

Save the date: Australian Fulbright Alumni Association Inaugural Conference

Melbourne, Friday evening 17th November – Saturday 18th November, 2017

[Woodward Conference Centre](#) at the University of Melbourne

The Australian Fulbright Alumni Association (AFAA) is a professional membership for Fulbright Alumni. Fulbright Alumni make significant and unique contributions to the overall vitality, creativity, equity and quality of life in Australia, the United States and around the world. With more than 300 members, AFAA works to harness the collective power of these contributions and connect Fulbright Alumni with the broader community to share ideas, inspire and challenge the status quo.

AFAA are excited to announce our inaugural conference, to be held Saturday 18th November in Melbourne. We plan to host one-day conferences every 1-2 years in rotating locations. Our vision for the conferences is that they provide an opportunity for our members to come together at a national event that provides (i) stimulating dialogue around pressing issues; and (ii) an opportunity for people to develop a strategy for collective action.

The theme of our inaugural conference is **Fulbright Alumni: Leadership in a new era**. We have entered a challenging new era, in which old ways of seeing and acting no longer seem to apply. Leadership is needed, more than ever, on a number of fronts. The question is: **how can we help strengthen environmental, economic, cultural and social sustainability for this new global age by providing leadership to form a new agenda?**

This conference will bring together leaders from across these four broad thought streams (environmental, economic, cultural, and social sustainability). The conference will feature invited keynote presentations, panel sessions, concurrent sessions, poster presentations, breakout sessions, and social events to generate an action agenda. **We seek your proposals for concurrent presentations and poster presentations to inspire action and challenge the status quo.** Full guidelines for each type of session are below. Please contact us with any questions at 2017Conference@fulbrightalumni.org.au.

1 PRESENTER GUIDELINES

1.1 Concurrent Sessions - Presenter Guidelines

Share and discuss your research with other presenters and participants who share your thematic interest.

- Concurrent presentations will be arranged into four themes: environmental, economic, cultural and social;
- Eligible presenters include individual AFAA members as well as prospective members (such as Fulbright alumni and friends);
- Research should be professional-level, with special consideration given to work that has resulted from your Fulbright;
- There will be up to five presenters per session. Each presenter will be allotted 15 minutes;
- Following presentations, each concurrent session will include 15 minutes for a general panel discussion.

1.2 Poster Presenter Guidelines

Share your Fulbright experience and/or research in a visual format with conference attendees.

- Eligible presenters include individual AFAA members as well as prospective members (such as Fulbright alumni and friends). Returned Australian Fulbright scholars and current visiting US Scholars are welcome to submit proposals in this category.
- Posters can reflect participants' Fulbright grant experience/research or other work in which they are engaged. This can take many forms: research findings; best practices for implementation, policy and practice; overview of a project; photos from a key experience; or examples of outreach efforts either in Australia or in the U.S.
- Participants will have several opportunities to display their work and interact with conference attendees. AFAA will provide a trifold display onsite or participants may use laptops or tablets. Please note that electrical outlets may not be available.
- The poster must be A1 size, 59.4 x 84.1cm. Orientation of your poster must be in portrait style. Useful poster presentation guidelines are available [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

2 SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please submit proposals using the online submission form on the AFAA website. Submissions for concurrent sessions and poster discussions must be received by **1st September 2017**, for consideration. Proposals will be reviewed by the Conference Program Committee. Each proposal will be evaluated based on its thoroughness, clarity, and adherence to session guidelines. Final selections will be made by **15th September, 2017** and presenters must confirm their slots by registering for the conference by **22nd September, 2017**.

3 CONFERENCE LAUNCH: FREE PUBLIC FULBRIGHT SALON, FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER:

The conference will commence with a free public salon on the evening of Friday 17th November. This event will be kindly hosted, catered and sponsored by the University of Melbourne. Last year's salon, '[Remaining Democratic in Extreme Times](#)' attracted a full-house with 165 people. (This year's topic to be determined: please share your ideas, including whether you would like to present.)

4 REGISTRATION FEE

We are offering an early bird rate for the Conference until September 22. After that date, the cost will increase by \$15. The early bird rate for the Saturday Conference Event will be \$85 for AFAA members and \$135 for non-members per person (GST not included); however, the additional fee will include AFAA membership.

- AFAA will be investing major seed funding for this event to host excellent plenary speakers and provide a small number of speaker travel grants.
- **All speakers are required to register and pay for the conference.**
- The registration fee is required only to cover catering and venue costs.
- Our target is to host 100 registrants.
- We will be seeking university accommodation on campus, and also arranging billeted accommodation through Victorian Fulbright alumni.

5 HELP US TO BUILD YOUR CONFERENCE

The conference will feature invited keynote presentations, panel sessions, breakout sessions, and social events to generate an action agenda. **Let us know what themes you'd like the conference to cover, what you'd like to lead, and/or what you'd like to present! [Please see the AFAA Website for more details](#).** Please contact us with any questions at 2017Conference@fulbrightalumni.org.au.