

## **2013-2014 COUNTRY GUIDELINES FOR SWAZILAND FOR U.S. FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS**

The Fulbright Program is sponsored and administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the United States Department of State. Overseas, Fulbright programs are the responsibility of the Public Diplomacy Section of the American Embassy.

This document contains **summary** information about the Fulbright award, logistical and program support provided through ECA, and advisory information about your host country. PD officers in Mbabane will supplement this overview of privileges which can and cannot be accorded to Fulbright scholars and students by the Public Diplomacy Section (PD) and the U.S. Embassy. Information in the Guidelines is subject to change. This is the best information, which PD Mbabane and the African Exchanges Branch of ECA have as of March 2013

### **THE PUBLIC DIPLOMACY SECTION AND THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN SWAZILAND**

The Public Affairs Officer (PAO) is Molly Sanchez Crowe (**through June 2013**). She has overall management responsibility for the Fulbright Program and all other Public Diplomacy programs of the U.S. Embassy in Swaziland. She is assisted by Marjorie Balarin, the Cultural Affairs Specialist and EducationUSA Advisor who works closely with Fulbright scholars and students. The Public Affairs Section (PAS) is located at Ryan House, Corner Sir Robert Croydon Ave & Jubela Street, Kent Rock area, Mbabane, just off Somhlolo Road. The offices can be reached by telephone at - country code 00268 local numbers 404 2059. Marjorie's telephone extension is 3241. Molly's telephone extension is 3240. The PAS phone is answered only during business hours. The e-mail address for Marjorie Balarin is [balarinMN@state.gov](mailto:balarinMN@state.gov); the e-mail address for Molly Sanchez Crowe is [sanchezcroweMM@state.gov](mailto:sanchezcroweMM@state.gov)

Fulbright candidates are encouraged to e-mail Marjorie Balarin and Molly Sanchez Crowe to get clarification on issues prior to arriving in Swaziland.

You may write to the Public Affairs Officer at the following addresses:

POUCH Address: Ms. Molly Sanchez Crowe  
Public Affairs Officer (PAO)  
Public Diplomacy Section (PD)  
2350 Mbabane Pl.  
Dulles, VA 20189-2350

International Mail: Embassy of the United States of America  
P.O. Box 199

MBABANE H100  
The Kingdom of Swaziland  
Southern Africa

The U.S. Embassy Mbabane web site address is: <http://swaziland.usembassy.gov/>.

**All Fulbright grantees must register with the embassy in case of emergency.** This can be done on this website at any time: <http://www.travel.state.gov/>.

## **THE FULBRIGHT GRANT BINATIONAL NATURE OF THE PROGRAM**

Governments and institutions in host countries support the exchange program in two ways: Through (a) *monetary contributions* which result in a sharing of program costs or (b) provision of *non-monetary assistance* to enhance the exchange experience for the guest scholar.

The Fulbright Program is administered in accordance with regulations established by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB). The Board has ruled that Fulbright grant funds cannot duplicate benefits received under other auspices. Therefore, grantees who receive host government or host institution financial contributions (for example, international travel, per diem/subsistence/housing allowance) in cash or kind do not receive allowances for these benefits in their grants. Grantees who receive a concurrent grant to the same country under other auspices may have their Fulbright grants reduced if Fulbright grant benefits are duplicated by the other grant.

## **WHAT THE GRANT PROVIDES**

### **For Student Grantees**

Fulbright student grants have two components: [1] a base amount and [2] monthly maintenance. Additional funds may be included in your grant as allowances and are described separately. Grant benefits authorized by ECA are paid in U.S. dollars through the Institute of International Education (IIE).

1. The Base amount is provided to cover initial or one-time start-up expenses such as:
  - a. Round-trip economy airfare. The Fulbright student is responsible for making travel arrangements according to the Fly America Act and securing tickets.
  - b. Unaccompanied and/or Excess Baggage
  - c. Miscellaneous Costs such as permits, research affiliation, medical exams, immunizations, etc. This is a fixed sum in each grant and may not reimburse all expenses completely.

2. A monthly Maintenance allowance is provided to cover recurring subsistence needs such as housing, fuel, utilities, and food. The maintenance allowance is based upon the estimated cost of maintaining a modest standard of living in the country of assignment.

Student grants are 9 months. U.S. Fulbright students can arrive during any time that has been agreed on with the host institution.

### **For Scholar Grantees**

Fulbright scholar grants have three components: [1] Travel and relocation, [2] Monthly maintenance, [3] Monthly stipend. Additional funds may be included in your grant as special allowances and are described separately. Grant benefits are based upon the estimated cost of maintaining a modest standard of living in the country of assignment. Benefits are not intended to duplicate U.S. salary levels or the standard of living of U.S. diplomatic personnel. Grant benefits authorized by ECA are paid in U.S. dollars through the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES).

#### 1. Travel and Relocation:

- a. Round-trip economy airfare. The Fulbright scholar is responsible for making travel arrangements according to the Fly America Act and securing tickets.
- b. Unaccompanied and/or excess baggage
- c. Relocation allowance: for expenses such as visa fees, permits, medical exams, immunizations, etc. This is a fixed sum in each grant and may not reimburse all expenses completely.

2. A monthly maintenance allowance is provided to cover recurring subsistence needs such as housing, fuel, utilities, and food.

3. Monthly base stipend.

Arrival is dependent on the orientation and start date of the university.

### **Fulbright Reporting Requirements**

The Fulbright award requires submission of two reports: 1) at the interim or mid-point of the grant, and 2) a final report prior to departing the host country. Grantees will receive instructions from CIES or IIE, as appropriate, on filing these reports on-line.

### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION AND U.S. EMBASSY SUPPORT**

The U.S. Public Diplomacy Section assists Fulbrighters in a number of ways, from helping to identify used cars, to help register children for schools.

## 1. Arrival

The Cultural Affairs Specialist and an Embassy driver will meet and assist Fulbright grantees on the day of arrival. If possible, Fulbrighters are encouraged to arrive during the workweek when arrangements for arrival can be more easily made.

Although Fulbright researchers and students are responsible for their own housing arrangements, the Cultural Affairs Specialist will assist in identifying housing for the Fulbrighter. However, the final decision and contracting are the responsibility of the Fulbright research scholar and Fulbright student.

## 2. Personal Mail and Access to the Diplomatic Pouch

Personal mail: Fulbright scholars and students have been approved for access to the pouch to receive first-class letter mail only (maximum of two pounds). **Magazines, newspapers, videocassettes, and package mail are not authorized.** First class letter mail means just that. It is wise for the Fulbrighter to bring sufficient U.S. postage stamps first-class mail back to the United States. U.S. stamps may also be ordered on-line. The State Department accepts no liability for loss or damage. Pouch first-class mail can take up to two weeks or more for delivery.

The address format for correspondence is as follows:

Your name (Fulbrighter)  
c/o Public Affairs Officer  
Public Diplomacy Section (PD)  
2350 Mbabane Pl.  
Dulles, VA 20189-2170

Books and Educational Materials sent by Diplomatic Pouch: Fulbrighters have access to the diplomatic pouch for sending a maximum of **four boxes** of books and other education materials. These pouch privileges are accorded by the U.S. Embassy on a one-time basis only; materials cannot be sent back to the U.S. by pouch at any time during your stay. Fulbrighters are requested to please advise relatives and friends not to send birthday or Christmas packages via the diplomatic pouch address. All package mail in excess of the four permitted boxes will be returned to the U.S. at the Fulbrighter's expense.

**CAUTIONARY NOTE:** In the past, abuse by several Fulbright scholars caused near-revocation of privileges for all Fulbright Program participants. Anyone who violates pouch regulations will be barred from use and will have to make other arrangements for handling personal and professional correspondence.

For the four boxes of books, ECA strongly recommends sturdy boxes and reliable mailing tape such as filament (strapping) tape. Each box must **weigh no more than 50 pounds** and must **not exceed 17x18x32 inches in dimension**. Boxes are handled very roughly in transit. Overloaded

boxes or flimsy boxes will split. Boxes sent through the diplomatic pouch are neither registered nor insured. Most boxes eventually arrive at the Embassy. However, ECA recommends that Fulbrighters not send anything in the boxes that cannot be replaced. Shipping time for boxes is hard to predict. Plan on two to three months in transit. Put a return address in the upper left – hand corner and repeat the return address on a note inside the boxes.

ADDRESSING THE PACKAGE:

Upper left-hand corner:

Return address:                      Grantee Name  
   Street Address  
   City, State, Zip

Mailing Address:                      The Public Affairs Officer (PAO)  
   Public Diplomacy Section (PD)  
   Department of State  
   2350 Mbabane Pl.  
   Washington, D.C. 20521 - 2350

In lower left-hand corner of the box write:

UNCLASSIFIED VIA AIR POUCH  
Your Name  
FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR/or STUDENT EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Grantees sending only one package should write "1 of 1" in the lower right-hand corner. Grantees sending more than one package should number each package in a series and circle the markings, e.g., "1 of 3", "2 of 3", and "3 of 3" and "4 of 4".

Send boxes through the U.S. Postal Service Parcel Post at U.S. domestic postage rates or through delivery services such as FedEx or DHL. Grantees are responsible for paying domestic postage or shipping cost from their home to Washington, D.C.

**No materials can be sent back to the U.S. by pouch at any time during your stay.** Several months before departure, Fulbrighters should start to determine the mode by which they will ship back their goods (accompanied air, unaccompanied freight, and/or international mail) and secure necessary export permits, if applicable.

International Mail address:

Your name (Fulbrighter)  
c/o PAO  
Public Diplomacy Section  
Embassy of the United States of America  
P.O. Box 199  
Mbabane H100, The Kingdom of Swaziland  
Southern Africa

Address for Federal Express, DHL, etc:

Your name (Fulbrighter)  
c/o Public Affairs Officer  
Public Diplomacy Section – American Embassy  
The Ryan House  
Corner Sir Robert Croydon Avenue and Jubela Street, Kent Rock  
Mbabane, Kingdom of Swaziland  
Southern Africa.  
Tel: (00268) 404 2059

Some Fulbrighters report that once they are established in Swaziland, they prefer to use a local international mail address at their university department or similar office to receive mail and to reduce the number of trips to the U.S. Embassy.

### **3. Banking**

The Embassy Cashier will cash a grantee's personal check (drawn on a U.S. bank) for up to \$500 per month. For normal banking services, Fulbrighters should plan to use local banking facilities for most transactions. A local checking account with an ATM card is important because of the limited banking hours. There are ATMs in Mbabane, The Gables, Manzini and Nhlangano for use in drawing cash on U.S. ATM cards. The ATM at the Royal Swazi Sun Hotel in Ezulwini will accept U. S. ATM cards. Standard Bank allows ATM withdrawals of South African Rand in the event of a quick trip to South Africa. However, you should allow 2 to 4 hours to open a local account. Opening an account requires two letters of reference, two passport size photos, an initial deposit (usually by travelers' checks) and a passport for easy identification. The PAS can provide a letter of introduction to facilitate opening an account, but Fulbrighters must bring the letters of reference, passport photographs and initial deposit in the form of travelers' checks with them from the U.S. should they wish to open an account immediately. (Most ATMs in South Africa will provide South African Rand in response to U.S. ATM cards.)

The local currency, Lilangeni, is tied to the South African Rand. The South African Rand is used freely (except coins) in Swaziland, but Swazi currency (Emalangeni) cannot be spent in South Africa.

### **4. Health Care**

During Embassy Mbabane orientation, the Embassy Nurse will brief U.S. Fulbright Scholars and Students on prevailing issues on health and health concerns. She will also provide guidance on local medical practitioners and health institutions as well as provide Fulbrighters with information on health specialists, clinics and hospitals in South Africa. The Health Unit is managed by a Registered Nurse and stocks a limited amount and variety of medicines to treat episodic acute illness and to begin treatment for chronic conditions. Stocks are adequate for these needs. You

are responsible for providing any medications needed for chronic medical problems. This applies to prescription and non-prescription medication.

There is no malaria in Mbabane or other areas in the high-veld, but if you visit the low-veld or other malaria areas (such as Kruger National Park or Mozambique), you will need to take malaria prophylaxis. Mefloquine is the recommended drug for that purpose although some people choose Doxycyd or a combination of chloroquine and paludrine. Mefloquine can be obtained from local pharmacies. Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccinations are also recommended. Rabies exists in all areas of Swaziland, including Mbabane. Should a grantee wish to walk or jog, it is advisable to be vaccinated with HDVC (human diploid cell rabies vaccine) in case of random encounters with rabid animals. Tick-bite fever is common. Allergy and asthma problems abound during flowering season as well as during the rainy season when mold develops. Many local streams are not safe for wading or swimming due to bilharzia.

Three good clinics are available, in Mbabane (Mbabane Clinic), Ezulwini (MediSun Clinic) and Manzini (Manzini Clinic) which provide adequate health care for routine illnesses and minor emergencies. More serious health needs should be taken care of in South Africa. You should check your insurance policy as to coverage in the event you or a family member requires medical evacuation to South Africa or another country. More information on doctors, clinics, and dentists in Swaziland and South Africa will be provided upon arrival in Swaziland.

HIV and AIDS: Per capita, Swaziland has more HIV infected persons than any other country in the world. All of the usual precautions must be taken to avoid this easily prevented infection. In the highly unlikely case of sexual assault, it is recommended that the victim take post-exposure prophylaxis as soon as feasible, and certainly within 48 hours. The Health Unit at Embassy Mbabane can advise on this matter.

## **THE HOST COUNTRY: SWAZILAND**

### **1. Visas, Work Permits and Research Clearance**

US citizens do not require visas to enter Swaziland. However, temporary residence permits to reside in the country are required. Once approval for work or research affiliation has been granted by the University Board, the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) will then process the residence permit on behalf of the Fulbright grantee. There is a charge of approximately US \$100 for the grantee and an additional charge for a dependent spouse or child. Take two recent passport-size photographs for each resident permit. Immigration officials will require police clearance from the Fulbrighter's home state as well as a medical clearance certificate before processing the resident permit. Fulbrighters are advised to get these clearances before coming to Swaziland to help expedite the procurement of a residence permit. The Fulbright medical report should be satisfactory for medical clearance. However, the Immigration Department, Home Affairs, will in addition, require the Fulbright Scholar/Student to also complete an institutional medical form completed by a local physician.

Research clearance should be requested before arrival but is usually granted after scholars have arrived and affiliated with the UNISWA's Social Science Research Unit, University of Swaziland (UNISWA). Most Fulbright research scholars choose to affiliate with the University of Swaziland's (UNISWA) Social Science Research Unit, which opens access to research facilities and makes it possible to get a residence permit. For UNISWA affiliation, Fulbrighters can contact the Registrar, Mr. Samuel Siphon Vilakati at [vilakati@admin.uniswa.sz](mailto:vilakati@admin.uniswa.sz); Mr. Ambrose Gama, Deputy Registrar, Corporate Affairs at [ambrose@admin.uniswa.sz](mailto:ambrose@admin.uniswa.sz). UNISWA's mailing address is University of Swaziland, Private Bag 4, Kwaluseni M201, Kingdom of Swaziland, Southern Africa.

## **2. Travel to Swaziland**

Grantee air travel is coordinated by the travel agency, HRG Worldwide, which will bill IIE or CIES directly for the costs of your tickets. HRG staff will assist you with your reservation and then send your reservation to IIE or CIES for approval. You must book a round-trip ticket with a return date that corresponds to the grant end date. All air travel and all air shipments paid for with United States Government funds must conform to the Fly America Act, which requires that all such travel and shipments be on "U.S. flag" airlines where such service is available.

Most routes in and out of Swaziland involve transiting South Africa or Mozambique. Holders of American passports do not require tourist visas for South Africa, but do require visas for Mozambique.

## **3. Customs**

Swaziland is a member of the Southern African Customs Union with Lesotho, Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. Visitors from these countries, and those traveling to Swaziland through these countries, will encounter few problems. There are restrictions against the importation of plants, animals, skins, and ammunition. There is a duty on some items, but for the most part, the customs declaration form filled out on arrival from South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia and Botswana is for statistical purposes only. Computers for personal use enter duty-free. Grantees are advised to declare computers, cameras or other electronic items, stating that they will be removed from the country upon completion of the grant.

## **4. Shopping**

Basic food items and most goods can be found in Matsapha, Manzini or Mbabane, though variety may be limited. Food items not found in Swaziland can sometimes be found in South Africa. In general, food is not expensive by U.S. standards; kitchen appliances and TVs are. Many Americans purchase appliances, auto parts, and other "big ticket" items in South Africa. Used goods are often available from other Americans and expatriates leaving Swaziland. There is no need to ship extra supplies of food, personal care items, office supplies, etc.; unless there are American brands you cannot do without.

## **5. Autos**

It is highly advisable that Fulbright lecturers purchase a car upon arrival in Swaziland. Local transport is unreliable and usually overloaded. The local newspapers often have advertisements about used cars and the Fulbrighter should be able to buy a used car at a reasonable price. The South African newspaper "The Star" Thursday edition has used car advertisements as well. You may wish to travel to South Africa to buy a used car but make sure it can be imported into Swaziland and later sold there upon departure. It is however, imperative that you purchase the car from reliable car dealers and get proof of ownership. These papers are required for registration purposes. There is a tax (VAT) charge and registration charge. It is also advisable for you to insure the car upon purchase. The Royal Swazi Insurance, AON Insurers and Tibiyo Brokers are both based in Mbabane. A 4-wheel drive vehicle is needed for the many remote parts of Swaziland and also for use in some nearby areas of Mozambique and South Africa. Departing Fulbrighters rarely have problems selling their vehicles. Remember: People drive on the left side of the road in Swaziland and surrounding countries. All cars are right-hand drive.

A valid US driver's license can be used for five to six months, but a Swazi Driver's License, which can be obtained upon presentation of a valid US driver's license, must be obtained. An expired or about-to-expire driver's license is not acceptable for presentation or driving.

## **6. Electricity**

Electricity is supplied by a government corporation. Service is fairly reliable. The current is 220 volts, 50 cycles AC. All American items that are 110 volts will need a transformer and special 3-pronged adapter. Electricity bills are paid to the Swaziland Electricity Board, which has offices in all the towns and cities.

## **7. Computers and other Electronic Equipment**

There are internet cafes in Mbabane, Manzini and Malkems where Fulbrighters can get a "mail box" for e-mail and internet access. Computer shops sell UPS surge protectors and adaptors and will do minor repairs.

Fulbrighters can bring their own computer and other electronic gadgets free of customs duty, but should note that electronic equipment in Swaziland works on 220v/50 cycles, so any 110v items will need a transformer and local adapters. Frequent power surges are a problem during storms and sometimes during the winter months (May – August) when heaters are in frequent use. It is recommended that you take voltage surge protectors and a small UPS for computer and entertainment systems. These are locally available but not up to US standards. Repairs can be made locally or in South Africa. (Note: It is advisable that a laptop is not checked in baggage but carried as hand luggage on the airplane).

It is advisable to declare electronic gadgets and cameras for personal use at ports of entry. It is also advisable to make sure that electronic equipment (camera, CD player, laptop) is never left in plain view, even in the office. These should be locked away when not in use or when the owner is away.

## **8. Water**

The water supply is generally considered safe for drinking. However, utilizing an additional filter system like a Brita Pitcher improves taste. A government corporation supplies water. The municipal supply is treated and filtered and generally considered safe to use directly from the tap. However, Embassy Mbabane encourages Fulbrighters to use bottled or boiled water for the first month or two to enable their systems to adjust to the tap water.

## **9. Telephone**

There is a waiting list for telephones, especially in the newer areas of the cities. Calls to the U.S. usually go through clearly and directly, but sometimes you may have to try several times to get a good line. If you have no telephone in your home, you may make long distance calls from either pay phones or at any post office. If you wish to buy a cell phone in Swaziland the price range is \$350.00 to \$1000.00. You can bring one from the U.S, but ensure that it is "Network Unblock" before leaving the U.S. MTN, the cell phone service provider, offers 2 types of services -- "pay as you go" and the contract format. The contract enables you to make international calls, and to roam in the region once you acquire a SIM card. The set-up costs amount to approximately \$275.00.

## **10. Schools**

Although the university and some teachers colleges follow the American academic year schedule, primary and secondary schools, follow the southern hemisphere schedule. The latter school year begins in late January, and is broken into three terms, with short breaks starting around Easter and in late August, and a six-week break starting in early December. If you have school-age children who will be enrolling in school, inform the PAS section as far in advance as possible so they can help secure a place. There are two excellent primary schools: Sifundzani Primary School; Telephone (00268) 404 2465; e-mail: [Sifundzani@realnet.co.sz](mailto:Sifundzani@realnet.co.sz) and Usuthu Forest School; Telephone: (00268) 467 4134; e-mail: [ufps@africaonline.co.sz](mailto:ufps@africaonline.co.sz); [www.usuthuprimary.ac.sz](http://www.usuthuprimary.ac.sz).

There are a number of excellent Play (Pre) Schools. To name but a few: Larn Pre-school, contact Debbie Price (mobile phone (00268) 604 0425; Little Brown Hen Pre-School; Telephone: (00268) 404 3714 or 404 4041; The Little School; e-mail: [jfarrell@africaonline.co.sz](mailto:jfarrell@africaonline.co.sz); and Montessori International: Telephone(00268) 404 8647; e-mail: [montessori@realnet.co.sz](mailto:montessori@realnet.co.sz)

For high school-age students, Waterford KaMhlaba, United World College of Southern Africa is excellent. The contact person is The Principal at P.O. Box 52, Mbabane H100, Swaziland, Southern Africa. Telephone: (00268) 422 0866/7/8 or 422 1556/9 or 422 1221; Fax: (00268) 422 0088; e-mail: [principal@waterford.sz](mailto:principal@waterford.sz)

Sifundzani High School is another school that provides excellent international education. Contact person is The Principal, P.O. Box 259, Eveni, H103, The Kingdom of Swaziland, Southern Africa; Tel/fax: (00268) 404-1157; e-mail: [sifundzanihigh@realnet.co.sz](mailto:sifundzanihigh@realnet.co.sz)

## **11. Security**

Visitors to Manzini and Mbabane should be prepared to exercise the same kinds of security precautions as they would in any developing world city. This guidance applies particularly to the downtown areas at night, when thugs appear on the streets and muggings, robberies and carjackings are not uncommon.

### **HOST INSTITUTION: THE UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

The University of Swaziland (UNISWA) is the only university in the country. Since achieving its independent university status in 1982, UNISWA has continued to grow and develop in accordance with its stated aim of assisting national development. There are approximately 3000 students spread over three campuses, including the Institute of Distance Education. Since independence, the university has worked to replace expatriate faculty and key staff with Swazi nationals, but roughly half the lecturers are still expatriates, mostly from other African countries.

For historical reasons, UNISWA follows the British system, with major exams at the end of the academic year in May. However, the growing numbers of U.S.-trained faculty are making inroads of change, and there are now some provisions for continuous assessment. UNISWA has three levels of training - certificate, diploma, and undergraduate degree - which were deliberately structured to allow upward mobility and a second chance to those who left school at the lower levels.

The chief mandate of the university has been workforce development. This is clearly indicated in the type of programs that were selected at its inception and which even now constitute a major part of programs. In the past two decades, Swaziland has seen major socio-economic changes, and industry and commerce have become well established. Responding to the emerging needs brought on by these changes a Faculty of Commerce was launched, and some related faculties have strengthened their programs. Courses leading to master's degrees have also been introduced.

Research: Copies of research findings must be deposited with the UNISWA library, relevant department under which the research was conducted, and with the Research Board. UNISWA has limited computer support, although faculty members have access to e-mail and INTERNET. The Fellows have access to UNISWA library facilities and assistance from university faculty.

Language: English is the language of instruction at the University of Swaziland. Siswati is needed for field research. Opportunities to employ a research assistant/translator are possible.

## 1. UNISWA Academic Calendar

The academic year for UNISWA is August through May. Thus, lecturers should plan to arrive by August 1 at the latest. Classes may not start as scheduled, but it is important that lecturers be here before the official opening day to participate in orientation sessions.

## 2. University Contacts

University of Swaziland telephone numbers: (268) 2517 0000

Fax: (268) 2518 5276 Website: <http://www.uniswa.sz>

Useful Names:

- Prof. Cisco Magagula is Vice Chancellor of the University
- Prof. V.S.B. Mtetwa is Pro-Vice Chancellor
- Mr. Sibusiso S. Vilakati is Registrar
- Mr. Ambrose Gama is Deputy Registrar, Corporate Affairs
- Mr. Samuel Mhlanga is Senior Assistant Registrar, Academic Affairs

Staff reporting date is August 2013. Orientation/lectures start August 2013.

## SWAZILAND OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS

January 1	New Year's Day (US/Swazi)
Variable	Good Friday
Variable	Easter Monday
April 19	King's Birthday
April 25	National Flag Day
May 1	Labor Day
Variable	Ascension Day
July 22	Public Holiday
Variable	Umhlanga Reed Day
September 6	Somhlolo Day (National Independence Day)
December 25	Christmas Day (US/Swazi)
December 26	Boxing Day (Family Day)
Variable (Dec/Jan)	Incwala Day (Ceremony of First Fruits)

## MISCELLANEOUS

SiSwati and English are both official languages in the country. Grantees will not find a language problem except perhaps occasionally with household help or when in rural areas.

Nearly all religions are represented in Swaziland. Most Swazis are Christian, but all denominations are respected, and most have weekly services.

Winter (May through August) in Swaziland requires dressing in layers. It can be dry and cool with occasional frost in the high veld. Overcoats are not necessary, but a light trench coat with a lining is occasionally useful. Sweaters and woolen skirts and trousers are comfortable on winter mornings, but often by afternoon they are too warm. Seasonal clothes are, therefore, never put away as they often come in handy on warm winter days.

Swaziland has several small but excellent game parks, which offer a wide range of facilities for picnicking, camping and game viewing. South Africa's Kruger National Park, one of the largest and best run game parks in the world, is only a two-hour drive from Mbabane. For a taste of Portuguese culture, Maputo is only a 3-hour drive from Mbabane. To visit Mozambique, one needs a visa, which is obtained from the Embassy of Mozambique in Mbabane at a cost of approximately US \$50.

## OTHER WEBSITES AND RESOURCE MATERIAL

Consular Information	<a href="http://travel.state.gov">http://travel.state.gov</a>
State Alumni	<a href="http://alumni.state.gov">http://alumni.state.gov</a>
Fulbright Association	<a href="http://www.fulbright.org">http://www.fulbright.org</a>
Africanews	<a href="http://www.africanews.org/">http://www.africanews.org/</a>