

## Statistical and Narrative Report

**Program:** Portuguese Master's Self-Placed Students – all fields of study

**AY:** 2021/2022

**FY:** 2021

**Officer in charge:** Sofia Wahnnon

**Date of report:** June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

## Contents

### 1. Brief description of the Program

The objective of this award is to support students accepted in American Universities to pursue a master's program, on all scientific domains. Eligible applicants must have a *licenciatura* degree; good knowledge of the English language; and an admission letter from one accredited American university.

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

The competition took place during the months of January and February 2021.

The information about the award was highlighted in our website and newsletter and shared in the Fulbright social media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram. Established network of connections with the universities' offices of international relations were also relevant to spread the information and help recruit for Fulbright.

Due to the pandemic, an outreach and information session, with former Fulbrighters' testimonies, was carried out via Zoom, and it was attended live by more than 75 people. This session was recorded and then made available at our YouTube channel, having had over 140 views.

**17** applications were submitted within the time limit and all of them were scientifically reviewed.

The 17 qualifiable applications were in the following 8 fields of study:

- Biology
- Design
- Economics
- International Relations
- Language and Literature
- Law
- Mechanical Engineering
- Music

Applications were reviewed by Fulbright *alumni* in the correspondent fields of study:

**Biology:**

- Carla Pimentel, Researcher, ISA, ICAAM
- Manuel Mota, Professor, University of Évora

**Design:**

- José Filipe Rocha da Silva, Professor, University of Évora
- Vera Sacchetti, Design Critic and Curator

**Economics**

- Cláudia Rei: Professor at the University of Warwick, UK
- Mohamed Azzim: Professor at ISCTE-IUL, Business School, Portugal
- Tiago Santos Pereira: Professor at the University of Coimbra, Portugal

**International Relations:**

- Luís Lobo-Fernandes, Professor, University of Minho
- Filipe Pathé Duarte, Professor, Autónoma University of Lisbon

**Language and Literature**

- Julieta Rodrigues, Writer
- Paula Mesquita, Professor, Beira Interior University

**Law:**

- Gonçalo Matias, Dean of Católica Global School of Law, Professor, Catholic University of Portugal
- Vasco Freitas da Costa, Lawyer, *Sérvulo & Associados*
- Victor Réfega Fernandes, Lawyer, PLMJ

**Mechanical Engineering:**

- João Nóbrega, Professor, University of Minho
- Marc Zupan, Professor, University of Maryland, Baltimore

**Music:**

- Helena Vasques de Carvalho, Professor, *Conservatório Nacional*
- Isabel Soveral, Professor, University of Aveiro

After the scientific evaluations, **5 candidates** were at the top-rank to be interviewed.

The following comprised the Fulbright Board Selection Committee who interviewed the candidates:

- **Dr. Elsa Henriques**, (current Treasurer), Professor at ISTécnico and FLAD Board Member
- **Dr. Joseph Patton**, (current Vice-Treasurer), Director of the International Neuroscience Doctoral Program, Champalimaud Foundation Board Member, *Champalimaud Foundation*
- **Dr. Penny Rechkemmer**, (Current Chair), Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy in Lisbon

Due to the current pandemic situation, candidates were interviewed via Zoom.

After the interviews, **one (1)** candidate was nominated for selection.

### 3. Statistics

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Fulbright MS Grant</b> |              |
| <b>2021</b>               |              |
| <b>Applicants</b>         | 17           |
| <b>Grantees</b>           | 1            |
| <b>Success rate</b>       | <b>5,88%</b> |

- Home institution (*Licenciatura* degree)

|  |               |             |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| <b>2021</b>  |               |             |
| <b>Applicants</b>  |               |             |
| <b>Home Institution</b>                                      | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>    |
| ESMAE-Porto  | 2             | 11,76%      |
| National Academy of Orchestra                                | 1             | 5,88%       |
| National Institute of Historic and Artistic Heritage, Brazil | 1             | 5,88%       |
| Polytechnic of Porto   | 1             | 5,88%       |
| University of Cambridge, UK                                  | 1             | 5,88%       |
| University of Edinburgh                                      | 1             | 5,88%       |
| University of Évora  | 1             | 5,88%       |
| University of Lisbon   | 6             | 35,29%      |
| University of London, UK                                     | 1             | 5,88%       |
| University of Lusíada-Lisbon                                 | 1             | 5,88%       |
| University of Minho  | 1             | 5,88%       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>17</b>     | <b>100%</b> |

|                         |               |             |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>2021</b>             |               |             |
| <b>Grantee</b>          |               |             |
| <b>Home Institution</b> | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>    |
| University of Lisbon    | 1             | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>1</b>      | <b>100%</b> |

- Major academic discipline

| 2021                      |           |             |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Applicants                |           |             |
| Major Academic Discipline | Number    | %           |
| Biology                   | 2         | 11,76%      |
| Design                    | 4         | 23,53%      |
| Economics                 | 3         | 17,65%      |
| International Relations   | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Language and Literature   | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Law                       | 2         | 11,76%      |
| Mechanical Engineering    | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Music                     | 3         | 17,65%      |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>17</b> | <b>100%</b> |

| 2021                      |          |             |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Grantee                   |          |             |
| Major Academic Discipline | Number   | %           |
| Language and Literature   | 1        | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>1</b> | <b>100%</b> |

- Geographical area of residence

| 2021                           |           |             |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Applicants                     |           |             |
| Geographical Area of Residence | Number    | %           |
| Braga                          | 3         | 17,65%      |
| Brazil                         | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Coimbra                        | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Évora                          | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Lisbon                         | 6         | 35,29%      |
| Porto                          | 2         | 11,76%      |
| Torres Novas                   | 1         | 5,88%       |
| UK                             | 2         | 11,76%      |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>17</b> | <b>100%</b> |

| 2021                           |          |             |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Grantee                        |          |             |
| Geographical Area of Residence | Number   | %           |
| Lisbon                         | 1        | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>1</b> | <b>100%</b> |

- Gender

|                   |               |             |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>2021</b>       |               |             |
| <b>Applicants</b> |               |             |
| <b>Gender</b>     | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>    |
| Female            | 10            | 59%         |
| Male              | 7             | 41%         |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>17</b>     | <b>100%</b> |

|                |               |             |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>2021</b>    |               |             |
| <b>Grantee</b> |               |             |
| <b>Gender</b>  | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>    |
| Female         | 1             | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>1</b>      | <b>100%</b> |

- Age

|                   |               |             |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>2021</b>       |               |             |
| <b>Applicants</b> |               |             |
| <b>Age</b>        | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>    |
| 20-24             | 12            | 70,59%      |
| 25-29             | 3             | 17,65%      |
| 30-34             | 2             | 11,76%      |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>17</b>     | <b>100%</b> |

|                 |               |             |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>2021</b>     |               |             |
| <b>Grantees</b> |               |             |
| <b>Age</b>      | <b>Number</b> | <b>%</b>    |
| 20-24           | 1             | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1</b>      | <b>100%</b> |

- Current position

| 2021              |           |             |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Applicants        |           |             |
| Career Position   | Number    | %           |
| Brand Promotor    | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Designer          | 2         | 11,76%      |
| Editor            | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Legal Consultant  | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Musician          | 3         | 17,65%      |
| Student           | 7         | 41,18%      |
| Visual Artist     | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Youth Coordinator | 1         | 5,88%       |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>17</b> | <b>100%</b> |

| 2021            |          |             |
|-----------------|----------|-------------|
| Grantee         |          |             |
| Career Position | Number   | %           |
| Editor          | 1        | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1</b> | <b>100%</b> |

- Host institution

| 2021                                  |           |             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Applicants                            |           |             |
| Host Institution                      | Number    | %           |
| Berklee College of Music              | 1         | 5,88%       |
| California State University-Fullerton | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Fort Hays State University            | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Harvard Law School                    | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Hult Business School                  | 1         | 5,88%       |
| LIM College                           | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Manhattan School of Music             | 1         | 5,88%       |
| New School for Social Research        | 3         | 17,65%      |
| New York University                   | 2         | 11,76%      |
| Sarah Lawrence College, NY            | 1         | 5,88%       |
| University of California              | 1         | 5,88%       |
| University of Florida                 | 1         | 5,88%       |
| University of Kansas                  | 1         | 5,88%       |
| Yale University                       | 1         | 5,88%       |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>17</b> | <b>100%</b> |

|                            |          |             |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 2021                       |          |             |
| Grantee                    |          |             |
| Host Institution           | Number   | %           |
| Sarah Lawrence College, NY | 1        | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>1</b> | <b>100%</b> |

- Duration of the stay

|                  |           |             |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 2021             |           |             |
| Applicants       |           |             |
| Duration of stay | Number    | %           |
| 1 year           | 6         | 35%         |
| 2 years          | 11        | 65%         |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>17</b> | <b>100%</b> |

|                  |          |             |
|------------------|----------|-------------|
| 2021             |          |             |
| Grantee          |          |             |
| Duration of stay | Number   | %           |
| 2 years          | 1        | 100%        |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1</b> | <b>100%</b> |



#### **4. Interpretation of the findings**

The present competition, headed to Portuguese Master's Self-Placed Students, had its third edition this year. The number of submitted applications more than doubled: from **8** (2020) to **17** (2021). On the other hand, just like last year, during the competition period, we received e-mail requests for information from approximately 30 students.

As in other competitions in general, the bulk of applications came from Lisbon (35,3%). Despite this percentage, our e-mail responses emphasized the fact that being away from the capital city or even from Portugal is not a handicap, as all the application process is done online. And, in fact, this year again we had Portuguese students applying all the way from Brazil (1) and from the UK (2).

It is also worth noting that this year candidates' age was very young: 70,5% (12) belonged to the 20-24 age group. Therefore, many were still studying (41%), having not yet entered the job market or had any professional experience.

As in other competitions, the scientific evaluation was done by Fulbright alumni in the same field of study of the candidates. And as in other selection processes, we noticed that evaluators respond well to the fact that they are no longer asked to participate in the interviews' panels. The interviews and selection process were done by a Sub-Committee of Board members.

We believe that the screening process of the applications continues to be important for this competition, which consisted in checking whether the applicant was eligible for the grant (e.g., waiting for an admission letter) and whether the application was complete. Reminders were sent to the students through the online application system about the deadline and the need to present complete applications. Accordingly, this year the number of unsubmitted applications was only 2, a residual number as compared to 16 of last year (2020).