How to Best Prepare for Fulbright Campus Interview

Ana Kim
Academic Development Specialist
English Language Institute
University of Delaware
anaeun@udel.edu
Where Are You Planning to Go?
How Well Do You Know Your Host Country?

➢ Major Current Events
➢ Major Historical Events
➢ Name Significant Figures & Why?
➢ A National Dish, Color, Holidays, Religion
What is Fulbright Campus Interview?

- Final stage of Fulbright application
For Students...

➢ Supplement Additional Information: field of study, research, proposed project, etc.

➢ Personal Case: ability to live abroad and undertake your project
For Campus Committee...

➢ Assess you in person
➢ Help gauge how ready you are for the challenges
➢ Provide information to national screening committee in the U.S. and to overseas screening committee
What to Expect ...

1. Meet 3 or 4 panel members - faculty or administrators
   ➢ Who have already met you on paper
   ➢ Who are familiar with your field of studies or destination
   ➢ Who have a variety of international experiences
   ➢ Who have interest in Fulbright Program
What to Expect...

2. Opportunity to ask questions
3. Opportunity to hear constructive input in improving the essays and/or overall application
4. Interview is approximately 20 minutes
Basic Questions / Expected Questions

➢ What are your academic or professional qualifications that will allow you to effectively pursue your project?

➢ How valid or feasible is your proposed project?

➢ What are your language qualifications to pursue your proposed project?
Basic Questions / Expected Questions

➢ Do you seem mature, motivated, and able to adapt to new cultural environments?

➢ What do you know about your host country?

➢ What sort of ambassadorial potential do you have in representing the US abroad?
Please tell us a bit more about the project that you’ve described in your proposal. Why is this work important in your field?

Please comment on the foreign experience that you mention in your application. How does this prepare you for the challenges you will face abroad as a Fulbright scholar?
Designed to Address the Expected Questions or Basic Questions

➢ Can you tell us the main purpose and background of this scholarship?
➢ In addition to teaching, what other activities might you pursue in order to interact more with the people, place, and culture in which you’ll be living and working?
➢ What are your plans for next year if you don’t receive this scholarship?
Keep in mind…

➢ May be conducted in the language of the host country

➢ Demonstrate an interest in the host country beyond the specific disciplinary focus
Before the Interview
Assess Yourself...

What do you **have** to pursue Fulbright?

➢ Experience, knowledge, skills to pursue your project
➢ Aptitudes, personal traits to navigate new cultural environment
Take Time to Prepare...

➢ Review the content of your applications personal statement, curriculum vitae
➢ Think about supporting materials: recommenders, papers, projects, jobs, courses
➢ Research on your host country
Basic Interview Tips…

➢ Expect to meet a person who knows you through a paper
➢ Concentrate on being your best self
➢ Keep the six basic questions in mind
➢ Feel free to take a moment to think before you answer a question or ask for clarification
➢ Say you don’t know if you can’t answer a question
➢ Make sure you address each of your answers to everyone in the room
Thank You

How to Best Prepare for Fulbright Campus Interview
Fulbright Resources...

➢ Tutorial: Intro to the Fulbright U.S. Student Program:  https://vimeo.com/71415347

➢ Tutorial: The English Teaching Assistant Program (ETA): https://vimeo.com/71415347