# ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT







COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND PORTUGAL



Annual Program Report Fiscal Year 2023: October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023

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## Message from the Chair of the Board

As Chair of Portugal's Fulbright Commission, I am honored to offer this report, highlighting the enduring significance of the Fulbright Program -- an essential element of our transatlantic collaboration. With 63 years of history, Fulbright Portugal stands as a testament to the enduring binational commitment between the U.S. and Portugal.

Over its six-decades of rich engagements, Fulbright Portugal has emerged as a beacon of international cooperation, fostering enduring connections between our countries. Its significance lies in its role as a cultural bridge, transcending borders and facilitating the exchange of knowledge, ideas, experiences and bright representatives of each of our countries. Through academic and cultural exchanges, Fulbright scholars and students have contributed to a global tapestry of understanding, promoting mutual respect and building lasting ties that extend far beyond the duration of their programs. Our 2700 alumni, Portuguese and U.S., are leaders in academic research, medicine, the arts, education, and far too many other disciplines to name.

The educational, personal, and long-term benefits of participation in this premiere exchange program are countless. Fulbright creates a community of expertise, spurs innovation and joint economic prosperity and does so based on shared values. I continue to be awed and inspired by the current and former Fulbrighters I meet on both sides of the Atlantic. It is an honor to play a small role in such an important and inspiring program and I look forward to welcoming new Fulbrighters into the family in 2024.



Marie Blanchard

## Message from the Executive Director

It is my pleasure to address our Fulbright Community and provide through this report a summary of our programs and activities in FY23.

The greatest richness of the Fulbright Program resides in the quality, the drive and the diversity of the people and the institutions it engages, and their projects, ambitions and accomplishments are a perfect illustration of such richness. You will find gender balance, regional and institutional diversity of home and host universities and research centers, and a variety of fields of study covered by the projects of Portuguese and U.S. Fulbrighters in 2023.

Fulbrighters have in themselves the potential to give. With their studies, science and commitment, they give back to their field, their institution and the at large community; they contribute to nurturing the strong scientific, cultural and artistic ties that connect Portugal and the U.S. and help tackle the global challenges the world faces today.

I would like to thank all our partners, for supporting our joint grant programs and for sharing the vision of the Fulbright Commission – one that fosters public diplomacy through educational exchange and values diversity and sustainability in all the activities developed.

A special word of appreciation is due to the Fulbright Commission team. None of our activities and successes would be possible without their hard work and dedication, of course.

Finally, we look forward to collaborating with all of you in 2024 and in the future, working together to build a community of trust and mutual understanding.



Otília Macedo Reis

## **The Fulbright Program**

Fulbright creates connections in a complex and changing world, offering programs for passionate and accomplished students, scholars, artists, teachers, and professionals of all backgrounds. These Fulbrighters enrich their educations, advance their careers—and make meaningful contributions abroad and at home. Upon returning to their home countries, institutions, or classrooms, they share their stories and often continue the work they started abroad—and join thousands of alumni serving as leaders across the globe.

For over 77 years, we have believed that by living and learning together with people of different cultures we can shape a more positive vision of our communities and our world. Our mission is vital: to forge lasting connections, counter misunderstandings, and help people and nations work together toward common goals.

America's flagship international exchange program, Fulbright is managed globally in collaboration with 49 binational Fulbright Commissions and 110+ U.S. embassies. Through our unique international educational and cultural exchange programs, Fulbright's diverse and dynamic network of scholars, alumni, and globe partners fosters mutual understanding between the United States and partner nations, shares knowledge across communities, and improves lives around the world.

One connection at a time, Fulbright brings people closer together and moves nations closer to a more peaceful world.

## The Fulbright Commission in Portugal

## Statement of Purpose and Mission

The Fulbright Program is planned and administered in Portugal by the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States of America and Portugal. The Commission – also known as the Fulbright Commission, was established in 1960 and has been continued and strengthened in 2015 by agreements signed between the Government of the U.S. and the Government of Portugal, with the purpose of promoting mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries through educational and cultural contacts.

The Fulbright Commission has developed an important role in the promotion of mutual understanding between the USA and Portugal, through its triple mission in the areas of education and science:

i) offering opportunities for the exchange of scholars, researchers and students;

ii) delivering quality orientation and information services focused on the educational systems of both countries; and

iii) organizing knowledge-sharing initiatives.

## **Goals and Priorities**

In the course of FY2023 the activity of the Fulbright Commission was focused on the "core" grant programs in which the Fulbright Program lays its foundations (degree awarding, research and lecturing programs, of mid-long term duration, purely academic or with a very strong academic component, in all fields of study), while focusing on using its resources and the ones of our partner institutions as efficiently and impactfully as possible. As part of this process, partnerships with several organizations and cost-share agreements with higher education Institutions (HEI) willing to host Fulbright grantees were incentivized and developed.

Efforts were also conducted to increase the diversity of applicants and grantees and advance the efficiency and transparency of the competition and selection procedures.

Cohort advising programs for Portuguese students were strengthened to increase their potential to apply to U.S. universities for admission, whereas the visibility of Portugal as a destination for U.S. students and researchers was boosted through outreach and promotion projects.

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Fulbright Commission The in Portugal strives to be a collaborative and innovative organization and is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We seek to ensure that all our grants, programs and activities reflect the diversity of U.S. and Portuguese societies and are open to people regardless of their ethnicity, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socioeconomic status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity. We work every day to build a culture of inclusiveness, respect for diversity, and understanding of the many differences that enrich the Fulbright Program.

Fulbright Commission Portugal is a signatory organization of the Portuguese Charter for Diversity and a member of APPDI (Associação Portuguesa para a Diversidade e a Inclusão).



In the end of 2022, Fulbright Portugal joined the "European Diversity and Inclusion Working Group" led by the Fulbright Regional Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator for Europe and Eurasia, which main objectives are to share best practices and information between Commissions, and foster debate around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) as a common goal.

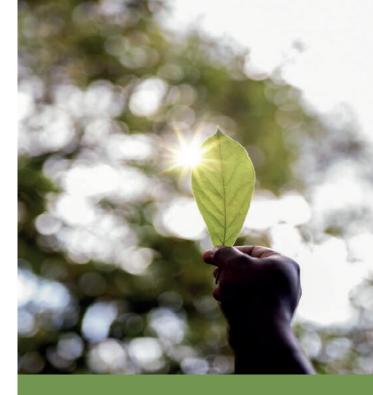
In December that year, the Program Officer for Portuguese grantees presented for the Group the "Diversity non-mandatory application requirement for Portuguese candidates, in place since AY2022/23, offering a broader and more diverse perspective of "merit and accomplishment", grounded on current philosophical research on meritocracy and supported by recognized best practices, both in the U.S. and Portugal. Our own goals and results with DEI were also shared with our colleagues and open to discussion.

## **Sustainability**

The Fulbright Commission in Portugal has a long-term commitment to both sustainability and to maintaining socially responsible administrative practices. Through conservative energy consumption, resource management and optimization, the reduction of paper-use and excess waste, and the implementation of telecommuting practices, we seek to reduce our environmental impact, maintain logistical efficiency, and-at the same time-ensure both healthy working conditions and balanced relationships with family members and members of the surrounding community.

The Commission is a signatory organization of the Charter of Principles of the BCSD Portugal (Business Council for Sustainable Development), thus reinforcing its commitment to recognized practices in line with ethical, social, environmental, and quality management standards. The Charter is a document inspired by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Fundamental Rights at of the International Labour Work Organization and The Labour Principles of the UN Global Compact. By subscribing to the BCSD Portugal Charter, we are also committed to the 2030 Agenda -Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an instrument that demonstrates the contribution of organizations and companies to the United SDGs.

In 2023, Fulbright Portugal formalized its membership to ZERO -Sistema Associação Terrestre, a Portuguese NGO, recognized for defending the principles and values of sustainability in Portuguese society. Becoming a member of ZERO helps us to be informed and to be accountable for our options where sustainable policies and practices are concerned.



Guided by balance over massive growth, these are some of the sustainable practices we have put in place in the last year, continuing them in the present and future:

- merchandising – bags, pens, notepads, mugs, bottles, and roll-ups – is produced from recycled materials and from sustainable forest management: natural cork, straw, linen, bamboo, recycled newspaper-cotton-plastic, all proper to be used and reused.

- we have been implementing (since 2009) a completely paperless administrative process.

- Virtual meetings / interviews / remote work. We are also more intentional and consistent with the recording of online outreach sessions, seen as a tool for everyone everywhere.

- Maximization of the time abroad: combining visits, intensifying the agenda.

- Low-Carbon traveling: mostly by train and public transportation.

-Transparency: our competitions' goals and results are reported and available online.

- Instilling a human voice in product content – empathy, accessibility, friendliness, and gratitude – as opposed to jargon, tech-savvy, and tone-deaf, that would exclude individuals, show lack of information in matters of public opinion, and promote stereotyped versions of society (gender; social-class; age...).

- Underlining the Program's principle of "Giving back" (vs. thoughtless mobility): the chance to learn how to listen, how to deal with different opinions, how to work together and reach broader views on issues that affect the two countries and communities.

## Implementation of the Fulbright Program

## **US Grant Program**

The U.S. Fulbright Grant Program consists of a portfolio of **13 grants: 9** for scholars (teaching or post-doctoral research) and **4** for students (study or pre-doctoral research and English teaching assistantship). Competitions take place annually, during the months of March through September, for scholars, and from April to October, for students, for next year's academic year.

### Fulbright Grants for U.S. Scholars (teaching or post-doctoral research):

Fulbright – FCT: Foundation for Science and Technology Award (All Disciplines)
Fulbright Award in Management / ISCTE-IUL, Business Research Unit (BRU-IUL)
Fulbright Award Atlantic for Future / IPMA – Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere
Fulbright Award in Marketing, Communication & Media Studies / IPL-Politécnico de Lisboa
Fulbright Award in Space, Atmosphere, Ocean, Climate, Energy and Data Science / AIR Centre
Fulbright Award in Law and Criminology / University of Minho
Fulbright Award in Artificial Intelligence Ethics / Universidade Católica Portuguesa (UCP)
Fulbright Award in Law and Sustainability / NOVA School of Law (AY2023/2024)
Fulbright Award in Computer Science / Polytechnic Institute of Portalegre (AY2024/2025)

## Fulbright Grants for U.S. Students (study or pre-doctoral research and English teaching assistantship):

Fulbright / FLAD Open Study/Research Award Fulbright / Camões, I.P. Open Study/Research Award Fulbright / Azores Government Open Study/Research Award Fulbright English Teaching Assistants Award

The Commission also administers the **Fulbright Specialist Program**, designed for faculty and professionals. Portuguese host institutions present project proposals to host Specialists on a rolling basis throughout the Fiscal Year. There are 5 slots each academic year and, in FY2023 and FY2024, 3 extra ECA-Funded Fulbright Specialist Projects for Portugal.

Awardees of **multi-country programs**, such as the **Fulbright Global Scholar Program** (for scholars), the **Fulbright-Schuman Program** (administered by the Fulbright Commission in Belgium and Luxembourg, for both scholars and students) and the **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad** (DDRA) **Program** (administered by the U.S. Department of Education, for students), are also welcomed and supported by the Fulbright Commission before (with pre-departure orientation and resources), during (with in-country orientation and support) and after (with alumni engagement activities) their stay in Portugal. The Commission reviews and edits the content of **award descriptions** and announces all opportunities to Portugal on the catalog of Awards for the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program and the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

The Commission also carries out virtual **information sessions** for potential candidates and webinars about all offers, recorded and made available online. the Commission sends targeted email campaigns with information about all awards to Portugal to Fulbright alumni and Portuguese higher education institutions and research centers interested in inviting U.S. faculty and researchers and publishes the U.S. Scholar awards on international research networks such as EurAxess North-America.

The Institute of International Education (IIE) conducts the recruitment process by sharing information about awards to Portugal to Fulbright campus advisors at universities in the U.S. and by holding office hours with prospective candidates.

Portuguese **partner institutions**, especially in which concerns the U.S. Scholar Program, are also valued allies in promoting, disseminating information, and encouraging their contacts to apply for these awards.

All U.S. Fulbright scholar and student programs' applications are reviewed by National Screening Committees (NSC), divided by award category and area of study, and composed by Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program alumni and U.S. faculty, who review the paper applications and recommend a number of application finalists for selection. NSC-recommended applications were assessed by the Board of Directors, that selected the candidates based on their personal motivations, cultural adaptability, interest in pursuing a project in Portugal and choice of host institution. Partner institutions also have the prerogative to recommend the candidates of their preference for selection by the Board of Directors. All applications for **AY2022/2023** were, therefore, selected and ranked by the Commission's Board of Directors, taking into consideration NSC's and partner institution's recommendations for selection, and paying special attention to criteria such as:

**Priority**: Disciplines/Specializations or projects related to priority areas defined by the Board, which were:

- Climate Change and Sustainability
- Technological Interactions (Cybersecurity, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence)
- Ocean, Space and Energy
- Economic Growth and Resilience
- Migrations and Refugees
- Public Health and Life Sciences

**Diversity**: Preference was given to gender and/or ethnically diverse candidates.

**Location**: Candidates affiliated with geographically diverse host locations in Portugal ranked higher than candidates affiliated with institutions in Lisbon. Additionally, institutions that have hosted Fulbright Scholars in recent years ranked below.

**Rating and Criteria**: The quality and feasibility of research proposals and impact both on the academic field and candidates' academic career and host institution. Aspects such as the candidate's cultural awareness and ability to adjust to life in host country were also taken into account. Lastly, second or third-time recipients of Fulbright grants were not considered as priority for selection.

In 2023, for the **2023/2024** cycle, the Commission organized Selection Committees, composed of Portuguese and U.S. alumni, and Board Members for each grant category (U.S. Scholars, U.S. Research Students and English Teaching Assistants) all NSC-recommended candidates were interviewed online.

Selection Committees evaluated the potential to reflect the **diversity** of American society and, by living up to the principles of the Fulbright Program, how well could candidates serve as cultural ambassadors of the U.S. and of the Fulbright Program, while in Portugal. The Committees also took into account the candidate's choice of research subject and affiliation in Portugal and considered merit, including in its definition also such aspects as overcoming adversity, access to resources and opportunities, and the candidate's personal journey up until the moment of their Fulbright grant application.

## U.S. Scholars

## All Disciplines Award

Julie Layshock Field of Study: Chemistry Home Institution: Pacific University Project Title: Nature-based solutions for pharmaceutical removal from water; measuring uptake in wetland plants Host Institution: Universidade do Porto

Thomas Maresca

Field of Study: Biology Home Institution: University of Massachusetts-Amherst Project Title: Avoiding Aneuploidy: Defining how cells maintain genomic integrity Host Institution: Universidade do Porto

Yonghyun (John) Kim Field of Study: Engineering Home Institution: University of Alabama Project Title: Advanced Biomanufacturing of Glioblastoma Organoids Host Institution: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa Susan Wenze Field of Study: Psychology Home Institution: Lafayette College Project Title: Adapting Perinatal Mobile Mental Health Support for Mothers of Multiples Host Institution: Universidade de Coimbra.

Veronica Dexheimer

Field of Study: Physics Home Institution: Kent State University Project Title: Neutron Star Modeling in the 21st Century Host Institution: Universidade de Coimbra

## Fulbright Award in Management / ISCTE-IUL, Business Research Unit (BRU-IUL)

Minye (Michael) Tang Field of Study: Accounting Home Institution: Florida International University Project Title: Corporate Environmental, Social and Governance Policies in the US and Europe Host Institution: ISCTE-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa.

#### Fulbright Award in Communication & Media Studies / Polytechnic of Lisbon

<u>Kristen Schiele</u> Field of Study: Marketing Home Institution: University of Southern California Project Title: Porque Postamos: Impact of Culture on Social Media Use in Portugal Host Institution: Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa

## Global Scholar Award

Jeanie Bukowski Field of Study: International Relations Home Institution: Bradley University Project Title: Evaluating Sustainability of Social-Ecological Systems: A Comparison of Protected Areas Host Institution: Universidade dos Açores

### Fulbright Specialists

(Open Project) Field of Study: Communication and Journalism Home Institution: To be confirmed Host Institution: Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa

(Open Project) Field of Study: Education Home Institution: To be confirmed Host Institution: APECEF – Associação P/ A Educação E Formação

Joseph Murphy Field of Study: American (U.S.) Studies Home Institution: Mansfield University of Pennsylvania Host Institution: Instituto Politécnico do Porto

Sharvari Karandikar Field of Study: Law Home Institution: The Ohio State University Host Institution: Universidade de Coimbra (Open Project) Field of Study: Law Home Institution: to be confirmed Host Institution: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa (2 visits)

David Quint Field of Study: American (U.S.) Studies Home Institution: Yale University Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa

Robert G. Bringle Field of Study: Education Home Institution: Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Host Institution: Universidade Católica Portuguesa – Porto

## U.S. Students

## Fulbright / FLAD Open Study/Research Award

Joshua Stern Field of Study: Neuroscience Home Institution: Harvard University Project Title: Check the Map: Serotonin's Role in Hippocampal Contextual Remapping Host Institution: Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown Mayson Whipple\_ Field of Study: Chemistry Home Institution: Michigan State University Project Title: Engineering and Deploying a Substance Use Disorder Vaccine: A Cross Cultural Study Host Institution: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

## Fulbright / Camões, I.P. Open Study/Research Award

Devon Newhouse Field of Study: History Home Institution: Brown University Project Title: Roots Across the Ocean: The Journey of Cashew Through Portuguese Colonial Circuits Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa

Fulbright Open Study/Research Award, with the support of the Azores Regional Government

#### Abigail Lindo

Field of Study: Music Studies Home Institution: University of Florida Project Title: The Sounds of Azorean Autonomous Identity: A Cultural and Sonic Ethnography of São Miguel Host Institution: Universidade dos Açores

#### Lily Snider

Field of Study: Creative Writing Home Institution: University of Pennsylvania Project Title: Bearing Witness: A Journey through Judaism in the Azores (Creative Non-Fiction) Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa / Câmara Municipal de Ponta Delgada/Sahar Hassamain Synagogue Museum

### **English Teaching Assistants**

Alvin Synarong Home Institution: Princeton University Host Institution: Universidade Católica Portuguesa-Porto

Hannah Bernier Home Institution: University of Texas at Austin Host Institution: Instituto Politécnico de Leiria

<u>Melanie Rosa-Chaves</u> Home Institution: Adelphi University Host Institution: Universidade da Madeira <u>Georgia Beckmann</u> Home Institution: Trinity College Host Institution: ISCTE-IUL

Hannah Broderick Home Institution: Tulane University of Louisiana Host Institution: Universidade de Aveiro

Elba Garcia Home Institution: Emory University Host Institution: ISG | Business & Economics School

## Fulbright-Schuman Open Study / Research Award

Mara Heneghan Field of Study: Public Policy Home Institution: University of Chicago Project: A Comparative Study on Social Mobilization and Housing Policy in the European Union Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa

## Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Program

Sandra Williams Field of Study: History of Art Home Institution: University of Michigan Project: Mardahnagi-Zanahnagi. Gender Representation in Persianate Painting Host Institution: Museu Calouste Gulbenkian

## 2022/2023 grantees' testimonies

During their Fulbright in Portugal, U.S. grantees are welcome to share their experiences as part of the educational and cultural engagement in their host communities that is a cornerstone of the Fulbright Program.

The "My Fulbright Experience" testimonies are widely shared to the Commission's social media and weekly newsletter and can come as a reflection of a grantee's overall experience, their involvement in enrichment activities, classes, and volunteering experiences that our grantees eagerly participate in or their travel to present lectures or take part in conferences.

All first-hand accounts of the U.S. "cultural ambassadors" to our country – and the engaging pictures that accompany them - depict a vivid picture of what prospective candidates can discover in Portugal and how transformative Fulbright can be:



Sharvari Karandikar, Fulbright Specialist at University of Coimbra

"I plan to continue to develop and nurture this collaboration with faculty members from the University of Coimbra and build strong partnerships for future research and student and faculty exchange."



Hannah Bernier, Fulbright ETA at the Polytechnic Institute of Leiria

"Through the stories of my students and my experiences living in Leiria, I understood how vital a sense of place and a feeling of belonging are to continued wellbeing in a globalized space."



"I am thankful for the wealth of experiences I was able to have during my Fulbright period in the Azores"



Kristen Schiele, Fulbright Scholar in Communication & Media Studies / Polytechnic of Lisbon

"I am grateful to Fulbright for this amazing opportunity to teach and conduct research in this beautiful country. The experience has helped me to develop, not just as an academic, but as a human being. When I return home to University of Southern California, I look forward to sharing all that I have learned with my students."

## U.S. Scholars

## All Disciplines Award

Jacquelyn Chase Field of Study: Geography Home Institution: California State University-Chico Project Title: Rural Revitalization and Thriving with Fire in Portugal Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa

Mahir Bilen Can Field of Study: Mathematics Home Institution: Tulane University of Louisiana Project Title: Incidence Monoids Host Institution: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

Stephanie Kane Field of Study: Anthropology Home Institution: Indiana University - Bloomington Project Title: Port City as Avian Habitat: Ethnography at the Interface of Infrastructure and Environment Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Ligia Collado-Vides Field of Study: Biology Home Institution: Florida International University Project Title: Characterize and compare the dynamics and magnitude of Sargassum and Rugulopterix macroalgae blooms Host Institution: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

Ryan Kerrigan Field of Study: Geology Home Institution: University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown Project Title: Examining islands of rock to understand how mountains are built: Braganca & Morais Massifs, Portugal Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa

## Fulbright Award in Management / ISCTE-IUL, Business Research Unit (BRU-IUL)

Andrew Hafenbrack Field of Study: Business Home Institution: University of Washington-Seattle Project Title: Digital Colonial(tour)ism and Mindfulness Intervention Host Institution: ISCTE – Instituto Universitário de Lisboa.

#### Fulbright Award in Marketing, Communication & Media Studies / Polytechnic of Lisbon

Sydney Chinchanachokchai Field of Study: Marketing Home Institution: University of Akron Project Title: Influencer marketing: A cross-cultural comparison between Portugal and the United States Host Institution: Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa

## Fulbright Award in Space, Atmosphere, Ocean, Climate, Energy and Data Science / AIR Centre

Nina Mahmoudian Field of Study: Engineering Home Institution: Purdue University Project Title: Enabling Real-time Networked Marine Ecosystem Monitoring Host Institution: Associação para o Desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre (AD AIR Centre)

### Fulbright Award in Law and Sustainability / NOVA School of Law

 Burke Griggs

 Field of Study: Law

 Home Institution: Washburn University

 Project Title:
 Conjunctive Management of

 Transboundary Waters in the Iberian Peninsula and the

 Southwest USA

 Host Institution: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

Fulbright Specialists (to be selected)

## U.S. Students

#### Fulbright / FLAD Open Study/Research Award

Kenzo Kimura
Field of Study: Public Health
Home Institution: New York University
Project Title: The Culture of Caring: An assessment of
Portugal's Elderly
Host Institution: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

Michelle Furmansky Field of Study: Public Policy Home Institution: University of Pittsburgh Project Title: Portugal and Youth (Un)Employment Host Institution: Universidade de Lisboa

## Fulbright / Camões, I.P. Open Study/Research Award

Corinne Clarkson Field of Study: Political Science Home Institution: University of Utah Project Title: Three Generations of Female Political Attitudes in Portugal's Democratic State Host Institution: ISCTE – Instituto Universitário de Lisboa

#### Fulbright Open Study/Research Award, with the support of the Azores Regional Government

Jacob Moniz

Field of Study: Creative Writing Home Institution: University of Notre Dame Project Title: The Things You'll Inherit: A Novel Host Institution: Universidade dos Açores

## English Teaching Assistants

Bushra Rahman Home Institution: Emory University Host Institution: Instituto Politécnico de Leiria

<u>Julia Clark</u> Home Institution: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Host Institution: Egas Moniz School of Health & Science

Yanira Garcia Home Institution: Emory University Host Institution: ISCTE-IUL Micah Porter

Field of Study: Development Studies Home Institution: Wake Forest University Project Title: Marine Spatial Planning: Achieving and Evaluating Sustainability in Fishing Communities Host Institution: Universidade dos Açores

Jocelyn Vega-Robledo Home Institution: Pitzer College Host Institution: Universidade da Madeira

Marco Barcenas-Consuelo\_ Home Institution: University of Richmond Host Institution: Universidade de Aveiro

## Portuguese Grant Program

The Portuguese Fulbright Grant Program consists of a portfolio of 11 grants: 8 for students and 3 for scholars. All competitions take place annually, during December and January, for the following academic year.

## Fulbright Grants for Students (pre-doctoral):

Fulbright Grant for Research
Fulbright Grant for Research with the support of FCT
Fulbright Grant for Research with the support of the Regional Government of the Azores
Fulbright Grant for Research with the support of FLAD
Fulbright Grant for Master's degree
Fulbright Grant for Ph.D. degree with the support of FCT
Fulbright / Fundação Carmona e Costa Master of Fine Arts-Drawing
Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) (AY23/24)

## Fulbright Grants for Scholars (post-doctoral):

Fulbright Grant for Scholars and Researchers with Ph.D. Fulbright Grant for Scholars and Researchers with Ph.D. with the support of Camões I.P. Fulbright Visiting Award at Florida Polytechnic Institute (AY23/24)

Except for two student grants, Portuguese candidates are self-placed. This means that they are scientifically evaluated by and accepted to an American university or research center before applying for the Fulbright Program in Portugal. For this reason, each Selection Committee assesses all eligible candidates regardless of their field of study. Above all, it is necessary to consider the capacity of the candidates to live up to the spirit of the Fulbright Program, and to reflect the diversity of Portuguese society. In other words, their potential to be cultural ambassadors for Portugal and for the Fulbright Program during their stay in the U.S. and after, when returning to Portugal, within their academic and home communities in general. Therefore, even though Fulbright Grants are merit-based, the Committee also considers aspects for merit that go beyond the "academic merit", such as:

- Potential for bringing positive change in education in general.

- Civic engagement and participation in social initiatives.

- Capacity to overcome hardship and adversity.

- The applicant's journey leading up to applying for a Fulbright grant, and their access to resources.

- Impact of personal and cultural identities, or family and community circumstances, on the candidate's academic and professional paths.

In the Research category for students and for scholars, Fulbright Grants support candidates who want to develop research and/or a teaching project (the latter just for scholars) in HEI or research centers in the U.S., for all scientific domains. Eligible applicants must have:

- A *Licenciatura* (undergraduate) degree for students, and a Ph.D. degree for scholars.

- Proficient knowledge of the English language.

- An Affiliation letter: agreement with their research project from one accredited American university or research center.

In the Graduate Studies category, our Fulbright Master's and Ph.D. Grants support students who have been accepted to the first year of a Master's or a Ph.D. program, respectively, in an accredited American university, for all fields of study. Eligible applicants must have:

- A *Licenciatura* (undergraduate) degree.

- Proficient knowledge of the English language.

- An Admission letter from one accredited American university.

Awardees of multi-country programs, such as the Fulbright-Schuman Program (administered by the Fulbright Commission in Belgium and Luxembourg) and the Fulbright Scholar in Residence Program (administered directly by the IIE) are also supported by Fulbright Portugal throughout their programs.

## Portuguese Students

## Fulbright Grant for Research

#### Ana Rita Garcia

Field of Study: Pharmacy Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: 3D blood-brain barrier microvasculature model that recapitulates the in vivo features of human blood-brain barrier and study of the metastatic progress of breast cancer cells Host Institution: Johns Hopkins University

#### Duarte Folgado

Field of Study: Biomedical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade Nova de Lisboa Project Title: Developing explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) methods applied to biomedical time series Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology Ana Coimbra Trigo Field of Study: Law Home Institution: Universidade Nova de Lisboa Project Title: Application of the 1958 New York Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards by US courts Host Institution: Columbia University

#### Fulbright Grant for Research, with the support of FLAD

#### Edite Felgueiras

Field of Study: Science Communication Home Institution: Universidade do Minho Project Title: The rise of science backed-brands and how consumer brands' communication is influencing public perceptions about it Host Institution: Stanford University

#### João Matos

Field of Study: Biomedical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Towards a unified Data Ecosystem in Global Healthcare Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#### Francisco Silva

Field of Study: Marine and Atmospheric Sciences Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro Project Title: New remote sensing techniques for ocean observation, precisely internal waves detection; recent technology on Cubesats, machine learning techniques Host Institution: University of Georgia

## Fulbright Grant for Research, with the support of the Regional Government of the Azores

#### Luís Teves

Field of Study: Molecular Biology Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Methylation patterns in frozen post-mortem brain samples from Machado-Joseph Disease patients and healthy controls to identify DNA methylation changes characteristic of the disorder Host Institution: University of Michigan

#### Fulbright Grant for Research, with support from FCT

#### Afonso Ferreira

Field of Study: Marine Sciences Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Link between the dynamics of phytoplankton communities and CO2 fluxes in the Southern Ocean Host Institution: Rutgers University

#### Ana Catarina Franco

Field of Study: Pharmaceutical Sciences Home Institution: Universidade de Coimbra Project Title: Contribution of cellular senescence in the skin to systemic aging Host Institution: Mayo Clinic

#### Ana Sofia Carvalho

Field of Study: Astronomy and Astrophysics Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Study and implementation of new software for unsupervised detection of cluster candidates Host Institution: University of California-Irvine

#### Anabela Veiga

Field of Study: Biomedical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade Católica do Porto Project Title: Production of a novel functional skin substitute with potential for the industrial sector Host Institution: Tufts University

#### Beatriz Almeida

Field of Study: Biomedicine Home Institution: Universidade de Coimbra Project Title: Validate the efficiency of in silico designed allosteric transcription factors, aiming to achieve new programmable transcription factors Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#### Camila Lobo

Field of Study: Philosophy Home Institution: Universidade Nova de Lisboa Project Title: The Perspective of Care – Toward a Feminist Epistemology of Work Host Institution: The New School for Social Research

#### Carlos Marques

eleaans

Field of Study: Biology Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro Project Title: Cellular and molecular mechanisms of neurotoxicity, performing a neuronal and cell biology appraisal on the model organism Caenorhabditis

Host Institution: Albert Einstein College of Medicine

<u>Ana Catarina Azevedo</u> Field of Study: Biomedical Sciences

Home Institution: Universidade do Porto
 Project Title: T cell genetic editing and evaluate its anti-tumor immune response
 Host Institution: University of Pittsburgh

#### Ana Margarida Gonçalves

Field of Study: Neurosciences Home Institution: Universidade do Minho Project Title: Atypical development of autism spectrum disorder and searching for trajectories to autism and the identification of autism using Near-infrared spectroscopy Host Institution: Harvard University

#### Ana Sofia dos Santos

Field of Study: Chemical and Biological Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Synthesis and characterization of catalysts to be applied in catalytic reactions for water treatment Host Institution: The University of Texas at Austin

#### António Oliveira

Field of Study: Physical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro Project Title: Optimize the optoelectronic performance of CdTe solar cells by the development of absorbers with bandgap gradients Host Institution: University of Delaware

#### Bernardo Gonçalves

Field of Study: Physics Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: The missing pieces of the Standard Model of Particle Physics Host Institution: The College of William & Mary

#### <u>Carlos Barreto</u>

Field of Study: Biomedicine Home Institution: Universidade de Coimbra Project Title: How different ligands lead to different downstream effectors in the cell, using enhanced computational methods Host Institution: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount

Sinai

#### Carlos Santos

Field of Study: Civil Engineering Home Institution: Universidade do Minho Project Title: Condition assessment of aging bridges and the management of all information generated in the operational process

Host Institution: University of Central Florida

#### Fulbright Grant for Research, with support from FCT (cont.)

#### Catarina Costa

Field of Study: Biomedical Sciences Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: The role of post-translational modifications in LANA, a crucial protein for the survival of the oncogenic virus KHSV in the human body Host Institution: Harvard Medical School

#### Flávia Martins

Field of Study: Biomedicine Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: The identification of therapeutic targets and disease biomarkers for mutant KRAS cancer patients

Host Institution: Northwestern University

#### João Campôa

Field of Study: Molecular Biology Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Understanding the mechanism underlying spindle orientation defects in dividing cells Host Institution: University of Massachusetts Amherst

#### Pedro Costa

Field of Study: Computer Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Optimization of numerical schemes in the Computational Fluid Dynamics field (CFD) via machine learning

Host Institution: University of Colorado Boulder

#### Raquel Matos

Field of Study: Civil Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro Project Title: Retail location models in the context of urban planning while also considering the impacts of online shopping

Host Institution: University of California-Santa Barbara

#### Sara Gamelas

Field of Study: Chemistry Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro

**Project Title:** Developing new photo-responsive phthalocyanine and porphyrin dyes for potential applications in Materials and Medicinal Chemistry **Host Institution:** Washington University in St. Louis

#### Tiago Fernandes

Field of Study: Biomedical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro

**Project Title:** Magnetic Resonance tools and techniques aiming for its accessibility, more specifically looking for longitudinal and quantitative analysis of Knee and Hip imaging

**Host Institution:** Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

#### Daniel Oliveira

Field of Study: Computer Engineering Home Institution: Universidade do Minho

**Project Title:** Materializing the uTango infrastructure, a novel multi-world Trusted Execution Environment specifically tailored for mixed-criticality systems and low-end IoT-based devices

Host Institution: University of Central Florida

#### Helena Almeida

Field of Study: Biomedical Sciences Home Institution: Universidade do Porto

**Project Title:** Development of anisotropic nanoparticles for enhanced oral delivery of therapeutic peptides, particularly in the context of type I diabetes mellitus management

Host Institution: Harvard Medical School

#### Nelson Leça

Field of Study: Computer Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Optimization of numerical schemes in the Computational Fluid Dynamics field (CFD) via machine learning Host Institution: University of Colorado Boulder

#### Rafael Belchior

Field of Study: Computer Science Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa

**Project Title:** Enabling interoperability across heterogeneous systems and building resilient blockchain infrastructure as the foundation for cross-chain use cases such as digital asset management

Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#### Rui Colaço

Field of Study: Territorial Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Retail location models in the context of urban planning while also considering the impacts of online shopping

Host Institution: University of California-Santa Barbara

#### Sara Silvestre

Field of Study: Materials Science

Home Institution: Universidade Nova de Lisboa

**Project Title:** Renewable materials and environmentally friendly methodologies to develop components that can be integrated into self-sustaining technological platforms

**Host Institution:** Iowa State University of Science and Technology

#### Violeta Carvalho

Field of Study: Mechanical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade do Minho Project Title: Development and optimization of innovative nanoparticles and a preclinical organ-on-a-chip platform for nanomedicine Host Institution: Harvard Medical School

## Fulbright Grant for Ph.D., with the support of FCT

#### Miguel Moreira

Field of Study: Computer Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Scaling superconducting qubit technology for the development of large-scale quantum computers Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology Tiago Lobo-Dos-Santos Field of Study: Family Sciences Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Early school absenteeism trajectories and their behavioral and health consequences, focusing on Portuguese Romani children Host Institution: University of Kentucky

## Fulbright Grant for Masters, with the support of FLAD

Leonor Mendes Field of Study: Theater Arts Home Institution: Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa Program: Master's degree in Performance studies Host Institution: New York University

### Fulbright / Fundação Carmona e Costa Grant for MFA - Drawing

Goncalo Preto Field of Study: Fine Arts Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Program: Master's of Fine Arts Host Institution: Rhode Island School of Design

## Portuguese Scholars

#### Bruno Reynaud de Sousa Field of Study: Law

Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: EU-US cooperation for commercial space activities and space traffic management Host Institution: George Washington University

#### Rui Ribeiro

Field of Study: Chemical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Molecular Engineering as a Tool for Developing Enhanced Bifunctional Carbon-Based Electrocatalysts: Towards Effective Application of Hydrogen as Energy Vector Host Institution: City College of New York

## Fulbright Schuman Program

Lígia Coelho Field of Study: Astrobiology

Home Institution: Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa
Project Title: Study and creation of databases of biosignatures that serve as a tool for space missions searching for extra-terrestrial life
Host Institution: Cornell University

## Fulbright Scholars in Residence

#### Marta de Menezes Field of Study: Fine Arts Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Providing lectures and workshops to students, faculty, and community members, assisting in developing courses and coaching students participating in an international Biodesign Challenge Host Institution: University of New Mexico

#### Marco Vasconcelos

Field of Study: Experimental Psychology Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro Project Title: Experimentally induced irrational behaviors, using such maladaptive decisions to study the nature of adaptive decision mechanisms Host Institution: University of California-Los Angeles

#### <u>Tiago Silva</u>

Field of Study: PhysicsHome Institution: Instituto Superior TécnicoProjectTitle:Modelingandexperimentalcharacterizationofnon-equilibriumkineticsoflow-temperature molecular plasmasHost Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

## 2022/2023 grantees' testimonies

Portuguese grantees are kindly invited to give their testimonials during and after their Fulbright grant. This visual and written material published on our social media, including in the Newsletter, has become an important and dynamic tool, not only to give an insight into the Fulbright life cycle, but also to communicate how Fulbright community is – wide, inclusive, safe, and diverse. Furthermore, Fulbright testimonials can be positive, real, and informative feedback for all – Commission, partners, HEI, alums community, and followers in general.

Portuguese Fulbrighters both learn and teach during their Fulbright experience. As Cultural Ambassadors, they have exposed their host communities to new cultures and ideas, and in turn have taken their experiences back and shared them with family, friends, peers, and with prospective Fulbright candidates, for instance, during the Commission's outreach events. This exchange is a fundamental part of our Program's mission of promoting mutual understanding.

## During the grant's life cycle: "Fulbrighters in Action"After the grant (debriefing): "My Fulbright Experience"

#### Visiting Scholar Researcher, Marco Vasconcelos

«My Fulbright experience stands as an invaluable chapter in my life journey, encompassing a wealth of scientific advancements that have deepened my intellectual horizons, and a series of culturally enriching exchanges that have broadened my understanding through interactions with a myriad of diverse communities. This transformative experience has not only honed my professional skills but also fostered a profound sense of appreciation for the intricate tapestry of human cultures that I had the privilege of immersing myself in.»



#### Visiting Student Researcher, Violeta Carvalho

«These past five months in Boston were an incredible period of learning and growth, both professionally and personally. I am truly grateful to have had this experience, which, despite its brevity, was undeniably enriching. Working alongside a team of exceptional researchers from renowned universities from all over the world was a privilege, and their invaluable guidance and support throughout my research meant a lot to me. This experience allowed me to expand my professional network and establish valuable partnerships. Furthermore, the intellectual exchanges, collaborative projects, and multicultural interactions have broadened my horizons.»



## Visiting Student Researcher, João Matos

«Reflecting on my Fulbright experience, it changed the way I see research and my career. Opened a world of opportunities and new connections. Made me more humble and aware of what I don't know. It made me understand better that science is very much about building and working with community - I love it.»



#### Visiting Student Researcher, Ana Coimbra Trigo

«I found at Columbia Law School, besides an inspiring supervisor and attentive faculty and staff, a vibrant academic community that had as much of an "Americana" movie imagination, as it did of a multicultural melting pot. The ability to interact with students and scholars from all over the US and the world was an unparalleled opportunity. Besides, the many Fulbright-oriented social events that were hosted during my stay allowed me to see more of the "Big Apple". Halloween and Thanksgiving were good opportunities to learn new traditions on that side of the Atlantic. I can only hope to pay forward in Portugal, both professionally and personally.»



#### Ph.D. Student, Tiago Lobo-Dos-Santos

«Being an international Ph.D. Student is heavily charged, of course, with research, coursework, homesickness and continuous cultural readjustments. When you are a Fulbrighter, you are also accountable for representing your country the best you can. In other words, you are letting others know who you are and where you come from. Showing them some of the different parts of your identity and roots. When I share my identity, I have also the opportunity to learn by opening space to hearing about other people's identities.»



## Portuguese Students

#### Fulbright Grant for Research

#### Maria Inês Farrim

Field of Study: Biosciences & Health Technologies Home Institution: Universidade Lusófona  $\ensuremath{\text{Project}}$  Title: Targeting  $\beta\ensuremath{\text{-cell}}$  dysfunction as a therapeutic strategy for diabetes: a multi-omics approach focused on  $\alpha$ - to  $\beta$ -cell-like transdifferentiation Host Institution: University of California-Davis

### Fulbright Grant for Research, with the support of FLAD

#### Ana Mesias

Field of Study: Biomedical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade Católica Portuguesa Project Title: Bio-peptides with neuroprotective and neuromodulator potential upon brain disorders Host Institution: Standford University

#### Gabriela Biscotto

Field of Study: Architecture Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Understand and test new technologies and processes applicable to modular construction Host Institution: The Pennsylvania State University

#### Bernardo Gabriel

Field of Study: Electrical and Computer Engineering Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Design and develop a modular and power efficient motherboard for autonomous underwater vehicles

Host Institution: Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute

#### Pedro Ligeiro

Field of Study: Entrepreneurial Studies Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: North Carolina Research Triangle Park (RTP), and its ecosystem of Innovation Host Institution: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

#### Fulbright Grant for Research, with the support of the Regional Government of the Azores

#### Gil Silva

Field of Study: Computer Science Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Next-generation functional programming language to facilitate safe and efficient parallel programming Host Institution: Carnegie Mellon University

## Fulbright Grant for Research, with support from FCT

#### André Carvalho

Field of Study: Chemistry Home Institution: Universidade do Minho Project Title: Enzyme instructed self-assembly of dehydropeptides for cancer therapy Host Institution: Brandeis University

Catarina Carvalhas-Almeida Field of Study: Pharmaceutical Sciences Home Institution: Universidade de Coimbra Project Title: The impact of sleep deprivation on neuron-glia interplay and glial clocks Host Institution: University of Pennsylvania

#### Rui Mota

Field of Study: Geosciences Home Institution: Universidade dos Acores Project Title: Developing optical and thermal satellite remote sensing-based approaches for monitoring volcanic clouds Host Institution: U.S. Geological Survey at the Alaska Volcano Observatory

#### André Santos

Field of Study: Computer Science Home Institution: Universidade de Coimbra Project Title: Development of new hydrogel-based platforms for biomedical applications: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Magnetic Hyperthermia and drug delivery Host Institution: Carnegie Mellon University

Diana Cunha Field of Study: Pharmaceutical Sciences Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: The development of analytical strategies for the evaluation of biopharmaceuticals, targeting their characterization and auality control Host Institution: Iowa State University

Fulbright Grant for Research, with support from FCT (cont.)

#### Diana Gomes

Field of Study: Biochemistry Home Institution: Universidade da Beira Interior Project Title: Biosynthesis and purification of HPV E6 and E7 oncoproteins to explore specific drugs against cervical cancer Host Institution: University of Virginia

#### Diogo Esteves Pereira

Field of Study: Chemistry Home Institution: Universidade de Aveiro Project Title: Development of magnetic activated carbon for water treatment, specifically the adsorption of organic emerging micropollutants at trace levels with the aim of improving water and wastewater quality Host Institution: University at Buffalo

#### Francisco Cruz

Field of Study: Psychology Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: The origin of skepticism towards psychological science and its root Host Institution: Princeton University

#### Maria Miguel Castro

Field of Study: Psychology Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Understand if cell-cell adhesion, mediated by the co-expression of two adhesion molecules (E- and P-cadherin), can function as a metastasis-promoter and a candidate to control survival and therapeutic resistance of inflammatory breast cancer cells Host Institution: Johns Hopkins University

#### Paulo Faria

Field of Study: Biomedical Sciences Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Create a novel multistage cancer vaccine that effectively tackles glioblastoma (GBM), the most common and lethal type of brain cancer Host Institution: Northeastern University

#### Sara Mesquita

Field of Study: Public Health Home Institution: Universidade Nova de Lisboa Project Title: Improve the predictability of the spread of (infectious) diseases in complex techno-social systems, incorporating the dynamic nature of human behavior into algorithms and predictive models Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#### Susana Tracana

Field of Study: Biology Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: The virus-host interaction of HIV-2 in comparison to HIV-1 Host Institution: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Diogo Carvalho Field of Study: Physics Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Machine learning algorithms for laser-plasma simulations Host Institution: University of California-Los Angeles

Filipa Prata Silva Field of Study: Biology Home Institution: Universidade Católica Portuguesa Project Title: Viral chromatin methylation during KSHV (Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus) infection Host Institution: Harvard University

Joana Pereira Field of Study: Biology Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Understand the mechanisms underlying

host resistance and plasma membrane (PM) repair upon challenge with pneumolysin, a poreforming toxin and major virulence factor produced by the deadly human bacterial pathogen S. pneumoniae **Host Institution:** Tufts University in Boston

#### Mariana Dias

Field of Study: Biomedical Engineering Home Institution: Universidade Nova de Lisboa Project Title: The development of Deep Neural Networks to process and extract patterns from biosignals Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#### Rafaela Ferrão

Field of Study: Biology Home Institution: Universidade de Coimbra Project Title: The development of Deep Neural Networks to process and extract patterns from biosignals Host Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#### Sofia Dias

Field of Study: Biomedical Sciences Home Institution: Universidade do Porto Project Title: Developing and establishing novel and clinically relevant in vitro colorectal cancer models for drug and nanomedicine efficacy screening Host Institution: University of Pennsylvania

Fulbright Schuman Program for Pre-Doctoral Research Students

Diogo Machado Field of Study: Economics Home Institution: KU Leuven Project Title: The role of transatlantic cooperation in supporting high-risk/high-reward science Host Institution: University of California-Berkeley

## Fulbright Grant for PhD, with the support of FCT

André de Moura Field of Study: Mathematics Home Institution: Universidade da Beira Interior Project Title: Yale University; Project: Arithmetic geometry, the application of algebraic geometry to number-theoretic problems Host Institution: The University of Illinois at Chicago

## Fulbright Grant for Masters, with the support of FLAD

Tomás Ambrósio Field of Study: Business Administration Home Institution: Nova SBE Project Title: MBA Host Institution: Harvard University

## Fulbright-FLTA, Foreign Language Teaching Assistant

Inês Catarino Field of Study: Linguistics Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Language Teaching Assistant Host Institution: University of Oregon

## Portuguese Scholars

#### Ana Teresa Freitas

Field of Study: Computer Science and Engineering Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Develop new algorithms to improve polygenic risk models, exploring deep learning techniques on datasets with hundreds of thousands of genomes Host Institution: National Cancer Institute

#### Eduardo Medeiros

Field of Study: Geography Home Institution: ISCTE-IUL Project Title: Compare how USA and EU Border Cities are contributing and can contribute for increasing territorial integration Host Institution: Arizona State University Carina Crucho Field of Study: Chemistry Home Institution: Universidade de Lisboa Project Title: Develop a targeted oral delivery strategy for aminoglycoside antibiotics based on organosilica nanoparticles Host Institution: University of Georgia

## Fulbright Grant for Scholars with the Support of Camões I.P.

Carolina Rito\_ Field of Study: Curatorial Studies Home Institution: Conventry University Project Title: Conceptual framework for curatorial research and recommendations to support the development of high standard curatorial research in the cultural sector and academia Host Institution: School of Visual Arts

## **Grant Supporting Activities**

## Events and activities for Grantees

## 2023 Fulbright Portugal Forum

This annual event aims at providing the opportunity for current grantees and alums to present their projects developed under the aegis of the Fulbright Program and for engaging with each other, in an interesting dialogue between Portuguese and U.S. participants.

In 2023 "Fulbrighters contributions for a Sustainable Future during this time of crisis" was the motto for thought-provoking conversations and sharing testimonies about "Making Space for Nature: Environmental Storytelling in the TESOL Classroom"; "Connected Worlds: Combining The Sustainability Forces and Scientific Research"; "Cashew in Portuguese India: Fulbright, environmental history & sustainability"; "Facility Management's Contributions to achieving Sustainable Development"; "Sustainable Development and Outer Space: the Challenge of Orbital Debris"; "From Space to the Deep Sea: An Approach to Explore the Earth using a Miniature Satellite"; and how, to sum up, heritage, cultural diversity and science interconnect as a driver for more sustainable societies.



## U.S. grantees Virtual Pre-Departure Meeting

The Commission gathered the 2023 cohort of U.S. grantees for a virtual pre-departure meeting, where we focused on aspects that grantees must consider before travelling to Portugal. Topics that were highlighted during the meeting included grantee's benefits and responsibilities; ASPE coverage; visa application; housing, schools, and medical checklist; cultural shock and mental support; in-country support, health networking and community engagement. Fulbright U.S. Programs alumni provide invaluable information and tips on navigating the very different academic and cultural environments that recently selected grantees will find in Portugal.



## U.S. grantees In-country Orientation

The Fulbright Commission in Portugal hosted its annual in-country orientation for grantees starting their programs during the Fall. It was two full days of panel discussions presented by partner and host institutions, and Portuguese and U.S. alumni, on topics such as diversity and cultural identity; community engagement and volunteer opportunities; host institution's welcoming strategies and how to manage the grantees' expectations; mental health & wellness abroad. Cultural and networking events offered the perfect opportunity for grantees to get to know the history and culture of Portugal and to develop connections with fellow Portuguese grantees and alumni, in an informal and friendly setting



## Portuguese Grantees Pre-Departure Session

As usual, the Commission offered a pre-departure orientation for Portuguese Fulbright grantees before the start of their grants in the U.S. The event is organized to allow students, scholars, and researchers to learn more about the logistics when preparing for their programs: Port of Entry; finances; bringing family; health benefits and safety information; adjusting to a new life and a new culture; networking; etc.



Resources on Mental Health, Cultural Shock, and American HEI are designed to address questions that have come up in former feedback and shared with current grantees. A U.S. Consulate Visa Officer was invited to explain the Visa process and take questions from our grantees. The event was also supported by the help of former grantees, from different grants' categories, to offer first-hand advice and tips to current participants. To sum up, Pre-Departure orientation encourages Fulbrighters to get prepared to have a productive and meaningful experience in the U.S., allowing participants to meet and connect with each other right from the offset.

## Award Ceremony

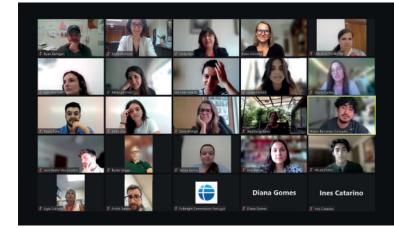
This annual event intends to honor new Fulbrighters, recognize their diversity and potential and introduce them to the Fulbright community as a whole – partners, stakeholders, and alums. In 2023, the ceremony was hosted by the U.S. Ambassador to Lisbon, Randy Charno Levine, who is the Co-Honorary Chair of the Fulbright Commission, who addressed the cohort, stating: "You Fulbrighters will"



serve, informally, as cultural ambassadors and foster relationships and understanding between our two countries for years to come. Your influence will extend even further, as you create a community of expertise and support that enriches the Fulbright alumni network not only in Portugal, but across the world. "

## Fulbright PT/US Virtual Get Together

By the end of May, a virtual 'Get Together' meeting was organized to, precisely, bring together Portuguese and American Fulbrighters before departing for their Programs in the U.S. and in Portugal throughout the academic year. This event is an excellent opportunity for fellow Fulbrighters to meet, network, share experiences and ask questions about the host countries and/or institutions before their grants start. We hope it also to be an occasion for the grantees to challenge limiting beliefs and fears often present in such cultural immersive experiences.



### In person Get Together in 2023

To celebrate Fulbright Portugal's 63rd anniversary, on March 19, the Commission, U.S. and Portuguese grantees and alumni got together for a gathering around the table, with drinks and few gourmet snacks. It was the perfect chance to catch up on the conversation and watch the sun going down in Lisbon.



## Alumni activities and Special Events

## Fulbright Portugal Picnic (October 1, 2022)

A one-time event on a Saturday morning at Gulbenkian garden, in Lisbon, that nevertheless brought together alums from different generations to share snacks and treats. Due to its simplicity, participants enjoyed each other's presence in a casual and relaxing way. In fact, the feedback was very positive: fresh air; sunshine; finger food; and laughter were the echoing words.

## International Volunteer Day (December 5, 2022)

Alumni and current grantees were invited to help advance Fulbright Portugal's social responsibility, as structured by the SDGs. This was a rewarding activity with Semear, a program that provides training and work for people with developmental challenges and intellectual disabilities, allowing us a sense of purpose outside our professional context, as well as the development of soft skills such as communication with others, teamwork in a different environment, adaptability, and resourcefulness.

We were happy to have Portuguese and American Fulbrighters attend our call. Since our objective is toward a more inclusive future and to help build resilient communities around, International Volunteer Day is a unique opportunity that we intend to take every year.



## **Art Exhibitions**

Art serves as cultural representation, educating about different communities and, simultaneously, transcending cultures and languages. Art is also entertaining; it can be fun and enjoyable. Taking advantage of these characteristics, in 2023, together with current Fulbrighters, alumns, Board Members and Partners, we visited 3 Art exhibitions:

- Laranjas (February, 2023) by Portuguese visual artist, Luís Paulo Costa. This was an invitation from our partner Fundação Carmona e Costa (FCC) to their headquarters/Art Gallery.

- Entrelinhas (March 2023), by Portuguese visual artist and Fulbrighter, Mónica Coelho.

- Democracy Collection: Advocacy Through Art (June 2023): An exhibition put together by the U.S. Embassy in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the "Office of Art in Embassies", a Program established by President John F. Kennedy to create cross-cultural dialogues and mutual understanding through visual arts exhibitions around the world.



#### **Other Commission activities**

#### Partnership development and new awards

Working in partnership is part of how the Fulbright Commission in Portugal operates and thrives. Throughout FY2023, the Fulbright Commission renewed partnerships and established new ones with:

Camões, Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua, I.P.



The Fulbright Commission renewed the cooperation with Camões I.P., for a joint program including a Grant for Portuguese Professors and Researchers with PhD, and a Grant for U.S. Students. The partnership is one of the Commission's oldest in force, starting with the signing of the first Collaboration Protocol in 1999, and it was renewed for 3 years, to be implemented from AY2023/2024 to AY2025/2026. It is intended to support projects in the areas of Culture, Translation and Interpretation, Assessment and Certification of Learning, Pedagogy and Didactics of Portuguese Teaching, Distance Learning, Linguistics and Literature. Projects should also focus topics of Portuguese Language and Culture, with priority given to studies of special relevance to Luso-American cultural relations.

#### Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia – FCT, I.P



The Fulbright Commission and FCT renewed its annual cooperation protocol, which establishes a joint grant program, allowing Portuguese students to attend full doctoral programs or carry out pre-doctoral research projects in the U.S, as well as U.S. researchers to develop research projects in universities and research centers in Portugal. FCT also supports the Fulbright Award in Space, Atmosphere, Ocean, Climate, Energy and Data Science / AIR Centre, for U.S. Scholars.



#### Florida Polytechnic University



The Fulbright Commission signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Florida Polytechnic University (Florida Poly), with the aim of awarding a Fulbright Visiting Award, to support Professors and Researchers with Ph.D. who wish to carry out research projects at Florida Poly in the USA. This new partnership will be in force for 5 years, to be implemented from AY2023/2024 to AY2027/2028. The Award is intended to support projects in the following areas of study: Computer Science; Computer Engineering; Data Science; Electrical Engineering; Environmental Engineering; Mechanical engineering; Autonomous Vehicles.

Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre



The Fulbright Commission and the Polytechnic Institute of Portalegre established the Fulbright Award in Computer Science / Polytechnic Institute of Portalegre, which will allow for the contribution of U.S. Professors and Researchers to carry out teaching and research projects, at the School of Technology and Management of the Polytechnic of Portalegre, for a period of four months each year, in the field of Computer Science. This new partnership is of special importance considering the Commission's commitment to the geographical diversity of the institutions hosting U.S. Fulbright scholars and for the stimulation of training and research at a regional level. The MoU was established for 3 years, covering AY2024/2025 to 2026/2027.



The Commission pursued fruitful collaboration with all its other esteemed partner institutions, as follows:

**Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento – FLAD** Joint grant program for Portuguese master's students and U.S. pre-doctoral students and researchers.

**Fundação Carmona e Costa – FCC** Grant for MFA – Drawing, competition opens every two years. The grant endorses the value of art and its role in shaping and enriching today's society.

**Azores Regional Government – GRA** Joint grant program for Azorean and U.S. pre-doctoral students, researchers and professionals.

**ISCTE-IUL, Business Research Unit - BRU-IUL** Fulbright Award in Management / ISCTE-IUL, BRU, for U.S. Scholars.

**Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere – IPMA** Fulbright Award Atlantic for Future / IPMA, for U.S. Scholars.

**Polytechnic Institute of Lisbon** Fulbright Award in Marketing, Communication & Media Studies / IPL-Politécnico de Lisboa, for U.S. Scholars.

**University of Minho** Fulbright Award in Law and Criminology / University of Minho, for U.S. Scholars.

**Catholic University of Portugal – UCP** Fulbright Award in Artificial Intelligence Ethics / Universidade Católica Portuguesa, for U.S. Scholars

**NOVA University of Lisbon, School of Law** Fulbright Award in Law and Sustainability / NOVA School of Law, for U.S. Scholars.

**Catholic University of Portugal – Porto** Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program, for U.S. Students

**ISCTE-University Institute of Lisbon** Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program, for U.S. Students

**ISG | Business & Economics School** Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program, for U.S. Students

**Polytechnic Institute of Leiria** Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program, for U.S. Students

University of Aveiro Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program, for U.S. Students

University of Madeira Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program, for U.S. Students)

#### Implementation of the FLTA Program for the first time in Portugal

In 2023, the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) was implemented in Portugal for the first time. This is a grant for early career English teachers or teachers of Portuguese as a foreign language to teach their native language – Portuguese from Portugal – in an American college or university for one academic year. The Institute of International Education (IIE) is responsible for the FLTA's placement in an American Higher Education institution.

#### Communication and Outreach

For both academic years of 2022/23 and 2023/24, several outreach sessions were conducted: in person at HEI from North to South of Portugal, including the archipelago of the Azores; and online. Hundreds of potential candidates attended our outreach sessions in person. There were also hundreds of views of the recorded online sessions, a powerful tool to reach out to potential candidates wherever they are based and at their own time convenience. According to feedback from potential candidates, the recorded sessions are also an excellent support in completing the Fulbright application form. For these sessions, in person and online, the Commission was able to welcome the testimony of at least one Fulbrighter, a student and/or a scholar, who shared their Fulbright experience in the U.S., as well as their feedback with the application process, both of which were said to be demanding but straightforward and very rewarding.

**Media Promotion:** During the two months that competitions were open, the information about the awards was highlighted on our website, included in our Newsletter, and shared on Fulbright social media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram. Our established network of connections with the Portuguese HEI offices of International Relations were also crucial in spreading the information to help recruit Fulbright applicants.

**Newsletter:** According to our grantees and alums' feedback, the Commission's weekly Newsletter provides not only the opportunity to share their own projects and events with the community (extended in 2023 to the International Relations offices of Portuguese HEI), but also a sense of belonging, underlining one of the Program's virtues, "Once a Fulbrighter always a Fulbrighter".

**International Days (ID)**: ID are key to engaging our community and audiences in general when it comes to bringing awareness on important topics to our societies on both sides of the Atlantic.

Recognized by the Commission since 2020, "European Diversity Month" (May), the "World Day for Cultural Diversity", "Dialogue and Development" (May 21), and "Pride Month" (June) encourage us to deepen our understanding of cultural diversity.



#### Support to the Internationalization of the Portuguese Higher Education Institutions (HEI)

The Fulbright Commission organizes and participates in projects which intend to support the efforts of internationalization of the Portuguese HEI towards the U.S.. In FY2023, such projects included:

#### Study & Research in Portugal

Within the scope of the USA Portugal initiative, Campus the Fulbright Commission, the National Agency for Erasmus+ Education and Training (ANE+EF), and FLAD organized the Portuguese pavilion and delegation at NAFSA, the largest Expo/Conference of international education in the U.S.. In 2023, NAFSA took place in Washington, DC, between May 30 and June 2, at NAFSA 2023. The Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education, Elvira Fortunato, accompanied by the Portuguese Ambassador to the USA, Francisco Duarte Lopes, inaugurated the Study & Research in Portugal pavilion and contacted the delegation of 50 national representatives. We were so honored and happy to welcome Lee Satterfield, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), at the Study & Research in Portugal booth.



#### Fulbright Portugal-USA Dialogues

In the aftermath of NAFSA, the Embassy of Portugal in Washington D.C. hosted the Fulbright Portugal - USA Dialogues, where representatives of U.S. and had Portuguese institutions the opportunity to discuss trends and challenges related to the exchange and mobility of students, teachers, and researchers between the two countries, as well as to share good practices and the relevance of the Portuguese language in international education.

The initiative continued with the visit of the Portuguese delegation to several universities in Washington DC and its larger metropolitan area. The visits included American University, Marymount University, University of Maryland -Baltimore County and George Mason University and were excellent opportunities to exchange views about internationalization, exchanges in STEM and research, sustainability, strategic plans, and diversity and inclusion of underrepresented students in experiences abroad.



### **Educational Advising**

#### **Information Services and Advising Activities**

The Fulbright Commission hosts the EducationUSA Advising Center, whose main activity is to promote U.S. higher education to students in Portugal, and we offer a wide range of in-person and virtual advising services to students and their families based on the 5 Steps to U.S. Study:

- The admissions process and standardized testing requirements
- How to finance a U.S. education
- Prepare and submit applications
- The student visa process
- Preparing for departure to the United States

We offer accurate, comprehensive, and current information about opportunities to study at accredited postsecondary institutions in the United States and we also provide services to the U.S. higher education community to help institutional leaders meet their recruitment and campus internationalization goals.

#### Cohort Advising Programs

In our efforts to help increase the numbers of Portuguese students studying in the US we have been running a Competitive College Club since 2016. The CCC is a cohort advising program that is run in several countries and is run also in Portugal and is designed to help highly motivated and talented students submit competitive applications to very selective colleges and universities in the U.S. The program includes for example explanation of the U.S. education system, tests preparation seminars, essay writing sessions and assignments, a book club, application advising, volunteering opportunities, and much more. While CCC does not guarantee admissions, it is designed to assist self-organized and independent students to improve chances of being admitted to U.S. colleges or universities.

We have also been running a similar program, called Pathway to Graduate School, since 2018 and this program is one of the few in our region that is designed to help highly motivated and talented students submit competitive applications to graduate programs in the U.S. It is very similar to the CCC program, but it has fewer sessions because students looking for graduate programs are usually more independent and need less support. For these two programs the help of the Fulbright English Teaching Assistants (ETA) that come to Portugal each year on a Fulbright grant has been crucial. Each year we have sessions prepared by the ETA on different topics, and the students appreciate the insights they share since they have been through the application processes. Sessions may include essay writing workshops, book clubs or preparation for the standardized tests. We also collaborate quite a lot with HEI representatives as we invite a few every year to present to our students either on standardized testing, or to give them insights on what is a good personal essay or a good recommendation letter. The HEI representatives are usually very enthusiastic when speaking to our students and some students may end up applying to their institutions.

#### Outreach and Fairs

In an effort to reach out to more high school students we have partnered with a Portuguese association that organizes education fairs in high schools in Portugal. The Inspiring Future Association has helped us reach more students, by joining a group of Portuguese HEI and other providers for an education fair at each school through the Inspiring Future project we are able to visit approximately 20 high school in the Lisbon area and a selected few in other cities. We also coordinate our outreach efforts to high schools with the US Embassy and we join efforts whenever possible and visit several high schools in Portugal each year.

Educational fairs are an important way for us to reach students interested in undergraduate and graduate programs, and we participate in several and organize two throughout the year. Futuralia is Portugal's biggest annual education fair, and each year is visited by 50/60.000 students, parents and professors from all over the country. We organize our Study in the U.S. booth each year at this fair and we invite HEI representatives to join us and talk directly to our audience. Futuralia is our biggest annual event and together with the Fulbright Staff we spend 4 days speaking to students, parents, and teachers about studying in the US and our services. The EducationUSA Portugal Virtual Recruitment Fair has also been one of our main events during the year, and since 2021 we have invited US HEI to register and talk to prospective undergraduate and graduate students from Portugal.



We participate also in the Study Abroad Portugal events. These are smaller fairs that take place in the Fall and Spring each year, in Porto and Lisbon and are also a great way to reach out to more students interested in undergrad or grad programs.

EducationUSA Portugal joins efforts with the Fulbright Commission to do outreach at Portuguese HEI all over the country, taking the opportunity to promote advising services to the students at these institutions.

Since the start of the pandemic, our cohort advising programs and in person advising services have gone fully virtual. New tools and online platforms have allowed us to reach out more students from all over Portugal, including the Azores and Madeira, and give them equitable access to our events and services.

### The Year in Numbers



#### PT STUDENT RESEARCH

28 visiting student grantees with the support of FCT

3 visiting student grantees with the support of FLAD

1 visiting student grantee with the support of the Regional Government of the Azores

3 visiting student grantees (Fulbright Grant for Research)

#### PT STUDENT GRADUATE STUDIES

2 Ph.D. students with the support of FCT

1 Ms student with the support of FLAD

1 MFA student (grant with the support of Fundação Carmona e Costa)

3 visiting student grantees (Fulbright Grant for Research)

#### PT SCHOLAR RESEARCH

4 visiting scholar grantees (from which 1 with the support of FLAD)

1 visiting Schuman scholar

1 visiting scholar in residence (SIR)



#### **US STUDENT RESEARCH**

2 Fulbright/FLAD research students

2 Fulbright/GR Azores research students

1 Fulbright/Camões, I.P. research student

1 Fulbright/Schuman research student

1 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) student

6 English Teaching Assistants

#### **US SCHOLAR PROGRAM**

5 Fulbright All Disciplines research

1 Fulbright Scholar in Management / ISCTE-IUL, Business Research Unit

1 Fulbright Scholar in Communication & Media Studies / Polytechnic of Lisbon

1 Global Scholar

#### **US SPECIALIST PROGRAM**

7 Specialist Projects

# **The Year in Numbers**

**36** Portuguese "Fulbrighters in Action"





8 sessions in person: over **265** attendees

6 sessions online: 151 people attended Zoom sessions; with over 325 views
8 cities: Aveiro; Braga; Caldas da Rainha; Évora; Faro; Portalegre; Vila Real; and S. Miguel in Azores

### Education USA Advising

17.333 total people reached



# **Social Media**

#### Fulbright Portugal

- f 10.612 followers
- 1.653 followers
- in 5.097 followers
- 1.776 followers
- 204 subscribers
- 3.545 Newsletter
   Subscribers

#### EducationUSA Portugal

- f 102 new followers
- ☑ 191 new followers

### **Board of Directors and Staff**

Randi Charno Levine, Ambassador of the United States to Portugal, and João Gomes Cravinho, the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs, are the Honorary Co-Chairpersons of the Commission.

The Commission is governed by a ten-member Board of Directors. The Board consists of five citizens of the United States of America, appointed by the American Honorary Co-Chairperson, two of whom are officers of the U.S. Foreign Service in Portugal, and five citizens of Portugal, appointed by the Portuguese Honorary Co-Chairperson, at least two of whom being governmental representatives of Portugal.

By the end of FY2O23, the composition of the Board of Directors of the Fulbright Commission was the following:

#### American Board members, appointed by the American Honorary Co-Chair:

Mrs. Marie Blanchard (Chair) Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy in Lisbon Mrs. Sujoya S. Roy Deputy Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy in Lisbon Mrs. Amy Herrick Limited Partner, Herrick Partners Dr. Joseph Paton (Vice-Treasurer) Director of the International Neuroscience Doctoral Program, Champalimaud Foundation Mrs. Sheree Mitchell President & Founder, Immersa Global

#### Portuguese Board members, appointed by the Portuguese Honorary Co-Chair:

Dr. Joaquim Mourato
Director General for Higher Education, Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education
Dr. Elsa Henriques (Treasurer)
Professor at ISTécnico and FLAD Board Member
Mrs. Ana Paula Fernandes
President of Camões – Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua, I.P.
Dr. Madalena Alves
President of the Board of Directors of FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
Mr. Pedro Cunha
Director General for Education, Ministry of Education

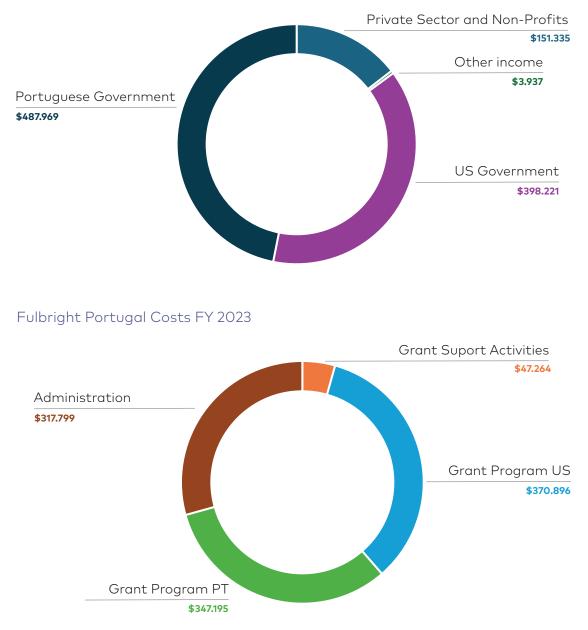
#### Information Services and Advising Activities

Executive Director, Otília Macedo Reis
U.S. Program Coordinator, Dora Reis Arenga
Portuguese Program Coordinator, Sofia Wahnon
Educational Advisor, Dorian Rosca
Administration Assistant, Catarina Abreu de Pinho



# **Financial Information**

Binationalism, a cornerstone of the Fulbright Program, involves both governments in the governance and funding of the Fulbright Commission. Costs generated by the administrative structure of the Commission are covered by allocations from both governments (structural funding), securing the operational capacity required to support its activities (grants, grantees' orientation, and follow-up services, EducationUSA services, conferences and training workshops, grants' promotion, outreach, etc). The Commission also received significant monetary and in-kind contributions from governmental entities, HEI and foundations, which guaranteed extra funding for Fulbright Grants and other activities.



#### Fulbright Portugal Funding Sources FY 2023

# The Fulbright Commission Portugal thanks all its partners for their support in FY2023.





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