

# FRANK<sup>ly</sup> ☹

THE FULBRIGHT ALUMNI E.V. NEWSLETTER



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## Letter from the editor



Dear friends of the  
Fulbright idea,

in the 16th issue of the  
FRANKly you will find the  
special section on the  
Centennial Celebration for  
Senator Fulbright. It brought

together many like us and revived the spirit all over again.  
It shows me how important it is to support international ex-  
changes and the Fulbright Program by means such as donating  
dedicated funds to enable others to share this gift.

I am proud to present this FRANKly, mainly because it is  
beautiful and enriching but also because it marks another  
step toward professionalization of the Fulbright Alumni e.V.  
With a growing number of members and an increasing work  
load it is essential that volunteering is concentrated on what  
is possible and feasible. After all, pro bono work in an associa-  
tion like ours is supposed to be fun, too. Therefore, this year,  
I have been able to do much less work for the FRANKly than  
was possible last year so that it was necessary to narrow my  
focus to content alone. Thanks to wise decisions of the board  
and thoughtful preparation of a contest by Matthias Stecher,  
an external graphic designer for FRANKly has been found. I  
enjoy working with her and I hope you will find it worthwhile  
to read FRANKly and pass it along to others. We welcome  
your comments.

Enjoy, and don't forget to contribute  
*Silke Wolter*  
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Fulbright scholar from 1987-1989 and studied design at the University  
of Minnesota, where she received a Master of Arts and discovered  
her affinity and talent for teaching. She has worked for German and  
international advertising and design agencies in Germany and the  
Czech Republic. She exhibits her art sporadically and has won awards  
with her graphic work. When she isn't working at her agency, FeinDesign,  
in Bad Soden/Taunus, she loves to read or garden with her husband  
and three children.*

## Impressum

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# Greetings from the President

Dear Members and Friends of the Fulbright Alumni e.V.,

It is my great pleasure to introduce to you the 16th edition of the FRANKly. As always, the contents of this journal reflect the efforts of the authors and editors, but most of all they pay tribute to the work of active members in organizing events.

This edition of the FRANKly concentrates on the “J. W. Fulbright Centennial Celebration” held on April 9, 2005 in commemoration of Senator Fulbright’s 100th birthday. With the support of the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, the Amerika Haus in Frankfurt and the Fulbright Commission, our association organized the largest of these celebrations worldwide, receiving an ample amount of press and attention within the international Fulbright community. This edition contains a number of excerpts from German newspapers and radio, as well as impressions from guests, the Fulbright Commission and speakers Harriet Mayor Fulbright and Ulrich Littmann.



This edition also highlights many events of the past year, from the international conferences in Athens, Greece, to our national Winterball and General Assembly, the Welcome Meeting in Munich, and the activities of our regional chapters.

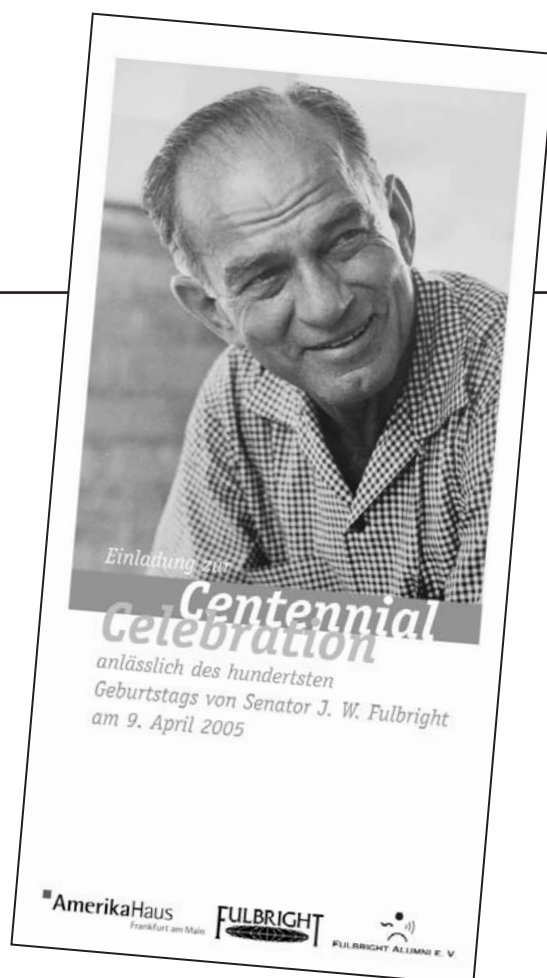
Finally, each member of the Board of Directors introduces him or herself and tells of his or her own personal motivation for working on the Board.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the FRANKly!

Joseph Kristensen  
Berlin, October 2005

## International Understanding Changes the World

*“Our future is not in the stars but in our minds and hearts. Creative leadership and liberal education, which in fact go together, are the first requirements for a hopeful future for humankind. Fostering these – leadership, learning, and empathy between cultures – was and remains the purpose of the international scholarship program that I was privileged to sponsor in the U.S. Senate over forty years ago. It is a modest program with an immodest aim – the achievement in international affairs of a regime more civilized, rational, and humane than the empty system of power of the past. I believed in that possibility when I began. I still do.”*



## Introduction

**Matthias Stecher,**  
*Vice President Communications*

Born in Hamburg in 1960, I was brought up in the middle of nowhere in the state of Schleswig-Holstein. After graduating from high school and my military service, I studied electrical engineering at the RWTH Aachen and at the VaTech in Blacksburg, Va. My Fulbright year in Virginia was actually the most entertaining and challenging of my university career. Besides diving into a different scientific culture, I mostly enjoyed my active student life in the master dorm making friends with students from all over the world. After my master thesis I completed my PhD in Aachen and I started working in Austria in the semiconductor industry. Momentarily, I am living in Munich where I am still engaged in many activities of the regional FAeV chapter.

After helping to organize the Welcome Meeting 2004 in Munich, I decided to get more involved in the management of our Alumni Association. Having been Vice President for Events at the beginning of the 90's I am in a good position to compare activities of the board with those in the past. Mainly the board meetings have become more professional and "mature", which is not surprising, since the board can rely on the experiences of many former boards and discussions about basics are no longer necessary.

Now in 2005, I am Vice President for Communication. For communication inside and outside the FAeV we have our publications FRANKly, FAIN and our [www.fulbright-alumni.de](http://www.fulbright-alumni.de) website, managed by Silke Wolter, Martin Marenke and Dagmar Schreiber, respectively. Actually, they are doing the main work. My job is to support them in their work, to be the connecting link to the board and sometimes to help them to motivate



members of our association to write articles for the FRANKly or the FAIN. Getting the new FRANKly on track has become more complex compared to the "good old times". Since we have

decided during the last general assembly to have a "beauty contest" for the graphics and layout of this FRANKly edition, I am in charge of the corresponding activities. This is quite time consuming, but also interesting.

Apart from these well-known activities in the communication area there is also a new one. It is the "Atlantic Review" which has been created and is managed by Sonja Bonin, Jörg Geier and Jörg Wolf. Within this edition of the FRANKly you will find an interesting article introducing this publication and its internet site.

Of course, I also take care of the communication beyond those mentioned. For example, I wrote an article for the FUNNEL, a regular publication of the Fulbright Commission, to make our association and activities more known to the new Fulbright scholars and the German-American Fulbright community. In the upcoming months I will try to get in contact with other European Fulbright Associations to help revive the idea of a third European Fulbright meeting.

If you have any wishes, concerns or recommendations for improvements do not hesitate to contact me. We will discuss them frankly in our monthly board meetings.

Yours,  
*Matthias Stecher, Vice President Communications*

## Introduction

**Ursula Mich,**  
*Vice President Events*

I spent a beautiful and happy childhood in Bad Homburg v. d. H. close to Frankfurt am Main, where I was born on April 28th 1960. After finishing school successfully I moved to Stuttgart studying Library Science to work at Public Libraries. During my studies I visited the United States and decided after finishing them to return to the U. S. Having made my

mind up I applied for a Fulbright scholarship, which took me to Chapel Hill, North Carolina – totally unknown to me, in August 1982. UNC and the Carolina became my second home during my two year stay there. Thanks to my excel-



lent professors at the Library Science Department of UNC I became very knowledgeable in children- and juvenile literature.

It was not easy to return to Germany in August 1984. The reverse culture shock lasted a few weeks and it took months to get used to Germany again. This was eased by starting my professional career with a job as head of the juvenile department of one of the best-known bookstores in Frankfurt/ West Germany. The knowledge I gained in the U.S. I used for 11 years with parents and children, I think quite successfully. In the mid goies I changed to the Commerzbank AG Frankfurt am Main, where I know work as assistance to the CIO after working at the credit department and transaction banking.

The German Fulbright Alumni Association I have known from its beginning in 1986, because our founder, Dr. Jürgen Mulert, visited the bookstore I worked at and recognized me immediately. He remembered me from the interview and the orientation meeting in Bonn in 1981/82 and told me about the new association he initiated.



**Joseph Kristensen,**  
**President**

Two major events have greatly influenced my second term as president of the German Fulbright Alumni Association: the "Centennial Celebration" held in honor of J. William Fulbright's 100th birthday on April 9th, and the preparations for our association's 20th anniversary in 2006. As I write these lines, the former lies three months past, and the latter is yet to come.

A great motivational factor is the continued excellent cooperation with the Fulbright Commission. The Commission's support and enthusiasm over the past 18 months has helped a great deal in further developing the standing our association has in German-American circles, and with the US-Embassy. Rolf Hoffmann, Executive Director of the Commission's Secretariat in Berlin, made a special effort to thank the FAeV for the organization of the Centennial Celebration. I am very

In 1995 members convinced me to become head of the regional chapter Frankfurt am Main and to organise our Winterball for our 10th anniversary. Since then I organised two more balls, 1999 and 2003, and one Welcome Meeting in 2000. Normally I do not like being a member of associations, but the FAeV is exceptional in having gathered very interesting people of different ages and professions. Beside, they are the only ones knowing what experiences we had and want to return a bit of that what we took with us in idealistic and materialistic manners.

This is the reason I finally said yes to become candidate for the elections of the vice president events and decided to extend this a second year. I hope the board and I will find new ideas and deepen old ones – keeping experiences and find new concepts of events – because in the future we will have changes for sure by a growing number of members and new definitions of society.

*Ursula Mich, Vice President Events*

## Introduction

pleased with this good relationship and am confident that it will continue into the future.

As we prepare for our 20th-anniversary, it is a central goal of this year's board to further the project of documentation. We began last year with the overhaul of the "Org-Manual", a guide to planning national events, and this year we will publish a handbook for regional coordinators – chock full of ideas for activities, useful forms and documents.

Making the board accessible and our work transparent to our members through regular e-mails, the so-called "Vorstandsberichte", has been a continued goal of mine.

Working with Uwe Koch, Petra Steinmetz, Ursula Mich, and Matthias Stecher is a very rewarding experience. I look forward to the next months of our collaboration, leading the FAeV into its third decade.

*Joseph Kristensen,*  
*President*

## Introduction

### Petra Steinmetz, Vice President Members

This year, I stood again for elections because I truly enjoyed my work for Fulbright Alumni during the last three years. It was great to see how many things advanced a great deal thanks to the support of our members, who are the ones making things possible. Having a certain continuity in the board is a big advantage for our association, and it helps save time and energy. For the year 2005 it was a true matter of heart for me to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Senator in such a way that the general public in Germany and elsewhere would be more aware of the “brand name” Fulbright and its meaning.

When Wiltrud Hammelstein had the idea to celebrate the Centennial and discovered that this special occasion fell on a Saturday, I used all my energy to convince the board and the regional chapter in Frankfurt of the importance of this unique opportunity and to motivate them to support the organization of the Centennial. Very important for this event was the concept, the title of the event and the successful invitation of the Fulbright Music Scholars and famous speakers (Harriet Mayor Fulbright, Heiko Engelkes, Dr. Ulrich Littmann, Rolf Hoffmann, and Prof. Hans-Jürgen Schröder). Our Centennial was the best of several such events on the planet – in terms of both quality and quantity. The wonderful success of this event has not gone unnoticed in the international Fulbright community and in the U.S.

Our relationship with the Fulbright Commission is a very good one, and I would like to continuously improve it even



further. During my last period I had started the development of a manual for the regional chapter coordinators, which is now about to be distributed and hopefully a good source of support for their future work. Another part of my responsibilities is to coordinate the production of our membership directory. Fortunately, I had great support from Hermes Winands and Reinhard Koch for this task.

Another goal is the recruitment of new members from older Fulbright classes. The older alumni bear a lot of potential for our association. Thanks to our splendid relationship with the Fulbright Commission we are able to get in touch with the grantees even before they are coming back from the States. That is why we were able to recruit more members than ever before among the Returnees. During my term on the board the numbers of member has increased every year by more than 10%.

My ideal association would consist of many more active members who strive for international understanding. Only if we manage to communicate we might have a chance to ensure the survival of this planet and mankind. If everybody were a little bit less selfish, it could serve the whole community, and in the end it would be good for every single person on earth. In that sense I am looking forward to an active future together with you.

Yours, Petra Steinmetz, Vice President Members

## Introduction

### Uwe Koch, Treasurer

It's the team-experience – that could be a short answer to Silke's question “What is your motivation for volunteering for an office in the FAeV?”. But it's not only that. Of course it's a lot of fun to work at common projects with other open minded,

ressourceful and great personalities – even so, it's often quite hard work. And of course some of it is not really rewarding – like discussing membership fee responsibilities with unwilling

members as treasurer. But the feeling of belonging to a great world wide family more than makes up for that.

Especially organizing the Centennial Celebration would be a very good example. Have you ever thought about acquiring new skills in an area unrelated to your professional or scientific life? Accepting an office in an organisation like the FAeV gives you the opportunity in a “safe” environment. As a physicist I'm comfortable with numbers (which makes bookkeeping easier) but the German tax system is another challenge. And sharing these skills with others is very rewarding. That's why I hope I was and will be able to make a little difference in some lifes and to the transatlantic relations.

Uwe Koch, Treasurer



# J. William Fulbright (1905-1995)

## Biography



*As a young man*



*At a Foreign Relations Committee Hearing*



J. William Fulbright was born on April 9, 1905 in Sumner, Missouri. He was educated at the University of Arkansas where he was awarded the B.A. degree in Political Science in 1925. He then attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar where he received an M.A. degree.

When Fulbright returned to the United States, he studied law at George Washington University in Washington, DC. During the 1930's, he served in the Justice Department and was an instructor at the George Washington University Law School.

In 1936 he returned to Arkansas where he was a lecturer in law and, from 1939 to 1941, president of the University of Arkansas, at the time the youngest university president in the country.

He entered politics in 1942 and was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, entering Congress in January 1943 and becoming a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee. In September of that year the House adopted the Fulbright Resolution supporting an international peace-keeping machinery encouraging United States participation in what became the United Nations, and this brought national attention to Fulbright. In November 1944 he was elected to the U.S. Senate and served there from 1945 through 1974 becoming one of the most influential and best-known members of the Senate. His legislation establishing the Fulbright Program slipped through the Senate without debate in 1946. Its first participants went overseas in 1948, funded by war reparations and foreign loan repayments to the United States. This program has had extraordinary impact around the world. There have been more than 250,000 Fulbright grantees and many of them have made significant contributions within their

countries as well as to the overall goal of advancing mutual understanding.

In 1949 Fulbright became a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. From 1959-1974 he served as chairman, the longest serving chairman of that committee in history. His Senate career was marked by some notable cases of dissent. In 1954 he was the only Senator to vote against an appropriation for the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which was chaired by Senator Joseph R. McCarthy. He also lodged serious objections to President Kennedy in advance of the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961.

He was particularly in the spotlight as a powerful voice in the chaotic times of the war in Vietnam, when he chaired the Senate hearings on United States policy and the conduct of the war. In 1963 Walter Lippman wrote of Fulbright: "The role he plays in Washington is an indispensable role. There is no one else who is so powerful and also so wise, and if there were any question of removing him from public life, it would be a national calamity."

After leaving the Senate, he was of counsel to the Washington law firm of Hogan & Hartson and remained active in support of the international exchange program that bears his name.

He received numerous awards from governments, universities, and educational organizations around the world for his efforts on behalf of education and international understanding. In 1993 he was presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Clinton.

Senator J. William Fulbright died on February 9, 1995 at the age of 89 at his home in Washington, DC.

*Fulbright was awarded an honorary doctoral degree by the Law School of the University of Tübingen on May 7, 1965*

# Reflections on the Fulbright Centennial Celebration

by Birgit Wassmuth, Ph.D.

April 9, 2005, marked the 100th Birthday of the late Senator J. William Fulbright, and I had the pleasure of participating in the Centennial Celebration held at the AmerikaHaus in Frankfurt that very day. The all-day event was organized by the German Fulbright Alumni e.V. and attracted more than 200 attendees from near and far. It was a day of reflection and dialogue, celebration and enlightenment, hugs and memories.

As Joseph Kristensen, president of the Fulbright Alumni e.V., stated in his opening remarks, “a big part of what makes the Fulbright program so special is that it has a face, a human being with ideals and convictions. ... The Fulbright experience is meant to be long-lasting not just limited to the year we spend abroad,” he added. “We have this strong desire to give something back.” With that he announced that the Fulbright Alumni e.V. is proud to offer four to five additional stipends that enable German students to study in the U.S.

His words rang true with me. I was a Fulbrighter to the U.S. in 1974 and have been actively involved in international matters on various levels ever since. Yes, there is a great desire to give back and help others, especially future Fulbrighters.

As I was listening to John Cloud’s welcome address, (CDA, US Embassy in Berlin), I tried to imagine the intellectual multiplication factor of nearly a quarter million students, educators, and scholars who have drawn on the benefits of the “Fulbright Experience” since the inception of the Fulbright exchange program in 1948. Do we really serve as “translators,” people who know and understand the world on both sides of the Atlantic?

To some extent, yes, we do. As Dr. Rolf Hoffmann, Executive Director of the

German Fulbright Commission, Berlin, stated in his remarks, the Fulbright program has grown to be the largest exchange program in the world. “It is a success story in outreach and networking” with the purpose of producing leadership as Senator Fulbright said during his visit to Germany in 1977. “Open-mindedness” is the key to the Fulbright experience Dr. Hoffman reminded us, which means that a Fulbrighter should not just do research and spend time in the library, he or she should venture out and talk to people, and live life.

“Senator J. William Fulbright: The Man and His Legacy” was the title of Harriet Mayor Fulbright’s speech about her late husband’s life and career in politics. It was touching to listen to her personal and public stories and to see the many pictures she shared with us in her presentation. I was struck by her comment that for the rest of his life Bill Fulbright “maintained that, more than any other factor, his study at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar determined the course of his career.”

Dr. Ulrich Littmann, former Executive Director of the German Fulbright Commission for more than 30 years, shared some insights from his unique perspective. “Fulbright, a wise and generous humanitarian, was a man of convictions and someone who could be very outspoken. Some even feel that he was very difficult and complicated. Who knows that better than we do?!” he stated. “Fulbright would have been the ideal Fulbrighter himself,” he concluded with a big smile and a chuckle. The audience loved it, and we nodded in support.

Petra Steinmetz, on behalf of Heiko Engelkes, delivered his keynote address on “How J. William Fulbright Changed my World.” Engelkes, a 1954 Fulbrighter to the William Allen White School of



Birgit Wassmuth

Photo: P. Steinmetz

Journalism at the University of Kansas, is the former Head of “Tagesthemen” and “Tagesschau” at ARD. (He was sent to Monaco to be the chief commentator for German TV during the funeral of Prince Rainer, and therefore couldn’t attend the Fulbright Centennial Celebration in person.)

Listening to his words I was reminded of my own observations of feeling more like a European than a German while on our Fulbright exchange in the U.S. As Engelkes so eloquently stated, “we discovered our own cultural identity, which strengthened us and enabled us to appreciate and understand the different materialistic American way of life, which fascinated and at the same time irritated us.”

The panel in the afternoon provided a wonderful dialogue regarding the Fulbright program as a transatlantic source of ideas. Dagmar Skopalik, Head of the Department of International Relations, ZDF, Mainz, led the discussion. It was a touching moment when Professor Dr. Hans-Juergen Schroeder, Historical

Institute at the Justus Liebig University in Giessen, started his comments with “I am not a Fulbrighter, but I feel like one.” He was in the U.S. in the mid-1960s. “It was the most important year of my life,” he explained. He suggested that we need to revitalize the Fulbright idea by tapping into the resources of former Fulbrighters, we need to strengthen nation relations, and we would like to have access to the Fulbright papers and speeches. Harriet Mayor Fulbright was quick to respond to that plea by informing us that the digitization of the Fulbright documents is now underway.

Professor Dr. Harald Schwalbe, Institute for organic Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe University Frankfurt, expressed his concerns that German science research lags well behind the American research agenda. With his perspective of having taught at M.I.T he made a plea to increase the stipends for American researchers to come to Germany.

Dr. Hubertine Underberg-Ruder started her remarks by saying that “our source of inspiration is always people.” She then took us back in time when her grand father managed to successfully sell Underberg in the U.S., even through Prohibition, because Underberg was considered a “spirit not suitable for consumption as a beverage.” She spoke equally proudly about her father who, without a college education, attended Harvard Business School for three semesters in the mid 1960s to learn about this new American concept of “marketing.”

Listening to that compelling story I was reminded of my own reasons to go to the U.S. on a Fulbright scholarship: to study advertising psychology, motivation research, and consumer behavior, because those areas of inquiry were not

available at German universities at the time. Yes, Vance Packard and Ernest Dichter were my inspiration to pursue an advanced degree at an American Institution of Higher Education in 1974.

Panelist Roman Paul, Film producer, Berlin, also shared a very personal account of his Fulbright experience when he came face to face with stereotyping while on his Fulbright in Trenton and New York in 1992. His friends called him “Dieter” after the character on the comedy show Saturday Night Life, who embodies and personifies “German-ness.” Overcoming language barriers and prejudice was an important learning experience for him as a Fulbrighter.

Professor Dr. Crister Garrett, guest professor and Fulbright Chair for American Studies at the University of Leipzig this year, was the only “Ami” on the panel as he affectionately called himself. “Fulbright,” he says, “creates a common language.” It is more than a transatlantic source of ideas, it fosters the “empowerment of those ideas, and thus serves in the fullest sense both the spirit and the potential of the Fulbright Legacy.”

The lunch and coffee breaks allowed participants and attendees to mingle and interact in typical Fulbright fashion. Forever curious and probing, they are never short of questions to ask and stories to tell. It was an atmosphere of reminiscing, sharing and laughing.

The event concluded with a stellar performance by Fulbright musicians Jennifer Borghi (Mezzo-Soprano), Michael Flaksman (Cello), Laura Paulu (Flute), and Joseph Nykiel (piano).

To me, the Fulbright Centennial Celebration served almost like a transatlantic “state of the union” address, an opportunity to reflect on the Fulbright

spirit of “exchanging words instead of bullets,” and on how it has flourished over the past 60 years. After all, as Harriet Mayor Fulbright commented, “Today, these ideas are more important than ever before.”

> Dr. Birgit Wassmuth is a professor of advertising and head of the advertising program at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. She initially came to the U.S. on a Fulbright scholarship to study advertising psychology at the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis where she earned her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in mass communication. (birgit.wassmuth@drake.edu)

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Andrea Möller, Sebastian Bülte and Hermes Winands

# How Fulbright changed my world

## Key-Note-Address

by Heiko Engelkes, Paris

Mrs. Harriet Mayor Fulbright, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me first of all underline how much we feel honored by your presence, Mrs. Fulbright and by the fact, that you made all the way to Frankfurt to be able to participate today at the celebration of the hundredth birthday of your late husband, the former US-Senator James William Fulbright, inventor and founder of the famous Fulbright-Act.

We all present here today – former Fulbright-Students and members of the Fulbright Alumni Association – have made the experience, that international exchanges – as former US-president Clinton once said – “build bridges of understanding and friendship among nations and cultures”, and that those bridges, as Senator Fulbright has foreseen, that those bridges “have made a significant contribution to the development of a global community based on peace, prosperity and freedom”.

For myself and for the other German fellow-students, who participated in the first exchange-classes since the inception of the program in 1952, the Fulbright-Act had a very special value: It gave us the possibility to travel to America and to study in the United States only less than ten years after the end of the Second World War, during which we were enemies, during which we tried to kill each other.

In 1945, when the war ended, I was twelve years old. I had lived in a world of Nazi-propaganda, dictatorship, lack of freedom. We had no possibility to travel, to inform ourselves, to discover other cultures. We were forced to wear the uniform of Hitler-youth-organisation every Sunday, we were prepared to participate in the war, which was so senseless and so useless. And all of a sudden the end of the war, the end of the Nazi-dictatorship. We entered into a new and unknown world – the world of peace

and freedom. We could read foreign newspapers, listen to foreign radio stations, become fans of AFN, the American Forces Network with a Glenn-Miller-program every afternoon at 5 p.m. We took part in a program, which the occupying forces of the United States called “re-education”, later on “re-orientation”, until the Fulbright-Program took over and proposed genuine partnership.

During those years after the war and especially during my first years at the universities of Wilhelmshaven, Hamburg and Berlin, I participated in several student-activities which had all the same purpose: promoting democracy and international understanding. I studied law, because my father wanted me to do this. I was personally more interested in Journalism. I published a student newspaper, organized debates, wrote articles. These activities were certainly one of the reasons, why I received a Fulbright-scholarship in 1954, which was – so far as I know – the second German class that went to the United States. There had been more than 800

students of the University of Hamburg who applied for a scholarship. Only about a dozen had the chance to go, and I was, 21 years old, among them – it seemed to me a miracle, like an elevator to heaven.

The second miracle: When I arrived at KU, which is Kansas University in Lawrence/Kansas, I learned that I had been granted a Scholarship at the William Allan White School of Journalism, and not, as I feared, at the faculty of international law. I had the huge chance to learn and to practice the rules and principles of American newspaper journalism, I learned how to construct a headline, how to write a lead or how to distinguish between report and editorial. In fact, William Allan White had been one of the greatest American journalists, he worked as editorialist for the famous Kansas City Star. „His straightforward coverage of controversial issues, combined with an often blunt writing style, set him apart from other journalists at his time“, this quote I found in the web about William Allan White.



*An attentive audience*



Senator Fulbright

These were exactly the journalistic guidelines which I learned and practised during my Fulbright-scholarship in Lawrence/Kansas and which accompanied me throughout my professional life. Since 1904 the KU-School of Journalism publishes the „Daily Kansan“, the newspaper of Lawrence, and I became – being European – the specialist for international affairs and – as in 1964 the anti-communism of a certain Senator McCarthy was still alive – the specialist for the communist world. Sometimes my editorials caused political problems to the university, for example when I ridiculed the State of Kansas, which planned a system of volunteer-sky-spotters, looking for low-flying communist planes attacking Kansas, the so-called wheat-state in the middle of the far-west. During my stay at KU I found out, that not only we from Germany or from the other European countries had been cut off from the rest of the world during the war, but that the United States as well had stayed in a kind of splendid isolation. We knew nothing about them, and they knew nothing about us. The Fulbright-exchange-program was the first step towards a better knowledge of each other, a better understanding and a better comprehension. We, the foreigners from Europe, Asia

and other parts of the world met American Students and their families, and they, the typical Midwest Americans, met us, the foreigners.

My stay as a Fulbright-exchange-student in Kansas had another effect on me – as it had on other students from France, Italy, Finland or Austria: All of a sudden we felt as Europeans with a common or at least similar cultural background and we felt quite different from our American peers. We discovered our own cultural identity, which strengthened us and which enabled us to appreciate and to understand the different materialistic American way of live – which fascinated and at the same time irritated us.

One of these days I looked at the website of KU, Kansas University and I found out, that some of these differences exist even today. An unknown donator gave 10 Million Dollars to KU to build a new centre of intelligence-design – bravo, this happens never in Germany. At the same time a rumour irritates Kansas University. It says: There will be naked actors at the next play presented by the department of English. The dementi of the stage-manger, published in the Daily Kansan: „This is not true, – quote – „some people might be sensitive about partial nudity, but the showing of skin on stage is comparable to a beach movie.“ This is KU/Kansas/USA, in April 2005.

Against all existing rules and laws – I dare confess today – I did not travel home at the end of my scholarship, but I travelled West, drove an old Chevy for a used-car-dealer from Kansas City to Seattle in Oregon. There were rumors, that one could earn a lot of money in the pea-canneries or as a prune-picker somewhere in the states of Oregon and Washington. So I ended up in a labour-camp like the one shown in the famous film „Grapes of wrath“ after the famous novel of John Steinbeck, became a labour-

union member and worked for several weeks during the 12-hours-night-shift in a pea-canneries in Walla-Walla/Washington. Later I picked Tomatoes and prunes together with students, teachers, Mexicans, coloured Americans, with bums and tramps from all over the country.

During these months as an illegal worker I learned as much about America as I did during my studies at KU, and this was the very moment, when I started to understand and to like the American way of live – with all the aspects of a multicultural society, with its chances, its struggles, with its defeats and its success-stories. The State Department spotted me finally and urged me to leave the country, but thanks to some friends of friends in Washington I could finish my job in Walla-Walla and continue to travel all over the States I was even refunded – when back in Germany – the income-tax I payed but were not obliged to pay during my jobs as a student – very important for me, because at that time one US-Dollar was worth almost five German Marks.

Did the Fulbright-scholarship change my world? Yes it did, at once and in the long run. At once I skipped my law studies and tried to become a journalist. It took another five years until I could join German radio and TV and the WDR in Cologne as writer, reporter, editor, head of TV-news, correspondent in Paris, editor in chief of Tagesschau and Tagesthemen, the main news-programs of ARD, the first German TV-channel.

In the long run Fulbright changed my world, because I learned a lot about the American people and about American politics, I was able to report and to comment on the relations between Germany, France and Europe and the United States with more knowledge and with better understanding.

Meanwhile I learned a lot about the man, whose 100th birthday we celebrate today together with you, Mrs. Fulbright. When we were invited to the US as Fulbright-grantees we did know very little about the Senator from Arkansas. It was him who had at the end of the Second World-War the unique and brilliant idea to finance an exchange-program for American and international students with the sales of leftover war-materials. He included Germany into the program in 1952, about 200 German students, teachers and professors crossed the Atlantic in 1953, the first class of up to now 30 thousand German participants in the Fulbright exchange-program.

In the United States the former Senator James William Fulbright was for many, many years, from 1944 until 1974, one of the most influential experts for international affairs. During 15 years, longer than anybody else, he chaired the influential Senates Foreign Relations Committee. And whenever necessary the Democrat Fulbright raised his voice against political developments which he did not appreciate. He was the only Senator who voted against the Investigation-Committee chaired by the famous Senator McCarthy, he criticised president Kennedy when he planned to invade Cuba, he condemned the US-behaviour during the Vietnam-war. Walter Lippman wrote about him: "There is no one else in Washington who is so powerful and also so wise".

The Senator Fulbright died in 1995, he was 89 years old. If he would have been alive during the last two years, he certainly would have raised his voice to comment on the US-policy of President Georges W. Bush to bring peace and democracy to areas and countries like Iraq by starting a war. He certainly would have tried to avoid a confrontation between the United States and Europe –



from left to right:  
Jeffrey Arnold  
(Vice Consul of the  
US Embassy),  
Josef Rolf Hoffmann  
(Executive Director of  
the German-American  
Fulbright Commission),  
Dr. Ulrich Littmann (for-  
mer Executive Director  
of the German-American  
Fulbright Commission),  
Harriett Mayor Fulbright,  
Joseph Kristensen  
(President Fulbright  
Alumni e.V.),  
Photo: Michael Mendetzki

divided into the old and the new Europe because of the war. During all his life he fought for international understanding, in favour of peace and against war.

We, the Fulbright-Alumni, today and tomorrow have the task to act in the spirit of Senator William Fulbright, and we should never forget, what he and the United States gave and give to us with their invitation, to come, to study, to learn in their country and to send Americans to us, to study, to learn and to find out, where we are, who we are and how we are and finally to develop our common interests.

> Heiko Engelkes received a Fulbright grant to Kansas University in 1954-55 to study journalism. Since 1957 he has been active in radio and television reporting for German public broadcasting.



Discussion during the break

# Senator J. William Fulbright

## The Man and His Legacy

by Harriet Mayor Fulbright, Frankfurt, Germany, 9 April 2005

It is hard to believe that I am standing here in Germany to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Senator J. William Fulbright, and I am deeply grateful for your invitation to help you celebrate this important event. It seems particularly appropriate because as many of you know, the Fulbright forefathers lived in Germany as the Volbrecht family until the early part of the 19th century when it emigrated to the United States. No one knows whether the name change was the work of an immigration official who could not pronounce Volbrecht or whether Herr Volbrecht himself decided to begin life in the new country with a more American sounding surname. Whatever the reason, the Fulbright family crossed half the country and settled in Missouri until Bill's father moved his young family to Fayetteville, Arkansas when he was only 4 months old.

Young Bill Fulbright grew up in this small university town in the northwest section of Arkansas. He was a middle child in a family of six children, the son of an energetic entrepreneurial father and a mother with a love of company and conversation. Here he is as a young boy enjoying the White River that he helped to protect and develop while in the Senate.

His parents considered the education of both boys and girls as one of their highest priorities so he was sent off from the start to the experimental school run by the University of Arkansas, where the curriculum emphasized self reliance, intellectual assertiveness and experiential learning as advocated in the writings of John Dewey. While the content was largely that of a classical education, it also had a good deal of psychology, sociology and political economy. There he remained until he graduated from high school, giving him the opportunity to say much later that he held the record for taking longer than anyone else to get through the University of Arkansas: 16 years.

And before anyone accuses me of coming up short as a mathematician, let me explain that he really did complete 13 years of schooling in 12 years. Because his father did not approve of idleness in his children, he was sent at the age of 12 to a family farm in the summer to work in the fields. The task given him was shoveling grain into feed bags. At the end of each day he was not only sweltering from the humid 90+ degree heat but covered with chaff and dust. The next summer when he was given the choice between another similar summer job or school, the decision was easy. As a result Bill advanced quickly through high school and graduated from the University at the age of 20.

During his senior year, his English professor encouraged him to apply for a Rhodes Scholarship. Unlike most other scholarships, the Rhodes had three equally important requirements: a good academic record, a clear demonstration of leadership skills, and athletic prowess. Though his grades were not the very best among all of the applicants, he had an advantage over the others in the non-academic spheres. While in college he led the tennis team, and believe it or not, he was a football star, gaining fame as the most valuable player in one of the few games Arkansas won against Texas A&M. He was also elected senior class president, which fulfilled the scholarship's requirement of leadership potential.

Bill Fulbright was therefore chosen to represent Arkansas at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar, and for the rest of his life he maintained that more than any other factor, it determined the course of his career. His mother was so proud of him that she paid him a visit and was photographed here at Oxford's Pembroke College with his classmates. For three and a half years he worked harder than ever before under the tutelage of Pembroke Master Robert McCallum,

studying history and learning to write and think with precision and clarity and traveling extensively throughout Europe during his vacations.

After returning home, Fulbright went to Washington, DC, and earned a law degree at The George Washington University. After graduation he worked for the Justice Department and then taught law at his alma mater for a few years before returning to his home in Fayetteville. His life as law professor at the University of Arkansas and business partner of his mother in the family business came to an abrupt end with the untimely accidental death of the University's president. The Board chose Fulbright to become the youngest university president in the country at the age of 34. During that time he made a name for himself as a forthright speaker, in demand at colleges around the country, unafraid to express unpopular opinions, always in the eloquent English he learned at Oxford.

The honor was short-lived, however. Within two years, the state's newly elected governor, Homer Adkins, controlled the board of trustees with an iron hand, and he was not a favorite of President Fulbright's mother Roberta, who ran the local newspaper. She had supported his political opponent, and after his election she wrote an editorial bemoaning the fact that the people of Arkansas seemed to prefer a back-slapper to a man of substance. It was not long before Governor Adkins, unable to punish the mother, dismissed her son on graduation day after only two years of service, so Fulbright returned to the family business and to teaching law part time.

Less than a year later a former student told Professor Fulbright that he was going to retire as Congressman in the House of Representatives and was looking for a successor. After looking over the possibilities, he felt his former teacher

was the outstanding candidate. He therefore told Fulbright that it was time he put his actions where his words had run on for so many semesters. In class one of Professor Fulbright's favorite phrases was that if the best and brightest did not run for office, democracy would not thrive.

Fulbright took his student's challenge and won a seat in the House of Representatives in 1942. One year later, he gained nationwide notice by initiating the resolution that led to the establishment of the United Nations and by managing to steer it through the House of Representatives with a landslide vote of 329 to 61. In 1944 he won the Arkansas Senate seat in a race against the very governor who had him fired – something he always related with a quiet smile.

As Senator, Fulbright made many significant contributions to his state of Arkansas in the fields of agriculture, water conservation, interstate commerce, and education. He made a name for himself in reforming the laws by which the banking industry was regulated, and for being the only Senator to vote against appropriations for McCarthy's House UnAmerican Activities Committee. Whatever legislation he proposed was only submitted after careful research, often through hearings that he considered a means to educating the public as well as himself and his fellow congressmen. In fact the single most important role of a legislator in a democratic system was, in his opinion, that of educator.

*"My own belief ... is that the basic issues of foreign policy – as distinguished from its details and technicalities – are well within the grasp of ordinary citizens, provided these issues are explained, clearly and accurately, by competent and responsible leaders... To the extent that issues fall beyond*



Harriet Mayor Fulbright

*the people's experience, or in instances of conflict between groups in which the larger interest of the community is unclear, the political leader has a greater responsibility – to identify the larger interest and to explain it. It then becomes his responsibility to lead and to educate."*

So in 1945 right after the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan he called to the Senate chambers not only military and political experts to testify on the long-term effects of the event but physicians, psychologists, environmentalists and the scientists who created the bomb. What he heard so appalled him that he felt compelled to look for some means, any means, of preventing another world war. Atomic warfare was no longer an acceptable continuation of politics by other means. In a world with nuclear weapons, the enemy cannot be destroyed because the true enemy is war itself.

The program which grew out of the hearings is the one he considered his greatest accomplishment: namely, the international education exchange program which bears his name, signed by President Truman on August 1, 1946. It became clear to him, especially as he looked back on his experiences as a Rhodes Scholar, that if we could get to know one another and learn to exchange ideas, then perhaps we might not be so willing to exchange bullets. The program

started modestly with small boat-loads of students moving to and from the United States.

Fulbright stayed quiet for the first several years because of the suspicions that anything international engendered. To give you an example of American isolationist attitudes at that time, about six months after the passage of his bill, a Senate colleague told Fulbright that he would have stopped such nonsense if he had caught it because it was dangerous to expose our fine young boys and girls to those dangerous foreign "isms."

However, he was quietly persistent, and he traveled to many countries to help celebrate the establishment of Fulbright Commissions and later their anniversaries. His reputation in the whole field of foreign affairs grew slowly but steadily, and in 1959 he became Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a post he kept for 15 years, longer than any Senator in history.

Fulbright's interest in education, however, remained a primary interest and was not confined to the international sphere. He considered the education of all citizens to be the essential cornerstone of a democracy. Only with a thoughtful responsible committed citizenry could a democratic country offer all who lived and worked within its confines the chance



J.W. Fulbright speaks upon receiving the Medal of Freedom

for a decent, productive and satisfying life. Education in his view was the only hope in the struggle to break down the barriers of prejudice and xenophobia, to increase knowledge of self and in so doing, to gain a better perception of others. He tried to convey this message to every person who worked in his office, including one young man from Arkansas who won this country's last two presidential elections in the 1990's.

Part of his concern came from the growing international entanglements of his country: namely, the Vietnam War. For months in the mid-1960's, Fulbright tried to convince President Johnson that the battle was not in the interests of the United States for myriad reasons. As long as the discussion was in private, they remained friends, but as soon as Fulbright made his views public, Johnson's intense hostility toward him was perhaps the greatest trial of his political life. President Johnson lashed out at him in many ways, including engineering a cut in the Fulbright Program funds of 70%. As we all know the Program survived the attack and grew considerably afterward, but the two men, who were close friends until that time, never spoke again, and this hurt Fulbright deeply.

By 1974 Senator Fulbright had spent 30 years of service in the Senate. He had made a name for himself as *The Thinker*,

the *Voice of Reason*, a man interested in fairness and justice for all. Once he left the Senate, numerous countries bestowed their highest honors on him. Here Japan's Foreign Minister Miyazawa, a Fulbright alumnus who later became Prime Minister, awarded him the Royal Order of the Rising Sun in 1975, and in 1989 he went to Greece to receive the Onassis Peace prize. A year later the Kennedy Center honored him as the man who conceived of the idea of a national center for the performing arts. In 1992 he was invited by the German Fulbright Commission to attend Berlin Week. On his 88th birthday in 1993, President Clinton attended the celebration and as a surprise gave him the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In his last book, "The Price of Empire," Senator Fulbright made it clear that of all the legislation and programs he initiated, the most important was his international education exchange program in the pursuit of peace:

*"The great strength and enduring value of the Fulbright program has been its ability to work patiently and persistently to build human networks around the globe."*

These networks are essential because the path toward a peaceful world must be paved by those with the ability to listen, to understand differing ways of

thinking, to change minds through persistent persuasion rather than by force. As he said

*"In our quest for world peace the **alteration of attitudes** is no less important, perhaps more important, than the resolution of issues. It is in the minds of men, after all, that wars are spawned; to act upon the human mind, regardless of the issue or occasion for doing so, is to act upon the source of conflict and the potential source of redemption and reconciliation."*

*"Extreme nationalism and dogmatic ideology are luxuries that the human race can no longer afford. It must turn its energies now to the politics of survival. If we do so, we may find in time that we can do better than just survive. We may find that the simple human preference for life and peace has an inspirational force of its own, less intoxicating perhaps than the sacred abstractions of nation and ideology, but far more relevant to the requirements of human life and human happiness."*

My husband's voice is still now, but we can and must gather from all continents and use our minds and hearts to wrestle with vital global issues with a major impact on all our lives. The Fulbright experience is not something one can dismiss after returning home. Like it or not, one way or another, it is a life-long commitment. Thank you one and all for your great work and for your willingness to make that commitment.

> Harriet Mayor Fulbright has spent the majority of her adult life in the fields of education and the arts. She has traveled to numerous countries on all five major continents and all over the United States to speak about the importance of international education exchange and the pivotal role played by the Fulbright Program.

# Senator J. William Fulbright

## 100th birthday

by Ulrich Littmann, Frankfurt, Germany, 9 April 2005

Friends, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Senator Fulbright used to grumble that the birthday greetings and wishes from my wife Ellen and myself were, really, not necessary and, actually, not very common in his environment. Yet, he enjoyed being so recognized. I am sure that he would be delighted to celebrate his centennial event here in the company of people representing family, friends, profession and, by all means, grantees and alumni of the educational and academic exchange program that bears his name.

Thank you, Harriet, for joining us today and for sharing memories and images of Bill's life and times. Thank you, Amerika-Haus, for your hospitality and unfailing cooperation in the common German-American cooperation. And thank you, the Fulbright Alumni, for initiating and organizing this meeting which honors the man who himself was – and remains – the role model of a Fulbright grantee: a successful scholar in his chosen field with a heart for humanity, following his own principle of "Law and Reason" in domestic and international efforts, striving for peaceful relations between nations as well as between individuals – and getting caught from time to time in conflicts with less intellectual or understanding contemporaries.

It would have come as a true surprise for the Senator to find himself depicted in a grand novel written by one of Germany's great authors. Within a complicated transatlantic family story Uwe Johnson reflects extensively on a German immigrant's belief in Senator Fulbright and his doubts and concerns over the U.S. government's credibility in conjunction with the Tonkin incident and the fate of young Americans in the Vietnam War. Johnson describes the Senator from Arkansas as "sincere, serious, and circumspect" – the honest representative and inquisitive mind. The full title of



Dr. Ulrich Littmann

Johnson's novel is fitting today: "*Jahrestage: Aus dem Leben von Gesine Cresspahl*" – *Anniversary days* – exactly this is one in several connotations.

In our days and in our region the significance of Senator Fulbright appears to be reduced to his significance as the founder of an interesting educational exchange program, a few older people may recall his position as a dissenter or as the critic of American imperialism. However, like in the U.S., hardly anyone remembers his role in the much larger arena of peace policies in the U.S. and in the United Nations, or in the discussions of constitutional reforms, or higher education administration.

At best, in several German academic circles, quoting the major biographies, Senator Fulbright's remembered in that he stood up against American Presidents even of his own political party, suggesting that Truman should resign, that John F. Kennedy should have avoided the Bay of Pigs invasion, or that President Johnson should pull out of Vietnam. That he objected to Joe McCarthy's fascist manipulations, and that he discovered the "Arrogance of Power" – the

American version of power, that is – made him, still make him, an acceptable progressive – provided we can neglect some more orthodox attitudes of the Southerner. Of course, some members of the German senior generation still remember their anger when, back in 1961 during the Khrushchev era, Fulbright had – allegedly – suggested to end the Berlin crisis by moving the entire city and dropping it on the "vast open space south of Hamburg" meaning the Lüneburg Heath.

Let me take a few minutes to reorganize such impressions and to recall what Senator Fulbright in his life time meant to me and perhaps more generally to Germany and to Germans. If this approach looks unacademic and narrow you may take some comfort in knowing that the life and times of Fulbright were so rich in events that even learned biographers could not cover the kaleidoscope of news with which the United States had to deal. Take the voluminous Fulbright biography of the Powells published in 1996 and still being presented as a special gift by the University of Arkansas [Lee Riley Powell with James O. Powell, *J. William Fulbright and His Time*, Foreword by President Bill Clinton, Memphis/Tenn, 1996]: while the Cuban Missile Crisis is covered in every detail, the Berlin Crisis is not mentioned at all; apparently it had never happened. My personal experience with the name and person of Fulbright began in a rather abstract manner. When I was an exchange student in the U.S. in 1951/52 I came across the name of the "Junior Senator from Arkansas" for the first time – through an interview in the radio – (we are talking about the pre-computer time and, in fact, the time when the only TV-set in the entire dormitory was under constant repair) and the topic was on development aid to the emerging new nations in Africa and Asia. This man from somewhere in the South was talking about partnership of nations, the role of

the United Nations, and he was talking intelligently in a brilliant style that commanded immediate attention; and as he corrected the journalist's statements this European (me) kept wondering how "Democracy in Action" was producing quite a number of highly educated members for public careers – you realize my affection for Adlai Stevenson's campaign. The wish to see "Democracy in Action" actually could be read in many scholarship applications of that period – and in my generation we were, indeed, serious about that. I had no idea that the first U.S.-German Fulbright Agreement was signed during those months.

That changed after my return to Göttingen, when my "academic twin" and former roommate Karl Roeloffs (later remembered as Secretary-General of DAAD) moved to Bad Godesberg, to start a job as Chief, American Program Unit with the Fulbright Secretariat, and I signed on as manager of the Fridtjof-Nansen-Haus, the International House of Göttingen University. Karl sent American Fulbright grantees to live in our dormitory, and I could share my experiences to help getting the first Berlin Week of Fulbrighters under way – incidentally, by sending the participants in the locked military train from the West to Berlin and retour. The idea of Fulbright exchanges, advancement of academic knowledge and mutual understanding between nations, appealed very much to the basic principles of the International House movement as well as to the new "*Kollegien-Gemeinschaft*" being a noble effort for accommodating Humboldtian educational goals in modern society. Also, it was generally known that the Fulbright Program was the leverage to replace the Allied post-war policies of re-education and re-orientation by fostering the (West) German universities' return to the World of free scholarship. Therefore, I happily answered a call to temporarily serve on the staff of the *United States Educational*

*Commission in the Federal Republic of Germany*, as the administrative arm of Fulbright exchanges was (still) officially called. My welcome in that office, however, was less Fulbright and more re-education: From a cloud of pipe smoke I heard the voice of the Executive Secretary (known as the "Master-Sergeant with a PhD."): "I want you to keep in mind: (1) I always want to see you in the office; (2) Never use the terms 'we, I, or you' – it's *The Department, The Commission, The Embassy*; (3) Always put the monkey on someone else's back. That's all." I decided to regard that welcome as a challenge rather than an instruction – and thus set to work for the next decades.

I believe enough has been said about the beginnings of the Fulbright legislation in 1946 and the Executive Agreement with the Federal Republic in 1952. However, our understanding of transatlantic relations should recall why the Commission and its program developed as a key instrument in several respects.

First, the German Fulbright Program came into existence at about the same time that the traditional organizations of international academic exchange were re-founded: DAAD (1950), the DFG or German Research Association and the Max Planck Association as successor to the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gesellschaft (1951), and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in 1953, but whereas these organizations had to take cognizance of their traditional partners all over the world and had to cope with minimal funding, Fulbright operated as a daring new concept on a strictly bilateral basis with a fairly stable large budget.

Second, the Executive Agreement of July 1952 provided for a remarkable partnership in planning and conducting exchanges; the German government could appoint 5 national Commission (board) members, equal to the number of Ameri-

cans appointed by their Ambassador. Chancellor Adenauer chose his top Foreign Relations Secretary Prof. Hallstein and the Presidents of the most important organizations of academic self-administration – and they all came, in fact, because they could influence activities that they could not pursue in their own houses; they participated in person (!) in numerous committee meetings as chairmen or simple members, and thus provided a sound group for cooperation on a national as well as a transatlantic level, especially as the American Ambassadors named congenial members to the board, representing the diplomatic, academic and business professions.

And third: within this structure it soon turned out that consensus could be reached on almost all topics through frank discussion, and frank discussions they were. As a consequence, cooperation between organizations, institutions, public sponsors and all respective individuals became a reality not only inside the "Bundesrepublik" but also across the Atlantic. The Commission's place soon established itself as a meeting ground to deal with bilateral issues, problems or plans, often way beyond its own exchange program.

The course of events is known in part, a small comment may still be in order. In 1961, of course, the Fulbright-Hays Act had passed Congress, and the German Federal Government immediately seized the opportunity to apply its provisions, as the funds under the 1952 agreement were coming to an end. At the 10th Anniversary of Fulbright exchanges with Germany actually the first cost-sharing agreement was signed in November 1962. It was a big event in Bonn, the Senator from Arkansas was honored by everyone from politics and academe, but he struck almost everybody with his unassuming, friendly aura which he turned into a sharp intellect when the occasion arose.

Wayne Hays, the Republican co-sponsor of the bill in the House and best forgotten for other reasons, did not come to Bonn, but he gave cause to the dictum of the “non-political character” of the Fulbright Program. Somehow that expression was stressed as an official statement at a meeting with dignitaries from both sides, while some of us minor staff members had been allowed to sit in the background. Well, friends, those among you who know me long and well enough would not be surprised to see me rise and bellow “of course it’s *highly* political if you have involved both houses and both parties and foreign nations!” Some officials hastened to explain my unruly behavior on other occasions, others laughed and the Senator observed: “the young man does not have the floor, but he is correct, do we both agree that it is *non-partisan*?” This was the beginning of an acquaintance that grew into a friendship over the years and beyond the time of our respective service. Incidentally, the “non-political character of Fulbright exchanges” was propagandized once more during the Vietnam years with the same result.

In assessing the Fulbright legacy today we ought to keep in mind that the Senator viewed “his” exchange program in a global context rather than in strictly U.S. relations to other countries, and as one element in his peace policies. It is obvious that the Fulbright Program is still hinged on the principles that the Senator’s proposed legislation envisaged with slightly different emphases in 1946 and 1961: The exchange program was directed to the younger generations as a means to promote peace through education and mutual understanding (and respect); it was a gift/initiative of the United States people (represented by its Congress) to pursue in honest partnership with other countries/peoples the goals of this program; partnership should develop into shared commit-



Dr. Ulrich Littmann and Harriet Mayor Fulbright

ments, benefits, and responsibilities. It is fair to state that the German partners in the binational Fulbright Program as well as in the extended responsibilities have done their share, even if developments over the decades have led to new priorities and to new emphases in goals and operations.

Let me mention some examples, an incomplete list, where the Fulbright Program or the Fulbright Commission itself could make major contributions to dis-

cussions and implementations of reforms and cooperation.

Back in 1955, Fulbright started the German administration of the “Cleveland Youth Leader Program”, an exchange of volunteers and social workers initiated by a German refugee, Dr. Henry Ollendorff with civic groups in Cleveland, Ohio. More recently the cooperation with the Fulbright Program ceased, but it may be worthwhile to realize that these exchanges formed the base for later

> please continue on page 21



## FULBRIGHT ALUMNI E.V.

### History and Purpose

The German Fulbright Alumni e.V. was founded in Frankfurt in 1986 by former Fulbrighters. By 2005, our membership has increased to over 1200. The association brings together internationally-oriented students, scholars, and practitioners from a wide range of academic fields and areas of professional expertise. Most of our members have spent a Fulbright year in the United States. Fulbright Alumni e.V. is the platform for former grantees with a special affiliation to the U.S., who want to promote global understanding. As we are committed to tolerance and true internationality, we are striving to learn more about other peoples' customs, surroundings and histories.

Based on the personal and educational experience and insights gained as participants in an international exchange program, it is the overriding mission of German Fulbright Alumni e.V. members to

- strengthen and support cross-cultural contacts and exchange between Fulbrighters from all around the world;
- encourage dialogue and interaction between international scholars, experts, and activists on topics important to the political, social, and cultural life of nations.

The German Fulbright Alumni e.V. is guided by the idea of the program's founder, Senator J. William Fulbright, to bring together people of different nations and contribute to world peace through better international understanding.

In promoting its political support for the Fulbright program, our association stays in close but independent contact with the Fulbright Commission in Berlin.

Fulbright Alumni e.V. is supported by its members only. Grants and contributions from foundations, corporations and individuals are welcome.

### Activities

Based on a young, lively and broad-based membership, our association organizes a diverse range of regional and nationwide events.

#### General Assembly & Winter Ball

Once each year all members are invited to our General Assembly. At the assembly, each Board member reports on his or her activities during the year, followed by the election of a new Board. The assembly is also the forum for members to make movements for decisions by the attendees, which are then binding for the association.

After the General Assembly, the annual Winter Ball is celebrated.

#### Welcome Meetings

Each fall our Welcome Meeting offers the opportunity for contacts and networking between former and new German returnees as well as American Fulbrighters currently in Germany. The meetings also serve as forums for the discussion of any issues relevant to people after a year abroad. Arranged by the regional groups the Welcome Meeting has taken place each year since 1986 in many different cities in Germany.

#### Strategy Meeting

At the Strategy Meeting, the most devoted core of the members come together to discuss the present and future of the association we all hold so dear.

Strategy Meetings have so far been held in 1997, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

#### Regional Chapter Activities

Regional chapters organize more informal cultural and social events on a monthly basis, including lectures, discussions, and "Stammtische". To find out about the next "Stammtisch" in your area, contact the regional coordinator listed on the overleaf.

### Pow Wows/ Focus Conferences

Different regional chapters of our association organize several national conferences and seminars every year, usually covering a specific topic.

1988	Minorities, Conservatism and Design, Frankfurt
1988	The United States and Germany Corporate Cultures in Comparison, Mannheim
1989	Playground Future, Stuttgart
1989	The French Revolution in American and German Perspectives, Regensburg
1990	The Future of the Information Society - Personal Communication in a Crisis? Hamburg
1990	Signs for Tomorrow's Architecture, Landscape and Urban Development, Darmstadt
1991	Traffic Concepts for the Future - How Mobile will our Society be in the Year 2000? München
1991	German Reunification and the Future of German-American Relations, Berlin
1991	Living and Working in Changing Structures, Todtmoos
1992	Health, Köln
1993	Market Leadership and Brand Names, Böblingen
1993	Ecology and Structural Change, Essen
1994	Where is our New Frontier? Stuttgart
1994	Organizational Development and International Competitiveness, Frankfurt
1995	First Fulbright Fun & Future Camp, Lenggries
1995	Environmental Strategy, Heidenheim
1996	A Chance for Global Understanding, Berlin
1996	Multimedia, Stuttgart
1997	Managing Public Organizations, Frankfurt
1998	Intercultural Communications, Frankfurt
1999	Biotechnology, Frauenchiemsee
1999	Educational Systems, Frankfurt
2001	Nutrition, Calw
2002	Quo Vadis USA, Berlin
2004	EU Enlargement, Berlin

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## International Activities

Our association has put an emphasis on strengthening personal contacts among Fulbright Alumni all around the world. Some core activities have been:

- 1993 European Fulbright Alumni Convention, Brussels.
- 1996 World Fulbright Alumni Conference, The Spirit of Global Understanding, Budapest
- 1998 European Fulbright Alumni Workshop, Strasbourg
- 2000 3rd European Fulbright Alumni workshop in Toledo
- 2004 The International Interdisciplinary Fulbright Conference, Olympism and the Fulbright Spirit: Humanism in Action, Athens

## Other Activities

"Bright People under Full Sail". International sailing trips on the Baltic Sea, every two years since 1991.

Family Weekend, yearly event for singles, couples and families, since 2000.

## Our Services

The association publishes a national journal "FRANKly", an internal newsletter "FAIN", and an Alumni Membership Directory.

As a service to the general public, the national office provides information and assistance to any private person, university or institution on questions of cultural and academic exchange with the United States.

Each regional chapter contacts and assists American Fulbright visiting scholars in its local area. A host program for American Fulbrighters in Germany was successfully established in 1993.

For further information, please contact our national office in Frankfurt or one of our officers listed.

## National Office

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# Fulbright Alumni e.V.

## Membership Application

AUFNAHMEANTRAG – Entscheidend für den Aufnahmeantrag sind die Kerndaten (ohne\*).

Die Angabe der Zusatzdaten (mit\*) ist freiwillig. Über die Aufnahme entscheidet der Vorstand.

**Ich möchte Mitglied werden!**

PLZ, Ort:

Name:

Telefon privat:

Geburtsdatum:

Telefon geschäftlich\*:

Straße/Postfach:

E-Mail:

**Ich möchte folgender Regionalgruppe angehören:**

- |   |  |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Aachen                | <input type="radio"/> Berlin                                       | <input type="radio"/> Franken (Nürnberg/Erlangen) | <input type="radio"/> Frankfurt/Main           | <input type="radio"/> Köln/Bonn                     |  |
| <input type="radio"/> München/<br>Südbayern | <input type="radio"/> Nord (Bremen/Hamburg/<br>Schleswig Holstein) | <input type="radio"/> Niedersachsen               | <input type="radio"/> Ruhrgebiet/<br>Westfalen | <input type="radio"/> Südost<br>(Sachsen/Thüringen) | <input type="radio"/> Südwest<br>(Stuttgart) |

**Ich möchte regelmäßig Regional-Informationen erhalten:**

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

**In den USA war ich als:**

☐ Student ☐ T.A. ☐ Dozent ☐ anderer Status

US-Universität:

US-Studienabschluss:

US-Studienfach:

US-Jahrgang:

**Finanzierung:**

☐ Fulbright- ☐ Vollstipendium ☐ Teilstipendium ☐ Reisestipendium  
☐ DAAD ☐ Direktaustausch ☐ selbst ☐ andere:

\*Studienfach/Uni in Deutschland:

\*Tätigkeit zur Zeit (Beruf/Arbeitgeber):

\*Ideen und Wünsche für den Verein:

Alle meine hier angegebenen Daten sowie später angegebene Änderungen und Ergänzungen werden vom Verein oder im Auftrag des Vereins elektronisch gespeichert und verarbeitet. Sie können im Rahmen der Vereinszwecke an Mitglieder des Vereins weitergegeben werden. Für die Kontaktaufnahme nötige Angaben wie Anschrift oder Telefonnummer, Angaben zum Auslandsstudium sowie Angaben zur Regionalgruppenzugehörigkeit können im Rahmen der Vereinszwecke auch an Nichtmitglieder weitergegeben werden, z.B. an einen am Auslandsstudium Interessierten, der Fragen zu meinem Fach oder meiner Uni hat. Alle anderen hier angegebenen Daten gibt der Verein nur mit meiner Zustimmung an Nichtmitglieder weiter

Der Jahresbeitrag (Euro 40,-; ermäßigt Euro 25,- gemäß Beitragsordnung Abschnitt D: Der unter A.(2) aufgeführte ermäßigte Jahresbeitrag ist für die Mitglieder gedacht, die einer andauernden finanziellen Bedürftigkeit unterliegen. Dieser Status muss jährlich bis 1. März schriftlich erneuert werden.) soll alljährlich per Lastschrift von meinem Konto auf das Fulbright Alumni e.V. Vereinskonto (Nr. 5478 85-600, Postbank Frankfurt, BLZ 500 100 60) eingezogen werden. Die von mir umseitig erteilte und unterschriebene Ermächtigung gilt bis auf Widerruf. (Hinweis: Andere Zahlungsverfahren sind nur im begründeten Ausnahmefall möglich.)

Der Fulbright Alumni e.V. ist berechtigt, für Beiträge und Spenden Zuwendungsbescheinigungen auszustellen.

Ort, Datum

Unterschrift

[Bitte wenden!]



## FULBRIGHT ALUMNI E.V.

### AUFNAHMEANTRAG

#### Einzugsermächtigung

Von (Name und Anschrift des Kontoinhabers):

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an den Fulbright Alumni e.V., 60008 Frankfurt/Main.

Hiermit ermächtige ich Sie widerruflich, die von mir zu entrichtenden Zahlungen bei Fälligkeit zu Lasten meines Girokontos durch Lastschrift einzuziehen.

Grund:	Mitgliedsbeitrag	_____	€	(€40,-, ermäßigt €25,-)
	Spende	_____	€	(jährlich, freiwillig)
	<b>Gesamtbetrag:</b>	_____	€	

Konto-Nummer \_\_\_\_\_ BLZ \_\_\_\_\_

bei (Bank/Sparkasse) \_\_\_\_\_

Wenn mein Girokonto die erforderliche Deckung nicht aufweist, besteht seitens des kontoführenden Geldinstituts keine Verpflichtung zur Einlösung. Teileinlösungen werden im Lastschriftverfahren nicht vorgenommen.

Ort, Datum \_\_\_\_\_ Unterschrift \_\_\_\_\_

Den FAIN (Fulbright Alumni Internal Newsletter) möchte ich per E-mail erhalten. ☐ Ja ☐ Nein

E-Mail Adresse: \_\_\_\_\_

An den  
**Fulbright Alumni e.V.**  
Postfach 100 865  
60008 Frankfurt

## Senator J. William Fulbright – 100th birthday

*Fachhochschule* exchanges conducted at the request of the Federal Government as a pilot project to show the acceptance of the new structure within American higher education; the "CYLP returnees" will soon celebrate their 50th anniversary with now participants from about 100 different countries.

In 1961 the Fulbright Commission approved teacher colleges (*Pädagogische Hochschulen*) as eligible institutions to participate in its program.

A bit later Fulbright-Germany initiated a special program for highly talented German "Abiturienten" which turned out to be a complete failure – because these grantees were so good that American universities lured them into long-term degree programs, and they did not return, except years later as respected professors. The Commission also found itself deeply involved in the then popular study-abroad programs of American institutions.



A tasty lunch buffet

Please note: in all these cases Fulbright was doing pioneer work, and – let's face it – each of such proposals appeared to violate sacred cows and immaculate academic or educational traditions or values that were associated with the name of Saint Humboldt, Wilhelm von ... Even worse: Many of such actual project proposals could not be packed into the policy boxes or categories of the supervising administrations in the government departments in Washington and Bonn. If I, meanwhile in charge of the Commission's Secretariat, could and can claim one special expertise, it is "comparative bureaucracy", and I can recall some private meetings with Senator Fulbright when he gave encouragement and – more important – good advice how to move through the jungle of opportunities and restrictions.

Others will stress other contributions, even claim fatherhood for programs that Fulbright actually had invented and navigated through rough seas – such as the entire area of short-term seminar-type projects; colleagues from other exchange organizations have gladly cooperated on those thorny issues of advising, of settling the problems involving equivalences of curricula and credentials, or the inclusion of the German Rectors' Conference List of German Tertiary Institutions into the American List of Eligible (accredited) Institutions to participate in U.S. guaranteed student loan programs.

At times of the Vietnam debates Bill Fulbright and I would recall that inappropriate term of the "non-political character of Fulbright exchanges" which had marked our first meeting. That term returned now as it allowed riders on Congressional appropriation bills, i.e. Fulbright scholarship documents required grantees to stay away from any political statements while abroad. But how could

Washington expect to shut student protests against the Vietnam engagement out, when the Fulbright name provided the credibility of democratic expression and mutual understanding in educational exchanges? The Senator agreed wholeheartedly to a suggestion of Ambassador Hillenbrand (who actually had been Chairman of the German Fulbright Commission in an earlier assignment as DCM and now served as Honorary Chairman) to make it Commission policy not to tolerate if grantees would make statements "in the name of grantees or in the name of the binational Commission" on religious, social, or political issues, while they could do so as individuals. (In parenthesis: in my time of service only two cases were cited for Commission action, one referred to missionary activities, the other to queer support of German neo-nazi groups.) The Fulbright Commission or its program never experienced any anti-American activities.

Bill Fulbright was a man of remarkable modesty as far as his personal interests were concerned, witty and relaxed in the circle of family and friends. When he stayed in one of Bonn's most traditional and poshest hotels, he could not rest on his bed because the mattress was too soft and the covers were too heavy. He asked the elderly chambermaid – then still a German and very Rhenish at that – to take care of the matter, and that lady let him know, in her Rhenish style, that senators come in all forms and shapes from local associations and organizations, but today she had the honor to look after the needs of a real "Herr Minister" a few rooms down the corridor. By chance it turned out that "Herr Minister" was a clergyman from somewhere in Africa invited by a Protestant parish. Instead of raising hell, Bill simply asked my wife Ellen for help, and the three of us took a blanket and a slatted frame to his hotel room, fixed his bed for a good rest and

did not bother to complain further to the hotel management. Since then, Bill Fulbright used to explain that Ellen “tucked me in.”

To Bill Fulbright intellectual integrity was non-negotiable. I agreed with him that clear language and precise terminology are essential for mutual understanding and documenting knowledge, as I had learned also from my academic teachers (but we agreed that diplomacy occasionally might require words without a clear meaning). This exactly was the basic principle of my own activities in and for the Fulbright Program.

If I may digress for a moment, let me emphasize that the current debate of German university reforms is using a variety of terms that are specific to the entirely different system (or “non-system”) of American higher education. It reminds me of discussions that we had four decades ago, when we asked ourselves if the promoters of plans understand the American structures from which they glean models that do not fit our system. I could spend hours to show that our “experts” do their best to repeat that mistake. I let it go at that.

Bill Fulbright who, after all, is the key personality in this morning’s presentations took a keen interest in what happened to “his” program – but he never intervened in local or regional policies and topics. Yet, his advice and his background – and certainly his including “our women” meaning his wife Betty (who had been so important for his personal and political career until she passed away) and my wife Ellen – influenced my own professional life, and I shall be grateful forever for the gift of his friendship. The Fulbright Program has become a living monument to his vision and his

personality. Senator Fulbright’s legacy is preserved in many activities, three of which deserve special mention beyond this anniversary celebration:

The exchanges under the umbrella of the Fulbright name may continue and flourish and add to the efforts for promoting mutual understanding and broadening of knowledge among nations, their people, and their representatives.

We have to thank Harriet for her indefatigable engagement and her work to keep the values and the memories of Bill Fulbright alive; and we do thank Harriet for her loving care with which she accompanied her husband through the years of retirement and departure from public life.

And last, but not least, it is the alumni who carry the torch and the civic responsibility for the ideas that Senator Fulbright

had brought about and formulated. As we observe the centennial birthday of the man to whom we are committed, we older folks want to wish you every bit of success. Let me add to that that you did a marvellous job in preparing and running this birthday party turning into a conference which the Senator and man William Fulbright would have enjoyed; to Joe Kristensen and his entire team, as well as all of you who have come here to join us today, I take my hat off and wish you the very best for the next years – until we shall have another opportunity to observe more than a round birthday.

Thank you

*> Dr. Littmann served as Executive Director of the German-American Fulbright Commission from 1963 to 1994, and was a close friend of Senator Fulbright.*



*Fulbright with Congressmen Sol Bloom and Charles Easton after the passage of the Fulbright Resolution on Sept. 21, 1943*

**Mitschrift 9. April, 9:15**

Auszüge in hr-info

**Radiosprecher:**

Der US Senator William Fulbright gab einem weltweiten Austauschprogramm den Namen. 1945 hatte der Sohn eines Farmers aus dem Bundesstaat Arkansas vorgeschlagen, den Austausch von Studenten und Professoren zu fördern – finanziert durch den Verkauf von ausrangiertem Kriegsmaterial. Aus der Idee, sozusagen Schwerter zu Scharen von Studenten zu machen, entstand 1946 der Fulbright Act, der das gleichnamige Programm sicherte. Zehn Prozent der heutigen Fulbright Stipendiaten kommen aus Deutschland und heute wird im Amerikahaus gefeiert.

**Daniel Bauer (HR1):**

1953 waren die USA für viele Deutsche vor allem zweierlei: Siegermacht und sehr weit weg. Für den Mainzer Psychologiestudenten Ulrich Diesing änderte sich beides durch einen Flug. 1953 war er unter den ersten deutschen Fulbright Stipendiaten.

**Ulrich Diesing:**

Wir fuhren mit der Scandanavian Airlines, ein Propellorflugzeug, mussten in Kopenhagen unterbrechen, in Glasgow, in England, und dann nach Gander und dann nach New York.

**Daniel Bauer (HR1):**

Ein Jahr besuchte der heute 77-Jährige in Lawrence im Bundesstaat Kansas die Universität. Am liebsten denkt er aber zurück an die kurze Zeit nach der Ankunft in New York.

**Ulrich Diesing:**

Dort waren wir im „I-House“, „International House“, wurden dort noch begrüßt von Frau Elenor Roosevelt. Wir waren dort zusammen mit Leuten aus 30 Nationen, haben abends immer draußen im Warmen auf der Wiese gesessen und ein Bier getrunken und uns unterhalten.

**Daniel Bauer (HR1):**

Menschen aus allen Nationen friedlich zu vereinen, der Grundgedanke des Studenten-Austauschprogramms, der Gedanke von J. William Fulbright. 1946 brachte der damalige Senator das Programm durch den US-Senat. Seine Witwe, Harriet Mayor Fulbright, erinnert sich.

**Harriet Mayor Fulbright:**

Sein Ziel war es, künftige politische Führer dazu zu bringen, in fremde Länder zu reisen und neue Kulturen und Ideen kennenzulernen. Er hoffte, wenn diese Personen später wichtige Posten innehätten, würden Sie politische Unstimmigkeiten eher am Verhandlungstisch, als durch militärische Gewalt lösen.

**Daniel Bauer (HR1):**

Schon damals richtete sich das Fulbright Programm an eine Gruppe, die man hierzulande auch heute noch lieber nicht findet: die Elite. Zwar werden längst nicht alle Fulbright Stipendiaten Regierungschefs oder Minister, wer eines der 250 Stipendien erhalten will, muss aber nach wie vor einiges vorzuweisen haben. Joseph Kristensen ist Vorsitzender der ehemaligen Stipendiaten.

**Joseph Kristensen:**

Potentielle Fulbrighter sind die Leute, die sehr sehr gute Noten haben, auf jeden Fall, also akademische Leistung bringen. Die werden künftige Botschafter sein – ihres Landes, ihrer Kultur und ihrer Herkunft. Sie müssen also auch auf Menschen zugehen können und vielfältige Interessen haben.

**Daniel Bauer (HR1):**

Die Idee, eine aufgeklärte Elite zur Erhaltung des Friedens, wirkt 60 Jahre nach Kriegsende allerdings fast zwangsläufig ein wenig altmodisch. Und der Flug nach New York war für die junge BWL Studentin Moqi Xu vor wenigen Monaten sicher nicht so aufregend wie für Ulrich Diesing vor 50 Jahren. Trotzdem, auch heute hat ein Fulbright Stipendium seine Vorteile.

**Moqi Xu:**

Sicherlich ein sehr anerkannter Name, der da im Lebenslauf steht, einerseits, aber was ich sehr viel wertvoller fand war das Netzwerk, was man sich damit aufbaut, die Menschen, die man bei diesem Stipendium trifft.

**Daniel Bauer (HR1):**

Es muss eben nicht immer Politik sein. Auch für eine Karriere in der Wirtschaft ist der Name Fulbright nicht hinderlich. Aber – und auch das ist Fulbright – 50% aller Stipendien werden nach wie vor an Geisteswissenschaftler vergeben.

Der Vater des Programms, J. William Fulbright, wäre heute 100 Jahre alt geworden. Seine Witwe ist sich sicher, mit dem Erfolg seines Programms, wäre er zufrieden.

**Harriet Mayor Fulbright:**

Gegen Ende seines Lebens sagte er mir, dass er das Fulbright Programm für das wichtigste hielt, was er je getan hatte. Er war überwältigt, dass es weit erfolgreicher geworden war, als er es sich je hätte vorstellen können.

**Radiosprecher:**

53 Jahre Deutsch-Amerikanisches Fulbright Programm. Heute hat er Geburtstag, würde 100 Jahre alt. William Fulbright; das war ein Bericht von Daniel Bauer für HR1.

Abdruck mit freundlicher Genehmigung des Hessischen Rundfunks



Joseph Kristensen thanks Harriet Mayor Fulbright

## Anmerkungen zu Senator William Fulbright

Seit vor 50 Jahren meine Deutschlehrerin – Ruth Privat – als Fulbright Stipendiatin in den USA war und uns geannt lauschenden Schülerinnen von ihren dortigen Erfahrungen berichtet hatte, war mir Senator William Fulbright ein Begriff. So war es auch nicht verwunderlich, dass ich 15 Jahre später – nun selbst in Washington DC – gern mit ihm ein Gespräch über die „Vorstellungen der Mitglieder des amerikanischen Kongresses zur Deutschlandpolitik der USA nach dem 2. Weltkrieg“ – meinem Promotions-thema – geführt hätte. Dazu kam es zwar nicht, aber anekdotische Begegnungen mit Mitarbeitern seines Büros in Washington DC sind mir noch lebhaft in Erinnerung.



Marriet Mayor Fulbright and Hannelore Kraus

William Fulbright hatte mit seiner Idee, dass Völkerverständigung durch gegenseitiges Kennenlernen und Respektieren am besten zu bewerkstelligen sei, so grundsätzlich recht, dass wir uns heute oft irritiert fragen, wo dieses fundamentale Wissen geblieben ist. Ich möchte aus seinem Buch „Arroganz der Macht“ zitieren: „Die Fähigkeit des Menschen, sich anständig zu benehmen, scheint direkt davon abhängig, dass er sich andere als Individuen mit menschlichen Motiven und Gefühlen vorstellt. Dagegen nimmt seine Fähigkeit, sich barbarisch zu verhalten, anscheinend dann zu, wenn er seine Gegner nur als abstrakten Begriff wahrnimmt.“ (Hamburg, 1967, S. 162).

Es bleibt uns allen nur, uns dieser traurigen Beobachtung ständig zu erinnern und dagegen zu steuern.

Es freut mich sehr, dass meine Vaterstadt Frankfurt die Ehre hat, die Gedenkfeier zum 100. Geburtstag von William Fulbright ausrichten zu dürfen. Er war eine großartige Persönlichkeit, deren Lebenswerk in bester Weise weltweit fortwirkt.

Hannelore Kraus,  
Frankfurt am Main, 21.03.2005

## Stilblüten Centennial Guestbook

„Eine unglaubliche Runde kreativer Leute, die sich hier getroffen haben. Zukunft ist wirklich nicht in den Sternen, sondern in dem Herzen der Leute.“

“A source of inspiration to follow the example and spirit of Senator Fulbright.”

“It was a great honour and pleasure to be here and to meet Mrs. Fulbright. Thank you for organizing the event.”

“Congratulations on a very successful Fulbright Centennial Celebration!”

„Besonders beeindruckend fand ich Frau Fulbright, unser endlich mal weibliches Role Model. So was ist Inspiration.“

“I am current Fulbrighter – married to a German Fulbright Alumna. I believe now, in the value of international exchange (...not just exchange of marriage vows).”

“My first event with Fulbright after having been an alumnus for 22 years...Thanks for a phantastic organisation. I'll come again.”

“Thank you for a beautiful day.” (HMF)



## Thank You Note

Liebe Fullies,

der 9. April 2005 – das Centennial von Senator Fulbright – ist für uns nicht nur eine Gelegenheit gewesen, die Bedeutung und Tragweite seiner Ideen und Programminitiativen, die an Aktualität nichts verloren haben, zu würdigen. Es war auch eine eindrucksvolle Demonstration der Früchte seiner Arbeit, denn Ihr habt – aus ganz eigenem Antrieb, gemeinsam und mit großem Engagement – den Rahmen für dieses festliche „Get-Together“ der Fulbright-Familie geschaffen. Es ist schön, als Fulbright-Kommission solche Partner zu haben, es ist befriedigend, zu sehen, wie die „Fullies“ ein in Europa einzigartiges Alumninetzwerk tragen und ausbauen, und es ist bewundernswert, mit welchem Elan und welcher Selbstverständlichkeit Ihr weitergebt, was Ihr einmal erhalten habt. Ihr lebt diese Idee Fulbrights, und dafür möchte ich Euch im Namen der Kommission danken.

Rolf Hoffmann

> Dr. Hoffmann has been the Executive Director of the German-American Fulbright Commission since February 2004. Prior to this position, Dr. Hoffman held various positions at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in Bonn, New York, and Washington DC.

# The Atlantic Review – Laying the ground for insightful discussion:

Three Fulbrighters publish the transatlantic newsletter and website [www.AtlanticReview.org](http://www.AtlanticReview.org)

By Sonja Bonin and Jörg Wolf

The Atlantic Review recommends commentaries, analyses and reports on the United States and transatlantic relations and is edited by three German Fulbright Alumni: Jörg Wolf (Berlin), Sonja Bonin (Seattle) and Jörg Geier (Hamburg). We founded our press digest with Scott Brunstetter (Washington DC) in July 2003 out of a concern for the deterioration of the US-German relationship. We sent this digest to a German (fa-forum) and an international Fulbright mailing list twice a month ever since.

We hope to contribute to mutual understanding by summarizing in a nonpartisan way interesting press articles from respected sources and different points of view published on both sides of the Atlantic and freely available on the internet.

Sponsored by the Fulbright Alumni e.V., the Atlantic Review is published on the internet ([www.AtlanticReview.org](http://www.AtlanticReview.org)) and offers it's own free HTML newsletter since June 2005. While the newsletter is sent twice a month, the website is up-

dated continuously and contains current and past issues. The website has already attracted many readers beyond the global Fulbright community to this German Fulbright project and to the Fulbright Alumni e.V., to which we link.

## Balanced and multifaceted news and analysis via the internet

Thanks to the internet, our access to information is not restricted to our own side of the Atlantic any more. Most US and European newspapers and journals publish large parts of their content on the internet for free. That way, it has become much easier for us Europeans to learn why Americans perceive certain political issues so differently than we do, and vice versa. The only problem is that most people do not have the time to surf to the websites of various news sources searching for good articles on a regular basis.

That's where the Atlantic Review helps: We scan a large number of credible newspapers, magazines, TV programs, and

alternative media sources from both sides of the Atlantic for you: First we select the most interesting and insightful articles, analyses, reports and essays on transatlantic affairs. Then we summarize the most important information and arguments in our own words and/or present significant quotes from the original article. Last but not least we direct you to the original news source with a direct link so that you can read the full text if you are interested.

The Atlantic Review hereby offers a great time saving service for our busy fellow Fulbrighters and other readers. Moreover, we believe that our website contributes to mutual understanding by informing our German readers of ongoing debates in the US that are not sufficiently covered in the German media and vice versa. The information in the Atlantic Review can help our readers not only to stay well informed about German, EU- and US foreign policies and transatlantic relations, but also to confront anti-American sentiments in Germany as well as Anti-



Jörg Geier



Sonja Bonin



Jörg Wolf

# Atlantic Review

A press digest on transatlantic affairs

The Atlantic Review recommends commentaries, analyses and reports on the United States and transatlantic relations. Three German Fulbright alumni review respected media sources from both sides of the Atlantic. This newsletter, published twice a month, aims at enhancing mutual understanding.

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**Monday, August 22. 2005**

**"Europe toughens up"**

The Wall Street Journal welcomes that Europeans contemplate tougher anti-terrorism policies. The conservative newspaper believes it's time to find a German word for "Patriot Act," while it still perceives remnants of a "religion of appeasement" in Germany:

Italians who think their vulnerability is the result of their participation in the Iraq war should look no further than Germany, which opposed the war yet feels compelled to step up its security. Interior Minister Otto Schily has been outspoken about his belief that Islamic terrorists are at war not just with the U.S. and its allies in Iraq but with Western society in general. Mr. Schily has called for increased search and detention powers in cases involving terror suspects who are known to be a threat but who haven't yet committed a crime. (...) The old-time religion of appeasement hasn't completely disappeared. Mr. Schily's proposals have been compared to Nazi-era tactics by leading members of the Green Party, a minority partner in Gerhard Schroeder's coalition government. Some German officials have--in all seriousness--floated the idea of a new Muslim public holiday as a way of mitigating the terror threat.

Posted by editors in [Transatlantic Relations](#) at 17:07 | [Comments \(0\)](#) | [Trackbacks \(0\)](#) | [Edit entry](#)

**Friday, August 19. 2005**

**Senator J. William Fulbright**

"...the most valuable public servant, like the true patriot, is one who gives a higher loyalty to his country's ideals than to its current policy and who therefore is willing to criticize as well as to comply."

Posted by editors in [Quotes](#) at 00:24 | [Comments \(0\)](#) | [Trackbacks \(0\)](#) | [Edit entry](#)

**Wednesday, August 17. 2005**

**War against Iran? Populism against the US?**

When President Bush mentioned military action as the last option to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons, Chancellor Schroeder quickly seized the opportunity to win voters by positioning himself in opposition to the US president. Schroeder received big applause, when he asked the US to put the military option off the table in a speech that officially started his election campaign.

Is Schroeder an anti-American populist, who cares more about his reelection than the proliferation of nuclear weapons and transatlantic relations? Or is he a responsible politician, who opposes a dangerous US warpath? How likely is a US war against Iran?

The following review of newspaper articles gives some answers:

[Continue reading "War against Iran? Populism against the US?"](#)

Posted by editors in [Transatlantic Relations](#), [Iran policy](#) at 14:34 | [Comments \(2\)](#) | [Trackbacks \(0\)](#) | [Edit entry](#)

**Bush administration seems to give up original plans for democracy, freedom and security in Iraq**


According to Robin Wright and Ellen Knickmeyer, writing in [The Washington Post](#), senior administration officials admit that their plans for Iraq were unrealistic

The Bush administration is significantly lowering expectations of what can be achieved in Iraq, recognizing that the United States will have to settle for far less progress than originally envisioned during the transition due to end in four months, according to U.S. officials in Washington and Baghdad. The United States no longer expects to see a model new democracy, a self-supporting oil industry or a society in which the majority of people are free from serious security or economic challenges, U.S. officials say.

"What we expected to achieve was never realistic given the timetable or what unfolded on the ground," said a senior official involved in policy since the 2003 invasion. "We are in a process of absorbing the factors of the situation we're in and shedding the unreality that dominated at the beginning." (...) And women's rights will not be as firmly entrenched as Washington has tried

Chris about [Bush administration seems to give up original plans for democracy, freedom and security in Iraq](#) 22.08.

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The essence of intercultural education is the acquisition of empathy – the ability to see the world as others see it, and to allow for the possibility that others may see something that we have failed to see, or may see it more accurately.

**Senator Fulbright**

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"Europe toughens up"

Senator J. William Fulbright

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US Fulbright grantee compares Germany and the US

The American Dream, blue-collar hearts and minds and Christian values

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Europe's dual imperial challenge

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Ahmed about [War against Iran? Populism against the US?](#) 22.08.  
Yes, Iran is not a threat to the US right now. The military has indeed to much [...]

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- The middle column lists the most recent entries in chronological order. We provide a link to the recommended article on the website of the respective newspaper.
- The brief introduction or summary of an article includes a link to the entire article on the website of the respective newspaper and is usually followed by an interesting citation from the original article, which is indented from the left.
- You can read comments from our readers or write your comment on this article, if you click on "Comments."
- You can read additional reading recommendations in this category by clicking on its name.
- Here you can view all reading recommendations structured in six categories: Transatlantic Relations, Fulbright (for everything related to the Fulbright experience and other exchange programs), US Foreign Policy, US Domestic and Cultural Issues, International Economics and Quotes.
- The monthly archive includes all our reading recommendations since January 2005.
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- The easiest way to make sure you receive the Atlantic Review twice a month is to subscribe to our free newsletter by submitting your email address here.
- The right column features the logo of our sponsor the Fulbright Alumni e.V., followed by a quote from Senator Fulbright that serves as the Atlantic Review's motto. Underneath there is a list of our most recent entries.
- Links to the most recent comments from our readers are listed as well.

German/Anti-European sentiments in the US. The Atlantic Review lays the ground for deeper understanding and insightful discussion.

Our reading recommendations neither reflect our own opinion nor do we intend to convince you of the author's thesis. Rather, we are trying to offer a wide range of facts and different opinions – because we believe that a critical and thorough, but balanced and multifaceted coverage of the United States, Europe and transatlantic issues is very much needed to understand, appreciate and improve the transatlantic partnership. Or, to put it in Senator Fulbright's words: *"The essence of intercultural education is the acquisition of empathy – the ability to see the world as others see it, and to allow*

*for the possibility that others may see something that we have failed to see, or may see it more accurately."*

As former Fulbright grantees, who have had the privilege to participate in and appreciate the culture and way of life on the respective other side of the Atlantic, and in accordance with the Fulbright spirit, we believe it is our joyful responsibility to continue our work as cultural ambassadors and to help improve our mutual, transatlantic friendship.

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- Submit your own reading recommendation! If you come across a good article about a US related issue and you want to share it with your fellow Fulbrighters and others, please send an email to:

[editors@atlanticreview.org](mailto:editors@atlanticreview.org).

We appreciate the many contributions we received from our fellow Fulbrighters in the past.

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Drop us a line if you have any questions whatsoever.

# Organizing the Winterball and general assembly in Hamburg 2005



*On the dancefloor*

Until the fall of 2003 and already for several years the attendance at the Fulbright Alumni “Stammtisch” in Hamburg had been very low to nonexistent.

After a change of the monthly date from Friday to Tuesday, and also the change of activity from going to the movies to meeting in a pub, things had started to look more promising by the middle of 2004. Some people were beginning to show up regularly, and also new people were attending the Stammtisch every month. Still, all this had been a rather recent development after a long dormant period of Fulbright Alumni activity in Hamburg.

So I, as coordinator of the regional chapter was rather hesitant and sceptical when Ursula Mich, the national event coordinator, approached me in July of 2004 to ask if the Hamburg chapter would be able to organize the Winterball and annual assembly for January 2005.

The reason for my hesitation was that I did not know for sure if there were enough people in Hamburg who were willing to participate in the rather time consuming task of organizing such an event on a national scale. But on the Hamburg 4th of July party most people were in favor of accepting the challenge – and so we

agreed to be the organizing chapter for January 2005. It soon turned out that all my fears were unfounded, as a very dedicated organizing team formed itself in the summer of 2004.

First we tackled the task of finding the right venue – and after looking at a variety of places settled for a place with real Hanseatic flair – the old freighter Cap San Diego. The premises at the Cap San Diego, in the hull of this large ship had been transformed from its original purpose of storing large quantities of goods to a place, where people could dance the night away – still enjoying some of the original “industrial charm” of the place. After selecting food and DJ (by no means the less important choices), Saturday evening for the upcoming weekend was prepared.

For the annual assembly (MV) we were able to rent the rooms from “Bürgerverein Bahrenfeld” which were to be inaugurated in November 2004, and where construction was still not finished when we signed the rental agreement. Fortunately everything was in perfect working order when the general assembly took place in January.

With a lot of enthusiasm, the rest of the program for the weekend was then decided on, namely the places for the get together on Friday evening and the one for the brunch on Sunday morning. It proved a little more difficult than anticipated to find places capable of seating such a large number of people, but with the “Ständige Vertretung” for Friday evening and the “Cafe Fees” for Sunday morning we were confident to have found just the right places.

The tours for Sunday afternoon were selected with the goal to have something to offer to the experienced Hamburg traveler as well as to the people being in Hamburg for the first time. On the weekend itself, the tour through the new

city development at the Hamburg harbour “Hamburg Hafen City” turned out to be extremely popular, but the other two tours, one inside the “Museum für Hamburgische Geschichte” and the other at the “Holsten Brauerei” were also no reason for disappointment. By the middle of November the main preparations were finished, so that the invitations could be written – this was more work than anticipated, due to the fact that neither pictures nor maps with copyright could be chosen, so we drew our own maps and asked the Cap San Diego for permission to print some of their online pictures.

Some delays at the printing company were responsible for a rather late sending of the invitations, in consequence most of them reached their recipients well after Christmas.



*Hamburg city tour*

In turn we in Hamburg were a little worried if we would reach the required number of about 130 attendees in order to reach the financial break-even (without a major sponsor). In the end 125 people responded to the invitation – so to our great relief, we did not cause the ruin of the Fulbright Alumni association.

The weekend itself was full of joyful reuniting and meeting new people (as all Fulbright Alumni events always are!), and worth every effort in preparing for it!

*Uta Heyen*

# Regional Chapters – Munich/Southern Bavaria

As one of the largest regional chapters in Germany, the Munich Fulbright group turned into some sort of secret marriage brokerage during the last years. Among the latest examples are our coordinator for returnees and American grantees, Melanie Kükenbrink, who in a surprise move exchanged vows with Andreas Siebert in December 2004. In consequence we have witnessed a true baby boom of Gen-F'ers (F as in Fulbright). Among our youngest members are Charlotte von Frankenberg, Luca Alan Tröger, Anne-Cathrine Gerber, Johannes Kolk, Charlotte Tonke, Lucia Elizabeth Guldner, and most recently Sarah Anna Ford in February 2005. Welcome to the Fulbright Family!

The sheer size of the Munich chapter contributes to a considerable reproductive rate as well as to a flurry of activities. Even the fool-hardest no-shows among our members cannot resist to join us for our regular festivities: 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Thanksgiving Dinner, and "Wichteln" before Christmas, which have been staples in our program for years now. Our Stammtisch is regularly visited by well above 20 Fullies which encourages us to keep our innovative concept to move to a new "watering hole" every month. In addition the cinema group and the climbers meet on a regular basis. The top event of the last outdoor season – no doubt about that – was a trip down Schneckenloch cave in September 2004 professionally guided by the Donauwörth



*The Munich Baby Boomers*

caving club. The ascent to the entrance was already an adventure of its own, leading across two creeks and uphill towards the enormous portal of the cave. We all managed to climb a small

but critical step halfway into the cave and then continued to explore the maze of tunnels extending some 600 m into the mountain. The rainy weather actually proved to be an advantage, with



*The Munich Chapter enjoys a cave tour*

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water dripping, splashing and gushing all over otherwise bare walls.

Alas, for our chapter 2004 was the year of the welcome meeting – THE Welcome Meeting. Notwithstanding the uncounted hours spent (and e-mails written, for that), it paid off with a lot of experience gained for the Orga Team, who cooperated efficiently and smoothly for almost half a year.

2005 started out with a guided tour at the ICE maintenance building at Donnersberger Brücke near Hauptbahnhof. Just the dimensions of the hall were breathtaking – close to 500 m in length, fitting two complete highspeed trains in a row. Impressive as well the talent of Johannes Kolk, one of our above-mentioned youngsters: he found the horn in the driver's stand all by himself.

In February we held our regional elections, and the results turned out the same team – talk about voter retention... Of course, the four of us will be happy for any feedback, suggestions and support from all of you to make things happen!

*Take care*

*The Regional Chapter*

*Birgit, Melanie, Lissi, Andreas*

*muenchen@fulbright-alumni.de*

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### Welcome Meeting

How would you bring together 150 returned Fulbrighters for a weekend loaded with activities, new insights and lots of fun?

Setting up a great team was the main ingredient to our secret recipe for a successful event when the regional Fulbright Alumni chapter decided to organize the national Welcome Meeting 2004 in Munich. With highly motivated team members and specialists for assignments such as budget planning or online registration it was surprisingly easy to take care of the numerous aspects of the event. The relaxed atmosphere of Munich's beer gardens turned out to be ideal for intense debates about the program, our most challenging task. While the date of the Welcome Meeting was approaching, we also planned a paper chase in

downtown Munich, tested locations, looked for speakers and sponsoring, negotiated with caterers, created the invitations,...

The variety of our final schedule reflects the Fulbright idea not only on an intellectual, but also on a gastronomical level: the culinary journey took us from Bavarian Food in a traditional restaurant right next to the "Frauenkirche" to a delicious international buffet on Saturday evening and a relaxing Sunday morning brunch with live jazz.

Friederich Mielke, an expert in American affairs, thoroughly and compassionately analyzed the US presidential elections; Prof. Dr. Bolko von Oettinger of host Boston Consulting Group gave an inspired talk on "Strategy and Innovation"; Martina Erwig introduced us to the

opportunities for young scientists offered by the BMW Scientific Award; Prof. Dr. Kaspar Spinner, expert for teaching literature, provided insight into the meaning of eating and drinking in Grimm's fairy tales.

A city rallye leading to the famous "Hofbräuhaus" and guided tours to the highspeed train inspection site of the "Deutsche Bahn AG", BMW, Siemens and a brewery completed the program.

As you would expect, the Orga Team didn't get much out of the extensive program. After this long weekend with its minor glitches and major mishaps, we were all happy to finally catch a good night's sleep. Looking back, this event can be considered as a roaring success for a number of reasons. The location Munich and the program not only attracted the largest number of participants at a German Welcome Meeting so far – 165 regular attendees – but also resulted in over 30 new members of the Fulbright Alumni Association the same weekend. It also deepened the fruitful relationship to The Boston Consulting Group who kindly hosted the event. Last but not least our team gained the insight that a task like organizing a Welcome Meeting can be an unexpectedly satisfying challenge and a lot of fun if one cooperates with great (Fulbright) people.



*The organizing team (from left to right): Birgit, Melanie, Matthias, Lissi, Hartmut, Andreas*

# Regional Chapters – Frankfurt

Warmest FRANKly-greetings from FRANKfurt. Let's take a look at what is currently going on in one of Fulbright's largest regional chapters. April is the cruellest month, we have known that since T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*. In terms of workload, we agree. Yet, the results were stunning. With style and élan, we hosted the JWF Centennial celebrations in Frankfurt's Amerika Haus on April 9th. Additionally, we cast in April our annual ballot for the regional team chiefs. Steffi Winter and Christina Hain succeeded Claudia Detje and Inga Sellien as coordinators. Information expert Reinhard Koch and treasurer Klaus Brüning continue to support the chapter.

In the faint moonlight the grass was singing in May. More specifically, dozens of men in purple gathered on the lawn of the new Commerzbank-Arena. Frankfurt Galaxy celebrated a gigantic "Einzugsparty," and Fulbrighters from the Frankfurt and Mannheim areas enjoyed motorcycle stunt men, fire-works, barbecued food and four quarters of American football against Berlin Thunder. A streaker running across the field in the middle of the game added some spice; and comedian Otto rounded off the event.

June meant fishing with the arid plain behind me. Hot weather, little refreshing air in Frankfurt's Turmpalast movie thea-

ter that night. No more monthly movie trips during the summer, we conclude. However, the Sydney Pollack film, 'The Interpreter' with Nicole Kidman, set in New York and a fictional sub-Saharan state, offered laudable suspense and an inside glance at the U.N.'s General Assembly.

I will show you something different, T.S. Eliot offers. We do, too, and propose a special tour of "Ideal Worlds – Wunschwelten", a current exhibition in Frankfurt's Schirn Kunsthalle in June. A group of art-loving Fulbrighters learn about new romanticism in contemporary art and marvelled at works of 13 artists, among them David Thorpe, Kaye Donachie and Peter Doig.

Where the hermit-thrush sings in the pine trees, in our case in Offenbach-Bürgel, we gathered for our annual Independence Day celebration in July. Knut Mittwollen, wife Christa and three talented little hosts organized a lovely BBQ. German Fulbrighters and American guests shared a variety of ethnic food goodies (yum yum) and enjoyed relaxed chats under a starlit sky.

August offered a bird's eye view of Frankfurt. We visited one of Europe's tallest office buildings: the Commerz-



Photos: S. Winter



bank tower and marvelled at Norman Foster's architectural achievement. In September, we organized a three-day trip to Florence, Italy, where we not only enjoyed delicious tripe, crostini and superb mozzarella but wandered streets, museums, churches in search of the Medici, Machiavelli and Michelangelo.



4th of July

OOOO that Shakespearian Rag – it's so elegant, so intelligent. Tiger Reel's production of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream* in the English Theatre Frankfurt cheered us up in October. So did Jane Austen's "Price and Prejudice" at the Turmpalast. In November, we celebrated Thanksgiving at the Tryp with a buffet of reindeer, roast goose, rabbit, and, oh well yes, turkey. Sorry, no sweet potatoes. Maybe next year.

What else? Twit twit twit jug jug jug – on the first Thursday of each month we chat at our Stammtisch at the Künstlerkeller. Please, join us! Our website ([www.fulbright-alumni.de/frankfurt](http://www.fulbright-alumni.de/frankfurt)) and our newsletter (contact: [frankfurt@fulbright-alumni.de](mailto:frankfurt@fulbright-alumni.de)) contain more information on forthcoming events.

Steffi Winter

# Athens – An unforgettable Journey

27th Annual Conference of the American Fulbright Association / The International Interdisciplinary Fulbright Conference – Olympism and the Fulbright Spirit: Humanism in Action, October 7 – 10, 2004

Finally, the 6th of October 2004 arrived: After quite some logistic preparations trying to avoid travel complications were finished, 22 German Fulbright Alumni were sitting on their planes on the way to Athens to attend two new highlight Alumni Conferences in Greece.

In the 18 year history of the German Fulbright Association it was the first time several of our members could take part at the General Assembly of the American Fulbright Association, whose assembly took place the first time in Europe, and to attend then the following up 1. International Alumni Conference taking place in Athens/Greece as well. The idea for this conference was born in Washington in 2000, including the support of Wiltrud Hammelstein and Birgit Klocke, former board members of the FAeV. We saw the results in reality in Athens, which would not have taken place without the tremendous organizational efforts by our three Greek Ladies, Ms. Rita Panourgia, Ms. Anastasia Papaconstantinou and Ms. Roxani Angelopoulou.

On the 7th of October 2004 the official part of the General Assembly started with greetings by the American and Greek officials. Seminars dealing with topics from the Arts, Education and Sciences followed up. Very impressive was Mrs. Cohen's Dance Seminar including a rehearsal of Nijinsky's Ballet Jeux in a reconstruction. As well as we could, we tried to split ourselves up among these different impressive seminars. While we were eating lunch and listened to various speeches we met many very interesting US American Fulbright Alumni we talked to.

After lunch we had a panel discussion about Europe and Transatlantic Relations after the enlargement of the European



*The German crowd and Harriet Mayor Fulbright*

Union in May 2004, which was dominated vividly by many remarks of the audience and the panelists. There was almost no time to change clothes before we were taken by bus to the US Embassy to celebrate the Reception Party. In a wonderful garden on a nice warm evening we had a great Greek potluck dinner and the opportunity to speak more intensively with the participants exchanging our Fulbright experiences. I recognized a lady from New York I happened to know when she was an actress at the English Theatre in Frankfurt am Main, and as she told me had been a cheerleader with the Frankfurt Galaxy, the Frankfurt Foot-ball team, as well. How small the world is. Impressive too, how many Americans were Fulbright teaching assistants in Germany and still speak German quite fluently. I was amazed by this large amount of American Fulbrighters having been in Germany I did not know up to now.

Friday morning the official part of the American Alumni general assembly took

place, which is quite different from the German assembly. I can not remember ours ever lasting just two hours. This is due to the fact the American Association is guided professionally, ours on a volunteer basis. But while conferences went on, Jane Anderson, director of the Association, and others assured me how impressive and vividly our Association was guided over the years by diligent board members and the members themselves. She and her colleagues asked us to give support to the newly founded Swedish and Chinese Associations, which we tried to fulfill.

After the General Assembly of the American Alumni Seth Kahan gave us an idea how the Global Fulbright Network World might be, a very dedicated presentation with many suggestions and hints by the audience showing participants are organized quite differently in their associations dealing partly with some difficulties, which was very interesting to listen to. Afterwards, various workshops followed: the most impor-

tant for us was the workshop dealing with Senator's Fulbright 100th birthday on April 9th 2005. Lead by Wiltrud Hammelstein, we were discussing an international link and calendar coordinating the national events worldwide which will occur. Just at the beginning of this workshop Harriet Mayor Fulbright arrived, who immediately was taken on board by the workshop members as a participant. Germany planned to have a one-day event on the 9th of April 2005 at the Amerikahaus in Frankfurt am Main.

After the first conference was finished, we rushed to the Akropolis to visit at least this sensational place. Having wonderful weather, we admired the temples and the fantastic view of Athens. But time was short and we tried to be in time at Athens University, where the official opening ceremony of the first international Alumni Conference took place. In this beautiful building we were greeted by the mayor, the minister of culture and the minister of sport. The highlight was the keynote by Harriet Mayor Fulbright regarding her husband and the program. The official part followed the reception party at the roof garden of the Greek – American Union with its wonderful panorama view. While we intensified our contacts we decided to go on with our party at the roof terrace of our hotel, a wonderful location at the beginning of the Plaka, the old city of Athens, which I highly recommend.

Next day at the Union, one had difficulties to decide which of these interesting seminars / panels to attend. As an educated librarian majoring in children's and juvenile literature, I decided to visit the panel regarding a European speech and translation program "Only Connect" developed for children, which started with an outlook of the translation of children books. Once more I experienced a surprise – the lecturer and one participant I knew privately many years ago in



*Impressions from the luncheon lecture*



Germany, and I met here again and we renewed our acquaintance. The workshop was a highlight as well as the workshop entitled "Fulbrighter as Ambassadors" as I was told by the other participants.

The day went on with various interesting lectures and panels. I tried to attend alternately humanistic or scientific ones, e.g. Ulrich Hueck's lecture on the status of Jerusalem and Jörg Wolf's lecture on the International Fulbright Mailing lists. Unfortunately I could not attend Kevin and Halil's lecture regarding "The Humanity of Healing", because we had to meet for our own board meeting. But the environment of the assembly was very singular and insofar discussions and making decisions were easily to go.



*The US meets Europe*



*Three beautiful smiles*

The evening belonged to us, which most of us spent in the Plaka where we were able to admire some Greek men dancing Sirtós, very interesting and impressive. Sunday followed by two wonderful workshops presented by two American who spent their Fulbright Year in South Africa and Cameroon. Their lectures and videos about theatre against Aids in Cameroon and an inquiry of Women of

different heritage in a Cape Town beauty parlor were very touching.

Impressive too was the final audience panel regarding the event and its future ongoing. There was a vivid discussion where the next international conference should take place in 2008, what kind of organization committee should be established and who those participants

should be. The result of the discussion was that the American Association with the help of the former organizer will establish a call by internet until the end of December 2004, who might be interested in becoming an organizer. When the organizer will be determined, they decide, which city will be host in 2008 for the 2. International Conference.

Now, the intellectual part of the conference was finished. For farewell we were offered a guided tour to Cape Sounion admiring the gorgeous temple of Poseidon and the wonderful sunset. Having a final dinner at a wonderful ocean terrace we were quite sad to depart at least but not without reassuring to meet again at one of our national, European or international events.

Thanks to the organizers of the Greek and American Associations for the wonderful and successful managed Conferences with their more than 220 participants, which made it possible to deepen old contacts and to make new friends.

*On behalf of the FAeV Board  
Ursula Mich*

# DENKEN IST HANDELN.



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