



For immediate release: 12 May 2015

SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS FULBRIGHT AWARD TO THE USA

Fulbright Scottish Studies Scholar Award announced

Dr. Bruce Durie, internationally recognized as one of Scotland's top genealogists, has been granted the prestigious Fulbright Scottish Studies Scholar Award. This will enable him to spend seven months research and teaching at an American University, on one of the most prestigious and selective scholarship programmes operating world-wide.

Dr. Durie will be researching Lowland Scots migration to the Carolinas, and teaching classes on Scottish Genealogy, Culture and History at St Andrews University, Laurinburg, North Carolina, from January to July 2016.

Commenting on receiving the award, Dr. Durie said:

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to fulfill a longstanding ambition. So much of Scottish-American migration is told in terms of the Highland and the Ulster Scots. But Lowlanders probably predominated in the early days of the settlement of that part of America, and subsequently.

“It will also enable me to provide classes in how to research Scottish Family History correctly, and in the context of Scottish history and culture.

“I will continue and deepen my relationships with the Scots-American Community in the USA”

Dr. Durie is Honorary Fellow in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies within the Centre for Lifelong Learning. He is also *Shennachie* (Genealogist and Historian) to COSCA (The Council of Scottish Clans and Associations) and an International Trustee, as well as being the International Board Member of the Association of professional Genealogists (APG). He is regularly invited to present Workshops and Seminars at Scottish Games and Gatherings and to St Andrews Societies throughout North America.

He can be contacted via email: bruce@durie.scot

The US-UK Fulbright Commission is the only bi-lateral, transatlantic scholarship programme, offering awards for study or research in any field, at any accredited US or UK university. The Commission is part of the Fulbright programme conceived by Senator J William Fulbright in the aftermath of World War II to promote leadership, learning and empathy between nations through educational exchange. Award recipients and summer programme participants will be the future leaders for tomorrow and support the “special relationship” between the US and UK.

The Commission selects scholars through a rigorous application and interview process. In making these awards the Commission looks not only for academic excellence but a focused application, a range of extracurricular and community activities, demonstrated ambassadorial skills, a desire to further the Fulbright Programme and a plan to give back to the recipient’s home country upon returning.

Biography

Dr. Bruce Durie BSc(Hons) PhD OMLJ FSAScot FColIT FIGRS FHEA

Bruce Durie was born and went to school in Kirkcaldy, Fife. He is considered one of Scotland's top genealogists, with an international reputation. He is perhaps best known for his BBC radio series, "Digging Up Your Roots" (eighth season in 2014), and "A House with A Past", and he has authored 30 books, including the best-selling "Scottish Genealogy" now in its 3rd edition. (www.brucedurie.co.uk/books)

Bruce founded the much-acclaimed Postgraduate Program in Genealogical Studies at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, which he headed for six years as Course Director, until 2011. Now a Fellow at Strathclyde, he is developing a full-time one-year Masters and a Doctoral programme. He also teaches courses on Genealogy, Documents and Heraldry at the University of Edinburgh. His background is in medicine and neuropharmacology, as well as holding a doctoral degree in history.

Recently elected to the prestigious *Académie Internationale de Généalogie* (the only member from Scotland), he is *Shennachie* (Genealogist and Historian) to the Chief of Durie, and was recently appointed official *Shennachie* to COSCA (Council of Scottish Clans and Associations).

He sits on the Council of the 2016 International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Science, due to be held in Glasgow, August 2016.

Bruce has just been announced as the Fulbright Senior Scottish Studies Scholar, and will be spending seven months in 2016 at a university in the USA, researching and teaching.

More info at www.brucedurie.co.uk and books at www.brucedurie.co.uk/books/
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PICTURE ATTACHED



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Notes to Editors: Full details regarding the awards, including the selection criteria, benefits and awards categories, can be found on our [website](#). For information about past scholars please visit the [Meet Our Fulbrighters](#) section of the website.

Penny Egan, Executive Director, US-UK Fulbright Commission said: “I know our 2015-16 cohort will do us great credit during their time in the US and beyond. Only exceptional scholars and students win Fulbright awards: one of the world’s most competitive merit-based international scholarships.”

Amy Moore, Director of the Fulbright Awards Programme, added: “It's very rewarding seeing a group of talented, inspirational and very deserving individuals, embark on a life changing trip to the US. This year's cohort are no exception, and have been carefully selected for their impressive accomplishments, academic excellence, and a genuine desire to delve into US culture, collaborate with new people and experience new ideas.”

Typical grants include a maintenance allowance and a contribution towards tuition fees where applicable. In addition, Fulbright scholars receive a distinctive support and cultural education programme including: visa processing, a comprehensive pre-departure orientation, enrichment opportunities in country, a re-entry session and opportunity to join our alumni networks.

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About the US-UK Fulbright Commission: The US-UK Fulbright Commission was created by treaty on 22 September 1948. The Fulbright Commission offers grants at postgraduate and postdoctoral level for study in any discipline and at any accredited institution in the US and UK, as well as a number of special exchanges programmes for shorter projects or for younger scholars. During the last six decades, approximately 15,000 UK nationals have studied in the US and 12,000 US nationals in the UK as part of the Fulbright Programme. Prominent alumni of the Fulbright Programme include poet Sylvia Plath, Charles Kennedy MP, journalist and author and Commissioner Toby Young and the economist and noble prize winner Milton Friedman.

About the Fulbright Awards Programme: Each year, the Commission supports around UK and US citizens to study, lecture, conduct research or focus on professional development at leading institutions in the US and UK respectively. Nearly 300,000 extraordinary women and men from all over the world have had their lives changed as participants in the Fulbright Programme. Of these alumni, approximately 15,000 UK nationals have studied in the US and nearly 12,000 US nationals in the UK on [our educational exchange programmes](#).

About the Fulbright Advisory Service: The US-UK Fulbright Commission also supports US-UK exchange through its Advisory Service. The Fulbright Advising Team provides a wide range of information and hosts events for individuals interested in any level of US study. The Fulbright Advisory Service is the UK’s only official source of information on educational opportunities in the US and is part of the EducationUSA network of over 450 US advising centres worldwide.