**San Bruno, California - October 17, 2022:** Skyline College is proud to be named a Fulbright HSI Leader for the second year in a row by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). This designation recognizes the noteworthy engagement that selected Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) have achieved with the Fulbright Program, the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program.



Fulbright HSI Leader status has been conferred on 43 HSIs, including Skyline College, because it has demonstrated noteworthy engagement with Fulbright exchange participants during the 2021-2022 academic year and have promoted Fulbright Program opportunities on campus.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Academic Programs Ethan Rosenzweig, speaking on behalf of ECA, which sponsors the Fulbright Program, announced the Fulbright HSI Leaders on October 10 during an international plenary session at the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) annual conference in San Diego.

In his remarks, DAS Rosenzweig noted the strong relationship between HSIs and the Fulbright Program stating, "The Fulbright Program's success with HSIs is built on real collaboration with you and your institutions." He thanked HSI leaders for their collaboration and for recognizing the value of the Fulbright Program in deepening campus internationalization efforts; and he recognized Fulbright campus liaisons and advisors for recruiting and advising applicants. He also commended current Fulbright participants and alumni from and hosted by HSIs for sharing "their expertise, experience, perspective, and enthusiasm with their institutions, their communities, and their societies." "We are immensely honored to be named a Fulbright HIS Leader for the second year in a row. Participating in this program highlights our unwavering support for our international students and elevates the voices of our Latinx/Hispanic student community. This work is perfectly aligned with our internationalized mission statement: to empower and transform a global community of learners," said Melissa Moreno, J.D., President of Skyline College.

The Kababayan Learning Community has been hosting Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTA) from all over the Philippines for the Filipino language and English composition courses since 2006. Some of the FLTAs have gone on to become lecturers and professors, department coordinators, and college and university deans. Others have gone into doctoral programs or law school and are now doctors of education and lawyers. To date, we have had the honor of hosting 16 FLTAs and hope to continue this relationship in the future.

On November 7, a Fulbright HSI Virtual Workshop will feature representatives of Fulbright HSI Leaders sharing best practices for HSIs to leverage Fulbright Program engagement to support students and faculty, increase campus internationalization, and build global networks. This virtual event is open to the public and while all are welcome, the session is specifically designed for HSI faculty, staff, and stakeholders. Institutions can sign up at https://apply.iie.org/register/HSIWorkshop2022.

The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's flagship international academic exchange program. Since its inception over 75 years ago, the Fulbright Program has given over 400,000 talented and accomplished students, scholars, teachers, artists, and professionals of all backgrounds and fields the opportunity to study, teach, and conduct research abroad, exchanging ideas, and contributing to finding solutions to complex international challenges.

Each year, the U.S. Congress appropriates funds to the U.S. Department of State to sponsor the Fulbright Program. Many foreign governments contribute

substantially as well. Additional funding and in-kind funding is provided by U.S. and foreign host institutions, non-governmental organizations, private organizations, corporate partnerships, and individual donors.

Over many years the Fulbright Program has designed and implemented a wide range of initiatives to increase participant diversity and inclusion. The program strives to ensure that its participants reflect the diversity of U.S. society and societies abroad. Fulbrighters come from all backgrounds and are selected through an open, merit-based competition, regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Information on the Fulbright Program's <u>diversity and inclusion initiatives</u> is detailed on the Fulbright U.S. Student Program website.

For more information on the Fulbright Program,

visit <u>http://eca.state.gov/fulbright</u> or contact the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Press Office by e-mail <u>ECA-Press@state.gov</u>.

Stories about the positive impact of the Fulbright Program over its first 75 years can be found at: https://fulbright75.org

Follow the Fulbright Program's social media accounts and websites for highlights on HSIs and Fulbright:

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