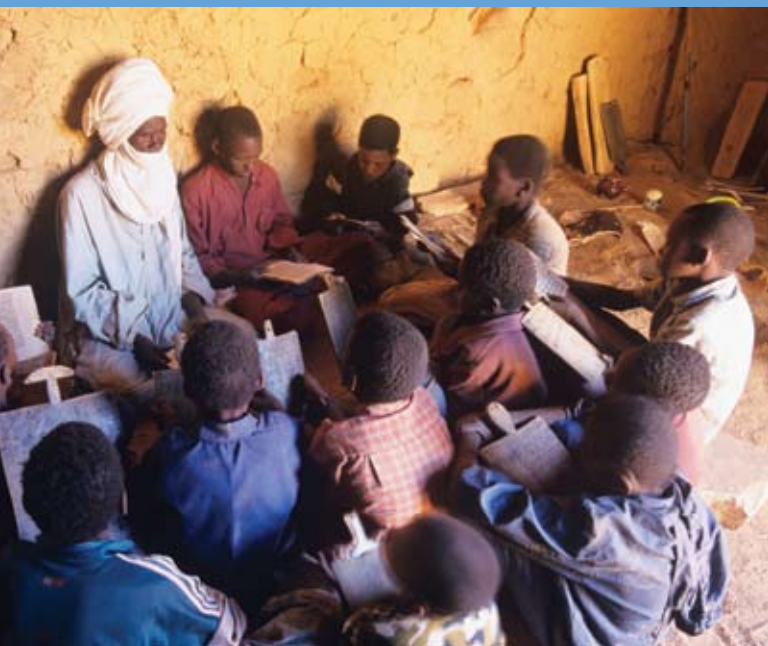


2007–2008

THE NEW CENTURY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

*Higher Education in the 21st Century:
Access and Equity*



FULBRIGHT


For more information about the
Fulbright Scholar Program, please
visit our Web site, write or call:

Council for International Exchange of Scholars
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The Fulbright Program is sponsored by
the United States Department of State,
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.



The New Century Scholars Program

In a joint effort to expand and build on the strengths of the traditional Fulbright Scholar Program, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars created the New Century Scholars Program. By bringing together innovative minds to collaborate on topics of global significance, the New Century Scholars Program serves the mission of Senator J. William Fulbright who, in the aftermath of World War II, envisioned an international exchange program that would promote “mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries of the world.”

Now in its fifth year, the New Century Scholars Program seeks to take advantage of the synergy created when scholars and professionals from different disciplines and countries focus on a single issue of concern to people worldwide. For the second year, a group of outstanding scholars will focus on topics relating to higher education in the 21st century. “Higher Education in the 21st Century: Access and Equity” is the focal point for New Century Scholars this year.

The need for an international, academic forum for addressing subjects of global interest is as great as ever given the demands and expectations of the 21st Century.

Timeline

March 2007

- Orientation and goal setting meeting
- International research visits begin

September 2007

- Mid-term meeting

March/April 2008

- Final plenary seminar

Contact Information

Additional details are available on the CIES Web site at www.cies.org or via e-mail at NCS@cies.iie.org. You may also contact Ms. Stacey Bustillos, program officer, at 202.686.6252.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Financial support is provided by an annual appropriation from the U.S. Congress to the Department of State and by participating governments and by host institutions in the United States and abroad. The presidentially appointed J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board formulates policy guidelines and makes the final selection of all grantees. CIES is a division of the Institute for International Education.

Program Activities

Because one of the defining characteristics of the New Century Scholars Program is collaboration, regular contact between New Century Scholars, both electronic and in-person, is an integral part of its success. The year opens with an in-person orientation session, during which the New Century Scholars meet, share perspectives, compare research directions and set goals on the global issue of access and equity in higher education. The mid-term meeting brings participants together as a group again to discuss progress made and refine objectives. Finally, under the direction of the New Century Scholars Distinguished Leader, the scholars gather for a plenary seminar and present their individual and joint research findings to policymakers, colleagues, and the general public.

During the program year, New Century Scholars participate individually in what lies at the heart of all Fulbright experiences, the pursuit of mutual understanding promoted through an international exchange visit. These visits are of two or three months duration and serve to further the scholars' research and broaden their understanding of the New Century Scholars research topic.



Worldwide Collaboration

Sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the New Century Scholars (NCS) Program, a Fulbright Program, gathers together an outstanding group of research scholars and professionals from around the world for collaboration on a topic of international significance. One-third of the scholars come from the United States and two-thirds from over 155 countries worldwide. Drawn from a variety of disciplines and selected by a distinguished peer review panel, New Century Scholars work in cooperation to advance understanding on the chosen topic.

The research for the fifth year of the New Century Scholars Program is “Higher Education in the 21st Century: Access and Equity.” Higher education faces significant challenges throughout the world. Among the most universal and complex are those related to ensuring equitable access for the rapidly growing number of individuals seeking education at the postsecondary level. Meeting the burgeoning demand for higher education and developing policies and resources that provide the benefit of higher education to diverse populations of students will require national commitment and international cooperation. In today’s global, knowledge-based economy, the economic growth and social well-being of nations around the world are increasingly dependent on a well-educated workforce and individual access to quality education. Understanding the principal components of this challenge and the relationship between cultural norms, social and political policies and the development of higher education will require deeper understanding in order to realize the goals to expand access and equity.

The New Century Scholars Program provides an ideal vehicle for the kind of cross-cultural and transnational examination that will contribute to a significant comparative analysis of access and equity issues. By bringing together a diverse group of scholars and professionals to examine the topic in national and international settings, NCS will seek constructive ways for contemporary institutions to develop policies responding to the challenge of ensuring equitable access within the framework of higher education in the 21st century.

Led by D. Bruce Johnstone, Distinguished Service Professor of Higher and Comparative Education and Director, International Comparative Higher Education Finance and Accessibility Project at The State University of New York—Buffalo, the multidisciplinary group of New Century Scholars examines methods of ensuring equitable access within the framework of higher education in the 21st century.



D. Bruce Johnstone, New Century Scholars Distinguished Leader

New Century Scholars will examine:

- Cultural and societal norms that affect access and equity
- Role of K-16 in limiting or advancing access to higher education
- Resources and policies that provide greater access to higher education



“I am honored—and more than a little humbled—to be the scholar leader of this year’s cohort of international scholars examining the vital questions and issues surrounding access and participation in higher education. Throughout the world, higher education is becoming increasingly vital not only to individual opportunities and productive economies, but also to democratic governments, social justice, and robust civil societies.”

—D. Bruce Johnstone

New Century Scholar Distinguished Leader



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