

CUA Faculty Receive Prestigious Fulbright Fellowships for Brazil



Jandro L. Abot, Ph.D.

The Center for Global Education is most pleased to congratulate Dr. Jandro Abot and Dr. Daniel Colón, who were awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholar Program fellowships. Dr. Abot, Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, has been awarded the 2014-2015 Fulbright U.S. Scholar grant, specifically the Fulbright-Brazil Scientific Mobility Program. His project focuses on Nanotechnology and New Materials and has started during the summer of 2014 expanding into the summer of 2015. Abot describes this opportunity and the implications of his work: “It has provided me with a great opportunity to study integrated and distributed sensing in polymeric and composite structures using carbon nanotube fiber sensors with a team of researchers at the University of São Paulo in Brazil. The broader impact of the project includes the development of a structural health monitoring technique that one day could monitor the integrity of aircraft, critical infrastructure, prosthetics and other devices. This opportunity builds on the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program that has brought more than sixty Brazilian students to study at CUA

since 2012. It also strengthens the academic and scientific connections between the USA and Brazil through the publication of the project results in international journals, and sets the foundations for collaborative research sponsored by funding agencies in both countries.”

Dr. Colón, Clinical Assistant Professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and previous Fulbright recipient, has been awarded a Fulbright fellowship to work at the Federal University of Bahia in Brazil. Dr. Colón describes his upcoming project and writes: “As part of my current book project, ‘Folklore and the Narrative Tradition in Latin American and Luso-African Fiction,’ I will conduct research on how Afro-Brazilian folkloric traditions shaped the historiographic discourse in the works of renowned Brazilian novelist Jorge Amado. Based in the Federal University of Bahia’s (UFBA) *Instituto de Letras*, I will collaborate with Professor Ana Ramos, a leading expert on the works of Jorge Amado, as well as other specialists in Afro-Brazilian literature. Complementing the literary aspects of my project, the historian, João José Reis, has invited me to participate in his working group, ‘Slavery and the Invention of Freedom,’ also at UFBA to strengthen historical aspects of my analysis. In doing so, I will engage in an inter-American dialogue on slavery and race relations, one that exemplifies the Fulbright program’s ambition of promoting cross-cultural conversations on the pressing issues of our times. A recipient of a previous Fulbright fellowship to Chile (2005-06) to conduct research for my dissertation on the intersection between literary and political discourse in the poetry of Pablo Neruda, my research and travel throughout Latin America have globalized my vision and helped me to understand in a tangible way the connections between the classroom and the world.”



Daniel E. Colón, Ph.D.