

Exploring Partnerships between National Fulbright Associations and U.S. Fulbright Association Chapters Ana Gil-Garcia (USA 1987, Venezuela 2004)

Biography

Ana Gil-Garcia holds a doctorate in educational leadership from Western Michigan University, a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from University of Tennessee, a specialist degree in middle school curriculum conferred by the Organization of American States and the Pedagogical University of Venezuela, and a bachelor's degree from the Pedagogical University of Venezuela. Currently, she is a professor at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, teaching graduate courses in the areas of educational leadership. Dr. Gil-Garcia, two times a Fulbright scholar (1987, 2004), a senior Fulbright specialist (2003-2008), president of the Chicago chapter of the Fulbright Association (2007), received the "Dare to Be Great" award given by the Illinois Women Administrators Association, and the Education for Hispanic Communities award given by the State of Illinois; and she placed for the Chicago Latina Professional of the Year. She has received the Faculty Excellence Award for Service (1999), for Research (2000), and for Teaching (2001) granted by Northeastern Illinois University. She is a member of the Advisory Council on Latino Affairs for the Office of the Mayor of the City of Chicago. Dr. Gil-Garcia has published three books and many journal articles, delivered numerous papers internationally and nationally, including invited presentations in Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Scotland, Spain, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Her work has been cited in several dissertations and books.

Background

A partnership refers to the state of having shared interests and efforts. Both national Fulbright Associations around the world and US Fulbright Associations share the same mission, social interests, and international challenges. Today's context for international partnerships has both heightened their importance and created new dimensions. The Fulbright Alumni community is a natural niche and context for institutional partnerships that would support the Fulbright mission and goals. With the acceleration of globalization, the organized Fulbright Alumni community must seek ways of designing, developing and implementing international partnerships to stress different levels of social and educational needs. The roundtable proposal aspires to open discussions and deliberations on partnership possibilities to enhance the Fulbright experience. It is expected that participants may offer suggestions and feasible collaborative efforts that would encourage small, short-term to big, long-term partnership projects. Through partnerships, the Fulbright Associations and the US Fulbright chapters may benefit and consequently would assist worldwide communities in extreme need.

Discussions Questions

1. Describe a possible partnership between YOUR association and an US chapter
2. What type of partnerships is feasible, viable and realistic to happen among associations?
3. What are some of the considerations the Fulbright Association and US chapters should take in order to make a social and educational partnership happen?
4. A partnership can facilitate lifelong interaction among alumni and current participants worldwide. Please identify two major areas of concerns that would impede the success of a partnership.
5. Based on the previous question, identify two major areas that would promote the success of a partnership.