Mr. Tilmans will share his experiences as a Fulbright Fellow in Bocas del Toro, Panama, and will discuss the ways his research there launched him on the career track he pursues today. Mr. Tilmans studied how resource recovery from societal wastes can help improve the viability of waste management infrastructure, focusing specifically on a region heavily impacted by tourism.

During his Fulbright, Mr. Tilmans teamed up with the Junta Comunal of Bastimentos to build four energy-generating sewage treatment systems in the community. This pilot project attracted the interest of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which funded a substantial expansion of the project in the following year.

Gwen Hyman, Director of the Center for Writing and The Cooper Union’s Fulbright Program Adviser, will join Mr. Tilmans to provide information and field questions about applying for a Fulbright Grant.