

Letter of Understanding

Fulbright- Masaryk University Distinguished Scholar

Pursuant to their mutual interest in promoting innovative scholarship, educational exchange, and mutual understanding between the peoples of Czech Republic and the United States of America,

the **J. William Fulbright Commission in the Czech Republic** (hereafter referred to as the **Fulbright Commission**), Karmelitská 17, Praha 1,
represented by its Executive Director,

RNDr. Hana Ripková, Ph.D.,

and the **Masaryk University**, (hereafter referred to as the **Masaryk University**)
Žerotínovo nám. 9, Brno
represented by its rector

Prof. MUDr. Martin Bareš, Ph.D.,

agree to jointly sponsor a

“Fulbright – Masaryk University Distinguished Scholar” at the Masaryk University in
academic year 2023/2024 and following years.

This letter of understanding is based upon the past and current collaboration of the Fulbright Commission with the Masaryk University.

The text to be used by the Institute of International Education (IIE) to advertise for the Fulbright- Masaryk University Distinguished Scholar follows:

Category: Distinguished Lecturing

Special Feature: Full-Maintenance Grant

Number of Awards: 2

Grant Activity: Teach maximum 2 courses at advanced undergraduate and graduate levels.

Language: Lecturing is in English.

Additional Qualifications: senior lecturer

Location: Masaryk University

Length of Grant: 3 to 4 months

Starting Date: mid-September or mid-February

Comments: The award is open in all the fields offered at the Masaryk University.

1. The full title of one grant award will be the “*Fulbright – Masaryk University Distinguished Scholar*” .

2. The Fulbright Commission will collaborate with the Institute of International Education (IIE) to announce and promote a *Fulbright- Masaryk University Distinguished Scholar* award in the annual *Fulbright Scholar Program: Grants for U.S. Faculty and Professionals*.

3. The text of this award announcement will be edited annually by designated representatives of the Masaryk University. The Masaryk University will provide this text for the Fulbright Commission by December 1 of a given year.

4. IIE will forward a memorandum of recommendation with a short list of semi-final candidates to the Fulbright Commission each year together with applications for other awards in the scholar category. The Fulbright Commission will share the list of semi-final candidates, along with the full application materials, with designated representatives of the Masaryk University. Representatives of the Masaryk University and the Fulbright Commission will nominate a finalist and an alternate. The Fulbright Commission Board will be responsible for confirming this selection which must be approved by the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board s (FFSB).

5 Upon the receipt of FFSB approval, following the notification of the candidates by IIE, the Fulbright Commission will enter into the communication with the finalists and issue documents that outline the terms of the grant for the grantee.

6. In addition to the services and activities listed above, the Fulbright Commission will provide the following for the grantee:

- (a) predeparture information including full paperwork for the visa procedures;
- (b) orientation in Prague (for winter semester grantees) or orientation combined with mid-year conference (for summer semester grantees), all based on external conditions;
- (c) a health and accident insurance policy for the Fulbright grantees;
- (d) support payments for qualified accompanying dependents of the grantee (as defined by Fulbright program guidelines) for the duration of the grant period; and
- (e) contribute 1500 USD/month towards the grantee’s monthly maintenance payments for the duration of the grant (four months);
- (f) a travel grant of 1500 USD.

7. The Masaryk University will contribute

- (a) 4500 USD/month towards the grantee’s monthly maintenance payments for the duration of the grant (three to four months) and make provisions for transferring the total amount due into an account designated by the Fulbright Commission two weeks before the starting date of the grant (according to the grant authorization).

Consequently, the total combined monthly amount of the grantee’s base maintenance award will be 6000 USD per month.

8. The Masaryk University also will

- (a) anchor the grantee at an institute and faculty appropriate to his or her field of expertise;
- (b) provide for the approval of the grantee's courses by relevant university bodies and organize the announcement of the grantee's courses in the Masaryk University course catalogue
- (c) provide the grantee with access to office space with the usual facilities (telephone, computer, e-mail, Internet access, etc.); and
- (d) offer the grantee university housing or help to identify and contract for appropriate housing.

9. Both parties hereby confirm that this letter does not constitute an employment contract between the grantee and the Masaryk University nor can be interpreted as a commitment of the Masaryk University to establish an employment contract with the grantee.

10. Starting 2023/2024 the Masaryk University will fund this jointly sponsored Distinguish Scholar based on the conditions defined above, if an appropriate candidate is identified from among the applicants for Fulbright Award. It is up to the discretion of the Masaryk University to decide if it wishes to co-sponsor and co-fund this Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award in the future.

11. The Fulbright Commission and the Masaryk University agree upon the following modalities for the extension of this agreement. One or both parties may extend or terminate this agreement by December 1 of a given year for the relevant academic year.

12. The execution of this program will be contingent upon a consensus between the Fulbright Commission and the designated representatives of the Masaryk University that the candidates in question meet the high standards of the Fulbright Program and the Masaryk University. The Fulbright Commission and the Masaryk University will annually budget sufficient funds for this joint chair for the above mentioned period and expect to have such funding at their respective disposals.

13. Both parties agree with publication of this Letter of Understanding in the open Contract Repository ("Registr smluv" in Czech) according to the Czech law. The Letter of Understanding shall be published to the general public unabridged with access worldwide. Personal information of the mentioned in this contract shall be blacked out.

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Hana Ripková, Executive Director
Fulbright Commission in the CR

Martin Bareš, Rector
Masaryk University

18.11.2021
date

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