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UNIVERSITY

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### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PROFESSOR AWARDED FULBRIGHT

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.– College of Education faculty member Jeffrey Brooks has received a Fulbright award to study leadership for social justice in the Philippines. Brooks is an assistant professor in the department of educational leadership and policy studies.



The award will cover five months of study — from June to November — in Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines. Brooks will be hosted by Capitol University and will work with three schools in the city on a comparative case study investigating how school leaders promote and practice social justice to improve the lives of their students. The work will take place in one public school, one Christian school and one Islamic school.

Brooks' research will examine the following three questions:

- How do school leaders define and enact social justice in public, Christian and Islamic schools in the city?
- Which social justice attitudes and activities are common among leaders at each of these three schools and which are different?
- How do leaders at each of these schools create and sustain relationships with other people in the school and with external stakeholders in an effort to provide equity, equality and opportunity for students?

Brooks chose Cagayan de Oro as the setting to conduct the research because it has several public, Christian and Islamic schools, providing a basis for comparison among schools that share characteristics such as age group, geographic locale, laws and social policies,

among others. Yet, each school exhibits differences in curriculum content and visions of the purpose of education.

“This work has the potential to foster international, comparative and transnational dialogue and facilitate the exchange of ideas that can help us all learn how we can improve the way we teach and practice leadership,” Brooks said.

Brooks is well qualified to conduct research of this nature. He has previously used similar case studies in two multi-year projects, one of which produced a series of refereed journal articles and a full-length book (*The Dark Side of School Reform: Teaching in the Space Between Reality and Utopia*). He also has several upcoming publications in this subject area.

“It's a tremendous honor for me to receive such a prestigious award so early in my career, and I owe a debt of gratitude both to Dr. (Jeffrey Ayala) Milligan and to my colleagues in the College of Education,” Brooks said.

Milligan, an associate professor in the department of educational leadership and policy studies, received a Fulbright award in 2006 to conduct research in and lecture on the topic of contemporary Islamic educational thought and its tensions with democratic educational theory at the International Islamic University of Malaysia. Brooks credits Milligan with urging him to take his existing domestic research to an international setting.

“Dr. Milligan's friendship, mentorship and thoughtful critiques of my ideas — in addition to the support of other faculty and administrators in the College of Education — were extremely important to the development and eventual success of my proposal,” Brooks said.

“Dr. Brooks' receipt of a Fulbright is just one more example of how FSU College of Education researchers are making an impact on education on a global level,” said Marcy P. Driscoll, dean of the College of Education.

“The Fulbright is among the most prestigious awards in the field of higher education,” said Gary Crow, chair of the department of educational leadership and policy studies. “Dr. Brooks' colleagues acknowledge and respect the type of research he has already conducted and the potential for exciting new research he will undertake. We are extremely proud of his accomplishments.”

Fulbright awards are granted annually by the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.” The program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas.

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