



## Statistical and Narrative Report

**Program:** Portuguese Master's and PhD Students

**AY:** 2017/2018

**FY:** 2017

**Officer in charge:** Paula Lemos

**Date of report:** July 25, 2016

### Contents

#### 1. Brief description of the Program

**Grant:** Fulbright Grant for Masters and PhD – all fields of study.

#### 2. Brief analysis of how the promotion, competition and selection process took place (planning, outreach, media, calendars, pool of evaluators, etc).

Competitions opened on February 1<sup>st</sup> and ended on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

On February 4 we offered a webinar for applicants to this grant and to the Fulbright Travel Grant that was viewed 345 times. The webinar consisted of a full explanation of the grants conditions and of the application form. We showed each and every page of the application form, highlighting the questions where applicants usually show more difficulty and describing where and how the additional documents should be uploaded.

From the 50 applications received, 6 were incomplete and one was ineligible. The TOELF or IELTS scores of 7 applicants were lower than the minimum required. The remaining 36 applications were grouped in 19 panels:

- Arts
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Communications
- Computer Science
- Cultural Studies
- Economics
- Film Studies
- Forestry

- History
- International Relations and Political Science
- Law
- Materials Engineering
- Medical Sciences
- Music
- Neuroscience
- Public Health
- Psychology and Philosophy

These applications were reviewed by specialists in the correspondent fields of study, most of them former Fulbrighters.

Evaluators who did the first review of the applications were:

**Adriana Nogueira**, Universidade do Algarve

**Ana Marreilha dos Santos**, Universidade de Lisboa

**Ana Isabel Xavier**, Universidade Nova de Lisboa

**Ana Rita Pinéu**, Psychologist

**Ana Telles Béreau**, Universidade de Évora

**António Vaz Carneiro**, Universidade de Lisboa

**Carla Moleiro**, ISCTE-IUL

**Filipe Rocha da Silva**, Universidade de Évora

**Inês Meireles**, Universidade de Aveiro

**João Azevedo**, Instituto Politécnico de Bragança

**João Pedro Oliveira**, Universidade de Aveiro and Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (Brazil)

**Jorge Ferreira**, SAFOSO (Switzerland)

**Luís Lobo Fernandes**, Universidade do Minho

**Luís Nuno Rodrigues**, ISCTE-IUL

**Manuel Mota**, Universidade de Évora

**Manuela Ribeiro Sanches**, Universidade de Lisboa

**Marco Neves**, BIAL

**Maria Helena Guimarães**, Universidade do Minho

**Maria Isabel Loureiro**, Universidade Nova de Lisboa

**Maria Luís Rovisco**, University of York, UK

**Mário Ferreira**, Universidade de Lisboa

**Mário Marques Mendes**, attorney of law

**Mark Zupan**, University of Maryland

**Miguel Moura e Silva**, Universidade de Lisboa

**Patrícia Alexandre**, Universidade de Lisboa

**Paula Roush**, London South Bank University and University of Westminster (UK)

**Paulo Tavares de Castro**, Universidade do Porto

**Paulo Vasconcelos**, Universidade do Porto

**Pedro Bizarro**, FeedZai

**Pedro Saraiva**, Universidade de Coimbra

**Rita Tomás**, medical doctor  
**Sandra Paiva**, Universidade do Minho  
**Sílvia Correia**, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro  
**Susana Mingote**, Columbia University  
**Vasco Santos**, Universidade Nova de Lisboa  
**Vítor Sousa**, Universidade de Lisboa

7 candidates were not selected for interview. 1 candidate withdrew her application.

Evaluators who did the interviews were:

**Ana Marreilha dos Santos**, Universidade de Lisboa  
**Ana Telles Béreau**, Universidade de Évora  
**António Vaz Carneiro**, Universidade de Lisboa  
**Audrey Un-Silva**, American Embassy  
**Carla Moleiro**, ISCTE-IUL  
**Filipe Rocha da Silva**, Universidade de Évora  
**Greg Macris**, American Embassy  
**Jennifer Alamo**, American Embassy  
**Luís Lobo Fernandes**, Universidade do Minho  
**Manuel Mota**, Universidade de Évora  
**Manuela Ribeiro Sanches**, Universidade de Lisboa  
**Marco Neves**, BIAL  
**Mark Pannell**, American Embassy  
**Mary Lydon Fonseca**, American Embassy  
**Maria Helena Guimarães**, Universidade do Minho  
**Maria Isabel Loureiro**, Universidade Nova de Lisboa  
**Mário Marques Mendes**, attorney of law  
**Meg Young**, American Embassy  
**Megan Ihrle**, American Embassy  
**Michael Troilo**, University of Tulsa and ISCTE-IUL  
**Patrícia Alexandre**, Universidade de Lisboa  
**Paulo Tavares de Castro**, Universidade do Porto  
**Pedro Saraiva**, Universidade de Coimbra  
**Rita Tomás**, medical doctor  
**Sandra Paiva**, Universidade do Minho  
**Steven Emslie**, University of North Carolina at Wilmington and Universidade de Coimbra  
**Teresa Cid**, Universidade de Lisboa  
**Traver Gudie**, American Embassy  
**Vasco Santos**, Universidade Nova de Lisboa

From the interviews phase, 5 candidates were not recommended for selection, and the other 23 were evaluated by the Board of Directors who made the selection of 13 candidates, 9 for PhD (two of them as alternate) and 4 for Master's (two of them alternate).

### 3. Statistics

	2017
Applicants	50
Grantees	13
Success Rate	26%

- By home institution (*Licenciatura* degree)

Applicants			Grantees			Success Rates	
Home Institution	Number	%	Home Institution	Number	%	Home Institution	%
U Lisboa	12	24%	U Lisboa	4	31%	U Lisboa	33%
U Porto	7	14%	U Porto	1	8%	U Porto	14%
UNL	5	10%	UNL	2	15%	UNL	40%
U Algarve	3	6%	U Algarve			U Algarve	
U Lusófona	3	6%	U Lusófona			U Lusófona	
U Minho	3	6%	U Minho			U Minho	
Instituto Politécnico de Leiria	2	4%	Instituto Politécnico de Leiria			Instituto Politécnico de Leiria	
U Aveiro	2	4%	U Aveiro	1	8%	U Aveiro	50%
U Coimbra	2	4%	U Coimbra			U Coimbra	
Instituto Politécnico de Bragança	1	2%	Instituto Politécnico de Bragança	1	8%	Instituto Politécnico de Bragança	100%
Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa	1	2%	Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa			Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa	
Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal	1	2%	Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal	1	8%	Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal	100%
ISPA	1	2%	ISPA			ISPA	
U Açores	1	2%	U Açores			U Açores	
U Autónoma	1	2%	U Autónoma	1	8%	U Autónoma	100%
U Évora	1	2%	U Évora	1	8%	U Évora	100%
U Católica Portuguesa	1	2%	U Católica Portuguesa			U Católica Portuguesa	
UTL	1	2%	UTL			UTL	
Bournemouth U, UK	1	2%	Bournemouth U, UK	1	8%	Bournemouth U, UK	100%
No Licenciatura degree	1	2%	No Licenciatura degree			No Licenciatura degree	
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>26%</b>

- By home institution (Master's degree)

Applicants			Grantees			Success Rates	
Home Institution	Number	%	Home Institution	Number	%	Home Institution	%
Do not hold a Master's degree	25	49%	Do not hold a Master's degree	7	54%	Do not hold a Master's degree	28%
U Lisboa	5	10%	U Lisboa	2	15%	U Lisboa	40%
U Porto	4	8%	U Porto	1	8%	U Porto	25%
UNL	3	6%	UNL	1	8%	UNL	33%
U Aveiro	2	4%	U Aveiro			U Aveiro	
U Católica Portuguesa	2	4%	U Católica Portuguesa			U Católica Portuguesa	
U Minho	2	4%	U Minho			U Minho	
Instituto Politécnico do Porto	1	2%	Instituto Politécnico do Porto	1	8%	Instituto Politécnico do Porto	100%
ISPA	1	2%	ISPA			ISPA	
U Açores	1	2%	U Açores			U Açores	
U Lusófona	1	2%	U Lusófona	1	8%	U Lusófona	100%
UTL	1	2%	UTL			UTL	
College of Europe, Belgium	1	2%	College of Europe, Belgium			College of Europe, Belgium	
Ghent University, Belgium	1	2%	Ghent University, Belgium			Ghent University, Belgium	
London College of Fashion	1	2%	London College of Fashion			London College of Fashion	
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>25%</b>

1 of the candidates had 2 Master degrees

- major academic discipline

Applicants			Grantees			Success Rates	
Major Academic Discipline	Number	%	Major Academic Discipline	Number	%	Major Academic Discipline	%
Biological Sciences	6	12%	Biological Sciences	2	15%	Biological Sciences	33%
Law	6	12%	Law	1	8%	Law	17%
Arts	4	8%	Arts			Arts	
Medical Sciences	3	6%	Medical Sciences	1	8%	Medical Sciences	33%
Neuroscience	3	6%	Neuroscience	1	8%	Neuroscience	33%
Public Health	3	6%	Public Health	2	15%	Public Health	67%
Architecture	2	4%	Architecture			Architecture	
Civil Engineering	2	4%	Civil Engineering			Civil Engineering	
Fine Arts	2	4%	Fine Arts			Fine Arts	
Music	2	4%	Music	1	8%	Music	50%
Political Science	2	4%	Political Science			Political Science	
Biomedical Engineering	1	2%	Biomedical Engineering			Biomedical Engineering	
Chemistry	1	2%	Chemistry			Chemistry	
Communications	1	2%	Communications			Communications	
Computer Science	1	2%	Computer Science	1	8%	Computer Science	100%
Cultural Studies	1	2%	Cultural Studies	1	8%	Cultural Studies	100%
Economics	1	2%	Economics			Economics	
Energy	1	2%	Energy			Energy	
Film Studies	1	2%	Film Studies	1	8%	Film Studies	100%
Forestry	1	2%	Forestry			Forestry	
History	1	2%	History			History	
International Relations	1	2%	International Relations			International Relations	
Materials Engineering	1	2%	Materials Engineering	1	8%	Materials Engineering	100%
Philosophy	1	2%	Philosophy			Philosophy	
Psychology	1	2%	Psychology	1	8%	Psychology	100%
Theology	1	2%	Theology			Theology	
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>26%</b>

- geographical area of residence

Applicants			Grantees			Success Rates	
Geographic area of residence	Number	%	Geographic area of residence	Number	%	Geographic area of residence	%
Lisbon	20	40%	Lisbon	6	46%	Lisbon	30%
Porto	7	14%	Porto	1	8%	Porto	14%
Setúbal	6	12%	Setúbal	2	15%	Setúbal	33%
Coimbra	3	6%	Coimbra	1	8%	Coimbra	33%
UK	3	6%	UK	1	8%	UK	33%
Braga	2	4%	Braga			Braga	
Faro	2	4%	Faro			Faro	
Leiria	2	4%	Leiria	1	10%	Leiria	50%
Aveiro	1	2%	Aveiro			Aveiro	
Açores	1	2%	Açores			Açores	
Évora	1	2%	Évora			Évora	
Santarém	1	2%	Santarém	1	8%	Santarém	100%
Belgium	1	2%	Belgium			Belgium	
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>26%</b>

- gender

Applicants			Grantees			Success Rates	
Gender	Number	%	Gender	Number	%	Gender	%
Female	32	64%	Female	7	54%	Female	22%
Male	18	36%	Male	6	46%	Male	33%
Total	50	100%	Total	13	100%	Total	26%

- objective

Applicants			Grantees			Success Rates	
Degree Objective	Number	%	Degree Objective	Number	%	Degree Objective	%
Master's	19	38%	Master's	4	31%	Master's	21%
Ph.D.	31	62%	Ph.D.	9	69%	Ph.D.	29%
Total	50	100%	Total	13	100%	Total	26%

- age

Applicants			Grantees			Success Rates	
Age	Number	%	Age	Number	%	Age	%
20-24	14	28%	20-24	4	31%	20-24	29%
25-29	24	48%	25-29	7	54%	25-29	29%
30-34	9	18%	30-34	1	8%	30-34	11%
35-39	1	2%	35-39	1	8%	35-39	100%
40-44	2	4%	40-44			40-44	
Total	50	100%	Total	13	100%	Total	26%

#### 4. Interpretation of the findings

Comparing with last year's competition, there was no change in the number of applicants but the success rate increased from 24% to 26%, because we selected one more grantee than last year. The number of applications that were actually submitted is much lower than the number of contacts we received during the application process. In fact, during the competition process we responded to inquiries from 172 students about these grants.

As happened in previous years, a large number of applications came from Lisbon (20 candidates out of 50), but we also received applications from several other regions, which is a change from previous years when almost all applications were from Lisbon and Porto. This year we did outreach at 9 universities and our presentations were attended by 279 students and scholars. Moreover, we recorded a webinar about the Fulbright program that was viewed 162 times.

During our presentations at the universities and at the webinar we always emphasize the fact that being away from Lisbon is in no way a handicap, as all the application process is done online.

The screening process of the applications consisted in checking whether the applicant was eligible for the grant and whether the application was complete.

The number of incomplete applications has decreased significantly compared to last year (from 18 to 6) and this is possibly due to the increase in the contacts with all students who had applications in progress – we sent them emails through the application system, with reminders of the application deadline and of the need to present complete applications. We also published the recorded webinar in our site and gave all students who contacted us the link so they could see it.

As in previous years, the scientific evaluation of the applications was done by former Fulbrighters in the same field of study of the candidate.

Evaluators indicated whether or not each candidate should be called for interview. We then invited the evaluators to be part of the interview panels. Two American scholars who were at that time in Portugal with a Fulbright grant were available to do 3 panels and we asked the embassy to recruit volunteers to participate in the remaining panels as we need to have one American citizen in every panel. Two American Board members also volunteered to do some panels.

We were able to respect the estimated timings for doing the interviews and announcing the results of the selection.

## **5. Suggestions and proposals**

As happens in every competition, we had students asking to do their interviews by Skype. In the end they decided to come personally to the interview, but we should decide on a strategy about how to respond to these requests. In other competitions we asked students who made this request to send us a letter explaining their reasons and all requests were accepted. I think that if we give this chance to students who specifically ask for it we should open this possibility to all students from the beginning, i.e. we should mention this possibility in the grant's rules. There are always candidates living abroad (this year the 2 candidates that mentioned this were one in Belgium and the other in the UK), but even students who are living in Portugal have asked in previous competitions for an exemption of a personal interview.

Since the application process to a Fulbright grant aims to be similar to the application process to a US university, and considering that US universities accept that international students are interviewed by Skype (and it's increasingly common for students to be interviewed during the decision process), we should adapt our rules to also give students this possibility.