed to being here by yourself. So they've the Fulbright has been great during this pandemic event.

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00:24:03.300 --> 00:24:07.440

Scott Desposato: Sort of very concerned about us and are we okay we hear from them regularly and

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00:24:08.460 --> 00:24:16.080

Scott Desposato: They actually encouraged us to leave. But our situation for a variety of reasons, which said distaste when I'm in southern Brazil right now.

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00:24:18.030 --> 00:24:29.970

Scott Desposato: A brief description of my project and location. I came here, intending to do some experiments on voting behavior. I can bore you with the details if you want, but I won't do that right now.

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00:24:31.020 --> 00:24:41.010

Scott Desposato: Work was kind of alluding to the need to go to unconventional places and apologies for the background noise. There's a car going by with some advertising on it.

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00:24:41.550 --> 00:24:46.800

Scott Desposato: But so I chose the city of Florianopolis it's in the Deep South. I'm actually on an island right now.

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00:24:47.700 --> 00:24:56.430

Scott Desposato: Rio and Sao Paulo are great, but they're higher demand number one and number two, we wouldn't go somewhere that sort of safe and easy. I have four kids.

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00:24:56.940 --> 00:25:03.690

Scott Desposato: And one of them to be able to walk down the street without any security concerns. So I'm in a fishing village right now.

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00:25:04.320 --> 00:25:10.080

Scott Desposato: And it's, it's just been a really great, rich experience. So most most memorable experiences.

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00:25:10.860 --> 00:25:18.450

Scott Desposato: And then I you know hiking through the rain for us to this amazing beach. What sort of monkey swinging overhead. My five year old.

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00:25:19.410 --> 00:25:39.690

Scott Desposato: yelling at her brothers in Portuguese after a month or so she just picked it up. Boom. We started some great personal friendships that everything was cut short when when Brazil went on lockdown. So I think I'd probably have different memorable experiences to share with you.

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00:25:40.800 --> 00:25:47.610

Scott Desposato: If it weren't for the unique uniqueness of this year. So I think I've answered questions and if you want to turn to Ken now.

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00:25:50.670 --> 00:25:59.250

Ken Loh: Great, and good morning, everyone. My name is Ken. Um, so, first of all, before I answer those questions. I want to say when I applied.

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00:25:59.970 --> 00:26:18.360

Ken Loh: You know, I wish there was a session like this, which was super informative and I think Dr. Miller outlines and very good points on how to structure your application to make it as attractive as possible. So I did my Fulbright back in 2014

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in Taiwan and

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00:26:19.560 --> 00:26:29.280

Ken Loh: The reason why I applied was, you know, for, for many similar reasons as Scott mentioned it's a prestigious program, it's a good opportunity to spend some time overseas.

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00:26:29.790 --> 00:26:36.990

Ken Loh: And specifically I picked on, because I actually grew up in and and spent a lot of time in Taiwan. When I was young.

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00:26:37.590 --> 00:26:50.820

Ken Loh: But I never had an opportunity to really be in the country as an adult right and experience life in that way. So, so my family and I decided it was a good option where we could form.

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00:26:51.540 --> 00:27:00.240

Ken Loh: You know, for work wise form very strong collaborations long term collaborations with colleagues there, and at the same time, spend time with family to

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00:27:01.290 --> 00:27:04.440

Ken Loh: Now, in terms of the the research element.

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00:27:05.730 --> 00:27:10.800

Ken Loh: So as I work in, you know, structural engineering, specifically in sensors and

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00:27:12.480 --> 00:27:22.770

Ken Loh: My, my project was on monitoring bridge scour which is basically erosion that happens, you know, especially when when there's extreme weather. So this was one of the number one.

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00:27:24.060 --> 00:27:37.980

Ken Loh: Major Sort of infrastructure problems in Taiwan as well as in the United States. So So picking that is important problem for both countries I think made it attractive from from fulbright's perspective.

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00:27:39.510 --> 00:27:57.450

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

Ken Loh: So, so you know this this Fulbright project for me lasted about 10 months and it allowed me to form very strong collaborations that are still ongoing today since 2014 and has led to, you know, a couple other subsequent research grants here in the US.

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00:27:59.340 --> 00:28:02.730

Ken Loh: In terms of my most memorable experience. Well, it's so happened that

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00:28:04.590 --> 00:28:06.570

Ken Loh: My, my. So, so we had our

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00:28:07.770 --> 00:28:13.830

Ken Loh: Second child in Taiwan to so definitely going through a completely different healthcare system.

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00:28:14.850 --> 00:28:25.080

Ken Loh: You know, different style of for better for worse, you know, it's up to people to decide. But we had our second son entitlement when I was there.

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00:28:28.470 --> 00:28:39.840

Courtney Giordano: Great. Thank you, Scott and can that's a perfect way to kick off the panel and for those who are participating please submit questions to Dr. Miller.

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00:28:40.380 --> 00:28:51.390

Courtney Giordano: Professor Lowe or professor just sposato into the Q AMP a section, but I believe. BROOKE You have some additional questions to get us started, while we wait for some other questions to come in. So Mark, why don't you kick us off.

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00:28:52.440 --> 00:28:53.190

Roark Miller: Yeah, I guess.

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00:28:53.820 --> 00:29:04.830

Roark Miller: One of my I think main questions that would be helpful to everyone to be, do you have any particular tips to give to potential applicants on how to structure your Fulbright

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00:29:06.000 --> 00:29:06.990

Roark Miller: Applications.

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

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00:29:12.120 --> 00:29:12.930

Roark Miller: Go ahead, Scott.

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00:29:15.060 --> 00:29:23.100

Scott Desposato: So a couple of things that I would think about. One is we we chose our location.

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00:29:23.880 --> 00:29:35.610

Scott Desposato: Because it's just, it's an amazing location, but it's but it is off the beaten path. And I think that made it easier and perhaps more competitive, that's one thing I think about

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00:29:36.390 --> 00:29:49.620

Scott Desposato: We one of my son's has a disability and he's really active young man and we talked in the application specifically about our kind of whole family engagement with the community here.

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00:29:50.250 --> 00:30:00.510

Scott Desposato: He does kind of disabled kids sports, stuff like that, we just we talked. I talked in the application, not just about my research, but how the whole family was going to be

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00:30:01.740 --> 00:30:13.440

Scott Desposato: Experiencing and integrating in the community here. And then lastly, in hindsight, you know, UCSD and such a great institution that I wouldn't be surprised if

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00:30:14.700 --> 00:30:19.140

Scott Desposato: Many, many, many of our faculty would be qualified for Distinguished chairs.

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00:30:19.530 --> 00:30:33.000

Scott Desposato: And in hindsight, I kind of wish I had applied for one of those because it comes with even more support and find in housing and things like that. And the case of Brazil, it would have restricted me to particular locations, not the place I am so maybe I wouldn't have done it.

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00:30:33.600 --> 00:30:38.640

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

Scott Desposato: But if you're thinking about doing it, take a good hard look at those distinguished chairs, because

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00:30:39.750 --> 00:30:41.610

Scott Desposato: You might you might be qualified for one

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00:30:45.030 --> 00:30:45.690

Roark Miller: Go ahead, can

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00:30:46.320 --> 00:30:47.910

Ken Loh: I agree with Scott, you know,

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00:30:49.260 --> 00:31:03.960

Ken Loh: justifying why sort of holistically, you're picking where you're going to go, it's really critical. So from a research topic perspective how it's important both for the hosting country as well as back home in the US.

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00:31:05.370 --> 00:31:14.040

Ken Loh: And how that experience could then further develop your career could really make your application standout

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00:31:15.330 --> 00:31:18.930

Ken Loh: Another thing that I learned back then when I was applying was

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00:31:20.430 --> 00:31:27.960

Ken Loh: The particular location matters quite a bit too because I think as far as I know, different countries may have

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00:31:28.380 --> 00:31:44.010

Ken Loh: different numbers of positions available and she'd be able to find that online. So if you want to go to a super popular places like Germany, you know, which might be super competitive versus somewhere else. So, so that you could way. And that decision as well when you apply

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00:31:47.580 --> 00:32:01.260

Courtney Giordano: Can that's a. That was a very good point. And maybe something that before we ask another question from Dr. Miller, Dr. Miller, maybe you could share a little bit about that notion of some countries being undersubscribed and some of the trends.

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

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00:32:02.250 --> 00:32:07.860

Courtney Giordano: That exists through the Commission's and also kind of the difference when applying

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00:32:08.370 --> 00:32:17.580

Courtney Giordano: In some countries having a very strong Commission, I think, Brazil, Taiwan, Germany, some of these Mexico all have very strong commissions, but

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00:32:18.240 --> 00:32:30.900

Courtney Giordano: Some of the other programs are administered directly out of the embassies, such as those throughout most of Africa. And so again, when you're looking for guidance from either the, the staff and the Commission's or

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00:32:31.710 --> 00:32:39.300

Courtney Giordano: Through ECA at Department of State that think of those as a resource. So I don't know if there's anything else to add on that work. Another question.

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00:32:39.960 --> 00:32:41.490

Roark Miller: Yeah, definitely. I do remember at

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00:32:41.700 --> 00:32:46.230

Roark Miller: One of our trainings for Fulbright scholar. There's ones that they had a panel of

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00:32:46.680 --> 00:32:54.690

Roark Miller: Both Commission folks and embassy folks where there was no Fulbright Commission within that country and the embassy folks were talking about

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00:32:55.260 --> 00:33:07.500

Roark Miller: They were very happy to see people who were more flexible in their country assignment. So for instance, if you, if you want to go to Africa and there's no commission in that country.

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00:33:07.860 --> 00:33:16.230

Roark Miller: If you're willing to be located in multiple countries in different countries and, you know, you're not targeting just one specific country, then the embassy.

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

187

00:33:17.370 --> 00:33:31.440

Roark Miller: The they might be more amenable to selecting you because you're willing to go to Chad where they don't have anyone willing to go. So whereas if everyone wants to go to Kenya.

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00:33:31.890 --> 00:33:38.700

Roark Miller: Then you know they're going to have to not be able to meet everyone's needs, but if you're willing. If you're that one person who was willing to go anywhere.

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00:33:39.180 --> 00:33:56.190

Roark Miller: And they don't have anyone wanting to go to Chad and maybe that's going to be an opportunity for you. So it really takes a lot of strategy, looking at the kinds of awards that are open for each country and kind of almost second guessing like what, what is the real need here.

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00:34:00.150 --> 00:34:04.470

Roark Miller: Okay, let's see, just another general question for Kevin Scott

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00:34:07.050 --> 00:34:19.170

Roark Miller: I guess. Yeah, I'm curious to know how was it challenging for you to arrange academic leave for your Fulbright or did it fit you know within your sabbatical schedule.

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00:34:22.200 --> 00:34:23.220

Roark Miller: Go ahead, can

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00:34:23.640 --> 00:34:34.020

Ken Loh: Um, yeah, for me, you know I overlapped with summer and took one quarter of sabbatical. I had to make a decision. So, so at that time I was

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00:34:35.250 --> 00:34:39.570

Ken Loh: Fairly early in my career, I only had a crude one quarter of sabbatical.

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00:34:41.010 --> 00:34:46.890

Ken Loh: So I wasn't able to, why didn't know have all these options to because we didn't have a great seminar seminar, like this one.

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

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00:34:47.880 --> 00:34:58.980

Ken Loh: So I thought sabbatical is the only option so so as a result of that I didn't apply for a full year and chose to, sort of, I think I didn't nine months or something like that.

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00:35:00.570 --> 00:35:01.020

Ken Loh: And

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00:35:02.040 --> 00:35:08.490

Ken Loh: That that had a huge impact in terms of the level of support that I received

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00:35:09.540 --> 00:35:25.050

Ken Loh: So in order for my kids to qualify for certain things and the amount of travel and sort of family support they provided once you could dip below that 12 month period for that specific country and program that I applied for it changed quite a bit.

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00:35:28.770 --> 00:35:29.370

Roark Miller: Scott

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00:35:31.140 --> 00:35:40.290

Scott Desposato: In the case of Brazil, the Fulbright itself is only a four month program, but we deliberately chose to kind of stretch it into a year.

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00:35:40.740 --> 00:35:58.110

Scott Desposato: By affiliated with the university here as a visiting scholar and I combined a sabbatical quarter, a change and workplace location and a couple other things. And since in the southern hemisphere many academic calendars are basically

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00:35:59.580 --> 00:36:13.380

Scott Desposato: You know, like sort of February, March, till November or so I taught last fall at UCSD. We came here into January and we're our plan originally was to stay for most of the calendar year 2020

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00:36:16.200 --> 00:36:28.470

Roark Miller: You cobbled together quite a few different academic policy leaves. That's, that's great to hear. If I could also add just on that concept of, you know, summer versus academic year. That also is an important one to be

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

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00:36:29.520 --> 00:36:32.940

Roark Miller: To be aware of when applying for the grant, because many of the grants.

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00:36:34.320 --> 00:36:39.420

Roark Miller: Want you to have an academic affiliation, and then they're going to want you to be there when that academic

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00:36:39.720 --> 00:36:50.730

Roark Miller: Season is basically open when you're going to be on campus and the students are going to be on campus because that's how the interchange is going to happen when when you're there at the same time as most of the academic

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00:36:51.450 --> 00:37:01.950

Roark Miller: Community is there. So that's also something to be aware of that, that you might be more competitive if you're going to be able to be there during the academic season.

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00:37:05.610 --> 00:37:08.550

Roark Miller: Okay, another general question.

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00:37:12.330 --> 00:37:18.450

Roark Miller: I guess I'm wondering if if the panelists can talk about

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00:37:20.700 --> 00:37:25.650

Roark Miller: How you have leveraged or you anticipate leveraging your Fulbright

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00:37:26.760 --> 00:37:27.960

Roark Miller: Opportunity.

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00:37:30.510 --> 00:37:42.180

Roark Miller: To to show that you're promoting mutual understanding between countries both at that point and then how you're doing it in the future for future years even

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00:37:43.170 --> 00:37:53.190

Roark Miller: Can would you, I know that can that you're you've done some work on

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

creating new international exchanges, since you had your Fulbright. Can you elaborate on some of that.

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00:37:53.760 --> 00:37:54.390

Yeah.

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00:37:55.530 --> 00:38:02.040

Ken Loh: Definitely. I think one of the goals, after that, after completing the Fulbright was that I hope to

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00:38:03.090 --> 00:38:12.930

Ken Loh: Maintain does collaboration relationships that have developed during that time. So that's certainly, you know, applied towards research.

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00:38:14.280 --> 00:38:17.070

Ken Loh: In fact, we have a current research project.

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00:38:18.120 --> 00:38:27.690

Ken Loh: on a similar topic and we still went back to my hosting institution and said, hey, can we, you know, conduct testing every, every summer at your facility which is

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00:38:28.230 --> 00:38:36.300

Ken Loh: A rather unique facility that you know i don't have access to here at UC San Diego. So that has helped tremendously to but in addition to that,

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00:38:37.590 --> 00:38:55.860

Ken Loh: During my full rest day in Taiwan. I also took the opportunity to visit as many universities and give talks as possible and through that got to know a lot of people and got a better understanding of the overall sort of university specific engineering kind of setting and

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00:38:57.390 --> 00:39:10.620

Ken Loh: Since a couple years ago, you know, we decided to create a was commonly referred to as a three plus two program with with a lot of these Tony's universities and that that program.

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00:39:11.730 --> 00:39:12.780

Ken Loh: Essentially

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

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00:39:14.310 --> 00:39:26.850

Ken Loh: Recruits undergraduates to UCSD and allow them to kind of streamline and then stay for their, their master's program. So we bring them in, in their fourth year they take courses.

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00:39:27.150 --> 00:39:34.230

Ken Loh: To satisfy their degree requirements back at their home institutions to get their BS degree and indirectly roll them into our master's program.

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00:39:34.740 --> 00:39:43.920

Ken Loh: So, so the benefit is that, you know, we give them an early start in sort of a unique American university setting to to get them acquainted with

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00:39:44.400 --> 00:40:01.050

Ken Loh: Both the cultural the learning aspects as well as the environment and provide them with sort of a rapid process for them to complete their master's degree and and this is not a new idea. Many other institutions have done this with you know schools all over the world.

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00:40:02.130 --> 00:40:13.470

Ken Loh: But I think it was because of those connections that are formed. It was very easy to to start this conversation. And, you know, with UCSD reputation. It was a no brainer for them. Yeah.

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00:40:14.580 --> 00:40:20.580

Roark Miller: So can how much of that had you actually thought of before hand when you were applying your four year award.

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00:40:21.540 --> 00:40:22.410

Ken Loh: And none of it.

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00:40:24.720 --> 00:40:33.750

Ken Loh: You know, it's, I think, going to Tom was just, you know, for those reasons that I mentioned, you know, family, you know the full experience. And of course, the research.

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00:40:35.280 --> 00:40:52.320

Ken Loh: But then I think, you know, just being able to maintain those relationships

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

and connections really allowed me to pursue additional things later on in my career as ideas come up and it just made it easy to reach out to them. Yeah.

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00:40:53.460 --> 00:40:56.370

Roark Miller: Certainly, if you have ideas like that.

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00:40:57.510 --> 00:41:03.000

Roark Miller: That you can incorporate into your application that that's something that Fulbright would probably find very attractive because

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00:41:03.360 --> 00:41:16.920

Roark Miller: you're multiplying their investment in you, by creating all these additional exchanges throughout future years. So that, that's great. Scott, do you have any, any thoughts just on on how you are going to leverage your right opportunity.

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00:41:19.410 --> 00:41:29.340

Scott Desposato: I had a lot of plans. Initially, and some of my colleagues here are interested in setting up some exchange programs because our my Fulbright here was cut so short.

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00:41:30.060 --> 00:41:50.550

Scott Desposato: I don't have the kinds of experiences can talked about yet. One thing that Fulbright did do is it actually is allowing current Fulbright scholars to immediately reapply if we want to. So perhaps all perhaps I'll be back to quote unquote finished my my exchange here.

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00:41:52.590 --> 00:41:52.890

Great.

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00:41:54.990 --> 00:41:57.030

Roark Miller: Okay, another question.

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00:41:59.580 --> 00:42:00.450

Roark Miller: Yes, please.

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00:42:02.820 --> 00:42:08.700

Ken Loh: Is there a limit in terms of how many full rights. People can apply, I want to say it's too but I don't remember.

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

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00:42:08.790 --> 00:42:25.440

Roark Miller: No, there's no there's no limit their limit that exists is that they want you to spend two years without having a Fulbright so you have to. So you're you're available for another Fulbright award can and you can leverage all your exchanges.

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00:42:26.730 --> 00:42:36.690

Roark Miller: And probably have a strong application. But yeah, you just need to wait two years and then of course for Scott situation for persons impacted by coven they can apply reapply immediately.

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00:42:39.900 --> 00:42:57.210

Roark Miller: Another question I had was basically I'm curious to know if you when you were applying for the Fulbright did you, you know, start out with this conception of your project and then decide. Did you have to

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00:42:58.230 --> 00:43:02.400

Roark Miller: Change that up much to fit the award parameters.

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00:43:11.640 --> 00:43:12.870

Roark Miller: Gotten you want to take that

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00:43:14.070 --> 00:43:24.240

Scott Desposato: I mean I this this project I proposed was one that kind of piggybacks on a big project I've been working on for a while and I did not have to

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00:43:24.930 --> 00:43:38.760

Scott Desposato: Tweak it much at all, but my experience may be unique in that at the, you know, at the end of the day, everything was terminated here, right. So the entire program was cut short.

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00:43:39.480 --> 00:43:58.560

Scott Desposato: Another Fulbright scholar from my department who had been a few years ago, he described getting into the field and the data. He was seeking didn't not exist. And so he transformed his project and sort of continuing with the same basic question, but I had to do something, do something else.

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00:44:01.500 --> 00:44:02.160

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

Roark Miller: Yeah, okay.

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00:44:03.780 --> 00:44:18.780

Ken Loh: Yeah, I was trying to think back to what I put in my application. But I think in general, for me, it was largely along the same path. I don't think I went into super specific in terms of what data sets, I would get or

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00:44:20.940 --> 00:44:28.500

Ken Loh: You know, the, the specific things I would do in Taiwan, but rather kind of the overall project goals were, you know, we're pursued after that.

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00:44:30.030 --> 00:44:30.330

Ken Loh: Yeah.

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00:44:32.010 --> 00:44:32.520

Roark Miller: Okay.

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00:44:32.640 --> 00:44:33.180

Right.

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00:44:35.910 --> 00:44:44.160

Roark Miller: Okay, well, I don't think we have any additional questions for the panelists unless there's. Any last question from the audience.

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00:44:45.240 --> 00:44:47.880

Courtney Giordano: We do not have any questions from the audience.

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00:44:49.770 --> 00:44:50.190

Courtney Giordano: But

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00:44:51.990 --> 00:45:01.890

Courtney Giordano: If there are any that come in. Now we can feel them otherwise for those who may be joined us a few minutes late, again, I just want to reiterate our goal here.

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00:45:02.760 --> 00:45:14.160

Courtney Giordano: Global Education is really committed to supporting faculty postdocs scholars students in their pursuit of Fulbright grants and other

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

opportunities and

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00:45:14.850 --> 00:45:27.090

Courtney Giordano: We've been trying over the last five years, but really specifically over the last three to cultivate a community of Fulbright scholars both inbound outbound we currently have a number of

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00:45:27.570 --> 00:45:41.340

Courtney Giordano: Visiting graduate students who are on Fulbright grants conducting their PhD work and and others visiting professors and so we're really trying to holistically support the Fulbright community. And part of that.

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00:45:42.420 --> 00:45:49.950

Courtney Giordano: Last year we launched Fulbright dot UCSD edu which we serve as we use as a sort of clearing house.

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00:45:50.970 --> 00:45:57.840

Courtney Giordano: As I'm sure Ken and Scott can attest, it seems straightforward enough but you have one entity that

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00:45:58.830 --> 00:46:05.910

Courtney Giordano: That manages the scholar awards another entity that manages the student awards. There are different processes for applying

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00:46:06.900 --> 00:46:16.200

Courtney Giordano: And then the inbound process is completely separate from the outbound process. And so we decided to launch that website as a tool for campus and

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00:46:16.620 --> 00:46:25.920

Courtney Giordano: Potential international Fulbright grantees as well. So we encourage you to visit that when we are back on campus. We tend to hold

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00:46:26.220 --> 00:46:32.760

Courtney Giordano: Quarterly events to again support that Fulbright community and they're mostly social and nature, just to bring together.

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00:46:33.630 --> 00:46:44.430

Courtney Giordano: Past recipients future recipients current grantees that are on campus as well as members of our Fulbright Association. That's the community

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

organization of

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00:46:44.940 --> 00:46:55.890

Courtney Giordano: Fulbright alumni that are in the San Diego region. And so again we're we do those quarterly and it's an opportunity to start to cultivate a culture of Fulbright on our campus. And finally,

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00:46:56.490 --> 00:47:07.380

Courtney Giordano: Another goal of ours is to kind of crack into the top producing institutions once again in 2018 we were recognized as a top producing institution for Fulbright scholars

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00:47:07.740 --> 00:47:14.940

Courtney Giordano: And we are on the cusp of being recognized as a top producing institution for students. And so that's something that we're really

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00:47:15.300 --> 00:47:25.320

Courtney Giordano: Eager to do. We're also eager to attract more Fulbright degree seeking students. And so that's something that global education works closely with the Graduate division and departments to

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00:47:26.490 --> 00:47:33.690

Courtney Giordano: Help support, support Fulbright applicants and we've seen an increase of about 65% in the yield.

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00:47:34.080 --> 00:47:41.640

Courtney Giordano: On offers of admission through those efforts. So again, it's really trying to take a holistic approach to the Fulbright program because as

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00:47:41.940 --> 00:47:55.800

Courtney Giordano: Professor Lowe and Professor zotto have shared it is a very prestigious program and it's one with lasting impacts both culturally through public and citizen diplomacy and through academia and so

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00:47:56.940 --> 00:48:10.680

Courtney Giordano: Thank you for joining us with at this session. Again, please contact work Miller at our team Miller at UCSD edu visit the website and I believe our colleague Debbie dropped a link to a Google

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Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

00:48:11.280 --> 00:48:22.350

Courtney Giordano: Very brief few questions survey, we're really working to kind of create a cohort of applicants that we can help guide through the process through this coming year. I know it might seem a little

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00:48:23.280 --> 00:48:33.270

Courtney Giordano: Strange to some to be thinking about proposing a project in a foreign country when everybody's staying at home. But again, keep in mind that

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00:48:33.750 --> 00:48:42.570

Courtney Giordano: This application cycle is for 2021, if I'm not mistaken work. So it's good to be thinking into the future, when

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00:48:43.440 --> 00:48:48.210

Courtney Giordano: When we can get back out in the word world or as Scott is showing us stay out in the world.

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00:48:49.080 --> 00:49:00.960

Courtney Giordano: So we encourage you to think about this. And even if this coming cycle isn't right for you. It's something that you can start to think about in terms of your teaching load throughout the next couple of years, and maybe plan into

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00:49:02.190 --> 00:49:09.810

Courtney Giordano: When you have a sabbatical as well. Work Scott or can do you have any last minute things to add before we wrap up.

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00:49:12.660 --> 00:49:13.320

Courtney Giordano: Can please

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00:49:14.970 --> 00:49:19.350

Ken Loh: Just like to say, you know, thank you again for inviting both of us to participate.

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00:49:20.880 --> 00:49:22.830

Ken Loh: I really think the Fulbright program is great.

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00:49:24.570 --> 00:49:30.690

Ken Loh: When, when I was there. Towards the end of my Fulbright they actually invited me to serve as a panelist to review.

Fulbright Scholar Session Transcript

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00:49:31.740 --> 00:49:40.590

Ken Loh: Incoming applications to and back then I think applications were first reviewed at the US and then once they got forwarded to the host country. They get reviewed again.

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00:49:41.340 --> 00:49:49.860

Ken Loh: And then really stress. The, the importance of demonstrating impact. And in that host country. So

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00:49:50.340 --> 00:50:04.170

Ken Loh: If you are interested in applying definitely think broadly like what Scott Rourke and Courtney mentioned how you could sort of make impacts and not just research, but also education and other you know family and other things.

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00:50:08.370 --> 00:50:25.230

Courtney Giordano: Well, thank you again everyone, we will be posting this webinar to our website again fulbright.ucsd.edu and are happy to take any questions you might have otherwise. Thank you for joining us and we hope to see you as part of the Fulbright family here at UC San Diego. Take care.