

Building Partnerships for the New Century

Chairman's and President's Message

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION: INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

The United States is engaged in a debate on national priorities that demands disciplined attention to core issues — and calls for some difficult choices.

Fundamental to the discussions is the concern to build a strong economy and an informed, educated citizenry prepared for the 21st century. But while broad goals can be agreed upon, the debate is sometimes distorted by a focus on what are too easily labeled “domestic” issues, with occasional and unsettling lapses into isolationism. In fact, the distinction between domestic and international is, increasingly, a false one.

The key components of national strength and security are inextricably bound to global developments. All the major issues facing the United States — from promoting economic prosperity to managing the communications revolution — require an understanding of, and proactive engagement with, the world beyond our own borders. National strength also requires international order and stability, which depend in large measure on America playing a leadership role in the world. As the only remaining superpower and the world's most vibrant democracy, the United States can ill afford to turn inward.

Although there is, to be sure, honest debate about the best ways for America to be politically and militarily engaged abroad, there is at least one area in which we believe consensus should be possible — and that is in education.

Since 1919, IIE has been dedicated to fostering international cooperation and problem-solving by educating future leaders. By developing and administering exchange and training programs — both for Americans and those from abroad — and providing technical assistance overseas, IIE creates the human resources needed to address the challenges facing the global community.

Exchange and training programs have traditionally enjoyed broad bipartisan support, for sound reasons that are worth repeating in today's political and fiscal environment. They represent long-term investments in building our national strength and international influence, with important multiplier effects. Programs that enable U.S. citizens to study and train abroad build U.S. expertise and competence, strengthening our ability



HENRY KAUFMAN AND RICHARD M. KRASNO

to function and compete in today's global marketplace. Programs that bring talented foreign students and young professionals to this country — men and women who will be decision-makers in government, business, and other fields — provide exposure to our democratic society and to U.S. products and technology. They create a common basis for mutually beneficial diplomatic and economic relationships in the future. As other nations increase their enrollments of foreign students, the U.S. will do well to not fall behind in this area. The benefits are many, including the fact that foreign students in U.S. colleges

For the Future: Four Key Goals

As we look toward the new century, IIE is focusing its creative energies and resources on four goals:

- To increase international study and professional development opportunities for Americans. With the global economy a reality, we can't afford not to.
- To expand the flow of students, leaders, and specialists from other countries to the United States. For democratic institutions, business, industry, the environment, scholarship, and the arts, the benefits are synergistic.

“IIE has been dedicated for three-quarters of a century to helping bring light and understanding to corners of the world where distrust and misunderstanding have pervaded the lives of too many people. Throughout its history this institution has refused to simply accept the way things were and has struggled to make real the image of what the world can be.”

FRANKLIN THOMAS, PRESIDENT, THE FORD FOUNDATION,
ON THE OCCASION OF IIE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY IN 1994

and universities bring over \$7 billion annually to the U.S. economy. Indeed, higher education is one of our leading exports.

Effective, targeted training and technical assistance also lay the foundation for sustainable development, the creation of more democratic and accountable political institutions, and the growth of business opportunity abroad — all of which promote the global stability, prosperity, and potential export markets that are so important to our own national well-being.

For over 75 years, IIE has worked closely with both the public and private sectors to achieve shared program goals. One of our closest partners has been the Ford Foundation, and we are pleased to announce that the foundation has approved an initial grant of \$2.5 million as part of a \$5 million challenge to the Institute. We are deeply grateful for Ford's expression of confidence in IIE — and for its recognition of the critical importance of international education. IIE rededicates itself to serving as a bridge between the public and private sectors, in the conviction that such partnership-building encourages a spirit of shared national responsibility for our programs of international education and training, programs in which we all have a stake.



HENRY KAUFMAN
Chairman, IIE Board of Trustees



RICHARD M. KRASNO
President and Chief Executive Officer

- To forge and sustain international networks among participants in educational exchange and training programs. These links will help create a community of true global citizens whose vision transcends national borders.
- To expand in new ways IIE's mission to serve as the central source of information on international education. Research and analysis combined with new communications technology will spread the word about opportunities, financial support, needs, and results.

IIE Launches Capital Campaign to Meet Ford Foundation Challenge

The Ford Foundation has approved an initial grant of \$2.5 million as part of a \$5 million challenge to IIE in recognition of its over 75-year history as an agent of change. It is a signal honor.

This magnificent Ford commitment — which IIE will match over the next three years with gifts it will be seeking from its other friends and donors — will result in a \$10 million capital fund that will enable IIE to respond swiftly and effectively to critical international education needs.

Longer-term, the new \$10 million fund will greatly strengthen IIE's ability to build creative partnerships that will sustain these initiatives and contribute to problem solving and better understanding in a rapidly changing world.

IIE's extensive experience in bringing together the resources of government, business, foundations, academia, and voluntary and international organizations has deep roots. Just one example: in 1979, IIE marshalled corporate, foundation, and university support to start the South African Education Program, to compensate in some measure for the inferior higher education opportunities then available to blacks. After three years of demonstrated effectiveness, USAID joined the effort, providing major government support. Today more than 1,400 black South Africans have completed U.S. degrees and returned to South Africa to play significant roles in building a post-apartheid society. One alumnus, Phakamile Gongo, is now serving as first secretary at the South African Embassy in Washington as his country's first black diplomat. (See page 12)

Other examples throughout this report attest to IIE's unique breadth of experience in identifying and meeting specific educational needs, one person at a time.

Shared global problems — poverty, hunger, AIDS, terrorism, threats to the environment, human rights abuses — call for new levels of international cooperation. Never was a common knowledge base more important, nor international partnerships more urgently needed.

