



# The Global Exchange

Dear Colleagues:

As we approach the end of another year, those of us here in the International Programs Office would like to extend to you our **Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and the New Year** ahead. We thank all of the institutions that we've had a chance to collaborate with in 2002, and look forward to partnering with many more of you in 2003. We are continually impressed with the tremendous resources within the U.S. university community for international development work abroad, preparing future generations of students to live and work in a global society, and helping our citizens better understand the local implications of increasing globalization. Whether it's expanding markets for producers in Armenia, training West African agriculture officials in farm management, or helping to internationalize extension programs here at home, we rely upon your expertise to help us get the job done. We recognize, too, that our collaboration with you represents only a small part of your total international engagement – many of your institutions have become so involved around the world that it's hard to keep track of those activities even on your own campus.

We began this electronic newsletter eight months ago hoping that it would not only be a means for us to provide information on our activities and opportunities, but also that it would be a way for you to share with other universities nationwide some of your achievements. With this latter objective in mind, we once again encourage you to send us news related to upcoming events, best practices, helpful resources, grant opportunities, or anything else of an international nature that you think would interest the higher education community. To those of you who submitted information for this edition, thanks very much!



## CONTENTS

- **Universities' International Activities**
- **Opportunities in Armenia**
- **Foreign Attitudes Toward the U.S.**
- **Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Events in 2003**
- **Grants/Funding for International Opportunities**



## Universities' International Activities

**Montana State University's** College of Agriculture has developed innovative courses under the theme of "Agriculture in a Global Context." The multi-disciplinary approach to each of the courses includes a science component, an economics/social science component, a short-term international experience, and a multi-cultural perspective. **Chief Dull Knife College** and **Fort Peck Community College** have also participated in the program. Launched with support from CSREES, the curriculum began with "Follow the Grain," a course that took students, faculty and industry representatives to Taiwan in 1999, and to France and Britain in 2001, to trace Montana's grain exports. Subsequent

courses and their foreign travel components include “Conception to Consumption” (Argentina in 2000, Australia in 2002); and, “Produce or Perish” (Puerto Rico in 2000). Evaluations have been conducted to measure the impact these courses have had on students, faculty, MSU’s College of Agriculture, and communities. The courses have resulted in new career directions for students; increased international opportunities for faculty; closer working relationship between MSU and Tribal Colleges; and, improved support for international activities among government agencies, associations, and producer groups in Montana. For more information, including an excellent PowerPoint presentation on the topic, please contact Dr. Vincent Smith, Agricultural Economics Professor at Montana State University; e-mail: [uaevs@montana.edu](mailto:uaevs@montana.edu); phone: 406-994-5615.

The **University of Florida's** Gender, Environment, Agriculture and Participation (GEAP) program has developed a Web-based interactive learning module. This module provides an introductory overview of the concepts, discussions and debates in the field of gender and development. The mini-course includes reflective questions and exercises designed to motivate deeper understanding of the interconnections between gender and environmental and agricultural issues, while addressing the key role that participation plays in them. Visit the site at: <http://international.ifas.ufl.edu/geap/pmodule1.html> .

The *International Focus* newsletter is both a printed and online record of the international activities of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the **University of Florida**. The bimonthly newsletter documents the international work of faculty and students as well as the extensive exchanges with educational and research institutions throughout the world. In its electronic format, *International Focus* provides an easily accessible database of international activities beginning the summer of 1997. The printed version of the newsletter has been published since 1989. The electronic newsletter, a part of International Programs' website, is available at <http://international.ifas.ufl.edu/news.html>.

**Pennsylvania State University** is collaborating with nine other land-grant institutions on a National Security Education Program (NSEP) grant. The grant was awarded to PSU to develop Russian and Ukrainian language and culture courses designed specifically for agricultural sciences students. The program is designed to prepare future agriculturalists to work in an interdependent world and yield leaders who can help develop growing markets for U.S. agricultural products. Visit their website at <http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/international/NSEP/> (click on “Collaborators” to see the other universities working with PSU on this innovative program).

An excellent resource for Program Development and Evaluation has been developed by the **University of Wisconsin-Cooperative Extension**. At their website you can gain access to practical guides and curriculum materials designed to help Extension faculty better plan and implement credible evaluations. Many of the concepts introduced in the publications can also be used for integrating an evaluation component into international projects. For more information, please visit <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/pdande/evaluation/evaldocs.html> .

**Arizona State University** is engaged in a project entitled, “Peace and Prosperity through Food and Agribusiness Marketing.” ASU is collaborating with several institutions in the Balkans and Black Sea Region “to conduct outreach activities that assist the local business community to compete in the global arena and to

improve the academic teaching of international business and to assist local business in exporting.” The project includes field study, curriculum development, academic and business exchanges, and cooperative learning among stakeholders. For more information on this project, visit <http://www.east.asu.edu/balkans/> (the list of supporters/collaborators is impressive by itself!).

Ever wonder how **Michigan State University** grew to be a leader in providing technical assistance abroad and advocating for student and faculty participation in international programs? Ralph H. Smuckler, former Dean of International Studies and Programs, examines MSU’s growth and success in these areas since the 1950’s in a new book entitled, “A University Turns to the World.” For more information, or to obtain a copy, send a message to [msupress@msu.edu](mailto:msupress@msu.edu) or call 517-355-9543, ext. 100.

### Opportunities in Armenia

CSREES’ Marketing Assistance Project in Armenia needs your help in filling several positions in 2003. For more information on any of the opportunities below, please contact Tim Grosser ([tgrosser@reeusda.gov](mailto:tgrosser@reeusda.gov)), 202-690-0402. University personnel who have worked on this project have spoken very highly of their experience, so please pass this information to others on campus (or out in the counties). This is an excellent way to increase the international participation of your faculty. USDA covers salary reimbursement and benefits through the university, as well as covering all travel and in-country costs. To check out more about the project, please visit <http://www.usda.am> . Here are some of the opportunities coming up:

Strategic Planning Facilitator	4 weeks	Beginning January, 2003
Extension Youth Advisor	10 months	Beginning February
Pomologist – Fruit Tree Spec.	9 months	Beginning February
Viticulturist	9 months	Beginning March
Project Impact Analyst	6 months	Beginning March
Poultry Specialist	9 months	Beginning March
Food Sensory Specialist	4 weeks	Beginning March
Sugar Beet Agronomist	6-8 weeks	Beginning March
Cooperative Dev. Spec. (Dairy)	10 months	Beginning March
Veterinarian (Dairy Cow)	3 weeks	Beginning April
Cheese Production Spec.	4 months	Beginning April

And several others...

### Foreign Attitudes Toward the U.S.

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press recently carried out an international survey in 44 countries to determine foreigners’ attitudes about the U.S. and its role in the world. Although the majority of countries had a generally favorable view of our country, the image has been slipping in several areas of the world. This is the case not only in Muslim-dominated countries in the Middle East, but also among staunch allies such as Canada, Britain and Germany (for example, only 25% of Canadians said the U.S. is a “considerate world citizen”). The most common criticisms of the U.S. is that it acts by itself, pushes policies that widen the gap between rich and poor nations, and doesn’t do enough to solve world problems. The report also finds that “the American public is strikingly at odds with publics around the world in its views about the U.S. role in the world and the global impact of American nations.” For more information on this interesting study (and other reports on U.S. and international perspectives), please visit the Pew Center’s site at <http://people-press.org/> .

**Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Events in 2003** (Details will follow as events draw near)

- February 13: Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD) Capitol Hill Forum, Washington, DC
- March 4: Annual "Science on the Hill" Exhibition, Washington, DC
- March 25-27: "Global Perspectives: Internationalizing Extension," Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- April 8-12: Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education (AIAEE), 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 13-16: International Conference on Agricultural Science and Technology (ICAST), Houston, TX
- June 1-3: AIARD Annual Meeting. Washington, DC
- July 9-12: NASULGC's Commission on International Programs Summer Meeting, Vancouver, Canada
- September 22-24: Global Consortium of Higher Education and Research for Agriculture (GCHERA), Kiev, Ukraine
- November 16-18: NASULGC Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA

**Grants/Funding for International Opportunities**

- The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) have partnered to sponsor the Women's International Science Collaboration Program (WISC). This initiative is designed to increase the participation of women in international scientific research. WISC awards competitive grants for travel to plan and develop collaborative with colleagues around the world. This is intended to lead to full research proposals that can then be submitted to NSF or other funders. It's getting late for the first round deadline (January 15, 2003), but the following deadline is not until July 15, 2003. For more information on selection criteria, eligible research fields and participating countries, please visit <http://www.aaas.org/international/wiscnew.shtml> . For information on a wide range of grant opportunities through NSF, see <http://www.nsf.gov/home/int/> .



**CSREES International Programs Staff**

Hiram Larew, Director

Esther Carter, Secretary

Patty Fulton

Tim Grosser

Trina Gunn

Mike McGirr

Nana Mejia, Colorado State University (sabbatical)

Carol Radomski, Global Education (part-time contract)

Tatevik Pamboukian, Armenia Program Assistant

202-720-3801 (phone)

202-690-2355 (fax)

---

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

---