

THE CHRONICLES' THIRD YEAR: LOOKING BACK/LOOKING FORWARD

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The third year of the Fulbright Chronicles has been a year full of milestones, and for that we are extremely grateful to all editorial team members, contributors, peer reviewers, and, most importantly, our readers.

We expanded our editorial team, bringing on wonderful individuals with new geographic, disciplinary, and Fulbright backgrounds and experiences. These included Polat Gotkas, Erika Mariane Almenara, Seon-Choi Park, Fatima Ericka Santos Vista, Ramu Sarkar, Nathan Gehlert, and Narun Pat.

During 2024, we fulfilled plans to launch our first special issue that would provide an opportunity for the global Fulbright community to have a focused and interdisciplinary discussion on an important global theme. Based on the editorial team's overwhelming recommendation, the first issue was on Sustainability, which was very ably edited by Melanie Brooks. This inaugural issue provides an exemplary model for future special issues.

We also strengthened our interview section and revised our author's guidelines, emphasizing the importance of a focus on the enduring impact of the author's Fulbright experience, as well as imploring author's to be attentive to our stylistic, formatting, and content requirements.

As we are completing our initial three-year plan to establish an on-line, open access journal by and for Fulbrighters, we are restructuring our editorial team. We have invited two associate editors, Habiba Atta and Melanie Brooks, to join us as co-editors. Melanie and Habiba will be engaged in all the journal's major editorial decisions and will have the lead responsibility for editing the expanded commentary section.

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We are also establishing three-year terms for the editorial team and creating a new position of assistant editors, providing an opportunity for new team members to demonstrate their skills and engagement with the journal. As assistant editors, they will have the possibility for advancement to the associate editorial position. If you are interested in applying, you will find more information about this assistant editor position on page number 76.

Looking ahead, we are asking editorial team members to write a commentary discussing issues, topics, and activities in their country or region that are of interest to our Fulbright community. Some of these commentaries may be joint efforts involving multiple editorial team members or co-authored with another Fulbrighter.

We are very pleased to announce that we will publish our second special issue in July. This special issue will explore the impact of AI on the social sciences as perceived by members of our global Fulbright community; Editorial Team members; Polat Goktas and Jose Caetano, have agreed to co-edit this timely special issue. The call for proposed articles and a timeline for this special issue are included on page number 76.

This first issue of 2025 includes articles that explore the enduring impact of Fulbright experiences in a variety of ways. These articles discuss the career-shifting impact of a long ago Fulbright in Brazil, the use of AI as it relates to copyright and sourcing issues, practical and theoretical issues concerning regenerative tourism in Hawaii, shifts in international law that require multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary perspectives, scholarship on Cambodian cinematic history prior to the Khmer Rouge regime, research on how organizational cultures can influence archeological work in the US and Mexico, and an interview with the former Executive Director of the Thai-US Educational Foundation (Fulbright) in Thailand.

Finally, this issue also includes four new reviews of remarkable books authored by Fulbrighters. The subjects of the books include a collection of thought provoking memoir pieces on literature and life, a historical assessment of the immigration crisis, a poignant anthology on the importance of letter writing, and an analysis of the aesthetic and cultural issues that characterize serious engagement with reading and writing.

As we look back on our journal's first three years, we are grateful for this opportunity to be engaged with so many others who are passionate about the Fulbright program and pleased with what we have accomplished so far. We recognize that we have much more to do to become the place where the global Fulbright community explores the enduring impact of the Fulbright program and discusses topics important to our alumni community. With the progress made and the changes underway, we are very much looking forward to the next phase in the evolution of the *Fulbright Chronicles*.