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UMN Morris Is a Top Producer of Fulbright U.S. Students

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[UMN Morris Is a Top Producer of Fulbright U.S. Students](#)

Four UMN Morris students received Fulbright awards for academic year 2020-2021

MORRIS, Minnesota (February 18, 2021)— The University of Minnesota Morris is proud to be named a Fulbright U.S. Student Program Top Producing Institution for the 2020-2021 academic year. Each year the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) announces the top producing institutions for the Fulbright Program, the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program. [The Chronicle of Higher Education publishes the lists annually.](#)

Colleges and universities are selected as top producing institutions by the Fulbright program according to a ratio of the number of Fulbright awards granted to student population at the institution. Four UMN Morris students received Fulbright awards for academic year 2020-2021:

1. Mara Christensen '20, English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) to South Korea
2. Anika Paulson '20, ETA to Germany
3. Sarah Severson '20, Open Research Grant to Spain
4. Trina Vue '20, ETA to Thailand

“As one of the country's top public liberal arts colleges, UMN Morris provides talented students access to life-changing educational opportunities,” says Chancellor Michelle Behr. “Our exceptional students are prepared to live as engaged global citizens, and we are proud of their Fulbright successes.”

This news comes shortly after the campus learned that four UMN Morris applicants have been named Fulbright Scholarships semi-finalists for the 2021–2022 academic year:

1. Breanna Dragseth '21
2. Felícia Galván '21
3. Maggie Schauff '21
4. Rose Schwietz '13

Finalists will be announced later this spring.

Several recent UMN Morris graduates also received Fulbright research awards for graduate work, including Broc Kokesh '16, who conducted field research in Jamaica, and Corrie Nyquist '16, who is conducting research on aquatic insects in Iceland.

These successes are no coincidence. According to Associate Professor of French and Fulbright Program Adviser Sarah B. Buchanan, UMN Morris is a perfect environment for prospective Fulbright students.

“UMN Morris is uniquely positioned to serve our students well as they apply for Fulbrights because we are a small, intimate community,” says Buchanan. “We work closely with applicants to help them select a country to apply to, to refine and edit their proposals, and to prepare for the interviews. This formula has led to good success over the years.”

The Fulbright competition is administered at UMN Morris through the Academic Center for Enrichment. To learn more, visit ace.morris.umn.edu.

About the Fulbright Program

The Fulbright Program was created to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. Fulbright is the world’s largest and most diverse international educational exchange program. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. 2021 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Fulbright Program. Celebrations throughout the year will highlight the impressive accomplishments and legacy of the program and its alumni over its first 75 years, both in the United States and around the world. A dedicated [75th anniversary website](#) will be updated throughout 2021 to showcase Fulbright alumni, partner countries, and anniversary events.

Since its inception in 1946, over 400,000 people from all backgrounds—recent university graduates, teachers, scientists and researchers, artists, and more—have participated in the Fulbright Program and returned with an expanded worldview, a deep appreciation for their host country and its people, and a new network of colleagues and friends. Fulbright alumni have become heads of state, judges, ambassadors, cabinet ministers, CEOs, and university presidents, as well as leading journalists, artists, scientists, and teachers. They include 60 Nobel Laureates, 88 Pulitzer Prize winners, 75 MacArthur Fellows, and thousands of leaders across the private, public and non-profit sectors.