

FULBRIGHT FINLAND FOUNDATION GRANTEES IN THE U.S.

Academic Year
2024-25



**FULBRIGHT FINLAND
FOUNDATION**



**Expanding Finnish-
North American
collaboration through
exchanges of talent
and knowledge.**

**CONNECT WITH
THE GRANTEES**

Please contact the Fulbright Finland Foundation if you wish to contact a Fulbright Finland grantee or invite a grantee to lecture at your university.

Fulbright Finland Foundation
Hakaniemenranta 6
00530 Helsinki

+358 44 5535 286
office@fulbright.fi
www.fulbright.fi

Information as of May 13, 2024

Fulbright Finland Foundation

The Fulbright Finland Foundation is an independent not-for-profit organization based in Helsinki, Finland. Its purpose is to promote a wider exchange of knowledge and professional talents through educational contacts between Finland and the United States. The Foundation collaborates with a range of government, foundation, university, and corporate partners on both sides of the Atlantic to design and manage study and research scholarships, leadership development programs, and internationalization services.

The Foundation supports the internationalization of education and research in Finland and helps U.S. and Finnish institutions create linkages. Under its Internationalization Services, the Foundation organizes themed study tours to the U.S. for Finnish higher education experts, runs the highly popular Fulbright Speaker Program, the Fulbright Dialogues series, and the Transatlantic Roundtables, as well as organizes two national Fulbright Seminars every year.

The Foundation is funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, the U.S. Department of State, the Finland-America Educational Trust Fund, private foundations, Finnish and U.S. higher education institutions, alumni of the Fulbright Finland Foundation programs, and private donors. Over 70% of the Foundation's core funding originates from Finland, and advancement, fundraising and sponsored grants are a central part of the operation.

A key strength of the Fulbright Finland Foundation is the consistent strategic engagement of the alumni. Since 1949, over 6 200 students, scholars, teachers, artists, and professionals have participated in our exchange programs – over 4 000 from Finland and over 2 200 from the U.S. Representing all fields in the arts, sciences, and society at large, grantees and alumni are vital to the Foundation's vision: empowering minds to find global solutions to tomorrow's challenges.

The Board of Directors of the Fulbright Finland Foundation consists of eight members appointed by the Finnish Ministry of Education and the U.S. Embassy in Finland. The U.S. Ambassador to Finland serves as the Honorary Chair of the Board. The Foundation office in Helsinki is managed by the Foundation's CEO together with a staff of 10.

The Fulbright Finland Foundation awards grants to nearly 100 students, scholars, and professionals annually. This year, approximately 40 grantees participate in the Fulbright Finland Foundation programs to the U.S. 36 of them are featured in this catalog, and they have received a grant to lecture, conduct research, study, or teach in the U.S. In this catalog, you can also find the Fulbright Finland Travel Grant awardee and Study of the U.S. Institute program grantees, who will have their programs during the summer of 2024.

FULBRIGHT FINLAND FOUNDATION

GRANTEES in the U.S. 2024-25

ASLA-FULBRIGHT RESEARCH GRANTS FOR SENIOR SCHOLARS

- 5 **Pirjo Kristiina Virtanen**
Indigenous Studies
The grant is cost-shared with the University of Helsinki

ASLA-FULBRIGHT RESEARCH GRANTS FOR JUNIOR SCHOLARS

- 6 **Pekka Kolehmainen**
North American Studies
The grant is cost-shared with the University of Turku
- 7 **Lari Launonen**
Theology
- 8 **Jesse Railo**
Pure and Applied Mathematics
The grant is cost-shared with LUT University

FULBRIGHT ARCTIC INITIATIVE RESEARCH AWARDS

- 9 **Juho Kähkönen**
Law
- 10 **Tanja Joona**
International Relations
- 11 **Alexandra Middleton**
Social Sciences

FULBRIGHT FINLAND TRAVEL GRANTS FOR RESEARCH COLLABORATION

- 12 **Eini Haaja**
International Business
- 13 **Emmi Kapiainen**
Molecular Biology
- 14 **Lotta Leiwo**
Folklore Studies
- 15 **Katariina Sorvari**
Marketing

ASLA-FULBRIGHT PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWS

- 16 **Bruno Jäntti**
Political Science
The grant is cost-shared with the University of Helsinki
- 17 **Karoliina Salenius**
Bioinformatics
The grant is cost-shared with Tampere University
- 18 **Johan Wahlsten**
Political Science
The grant is cost-shared with the University of Helsinki

FULBRIGHT-KAUTE FOUNDATION AWARD

- 19 **Abdul-Rauf Larry Abdullahi**
Software Engineering
- 20 **Emmanuel Abu-Danso**
Materials and Environmental Technology

FULBRIGHT-IDMAN GRANT

- 21 **Eero Kaarsalo**
Entrepreneurship and Innovation

ASLA-FULBRIGHT GRADUATE GRANTS

- 22 **Isabella Biorac Haaja**
Journalism and Communications
- 23 **Riku Laine**
Criminology
- 24 **Joona Mäkinen**
International Relations
The Fulbright Finland Centennial Award
- 25 **Lada Sokolova**
Civil Engineering

FULBRIGHT FINNISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

- 26 **Natalie Lewis**
Finnish Language
- 27 **Emma Ojala**
Class Teacher Education

FULBRIGHT FINLAND UNDERGRADUATE GRANTS

- 28 **Eeva Ferrer Sarría**
Social Sciences
- 29 **Christian Hindsberg**
Economics
- 30 **Marcus Pietarinen**
Economics
- 31 **Minea Tiitinen**
Computer Science

FULBRIGHT DISTINGUISHED AWARDS IN TEACHING PROGRAM

- 32 **Veera Illman**
Education and Foreign Language Teaching
- 33 **Matti Kastikainen**
Special Education

FULBRIGHT FINLAND TRAVEL GRANTS FOR INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

- 34 **Emily Clements (née Carlson)**
Music Psychology
- 35 **Juan Galarza**
Computational Biology
- 36 **Riikka Kanervo**
Social Policy

ASLA-FULBRIGHT MID-CAREER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

- 37 **Anna Talasniemi**
Art Education and Heritage Studies

FULBRIGHT FINLAND RENEWAL GRANTS

Information on awarded grants will be updated after selections have been made.

STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATORS

- 38 **Seda Altunbay**
English Teacher

STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTES FOR STUDENT LEADERS FROM EUROPE

- 39 **Nihal Koymatli**
International Business
- 40 **Rose Sarwar**
Environmental Engineering



Pirjo Kristiina Virtanen

INDIGENOUS STUDIES

ASLA-Fulbright Research Grant for a Senior Scholar
The grant is cost-shared with the University of Helsinki

SPECIALIZATION:

Indigenous Research Methodologies and Ethics, Amazonian Indigenous Societies

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Biocultural Diversity and Onto-epistemic Structures

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

My project focuses on Indigenous conceptualization of biodiversity and onto-epistemic structures in halting biodiversity loss. UN SDGs note that biodiversity is the basis for climate-change risk reduction, resilience, and thus the future of the planet. Yet, moving beyond a universalist approach, this interdisciplinary project will offer an evidence-based, in-depth, long-term analysis of local experiences of biodiversity. It co-examines how Amazonian Indigenous notions of time relate to their conceptualisation of environmental diversity and their land uses.

KEYWORDS:

Amazonia, Indigenous Onto-Epistemologies, Biocultural Heritage, Research Ethics

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Helsinki, Faculty of Arts, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of California, Anthropology, Davis, California

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Marisol de la Cadena

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – June 2025

>> X @PirjoKVirtanen

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Habilitation (Docent), 2013, University of Helsinki, Finland
- PhD, 2007, University of Helsinki, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Professor, University of Helsinki, Finland, since 2016

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- -Virtanen, PK. 2023. Urbanity in Ancient and Present-day Southwestern Amazonia. In *Urban Imaginaries in Native Amazonia: Tales of Alterity, Power, and Defiance*, Arizona University Press.
- Virtanen, PK., F. Apurinã, Á. Fernández-Llamazares 2023. Long-term ecological and climate changes through Amazonian Indigenous oral histories. In *Climatic and Ecological Change in the Americas: A Perspective from Historical Ecology*, Routledge.
- Virtanen, PK. 2022. Relational Epistemology and Amazonian Land-based Education: Learning the Ideas of Intra-Dependency in the Central Purus River. *Anthropology & Education Quarterly* 53(4):341–356.
- Virtanen, PK., P. Keskitalo, T. Olsen (eds.) 2021. *Indigenous Research Methodologies in Sámi and Global Contexts*, Brill.
- Virtanen, PK. 2019. Ancestors' times and protection of Amazonian biocultural Indigenous heritage. *AlterNative* 15(4): 330–339.
- Virtanen, PK., S. Saunaluoma 2017. Visualization and Movement as Configurations of Human-nonhuman Engagements: The Geometric Earthwork Landscapes of the Upper Purus, Brazil. *American Anthropologist* 119(4):614–630.
- Virtanen, PK., H. Veber (eds.) 2017. *Creating Dialogues. Indigenous Perceptions and Forms of Leadership in Amazonia*, University Press of Colorado.
- Virtanen, PK 2012. *Indigenous Youth in Brazilian Amazonia: Changing Lived Worlds*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2023-26: EU Horizon MSCA
- 2023-26: Kone Foundation
- 2021-25: Academy of Finland
- 2022-24: Finnish National Agency for Education
- 2017-19: Finnish Cultural Foundation
- 2010-15: Academy of Finland
- 2013-15: University of Helsinki
- 2008-09: Kone Foundation
- 2007: Legs Lelong, CNRS
- 2005: SYLFF Foundation
- 2003: Finnish Cultural Foundation



Pekka Kolehmainen

NORTH AMERICAN STUDIES

ASLA-Fulbright Research Grant for a Junior Scholar
The grant is cost-shared with the University of Turku

SPECIALIZATION:

Intellectual History of U.S. Conservatism

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

The Conceptual Language of Antifeminism and Reactionary Realignment in the United States

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project examines what antifeminist concepts are developed in right-wing intellectual foundation, think tanks and advocacy organizations in the U.S. from the 1970s to the present day. The research posits antifeminism as a conceptual bridge between different right-wing movements across both time and ideological spectrum, creating coalitions and unified fronts based on shared language of grievance.

KEYWORDS:

Antifeminism, Conservatism, Ideology, Culture Wars

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Turku, John Morton Center for North American Studies & Turku Institute for Advanced Studies, Turku

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of California, Berkeley, Institute for the Study of Societal Issues & Berkeley Center of Right-Wing Studies, Berkeley, California

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Stephen Small

GRANT PERIOD:

September 2024 – April 2025

>> TWITTER @pmkoleh

>> BLUESKY @pmkoleh

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Ph.D., 2022, Cultural History, University of Turku, Finland
- M.A., 2014, University of Turku, Finland
- B.A., 2014, University of Turku, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Postdoctoral Researcher, John Morton Center for North American Studies & Turku Institute for Advanced Studies, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 9/2022–8/2025
- Senior Researcher, John Morton Center for North American Studies, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 5/2022 & 8/2022
- University Teacher, John Morton Center for North American Studies, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 9/2021–12/2021
- Project Researcher, John Morton Center for North American Studies, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 9/2020–8/2021
- Ph.D. Candidate (salaried), Cultural History, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 11/2016–10/2019
- Project Researcher, John Morton Center for North American Studies, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 11/2015–1/2016
- Coordinator, Ph.D. Programme in Popular Culture Studies (PPCS), University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 2/2015–12/2015
- Coordinator, Institute for Popular Culture (IIPC), University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 10/2014–6/2015

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Pekka M. Kolehmainen, 2022, "The President, The Hero: Politics of Strength, Health, and Success surrounding Donald Trump's COVID-19 Infection," *WiderScreen*, 25, no 3–4.
- Pekka M. Kolehmainen, 2022, "The Founding Fathers in the Temporal Imaginaries of Texas Gun Politics," in *Up In Arms: Gun Imaginaries in Texas*, edited by Benita Heiskanen, Albion M. Butters, and Pekka M. Kolehmainen, 52–82.
- Pekka M. Kolehmainen, 2021, "Towards Conceptual History of Rock: Rock, Political Communication, and the U.S. Culture Wars of the 1980s," in *Perspectives on Political Communication*, edited by Alessandro Maranesi and Giulia Delogu, 105–118.
- Pekka M. Kolehmainen, 2021, "Reaganized Rock: The 1983 Beach Boys Ban and the U.S. Culture Wars," *Popular Music & Society*, 44 no. 3, 306–323.
- Pekka M. Kolehmainen, 2020, "Epäonnistumisen poliittinen ideologia *Disco Elysium* -pelissä" [The Politics of Failure in *Disco Elysium*], *Lähikuva*, 3–4.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2022: Humanities Ph.D. of the Year, University of Turku, Finland



Lari Launonen

THEOLOGY

ASLA-Fulbright Research Grant for a Junior Scholar

SPECIALIZATION:

Philosophy of Religion

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Cognitive Science of Religion and Natural Knowledge of God

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This multidisciplinary project addresses the question “how does cognitive science of religion (CSR) help rethink the theological idea of the natural knowledge of God?” Many theologians have claimed that all humans have an awareness of God through nature and conscience. CSR can be used both to support and to challenge this claim. The project shows how cognitive science does not merely threaten but can also benefit theological inquiry.

KEYWORDS:

Religious Epistemology, Evolution of Religion, Procreative Ethics

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Helsinki, Faculty of Educational Sciences, Faculty of Education, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, The Rutgers Center for Philosophy of Religion, New Brunswick, New Jersey

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Dean Zimmermann

GRANT PERIOD:

February 2025 – May 2025

>> X @LariLaunonen

>> INSTAGRAM @larilaunonen

>> FACEBOOK @Lari Launonen

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Doctor of Theology, 2022, University of Helsinki, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki, Finland, since 2023
- Lecturer, IK College (IK-opisto), Helsinki, Finland, 2017-24

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Launonen, L. (2018) The Naturalness of Religion: What It Means and Why It Matters? *Neue Zeitschrift für systematische Theologie und Religionsphilosophie* 60:1, 84-102.
- Launonen, L. (2021) Debunking Arguments Gain Little from Cognitive Science of Religion. *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science* 50:2, 416-433.
- Launonen, L., & Visala, A. (2023) Milvian Bridges in Science, Religion, and Theology: Debunking Arguments and Cultural Evolution. In D. Machuca (Ed.), *Evolutionary Debunking Arguments*. Routledge, 185-204.
- Launonen, L. (2024) Non-Belief as Self-Deception? *Religious studies*.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- Communications Editor of *AGATHEOS: European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*
- 2024-27: Member of *Child in Time – Existential Resilience in Early Childhood* project funded by the Academy of Finland, University of Helsinki
- 2017-19: Member of the *Centre of Excellence in Reason and Religious Recognition* project funded by the Academy of Finland, University of Helsinki
- Awarded four one-year grants from various funding bodies



Jesse Railo

PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS

ASLA-Fulbright Research Grant for a Junior Scholar
The grant is cost-shared with LUT University, Lappeenranta

SPECIALIZATION:

Inverse Problems and Imaging

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Global and Microlocal Analysis for Geometric Integral Transforms

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Inverse problems involve determining internal material properties of an object from indirect measurements. These are commonly found in medical, engineering, and geophysical imaging applications. The mathematical structure of indirect physical measurements is often complex and has many open questions that drive the need for new breakthroughs. The project seeks to establish a new fundamental understanding of inverse problems with advanced mathematical techniques.

KEYWORDS:

X-Ray Transform, Partial Differential Equations, Differential Geometry, Microlocal Analysis

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

LUT University, Computational Engineering, School of Engineering Sciences, Lappeenranta

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Stanford University, Department of Mathematics, Stanford, California

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor András Vasy

GRANT PERIOD:

January 2025 – June 2025

>> [LINKEDIN @Jesse Railo](#)

>> [CV](#)

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Title of Docent, 2024, LUT University, Lappeenranta, Finland
- Ph.D., 2019, University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland
- M.Sc., 2014, Tampere University, Tampere, Finland
- B.Sc., 2014, Tampere University, Tampere, Finland
- Erasmus Exchange Student, 2011-12, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Associate Professor, LUT University, Lappeenranta, Finland, since 2023
- Visiting Research Fellow, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 2021-23
- Postdoctoral Researcher, ETH Zurich, Zürich, Switzerland, 2020-21

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- M. Kar, J. Railo, P. Zimmermann: The fractional p -biharmonic systems: optimal Poincaré constants, unique continuation and inverse problems, *Calculus of Variations and Partial Differential Equations* (2023), vol. 62 (4), article no. 130.
- G. Covi, K. Mönkkönen, J. Railo, G. Uhlmann: The higher order fractional Calderón problem for linear local operators: Uniqueness, *Advances in Mathematics* 399 (2022), article no. 108246.
- J. Ilmavirta, O. Koskela, J. Railo: Torus computed tomography, *SIAM Journal on Applied Mathematics* 80 (2020), no. 4, pp. 1947–1976.
- J. Railo: Geodesic Tomography Problems on Riemannian Manifolds, Doctoral dissertation, *Dissertations series* (2019), number 161, University of Jyväskylä, ISBN: 978-951-39-7958-4.
- J. Lehtonen, J. Railo, M. Salo: Tensor tomography on Cartan-Hadamard manifolds, *Inverse Problems* 34 (2018), Special Issue on 100 years of the Radon transform, no. 4, 044004.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2023: ASLA-Fulbright Research Grant for Junior Scholars Awardee
- 2023: Homing Grant of the Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation
- 2020: Finnish Inverse Prize of the Finnish Inverse Problems Society
- 2020: Foundations' Post Doc Pool Grant by the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters
- 2019: Ph.D. thesis accepted with distinction, University of Jyväskylä

Juho Kähkönen

LAW

Fulbright Arctic Initiative Research Awards

More information will be published soon

Tanja Joonas

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Fulbright Arctic Initiative Research Awards

More information will be published soon

Alexandra Middleton

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Fulbright Arctic Initiative Research Awards

More information will be published soon



Eini Haaja

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Research Collaboration

SPECIALIZATION:

Sustainability Advancement in International Business Networks

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Green Transition in Cruise Shipbuilding

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Finnish cruise shipbuilding network is rapidly pursuing green transition but has only a limited understanding of how sustainability could be most efficiently yet feasibly pursued in cruise tourism. My research explores how various industry actors based in the U.S. see the future of cruise tourism in this respect and aims to offer scientific contributions and practical recommendations to support the green transition.

KEYWORDS:

Sustainability, Shipbuilding Industry, Cruise Tourism, Business Networks

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Pan-European Institute, Department of Marketing and International Business, Turku; University of Turku, School of Economics, Turku

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Florida International University, Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Miami, Florida

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Dr. Carolin Lusby, Associate Professor

GRANT PERIOD:

May 2024 – June 2024

>> [LINKEDIN @Eini Haaja](#)

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- D.Sc. (econ.), 2020, University of Turku, Finland
- M.Sc. (econ.), 2010, Turku School of Economics, Finland
- B.Sc. (econ.), 2008, Turku School of Economics, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, since 2022
- Research Manager, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 2019-22
- Project Manager, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 2017-19
- University Teacher, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 2014-17
- Project Researcher, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, 2012-13

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Haaja, E., Karhu, A., & Paavilainen-Mäntymäki, E. (2023) Surviving the jungle or driving the change: International entrepreneurs as agents in institutional change. In: *A Research Agenda for International Entrepreneurship*, Christian Felzensztein and Sascha Fuerst (Eds.), 195–216, Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Haaja, E., & Nummela, N. (2022) The flourish, failure and future phases of joint internationalisation: A longitudinal case study on collective international opportunity recognition. *European Journal of International Management*, 18(1): 127–153.
- Karhu, A., & Haaja, E. (2022) *Global Trade and Trade Governance During De-Globalization – Transforming Trade Policy for Not-So-United World* (Eds.), Palgrave Macmillan: Cham, Switzerland.
- Aro, E., & Haaja, E. (2021) Developing a Digital Platform in Inter-Firm Collaboration: Challenges of Materialising a Collective Opportunity. In: *Contemporary Issues in International Business and Entrepreneurship*, Lasse Torkkeli (Ed.), 25–44, Cambridge Scholars Publishing: Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.
- Haaja, E. (2020) Why do some SMEs engage in joint internationalisation and others do not? Exploring the role of mental images in collective international opportunity recognition. *Journal of International Entrepreneurship*, 18, 15–43.
- Haaja, E. (2019) Some see the light and some do not – Understanding the international opportunity recognition of Finnish SMEs in Russia through mental images. *Journal of East-West Business*, 25(1), 52–83.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2022-25: Postdoctoral Fellow at Turku Institute for Advanced Studies (TIAS), University of Turku, Finland
- 2022: Best conference paper (“Orchestrating in business networks to enhance the co-creation of eco-innovations”) of the 38th Industrial Marketing and Purchasing (IMP) Conference on the 31st of August 2022 at the University of Florence, Italy
- 2022-25: Principal Investigator in MUUTOS project granted by the Foundation for Economic Education, Finland



Emmi Kapiainen

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Research Collaboration

SPECIALIZATION:

Reproductive Biology

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Exploring the Endometrium: Studies on Molecular Mechanisms Affecting Female Fertility

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Proper function of the uterine endometrium has a tremendous impact on both pregnancy outcomes and women's overall health. I aim to study selected molecular signaling pathways regulating endometrial cells and their extracellular matrix and to simultaneously learn state-of-the-art methodologies that are used to model the human endometrium in the laboratory.

KEYWORDS:

Reproductive Biology, Endometrium, Infertility

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Oulu, Faculty of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Oulu

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Baylor College of Medicine, Department of Pathology & Immunology, Houston, Texas

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Assistant Professor Diana Monsivais

GRANT PERIOD:

October 2024 – December 2024

>> [LINKEDIN @Emmi Kapiainen](#)

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- PhD (Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine), 2022, University of Oulu, Finland
- MSc (Molecular Medicine), 2017, University of Oulu, Finland
- BSc (Biochemistry), 2016, University of Oulu, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Postdoctoral Researcher, Profi6 Fibrobesity program, University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland, since 2023
- Doctoral Researcher, University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland, 2018-22

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Kapiainen E, 2022, Revealing roles of angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 in eye fluid homeostasis and angiotensin-converting enzyme 2⁴⁴³ in cancer in mice. PhD thesis, University of Oulu.
- Kapiainen E, et al., 2022, Cooperation of Angiotensin-2 and Angiotensin-4 in Schlemm's Canal Maintenance. *Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science*, 63(11):1.
- Kapiainen E*, Kihlström MK*, et al., 2021, The Amino-Terminal Oligomerization Domain of Angiotensin-2 Affects Vascular Remodeling, Mammary Gland Tumor Growth, and Lung Metastasis in Mice. *Cancer Research*, 81(1):129–143.
- Elamaa H*, Kihlström MK*, Kapiainen E, et al., 2018, Angiotensin-4-dependent venous maturation and fluid drainage in the peripheral retina. *eLife*, 7:e37776.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Research Collaboration Awardee
- 2020: Biocenter Oulu Discovery of the Year Award
- 2018: Award for the Faculty's Best MSc Thesis of the Academic Year, Faculty of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, University of Oulu
- 2016: Award for the Faculty's Best BSc Thesis of the Academic Year, Faculty of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, University of Oulu



Lotta Leiwo

FOLKLORE STUDIES

Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Research Collaboration

SPECIALIZATION:

Folklore Studies, Settler Colonial Studies

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Archival Research and Collaboration for Dissertation Project "Knowing Nature"

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Cultural perceptions of nature influence human behavior and actions in the world. In my dissertation, I analyze the political participation and nature-related rhetoric of United States Finnish women in the Finnish Socialist Federation (FSF), exploring the politicization of nature, climate, and weather, and their interaction with settler colonial ideology in the early 20th century. This research collaboration supports archival research and fosters academic networking and potential collaboration opportunities.

KEYWORDS:

American Finnish History, Labor History, Cultural History of Climate, Historical Newspapers

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Helsinki, Department of Cultures, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Minnesota Libraries, Immigration History Research Center Archives, Minneapolis, Minnesota

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Daniel Necas

GRANT PERIOD:

October 2024

>> [INSTAGRAM @selma_tati_ja_toverittaret](#)

>> [LINKEDIN @Lotta Leiwo](#)

>> [FACEBOOK @Selma-täti ja Toverittaret](#)

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- MA, 2023, University of Helsinki, Finland
- BA, 2022, University of Helsinki, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Doctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki, Finland, 2024–Present
- Research Assistant, University of Helsinki, Finland, 2022–23
- Technical Assistant, University of Helsinki, Finland 2023
- Entrepreneur, Liikuntapalvelu ILO, Finland 2012–23

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Apajalahti, E.-L. at al. (2022). "Ihmistieteelliset näkökulmat metsiin tuottavat tietoa moninaisista metsäsuhteista ja niiden tulevaisuuksista." *Vuosilusto* 14(2022), 13–51. <https://lusto.fi/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Lusto-Vuosilusto14.pdf>.
- Leiwo, Lotta. 2024. "When One's Life Becomes the Field. Assessing the Field in Collaborative Autoethnography." *Marburg Journal of Religion* 25(1). <https://doi.org/10.17192/mjr.2024.25.8693>.
- Leiwo, Lotta. (2023a). "Luontokin näkyy olevan köyhälistöä vastaan": Luonto kolmantena tilana Toveritar-lehden paikkakuntakirjeissä 1916–1917." Master's Thesis. University of Helsinki. <http://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi:hulib-202305302306>.
- Leiwo, Lotta. (2023b). Suomen koloniaalin osallisuuden kontekstit haltuun: Hoegaerts, Josephine, Tuire Liimatainen, Laura Hekanaho ja Elizabeth Peterson (toim.). 2022. Finnishness, Whiteness and Coloniality. *Elore*, 30(2), 142–147. Book review. <https://doi.org/10.30666/elore.137470>.
- Mäkelä, H.-H., Leiwo, L., Linkola, H., ja Rinne, J. (2023). "The spiritual forest: an ethnographic exploration on Finnish forest yoga and the forest landscape." *Landscape Research* 49(2) <https://doi.org/10.1080/01426397.2023.2268550>.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: The Fulbright Finland Travel Grants for Research Collaboration
- 2024–27: Doctoral Fellow, University of Helsinki



Katarina Sorvari

MARKETING

Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Research Collaboration

SPECIALIZATION:

Consumer Behaviour

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Making Sense of Moral Calls to Account on Social Media

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project will qualitatively explore consumer-to-consumer accountability in the process of habituating practices with the ability to improve individual and/or societal wellbeing. Specifically, we focus on vegan food consumption. We will investigate how consumers call each other to account on social media for the morality of their food consumption practices. The research collaboration will shed light on moral accountability and how it is communicated in social media.

KEYWORDS:

Moral Consumption, Online Communities, Practices, Veganism

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Vaasa, School of Marketing and Communication, Vaasa

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Suffolk University, Marketing Department, Boston, Massachusetts

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Associate Professor Mujde Yuksel

GRANT PERIOD:

October 2024 – November 2024

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- M.Sc. in Economics and Business Administration, 2022, University of Vaasa, Finland
- BBA, 2015, Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Doctoral Researcher, University of Vaasa, Vaasa, Finland, 2022-24

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Research Collaboration Awardee
- 2023: Master's Thesis Award 2022, Finnish Association of Consumer Research



Bruno Jäntti

POLITICAL SCIENCE

ASLA-Fulbright Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow

The grant is cost-shared with the University of Helsinki

SPECIALIZATION:

International Relations, Foreign Policy, Middle East

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Advancement of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law in EU Foreign Policy

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

My Fellow-term research at the Department of Government at Harvard delves into the impact of EU foreign policy on democracy, human rights, and the rule of law trajectories in the Middle East region. Among the aims of my Fellow-term research is to produce novel methodological tools and models for studying foreign policy.

KEYWORDS:

Foreign Policy, EU, Democracy, Rule of Law

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Helsinki, Faculty of Social Sciences, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Harvard University, Department of Government, Cambridge, Massachusetts

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Melani Cammett

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – January 2025

>> [LINKEDIN @Bruno Jäntti](#)

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- M.A., 2021, University of Chicago, USA

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Doctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki, Finland, since Jan 2023

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Bruno Jäntti (2024) Outcome Potential Dilemma: EU Foreign Policy vis-à-vis Israel's encroachment on the Occupied Palestinian Territories. *European Journal of International Relations*. Peer-review-bound.
- Bruno Jäntti (2023) Enemmistön tahto on uusi Iran (Majority of Iranians want a new Iran.) *Ulkopolitiikka* (magazine on international relations published by the Finnish Institute of International Affairs).

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: Fulbright Fellow, Department of Government, Harvard University
- 2020: The University of Chicago: Maroon Scholar Research Award (M.A. degree at the University of Chicago)
- 2020-21: ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant Awardee. M.A. degree in the social sciences at the University of Chicago
- 2019: Kone Foundation grant for a non-fiction book on border walls' impact on biodiversity, wildlife. I served as the project leader in this research endeavor.
- 2018: WSOY Literary Foundation grant for a non-fiction book on the war in Syria and the Islamic State movement.
- 2018: The Finnish Cultural Foundation grant for a non-fiction book on the Syria conflict and the Islamic State movement.



Karoliina Salenius

BIOINFORMATICS

ASLA-Fulbright Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow
The grant is cost-shared with Tampere University

SPECIALIZATION:

Bioinformatics, Data Analysis

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Transcript Isoform Profiling in the Developing Brain Using Long-Read Sequencing

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Human brain is the most complex organ. While DNA is the same across the cell types and tissues, different versions of genes can be generated. In fact, all cell types have their own unique repertoire for gene regulation. During my visit, I will study these phenomena in the context of neurodevelopment by profiling gene isoforms using a new sequencing technology.

KEYWORDS:

Bioinformatics, Genetics, Neurodevelopment

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Tampere University, Tampere

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

New York Genome Center, New York, New York

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Tuuli Lappalainen

GRANT PERIOD:

September 2024 – February 2025

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- M.Sc., 2020, Tampere University, Finland
- B.Sc., 2020, Tampere University, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- PhD Student, Computational Biology group, Tampere University, Finland, since 2021
- Research assistant and project researcher, Computational Biology group, Tampere University, Tampere, Finland 2019-21

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Lin, J., Moradi, E., Salenius, K. *et al.* Distinct transcriptomic profiles in children prior to the appearance of type 1 diabetes-linked islet autoantibodies and following enterovirus infection. *Nat Commun* 14, 7630 (2023)

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2023-24: ASLA-Fulbright Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow Grant Awardee



Johan Wahlsten

POLITICAL SCIENCE

ASLA-Fulbright Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow
The grant is cost-shared with the University of Helsinki

SPECIALIZATION:

Global Political Economy, Economic and International Policy and Governance

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Capital Moves? The International Governance of Capital Flow Regulation After Global Financial Crises

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

My PhD research analyses the international governance of cross-border capital flow regulations—policy measures that have become increasingly employed in the past decades. More specifically, I aim to provide explanations for a set of recent changes in the IMF's and OECD's frameworks governing the regulation of international capital flows. I also examine these changes' implications for international economic governance and cooperation both more generally and specifically in the domain of capital flows and for states' economic policy.

KEYWORDS:

Political Economy, Economic Policy, International Economic Governance

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Helsinki, Faculty of Social Sciences, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Georgetown University, Mortara Center for International Studies, Washington D.C.

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Kathleen McNamara

GRANT PERIOD:

September 2024 - February 2025

>> **BLUESKY:** [@johanwahlsten.bsky.social](#)

>> **TWITTER:** [@johanwahlsten](#)

>> **LINKEDIN** [@Johan Wahlsten](#)

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- MSc, 2022, University of Helsinki, Finland
- MSc, 2019, University of Turku, Finland
- BSc, 2016, University of Turku, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Doctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki, Faculty of Social Sciences, Finland, since 2022
- Research Assistant, University of Helsinki, Centre for Global Political Economy, Finland, 2020–21
- Intern, BIOS Research Unit, Helsinki, Finland, 2020
- Project Assistant, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Helsinki, 2019
- Project Researcher, University of Turku, Finland, 2019
- Intern, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Vienna, Austria, 2018
- Cram School Teacher, Yliopistovalmennus, Turku, Finland, 2017

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Wahlsten, J. (2023). Book review of A. Jäger & D. Vargas (2023). *Welfare for Markets: A Global History of Basic Income*. *Finnish Review of Political Economy* 12:1.
- Morgan, J., Patomäki, H., & Wahlsten, J. (2023). The Transformative Potential of Responding to Climate Change: Towards a Dynamic Global Tax. In H. Patomäki, *World Statehood: The Future of World Politics*. Springer.
- Wahlsten, J. (2022). Book review of G. Winant (2021). *The Next Shift: The Fall of Industry and the Rise of Health Care in Rust Belt America*. *Finnish Review of Political Economy* 10:1.
- Wahlsten, J. (2020). To Assemble Society Anew? The Political Economy of Contemporary Initiatives of Socio-Ecological Transformation. Helsinki Centre for Global Political Economy Working Paper 2/2020.
- Wahlsten, J. (2020). "History is Only Just Beginning" – Finnish Scenarios of Europe's Future at the End of the Cold War. *Ennen & nyt* 20:1. (in Finnish)

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2023: Nasdaq Nordic Foundation, travel grant
- 2023: Oskar Öflund's Foundation, travel grant
- 2022: Finnish Savings Banks' Research Foundation, travel grant
- 2021: University of Helsinki Research Foundation, four-year fellowship for a doctoral research employment position
- 2021: University of Helsinki Social Sciences Fund, master's degree studies scholarship
- 2019: Finnish Worker's Education Fund, master's degree studies scholarship



Abdul-Rauf Larry Abdullai

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Fulbright-KAUTE Foundation Award

SPECIALIZATION:

Technology and Sustainability

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Collective Action Towards Responsibility and Sustainability of Digital Technologies

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

For better or for worse, companies are collaborating and competing in ecosystems to develop and deploy new innovations, thanks to information, communication, and technology (ICT). Despite the ICT sector's potential to contribute to shaping our future, it also contributes to sustainability challenges such as energy consumption, biodiversity, e-waste, safety, privacy, inequality, trust, etc. This project is part of a PhD dissertation to advance ICT sustainability through an ecosystem approach.

KEYWORDS:

Ecosystem Orchestration, Stakeholder Engagement, Sustainability Adoption, Sustainability Impact Assessment

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

LUT University, School of Engineering Science, Software Engineering Department, Lappeenranta

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Michigan, School for Environment & Sustainability, Erb Institute, Ann Arbor, Michigan

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Charlene Zietsma

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – July 2025

>> [LINKEDIN @Larry Abdullai](#)

>> [LINK TO UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- MSc. Economics & Business Administration, 2018, LUT University, Finland
- BS. Management Studies, 2009, University of Cape Coast, Ghana

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Junior Researcher, LUT University, Lappeenranta, Finland, since 2021
- Project Researcher, LUT University, Lappeenranta, Finland, 2020-21

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Jari Porras, Larry Abdullai, Laura Partanen, Antti Sipilä, 2024, Towards an Ecosystem Model in Enabling Sustainability Transition: The Case of Finnish Government Sustainability Strategy for the ICT Sector, MIT Transatlantic Symposium on Sustainable Development: North American and European Perspectives on Sustainability in Higher Education, in press.
- Larry Abdullai, Laura Partanen, Antti Sipilä, Ojedeji Shola, Sanaul Haque, Jari Porras 2023, Co-design framework for green ICT ecosystem: A tale from the Finnish green ICT ecosystem, 9th International Conference on ICT for Sustainability, June 05-09, 207-215
- Dominic Lammert, Larry Abdullai, Stefanie Betz, Jari Porras, 2023, Sustainability for Artificial Intelligence Products and Services—Initial How-to for IT Practitioners, 56th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences HICSS, January 3-6, Proceedings 6570
- Larry Abdullai, Antti Sipilä, Jari Porras, 2022, Green ICT Adoption and Challenges: Evidence from the Finnish ICT Sector, 13th International Conference on Software Business, November 8–11, 337-343
- Adisa, M. O., Oyedeji, S., Porras, J., Abdullai, L., & Lau, S. L., 2023, SustHack: A hackathon approach for engaging citizens and fostering a sustainability mindset, In Annual Symposium for Computer Science, 3506 (116-12)

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: Fulbright-KAUTE Foundation Award
- 2021: Foundation of Economic Education Personal Working Grant (Liikesivistysrahasto) €15000
- Scholarship of Achievement in undergraduate studies. Research Foundation of LUT University (Tukisäätiö) €1000
- 2015: Best achieving student. LUT University School of Business and Management



Emmanuel Abu-Danso

MATERIALS AND ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

Fulbright-KAUTE Foundation Award

SPECIALIZATION:

Applied Sustainable Materials Processing and Environmental Technology

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Fundamentals of Critical Metals Separation From Mine Wastewater by Geo-Inspired Materials

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Cobalt is a strategic metal for industries, however, it is environmentally detrimental and requires sustainable management. This project aims to synthesize layered graphene modified magnesium-aluminum-layered double hydroxide (G@MgAl-LDH) for efficient removal and recovery of cobalt from mine wastewater and explain G@MgAl-LDH-cobalt interaction that enables removal. Experts from Finland and the US have collaborated to achieve this goal for a sustainable reuse of cobalt and protect the environment.

KEYWORDS:

Geo-Inspired Materials, Cobalt, Separation Technology

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN FINLAND:

University of Eastern Finland, Department of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Kuopio

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES:

Ames National Laboratory, US Department of Energy (USDOE), Ames, IA

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN

THE UNITED STATES:

Dr. Tanya Prozorov

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – February 2025

>> X @EAD0105

>> LINKEDIN @Emmanuel Abu-Danso

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Ph.D., 2020, University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Grant Funded Research, University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio, Finland, since 11/2022

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Abu-Danso, E., Peräniemi, S., Leiviskä, T., Kim, T., Tripathi, K. M., & Bhatnagar, A. (2020). Synthesis of clay-cellulose biocomposite for the removal of toxic metal ions from aqueous medium. *Journal of hazardous materials*, 381, 120871. doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2019.120871
- Bagheri, A., Abu-Danso, E., Iqbal, J., & Bhatnagar, A. (2020). Modified biochar from Moringa seed powder for the removal of diclofenac from aqueous solution. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 27(7), 7318-7327. doi.org/10.1007/s11356-019-06844-x
- Abu-Danso, E., Peräniemi, S., Leiviskä, T., & Bhatnagar, A. (2018). Synthesis of S-ligand tethered cellulose nanofibers for efficient removal of Pb (II) and Cd (II) ions from synthetic and industrial wastewater. *Environmental pollution*, 242, 1988-1997. doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2018.07.044.

–

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2021-22: Finnish Cultural Foundation (00210061) Post-doc project
- 2020-21: Saastamoinen Foundation, Post-doc project



Eero Kaarsalo

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

Fulbright-Idman Grant

SPECIALIZATION:

Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Management and Organizational Leadership

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Completing a master's degree in
Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the U.S.

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Fulbright-Idman grant provides me the opportunity to pursue graduate studies in the United States. I am excited to pursue a Master of Science in Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business.

KEYWORDS:

Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Management,
Leadership

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Aalto University School of Business,
Department of Management Studies, Espoo

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Southern California, Marshall
School of Business, Los Angeles, California

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – May 2025

>> LINKEDIN [@Eero Kaarsalo](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Bachelor of Science (Economics and Business Administration), 2023, Aalto University, Finland
- Master of Science (Economics and Business Administration), ongoing (2023-), Aalto University, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Civil Service Assistant, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Helsinki, Finland, 2022-23
- Production Manager & Coordinator, Aalto University Department of Film & Kokko Productions Inc., Espoo, Finland, 2021-23

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Kaarsalo, E. (2021). *Valta, veljeys ja välikädet. Miten korruptiiviset verkostot organisoituvat?* Aalto University School of Business, Department of Management Studies. Bachelor's thesis. 33 pages.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: Fulbright-Idman Grantee
- 2020: Tampere Business Scholarship Foundation grantee for business studies
- 2020: Idman Foundation Grant for studies in higher education
- 2019: Idman Foundation Grant for studies in higher education
- 2018: Little Finlandia Literature Essay Winner, 2nd prize



Isabella Biorac Haaja

JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATIONS

ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant

SPECIALIZATION:

International Relations and Global Communications

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Completing a master's degree in International Relations and Global Communications in the U.S.

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

In my studies, my aim is to delve into the relationship between global affairs, diplomacy, and the media. By exploring the role of international relations in our society, I want to gain insights for reporting on various international topics in the digital era.

KEYWORDS:

International Relations, Communications, Journalism

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Helsinki, Swedish School of Social Science, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – May 2025

>> INSTAGRAM @ISABELLAHAAJA

>> TIKTOK @ISABELLAHAAJA

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- B.Soc.Sci. Journalism and Communications, University of Helsinki, 2023, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- News reporter, YLE, Helsinki, Finland, since 2022
- News reporter, KSF Media, Porvoo, Finland, 2021-22

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant Awardee
- 2024-25: SAM Suomi, Thanks to Scandinavia Grant Awardee
- 2024-25: Finnish Cultural Foundation, Matti ja Toini Autio Grant Awardee



Riku Laine

CRIMINOLOGY

ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant

SPECIALIZATION:

Life-Course Criminology

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Criminal Behavior and Voting During Life Course

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project is a comparative analysis on the association of criminal behavior and voting. We aim to analyze how societal change has affected this association over time in the United States and in Finland.

KEYWORDS:

Prison, Life-Course, Statistics

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Helsinki, Institute of Criminology and Criminal Policy, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Harvard University, Department of Sociology, Cambridge, Massachusetts

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Robert J. Sampson

GRANT PERIOD:

September 2024 – June 2025

[» LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- D.Soc.Sc candidate, 2022 –, University of Helsinki, Finland
- M.Soc.Sc (Statistics), 2021, University of Helsinki, Finland
- B.Soc.Sc. (Statistics), 2019, University of Helsinki, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Doctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, 2022
- Statistical Researcher (substitute), Finnish Youth Research Society, Helsinki, Finland, May 2021 – January 2022
- Research assistant, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, several during May 2017 – December 2020
- Research Assistant, A-Clinic Foundation, Helsinki, Finland, 5-8/2020
- SAS Programmer Trainee, Orion Pharma Oy, Espoo, Finland, May 2018 – August 2018
- Public Information Officer, Finnish Defence Forces, Helsinki, Finland, April 2016 – July 2016

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Laine, R., Aaltonen, M., Myrskylä, M., & Martikainen, P. (2023). *Sociohistorical Context and Post-prison Life Course*. (pp. 1-39). Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research Working Papers.
- Laine, R., Myrskylä, M., Kaskela, T., & Pitkänen, T. (2022). Imprisonment, community sanctions and mortality by cause of death among patients with substance use disorder—a 28-year follow-up using Finnish register data. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 232, 109327.
- Levola, J., Laine, R., & Pitkänen, T. (2022). In-patient psychiatric care and non-substance-related psychiatric diagnoses among individuals seeking treatment for alcohol and substance use disorders: associations with all-cause mortality and suicide. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 221(1), 386-393.
- Kiilakoski, T., & Laine, R. (2022). Tilasto-osio. In T. Kiilakoski (Ed.), *Kestävää tekoa. Nuorisobarometri 2021* (pp. 9-92).
- Laine, R., Hyttinen, A., & Mathioudakis, M. (2020). Evaluating Decision Makers over Selectively Labelled Data: A Causal Modelling Approach. In *Discovery Science: DS 2020* (pp. 3-18). (Lecture Notes in Computer Science; Vol. 12323).

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant Awardee
- 2023: Travel Grant, University of Helsinki
- 2023: Publication of the Year 2022 (co-awardee), Finnish Psychiatric Association
- 2021: Master's Thesis Award, Finnish Foundation for Alcohol Studies
- 2020: Best Paper Award, 23rd International Conference on Discovery Science



Joona Mäkinen

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant
The Fulbright Finland Centennial Award

SPECIALIZATION:

Conflict Resolution

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Completing a master's degree in Peace & Conflict Resolution in the U.S.

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

I aim to specialize on the areas of transitional justice and post-conflict reconciliation.

KEYWORDS:

Transitional Justice, Diplomacy, Peace Negotiations

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT:

Trinity College Dublin, School of Law, Dublin, Ireland

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Georgetown University, Department of Government, Washington D.C.

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Katherine Collin

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – May 2025

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

– LLB, 2023, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

– 2024-25: ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant Awardee



Lada Sokolova

CIVIL ENGINEERING

ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant

SPECIALIZATION:

Construction Management

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Completing a master's degree in Construction Management in the U.S.

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Learning world-wide recognized Construction Management practices to share and implement them in Finnish major industrial construction.

KEYWORDS:

Construction Management, Industrial Construction

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Independent Scholar

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

New York University, New York, New York

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – May 2025

>> LINKEDIN [@Lada Sokolova](#)

>> INSTAGRAM [@rideoverdream](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- BEng, 2019, Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Founder, Falcon CM Oy, Helsinki, Finland, since 2023
- Construction Area Manager, Rinssi Oy, Kemi, Finland, 2022-23
- Project Engineer, Fimpec PMO Oy, Helsinki, Finland, 2021-22
- Construction Area Manager, AFRY Finland Oy, Uruguay, Paso de los Toros, 2020-21
- Founder, Consteam LLC, Saint Petersburg, Russia, 2016-19
- Site Supervisor, SRV Russia Oy, Saint Petersburg, Russia, 2013-16

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Sokolova, Lada 2019, *Concrete Strength: Russian Standards and Results' Differences in Different Test Methods*, Bachelor's Thesis

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant Awardee



Natalie Lewis

FINNISH LANGUAGE

Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistant

SPECIALIZATION:

Finnish as a Second and Foreign Language

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Finnish Language Teaching Assistant

KEYWORDS:

Finnish Language, Literature, Finnish as a Second and Foreign Language

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Oulu, Research Unit of Languages and Literature, Oulu

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Washington, Department of Scandinavian Studies, Seattle, Washington

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Andrew Nestingen

GRANT PERIOD:

September 2024 – May 2025

>> FACEBOOK @Natalie Lewis

>> INSTAGRAM @natskuuz

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

– BA, 2023, University of Oulu, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

– Finnish Language Teacher at Silkkitie Oy, Helsinki, Finland, since 2023

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

– 2024-25: Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistant Program, University of Washington



Emma Ojala

CLASS TEACHER EDUCATION

Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistants

SPECIALIZATION:

Class Teacher Education and Special Education

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Finnish Language Teaching Assistant

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Working as a teacher assistant at the University of Minnesota.

KEYWORDS:

FLTA, Finland, Teacher Assistant

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities;
Department of German, Nordic, Slavic, and Dutch, Minneapolis, Minnesota

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Graduate Program Coordinator Magdalena Schroeder

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – May 2025

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Master of Arts (Education), 2023, University of Eastern Finland, Finland
- Bachelor of Arts (Education), 2020, University of Eastern Finland, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Finnish as a Second Language Teacher, Pielisjoen koulu, Joensuu, Finland 2023-24
- Preparatory Education (Valmistava opetus) Teacher, Karsikon koulu, Joensuu, Finland 2023
- Substitute Teacher for Elementary School, Joensuun kaupunki, Joensuu, Finland 2021-22

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistant Program, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis



Eeva Ferrer Sarría

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant

SPECIALIZATION:

International Relations & Global Public Health

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Exchange studies in the U.S.

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Undergraduate level studies at American University in the U.S.

KEYWORDS:

(U.S.) Foreign Policy, Health Equity, Racial Inequalities, Interdisciplinary

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT:

Maastricht University, University College Maastricht, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Maastricht, The Netherlands

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

American University, Washington D.C.

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – December 2024

>> INSTAGRAM: [@eevaferrer](#)

>> LINKEDIN [@Eeva Ferrer](#)

>> FACEBOOK [@ Eeva Ferrer](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- High School Diploma, 2021, Puolalanmäen lukio, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- President (since 2024), Vice-President (2023), and Board Member (2022), European Youth Parliament Finland – EYP Finland ry
- Assistant Journalist (2020-2021) and Youth Journalist (2017-2019), Turun Sanomat, Turku, Finland
- Fundraiser, Doctors Without Borders, Turku & Helsinki, Finland, 2021
- Social Media Content Creator, Turku Student Village Foundation, Turku, Finland, 2020-2021
- Waitress, Multiple restaurants, Turku, Finland, 2018-2021
- Substitute teacher, Belgian Suomi-koulu (Finnish School of Belgium), Brussels, Belgium, 2022

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant Awardee
- 2021: K.F. Helisevän rahasto -foundation stipend for accomplishments in high school studies, Awarded by Puolalanmäki High School
- 2018-2019: Regional Council of Southwest Finland Policy Maker Academy Trainee



Christian Hindsberg

ECONOMICS

Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Undergraduate studies at Washington and Lee University

KEYWORDS:

Economics, Finance, Intercultural Understanding, Entrepreneurship

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – May 2025

>> LINKEDIN @ [Christian Hindsberg](#)

>> INSTAGRAM @christian.hindsberg

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- International Baccalaureate, UWC Robert Bosch College, Germany

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25 Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant Awardee
- 2021-23: United World College Scholar 2021-23



FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Undergraduate studies in the U.S.

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Undergraduate studies in the U.S.

**HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT
IN THE UNITED STATES:**

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

GRANT PERIOD:

September 2024 – June 2025

>> **INSTAGRAM** @marcus_pietarinen

Marcus Pietarinen

ECONOMICS

Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Middle School, 2021, Helsingin Suomalainen Yhteiskoulu, Finland
- IB Diploma Programme, 2024, Helsingin Suomalainen Yhteiskoulu, Finland

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-2025: Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant Awardee
- 2023: Finnish Gymnastics Federation Young Athlete of the Year
- 2023: 2x Junior World Championships Finalist



Minea Tiitinen

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant

SPECIALIZATION:

Computer Science and Linguistics

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Completing a bachelor's degree in the U.S.

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Completing a bachelor's degree in computer science with a minor in linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

KEYWORDS:

Computer Science, Linguistics,
Computational Linguistics

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Cambridge, Massachusetts

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – May 2025

>> **INSTAGRAM @mineatiitinen**

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

– Graduate (June 2024) of Ressu Upper Secondary School, Finland

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

– 2024-25: Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Grant Awardee



Veera Illman

EDUCATION AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching

SPECIALIZATION:

Foreign Language Teaching

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Teaching and Supporting Students With Multilingual Backgrounds in the Foreign Language Classroom

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project aims at examining ways in which teachers can utilize their students' multilingual backgrounds especially in the foreign language classroom. The goal is to find effective ways to use multilingual students' language skills in the classroom to better support their learning.

KEYWORDS:

Education, English, Language Teaching, Multilingualism

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN FINLAND:

Meilahti Lower Secondary School, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES:

TBC

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN

THE UNITED STATES:

TBC

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – December 2024

>> LINKEDIN @veerailman

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Master of Arts, 2017, University of Turku, Finland
- Bachelor of Arts, 2014, University of Turku, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- English and Swedish Language Teacher, Meilahti Lower Secondary School, Helsinki, Finland, since 2017
- Course Leader, EF Education First, Torquay, United Kingdom, 2017

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Veera Illman & Päivi Pietilä, 2018. Multilingualism as a resource in the foreign language classroom, *ELT Journal*, Volume 72, Issue 3, Pages 237-248

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Awardee

**SPECIALIZATION:**

Special Education, Education Technology

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Productive Learning – Recognizing Curricular Goals Achieved Outside of Classroom

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Productive learning, on-job-learning for example, is a great way to improve learning, motivation and school engagement. But what do we actually learn through activity in real life situations? Which curricular goals are achieved? Those are questions my project aims to tackle. The goal is to create practical methods through which educators and learners can make productive learning visible.

KEYWORDS:

Productive Learning, (School) Engagement, Assessment, Professional Development

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Sompio School, City of Kerava, Kerava

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

TBC

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

TBC

GRANT PERIOD:

August 2024 – December 2024

>> LINKEDIN [@Matti Kastikainen](#)

Matti Kastikainen

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Master of Arts, 2016, University of Jyväskylä, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Special Education Teacher, Sompio School, Kerava, Finland, since 2019
- Special Education Teacher, Ehnroos's School, Mäntsälä, Finland, 2016-19
- Research Assistant, University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland, 2016

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Kastikainen, M. & Lehtonen, M. 2015. Vammaisuus mediassa. Diskursi-analyttinen tutkimus Helsingin Sanomien vammaisuutta käsittelevistä kerronnallisista artikkeleista vuosina 2010-14. Masters's Thesis.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Grantee



Emily Clements (née Carlson)

MUSIC PSYCHOLOGY

Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Institutional Partnership Building

SPECIALIZATION:

Music Therapy

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Building Pathways for U.S.-Finland Exchange in the Research and Practice of Music Therapy

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Finland is a world leader in music cognition research, while clinical music therapy is well-established and quickly growing in the USA. This visit aims to harness these complementary areas of outstanding expertise in their respective countries for the mutual benefit of both. The visit will be used to establish plan for student/researcher mobility between the University of Houston and the University of Jyväskylä, facilitating mutual enrichment and development.

KEYWORDS:

Music Therapy, Music Cognition, Interdisciplinarity, Embodied Cognition

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Jyväskylä, Department of Music, Art and Culture Studies, Jyväskylä

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Houston, Moores School of Music, Houston, Texas

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Edward Roth

GRANT PERIOD:

October 2024

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- PhD, 2018, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
- MA, 2014, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
- BMus, 2011, Western Michigan University, USA

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Senior Lecturer, University of Jyväskylä, since 2023
- Post-Doctoral Researcher, University of Jyväskylä, 2018-23
- Doctoral Researcher, University of Jyväskylä, 2014-18
- Music Therapist, FAR Conservatory, Birmingham, MI, USA, 2011-12
- Intern Music Therapist, Monroe, MI, USA, 2010-11

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Ruotsalainen, J., Carlson, E., & Erkkilä, J. (2022). Rhythmic exercises as tools for rehabilitation following cerebellar stroke: A case study integrating music therapy and physiotherapy techniques. *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy*, 31(5), 431-453.
- Carlson, E., & Cross, I. (2021). Reopening the conversation between Music Psychology and Music Therapy: A survey of Interdisciplinary Attitudes. *Music Perception*, 39(2), 181-201.
- Carlson, E., Wilson, J., Baltazar, M., Duman, D., Peltola, H. R., Toiviainen, P., & Saarikallio, S. (2021). The role of music in everyday life during the first wave of the coronavirus pandemic: a mixed-methods exploratory study. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12, 647756.
- Carlson, E., Saari, P., Burger, B., & Toiviainen, P. (2020). Dance to your own drum: Identification of musical genre and individual dancer from motion capture using machine learning. *Journal of New Music Research*, 49(2), 162-177.
- Carlson, E., Burger, B., & Toiviainen, P. (2019). Empathy, entrainment, and perceived interaction in complex dyadic dance movement. *Music Perception*, 36(4), 390-405.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2019-20: Visiting Scholar at Cambridge University, Centre for Music and Science

**SPECIALIZATION:**

Bioinformatics

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Oulu-Miami Educational Partnership

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Explore opportunities to initiate long-term institutional partnership between the University of Miami and the University of Oulu.

KEYWORDS:

Bioinformatics, Data Analysis, DNA

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

University of Oulu, Ecology and Genetics Unit, Oulu

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Miami, Department of Biology, Miami, Florida

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Professor James D. Baker

GRANT PERIOD:

November 2024

>> X @JA_Galarza

>> INSTAGRAM @JA_Galarza

>> [LINK TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROFILE](#)

Juan Galarza

COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Institutional Partnership Building

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- PhD, 2008, University of Hull, United Kingdom

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Lecturer, University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland, since 2023

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Galarza, J.A., L. Murphy, L. Mappes, J., 2021, Antibiotics Accelerate Growth at the Expense of Immunity, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, 288, 20211819.
- Galarza, J. A., 2021, Comparative Transcriptomics of Albino and Warningly Coloured Caterpillars, Ecology and Evolution 11, 7507-7517
- Galarza, J. A., J. Carreras-Carbonell, E. Macpherson, M. Pascual, S. Roques, G. F. Turner, and C. Rico, 2009, The Influence of Oceanographic Fronts and Early-Life-History Traits on Connectivity Among Littoral Fish Species, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 106:1473-1478.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2015: Institut de Recherche sur la Biologie de l'Insecte, France, Visiting Fellow



Riikka Kanervo

SOCIAL POLICY

Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Institutional Partnership Building

SPECIALIZATION:

Social Services and Social Policy

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Institutional Partnership Building in the Field of Social Services and Social Work

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Negotiating the expansion of collaboration to the social work and social services departments of our universities. Comparing curricula and seeking collaborative courses, as well as preliminary planning of jointly offered courses and exchange opportunities for students and teachers. Interdisciplinary collaboration is crucial for finding sustainable solutions to global crises.

KEYWORDS:

Diversity, Equality, Inclusion, Romance
Frauds

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Social Services, Vantaa

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Nazareth University, Rochester, New York

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Nevan Fisher, Executive Director of Center for International Education

GRANT PERIOD:

October 2024

>> LINKEDIN [@Riikka Kanervo](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Encounter Art Group Guide, 2024, Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Finland
- M.Soc.Sc. with qualification in adult education, 2015, University of Helsinki, Finland
- B.Soc.Sc., minor in Social Work, 2011, University of Helsinki, Finland
- B.Soc.Serv., 2003, Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Senior Lecturer & Project Manager, Laurea University of Applied Sciences, since 2015
- Lecturer, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences, 2011-14
- Social Worker, Child welfare services, City of Helsinki, 2011-14

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Bratu, D., Chaudhuri, D. & Kanervo, R. 2024. Building a Sustainable Global Future. <https://journal.laurea.fi/sustainable-global-future-intensive-course/#a6a1a755>
- Kanervo, R. 2023 (ed.) Rupiiaa rohkiasti tekemähän” – digirohkeuden ja -osallisuuden vahvistaminen digiohjauksella. <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-799-692-1>
- Kanervo, R. 2023 (ed.) RIKSU - Rikoksista irtaantumista tukeva sukupuolisensitiivinen kuntoutus. <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-799-668-6>
- Kanervo, R., Eskelinen, A., Sarlio-Siintola, S. & Äyväri, A. 2020. Towards ethically sustainable societal engagement of higher education. Case HEISE challenge-solving projects using arts-based methods. <https://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi:amk-2020110222114>
- Ateca-Amestoy, V., Äyväri, A., Eskelinen, A., Johansson, T., Jyrämä, A., Kanervo, R., Kein, A., Kiitsak-Prikk, K., Plaza, B., Pusa, T., Ranczakowska, A., Sarlio-Siintola, S., Sassi, M., Simjanovska, V. & Tasser, C. 2019. Roadmap for Societal Engagement for Higher Education Institutions. <https://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi-fe2019082625629>

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: The Fulbright Finland Travel Grant for Institutional Partnership Building
- 2024: Member of the Work Group for English-Language Social Services Education within the Finnish Network of Universities of Applied Sciences. Link: [[Finnish Network of Universities of Applied Sciences](#)]
- 2021 – present: Chairperson for the Child Welfare Work Group within the Finnish Network of Universities of Applied Sciences. Link: [[Finnish Network of Universities of Applied Sciences](#)]
- 2019 – present: Member of the steering group of the Nicehearts organization, which aims to produce community-based activities for girls and women of different ages and backgrounds. Link: [[Nicehearts Organisation](#)]



Anna Talasniemi

ART EDUCATION AND HERITAGE STUDIES

ASLA-Fulbright Mid-Career Professional Development Grant

SPECIALIZATION:

Arts, Culture, Heritage, Foundations

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Museums for Future: Museums as Sites for Societal and Ethical Discussion and Change

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

In these times of ecological and social crises, the role of museums as inclusive sites for future-making and change has become increasingly crucial. Although there is a lot of inspiring talk about eco-social sustainability, concrete steps toward an inclusive and societal approach are yet to be taken in the Finnish museum sector. In the US, many museums are at the forefront of addressing these issues and practising social justice.

KEYWORDS:

Contemporary Art, Heritage, Museums, Participation

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN FINLAND:

University of Jyväskylä, Department of Music, Art and Culture Studies, Jyväskylä

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Illinois Chicago, Museum and Exhibition Studies (MUSE) and School of Art and Art History (SAAH), Chicago, Illinois

HOST/CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT IN

THE UNITED STATES:

Professor Therese Quinn

GRANT PERIOD:

January 2025 – May 2025

>> LINKEDIN [@Anna Talasniemi](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- PhD (Art Education), 2023–, Jyväskylä University, Finland
- MA (Study of Cultural Environment, Art Education), 2024, Jyväskylä University, Finland
- MA (Comparative Religion), 2004, Helsinki University, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Doctoral Researcher, Jyväskylä University, Jyväskylä, 2024–26
- Executive Director, Kone Foundation, Helsinki, Finland, 2013–22
- Head of Cultural Affairs; Scientific Secretary, Kone Foundation, Helsinki, Finland, 2012–13; 2007–12
- Secretary for International Exchanges, Centre for International Mobility CIMO, Helsinki, 2004–05

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Jenny ja Antti Wihuri Foundation (for PhD Studies)
- 2023: Ellen and Artturi Nyysönen Foundation (for PhD Studies)



Seda Altunbay

ENGLISH TEACHER

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary School Educators

TEACHING SUBJECTS:

English as a Foreign Language

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Facilitating and Fostering Studies of the U.S. in Secondary Education With a Focus on Futures Literacy and Transversal Competences

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project mainly focuses on developing an optional course which will facilitate a deeper understanding of the history and culture of the U.S. in Finnish Secondary (grades 7-9) Schools. Through active collaboration and carefully-planned course material, the aim will be to foster futures literacy and enhance transversal competences.

KEYWORDS:

Studies of the U.S. Institutes, Secondary Education, Futures Literacy, International Collaboration, Innovation

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Latokartano Comprehensive School, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

University of Montana, Missoula, Montana

GRANT PERIOD:

June 2024 - July 2024

>> INSTAGRAM [@sedaaltunbay](#)

>> LINKEDIN [@sedaaltunbay](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- MA: English Philology, 2013, University of Helsinki, Finland
- BA: English Language Teaching, Gazi University, Turkey
-

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- English Teacher, Latokartano Comprehensive School, Helsinki, Finland, since 2009
- Higher Education Trainee, Helsinki City Education Division, Helsinki, Finland, April - June 2023
- Language Assistant, City of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, 2007-2008

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024-25: Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary School Educators grantee
- 2020-21: European Innovative Teaching Awards recipient



Nihal Koymatli

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Study of the U.S. Institute for Student Leaders from Europe on Environmental Issues

SPECIALIZATION:

International Business, Finance and Accounting

FULBRIGHT PROJECT TITLE:

Study on the U.S. Institutes for Student Leaders from Europe

FULBRIGHT PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

SUSI Program offers undergraduate students a chance to represent Finland in the United States at the host institution for 5-6 weeks while learning about leadership and environmental issues and how to tackle them.

KEYWORDS:

Entrepreneurship, AI, Crisis Management, Renewable Energy

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN FINLAND:

Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

GRANT PERIOD:

June 2024 – July 2024

>> [LINKEDIN @ Nihal Koymatli](#)

>> [EMAIL nilkoy39@gmail.com](mailto:nilkoy39@gmail.com)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Bachelor of Business Administration, 08/2022, Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, Finland
- Academic Exchange 12/2023 Erasmus Brussels University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Belgium
- 03/2024 Nanjing University, China
- Russian Language, 09/2021, Pre-University Faculty of Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Remote

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Head of Volunteer Operations, Arctic15, Helsinki, Finland, February-June 2023
- Consultant, 180 Degrees Consulting, Helsinki, Finland, February-June 2023
- Junior Payroll Specialist, Zalaris, Riga, Latvia, February-June 2022
Contact Person for DACH countries, EKOenergy / Suomen Luonnonsuojeluliitto, Helsinki, Finland, August 2020-July 2021

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Study on the U.S. Institutes for Student Leaders from Europe
- 2023: Scholarship of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation
- 2023: Scholarship of the Hans Böckler Foundation



Rose Sarwar

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Study of the U.S. Institute for Student Leaders from Europe on Environmental Issues

SPECIALIZATION:

Environmental Strategy and Management

HOME INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN FINLAND:

Tampere University of Applied Sciences,
Tampere

HOST INSTITUTION AND DEPARTMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES:

Shippensburg University, Shippensburg,
Pennsylvania

GRANT PERIOD:

June 2024 – July 2024

>> [LINKEDIN @Rose Sarwar](#)

ACADEMIC TRAINING:

- Bachelor of Engineering, 2025, Tampere University of Applied Sciences, Finland
- Bachelor of Business Administration, 2026, Tampere University of Applied Sciences, Finland

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Project Engineer – trainee, Proxion, Tampere, Finland, since 2023
- Environmental and Laboratory Technician, UPM, Jakobstad, Finland, 2022

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, ETC.:

- 2024: Study of the U.S. Institute for Student Leaders from Europe Awardee
- 2024: Board Member - Head of Corporate Relations, Flokki ry, Environmental Engineering Club

