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Prof. Germán Zárate-Sández Receives Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award to Brazil to Conduct Research on Second Language Acquisition and Train Language Teachers in Southern Brazil

The U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board are pleased to announce that Dr. Germán Zárate-Sández of Western Michigan University has received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award to Brazil. Zárate-Sández will research and lecture at the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina. The research component of the award will test the effect of a pedagogical intervention aimed at raising awareness of dialectal variation among pre-service teachers of English as a Second Language (ESL) and Spanish. Familiarity with and respect for the many dialects of a language beyond traditional and hegemonic varieties are essential skills to fight linguistic profiling and stereotypes based on place of origin – Zárate-Sández argues. These skills, however, are often neglected in teacher training programs around the world, and southern Brazil is no exception. For the teaching component, Zárate-Sández will co-teach a graduate course on the foundations of second language acquisition for more advanced, in-service ESL and Spanish teachers.

As a Fulbright Scholar, Zárate-Sández will share knowledge and foster meaningful connections across communities in the United States and Brazil. Fulbrighters engage in cutting-edge research and expand their professional networks, often continuing research collaborations started abroad and laying the groundwork for forging future partnerships between institutions. Upon returning to their institutions, labs, and classrooms, in the United States, they share their stories and often become active supporters of international exchange, inviting foreign scholars to campus and encouraging colleagues and students to go abroad. As Fulbright Scholar alumni, their careers are enriched by joining a network of thousands of esteemed scholars, many of whom are leaders in their fields. Fulbright alumni include 60 Nobel Prize laureates, 88 Pulitzer Prize recipients, and 39 who have served as a head of state or government.

The [Fulbright Program](#) is the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program and is supported by the people of the United States and partner countries around the world. The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs is pleased to announce that 2021 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Fulbright Program. Celebrations throughout the year will highlight the impressive accomplishments and legacy of the program and its alumni over its first 75 years, both in the United States and around the world. A dedicated 75th Anniversary website - www.fulbright75.org - is being updated throughout 2021 to showcase anniversary events and to facilitate ongoing engagement.

Since 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 400,000 participants from over 160 countries the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright program is an annual appropriation by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide direct and indirect support.

For further information about the Fulbright Program or the U.S. Department of State, please visit <http://eca.state.gov/fulbright> or contact the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Press Office by telephone 202-632-6452 or e-mail ECA-Press@state.gov.