

Foreword

The year 2015 was a great year for Fulbright Finland. Close to 100 talented students, researchers and other professionals received grants for exchange to develop themselves thereby increasing mutual understanding between the Finnish and US citizens. The program continued to be one of the strongest among the Fulbright Programs in the whole world.

Although the grants are the core of the Fulbright activities, one shall note that it is not only about grants. A large part of the work of Fulbright Finland consists of a broad spectrum of activities enhancing relationships between the Finnish and American scholars and professionals. The work by Fulbright Finland has made a significant impact on the internationalization of Finnish higher education organizations. In addition to the prospective grantees, a large number of professionals in these organizations are regularly seeking advice from the Fulbright Center. In addition, several new collaboration initiatives have been launched during 2015, the impact of which will be seen in the years to come.

The majority of Fulbright Finland's programs are now funded jointly by participating organizations and the Fulbright Center. During the tough economic times this has been crucial for the continuation and growth of the program. The multitude of programs requires a lot of effort from the Fulbright Center. Without the extraordinary contribution by the Executive Director and the rest of the staff it would not be possible to have such a high quality and quantity of activities.

Success creates success! With the excellent work done in 2015 and earlier, Fulbright Finland has gained trust within the whole global Fulbright family. Exciting new initiatives and growth opportunities are being planned for the coming year. By joining forces with partners both in Finland and in the USA we can create an even brighter future for Fulbright Finland!

I wish to thank the Fulbright Center team and the large number of alumni and other volunteers who make it all possible!

In Helsinki, December 17, 2015

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Fulbright Center, Finland

*Dr. Matti Kokkala, Prof.
Chairman*