FULBRIGHT 2023/24
NORWEGIAN GRANTEEES TO THE U.S.

FULBRIGHT Norway
TINUS FURNES ALSOS
COMPUTER SCIENCE
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - MIT

Alsos will continue his master’s degree in engineering and ICT with a focus on mathematical optimization and artificial intelligence. During his stay in the United States, he will seek to develop a strong theoretical foundation in these fields. Alsos believes mathematical optimization and artificial intelligence will play a pivotal role in the energy transition.

FELIX BAASTAD BERG
MATHEMATICS
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - MIT

Berg will work on his master’s in industrial mathematics. During his stay in the United States, he will also take courses within computer science and cognitive sciences to develop a comprehensive understanding of how mathematics can enhance AI-driven solutions in biology.

INGEBORG DALHEIM
MUSIC
Norwegian Academy of Music - UC Los Angeles

Dalheim will work on her PhD which focuses on vocal repertoire of the early 20th century, using original gramophone recordings to learn the style of the female classical singers of the time. As a continuation of this, she will explore dimensions of the female voice, its expressions, and femininity, and how we listen to female voices.

ODA KAROLINE STORBRÅTEN DAVANGER
PHILOSOPHY
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - Emory University & The New School

Davanger is analyzing democracy phenomenologically in her PhD project. Democratic theory somewhat contradictorily both presumes equality and promises to redress inequality. The prevalence of racism and sexism exposes this aporia. Applying 20th century phenomenology to political philosophy, Davanger will examine what subjectivation of the citizen means for its political agency.
GINA ARNESEN ECKHOFF  
ECONOMICS  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - University of Chicago  
Eckhoff will continue her pursuit of a PhD in geographical and institutional explanations for economic growth. Through integrating the literature on spatial economics and institutionalism, her theoretical and empirical research will contribute to understanding more about the observed differences in economic development, both at the national and regional level.

MARIE HELENE EIKEMO  
MEDICAL SCIENCES  
University of Oslo - University of Michigan  
Eikemo will draw on her background in neuroscience and psychology to test whether the subjective experience of opioid drugs in the surgical setting is predictive of problematic drug use. Among the millions of people who undergo surgery every year, 5-15% develop persistent opioid use. Identifying key risk factors can enable more efficient prevention of drug use disorders.

ANDERS EINUM  
MEDICAL SCIENCES  
University of Bergen - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
Einum will continue his work on a PhD in perinatal epidemiology, exploring the effect of progesterone treatment on the prevention of preterm birth in a low-risk population. By identifying long-term adverse effects for mother and child, new insights into the mechanisms and safety of pharmacological therapy during pregnancy can be obtained.

NINA KRISTINE ERIKSEN  
PHYSICS  
University of Bergen/UNIS - Boston University  
Eriksen will work on her PhD concerning the evolution and morphology of ionospheric polar cap patches. She uses multiple instruments measuring the high-altitude atmosphere above the polar cap, while her focus is on using all-sky camera images and coherent radar measurements to derive the properties of the patches.
BEATE HENNIE GARCIA
MEDICAL SCIENCES
UiT The Arctic University of Norway - Northeastern University
Garcia will continue her research within optimization of medication use. Through observing and learning about practice and teaching within clinical pharmacy in the US, she aims to develop ideas relevant for clinical pharmacy practice in Norway, initiate student exchange, and to start a fruitful research collaboration within the field of clinical pharmacy practice.

ODD ERIK GARCIA
PHYSICS
UiT The Arctic University of Norway - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Garcia will work on developing magnetically confined fusion plasmas as the ultimate source of clean energy for mankind. By analysis of experimental measurement data, theoretical modeling, and numerical computations, he will advance our knowledge of particle and heat exhaust at the boundary of fusion reactors in order to mitigate plasma-wall interactions.

INGEBORG GÅSEBY GJERDE
MATHEMATICS
SIMULA - University of Florida
Gjerde will use tools from mathematics to improve simulation software for computational fluid dynamics. This work will be integrated into her ongoing work pertaining to aerodynamics and medicine.

JOHANNES IHLE
ENGINEERING
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - MIT
Ihle will continue his master’s degree studies in cybernetics and robotics, focusing on the specialization of robotics and autonomous systems. With a vision to contribute to the emerging space nation Norway, he hopes to gain a state-of-the-art understanding of perception and control for autonomous robotic systems.
Iqbal will work on his master’s degree in cybernetics and robotics, beginning a specialization in biomedical cybernetics. As medical technology becomes increasingly important, he aims to gain an understanding of the combination of robotics, control theory and medicine.

Jorem will work on his interdisciplinary PhD in mental health, law and ethics. He will study the competence to consent as a legislative condition for coercion in mental health care. His work will enhance the understanding of competence-based mental health legislation.

Knappskog will continue her PhD work on the acute care of severe burn injuries. During her stay, she will investigate the possible harms and benefits of administering vasoactive drugs during the initial treatment of burn patients, using an established animal model.

Kosinski will work on his master’s degree in applied physics and mathematics continuing his specialization in engineering physics. He is particularly interested in the areas of fluid- and thermodynamics, and seeks to learn more about the modeling of transport phenomena, an important aspect in the development of innovative energy solutions.
MAREN LERFALD
PUBLIC HEALTH
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - Yale University
Lerfald will work on her PhD project investigating the relationship between physical activity and blood pressure levels in mid to late life, and how this affects cognitive function in older age. During her stay, she will learn to perform statistical analyses on longitudinal models using population-based data and obtain a thorough understanding of the methods used.

ALEKSANDER ÅRNES MADSEN
SOCIOLOGY
University of Oslo – Stanford University/SCANCOR
Madsen is a postdoctoral fellow in sociology and will work on how organizations contribute to ethnic stratification and immigrant labor market assimilation. He seeks to gain insight into how organizational mechanisms produce inequalities between natives- and first- and second-generation immigrants by means of population-wide register data linking employers to employees.

ATOOFAH NAQVI
LAW
Norwegian Ministry of Finance - Columbia University
Atoofah will pursue a Master's of Law (LLM), specializing in international law. Through her LLM, she seeks to deepen her understanding of the development of functional international law. Her research interests include public international law, international criminal law, and financial market law and regulation.
STEVE CARTER FEUJO NOMENY  
COMPUTER SCIENCE  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - MIT

Nomeny will continue his master's degree in cybernetics and robotics, specializing in the development of autonomous navigation and control systems for vehicles. By applying principles from computer vision, robotics, and control theory, he aims to design efficient and safe autonomous systems for aerial mobility.

MARIANNE SINGSAAS  
SOCIOLOGY  
Telemark Research Institute - Cornell University

Singsaas will compare US and Norwegian biosecurity responses in to better identify barriers to mitigating and controlling zoonotic diseases. She is exploring the intersection of community resilience and wildlife disease management, highlighting frontline community challenges, dynamics of participation and resistance, and adaptation and ingenuity in the face of biosecurity crises.

ELI SMEPLASS  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - Ohio State University

Smeplass will work on comparative research in vocational education and training (VET), looking at historical, cultural and economic factors influencing training systems in Norway and the US. Her goal is to contribute to a long-lasting relationship between the Norwegian and American research community in VET.

TRYGVE JOHAN KJELLEMO TEGNANDER  
MATHEMATICS  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - UC Berkeley

Tegnander will work on his master's degree in mathematics and work on his foundation for numerical mathematics. By looking into topics in algebra and analysis, he hopes to gain a deeper understanding of what is needed for the development of new numerical methods.
MARIANNE STENBEKK THORKILDSEN
MEDICAL SCIENCES
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - Yale University

Thorkildsen will pursue a PhD in the field of medical and health sciences. Her research focus is identifying risk factors for sepsis, a medical condition of high mortality and morbidity globally. She will focus on learning modern epidemiological methods to further her investigations.

EDVARD HOFSLI ULSTRUP
ENGINEERING
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - MIT

Ulstrup will work on his master's degree in marine technology and continue his specialization in marine systems design. During his stay in the United States, he will seek to deepen his knowledge in computer science and economics, as he believes a strong multidisciplinary foundation is important for achieving zero emissions in maritime industry.

SIRI WEIDER
PSYCHOLOGY
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - UC San Diego

Weider will continue her work on increasing the understanding of the neurobiological correlates of eating disorders, and to develop therapeutic interventions integrating this perspective. In addition to expanding her research on cognitive function in this patient group, she will collaborate with researchers at UCSD on projects using fMRI and EEG.

ANDREA WESENBERG
COMPUTER SCIENCE
Norwegian University of Science and Technology - MIT

Wesenberg will continue her master's degree in cybernetics and robotics, and dive deeper into the world of autonomous systems. By exploring the fundamental principles behind AI and control theory, she aims to understand how these fields can be combined to improve decision making in autonomous systems, and to understand the role society plays when developing new technology.
The J.W. Fulbright quote to the right, about the difficulties of political life, is one of our favorites; it invokes, with some levity, the image of the harried Senate Foreign Relations Chairman enduring the bickering and posturing about politics that goes on in Congress, only because he can find comfort in his other, more favored, project; enabling students and researchers, like the ones presented in this brochure, to increase mankind’s knowledge of the sciences and the arts, without political agenda.

As Fulbright pointed out in his foreword to “The Fulbright Program: A History,” (1965) the contradiction between the realm of politics and the exchange program can be stark, and striking: “Civilization, says Webster, is that ‘ideal state of human culture characterized by the complete absence of barbarism and non-rational behavior - the optimum utilization of physical, cultural, spiritual, and human resources, and the perfect adjustment of the individual within the social framework.’ Thus defined,” Fulbright wrote, “civilization is what educational exchange programs are all about.”

We can expect only so much of our grantees; to do good work, absolutely, but not necessarily civilize the world. We do like to remind them, however, of the designation one alumna used to describe herself as Fulbrighter... an “Ambassador unaware.”
“THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM IS THE THING THAT RECONCILES ME TO ALL THE DIFFICULTIES OF POLITICAL LIFE”