



The Global Exchange

Dear Colleagues:

Due to the timely nature of some of the events and opportunities described below, we decided to send out this newsletter a couple of weeks earlier than planned. We are still very interested in sharing news, resources and best practices from your university, so please send us anything you would like to share with your colleagues nationwide. We look forward to continue working with you in 2003! (By the way, we hope to have any formatting glitches in this newsletter resolved by the next transmission – our apologies if this is a little jumbled when you receive it).



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International Internship Program

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), in collaboration with CSREES, is expanding the International Internship Program. This is an opportunity for college students to spend a semester abroad working with FAS staff at one of their overseas posts. Students must be U.S. citizens and have completed their sophomore year. Participants receive a salary, but must pay their own travel costs. A copy of the brochure that describes the program, eligibility requirements, and application procedures is available on the internet at http://www.fas.usda.gov/admin/student/IIP_Brochure.pdf. The first deadline (for internships beginning in the Summer, 2003) is February 15, 2003.

AIARD: Capital Hill Forum and New Web Site

The Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD) is sponsoring a "Capitol Hill Forum" on Thursday, February 13, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in the Caucus Room of the Cannon House Building here in Washington, DC. Mr. Andrew Natsios, Administrator of USAID and several other speakers will address the theme, "A Win-Win Agenda: Shaping New Opportunities in International Agriculture." This annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to highlight international agricultural development issues for policymakers. If you're going to be in Washington next month, this should be a very informative session. To register, or to find out more about AIARD, please visit their new web site at <http://AIARD.ORG>

Global Interdependence in Agriculture Guide

In 1999, the Aspen Institute launched the "Global Interdependence Initiative," (GII) a ten-year effort to better inform, and more effectively motivate, U.S. public support for appropriate international engagement in today's interdependent world. The Initiative has commissioned research into how organizations can communicate about global issues in ways that will resonate with the public. CSREES/International Programs contracted with Carol Radomski, a Global Education consultant, to help adapt GII findings and materials so that they could be used more effectively by our university partners. The resulting user's guide, "Global Interdependence in Agriculture" is now available on Aspen's web site at <http://www.aspeninstitute.org/gii/index.html> . Carol has done an excellent job of consolidating and presenting the information in a way that we think you'll find very useful. Thanks to Carol and the university faculty who worked with us on the Advisory Committee for this activity. If you would like to send comments on the guide to Carol, you can reach her at radomski605@cs.com. She would especially like to receive feedback from anyone who uses the guide to communicate with local audiences.

Update on National Initiative to Internationalize Extension

A National Conference to explore effective approaches to strengthening the international dimension of state extension services will be held at Michigan State University from March 25-27, 2003. Planned sessions cover such topics as learning from current state practices, addressing global issues of local concern, the interface between diversity programs (multicultural) and international, and partnering with other organizations. There will be a series of paper presentations and we will use this event to launch a mini-grants program to assist states as they seek innovative ways to internationalize their extension service. We are especially interested in attracting attendees who have an interest in bringing global issues to our local communities and have the ability to help shape the international agenda in their state. For more information and to register for this conference, please visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu/intext/natinit.htm> .

Agricultural Biotechnology Web Site

Kristin Davis, Kelly Payson and Tracy Irani from the University of Florida have developed a web site to provide unbiased, science-based information to the public and extension personnel on the issues surrounding agricultural biotechnology. The Florida Education Initiative for Agricultural Biotechnology surveyed more than 100 extension faculty to determine their information needs related to the topic, then developed this site in order to provide a balanced viewpoint and help consumers identify the issues. Included are downloadable fact sheets, frequently asked questions, links to other sources of information, and a discussion forum. The developers of the web site felt it was critical to provide an international context in order to better understand the issues. To visit this excellent resource, please go to <http://agbiotech.ifas.ufl.edu> .

Iowa State University's Global Newsletter Available On-Line

Occasionally, we like to feature international newsletters from our partner institutions. This month we are featuring the January-February 2003 issue of Iowa State University's College of Agriculture "Global Update." Topics included in this issue include funding opportunities, foreign language classes, agriculture study abroad, workshops exploring agricultural issues in China, and faculty members' overseas activities. You can access the ISU newsletter at http://www.ag.iastate.edu/global/newsletter/newsjan_feb03.html .

2003 CSREES Fellows Program

This summer program offers faculty and staff at designated institutions the opportunity to work with National Program Leaders and other CSREES staff here in Washington, DC. It is available to all personnel affiliated with food and agricultural science programs at 1890

