

Leadership

DEVELOPMENT

Fostering Educational Opportunities Worldwide

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Educational exchange is at the heart of what IIE does. But it is not an end in itself. Rather, it is a vital tool in an ongoing process the Institute has dedicated itself to since 1919: building international understanding and fostering the free flow of knowledge and ideas across national boundaries. Through most of this century IIE has developed and managed hundreds of programs of all kinds, from the very large, like Fulbright, that has many participants in dozens of fields of study, to smaller fellowships that may benefit people from a specific area, or those in a particular field. Each year IIE enables thousands of men and women to pursue a vast array of study opportunities in the United States and abroad.

Impressive as the numbers are in the aggregate, the story really lies with each individual. Everyone who pursues international education embarks on a journey that can be as culturally rewarding as it is intellectually stimulating, as personally gratifying as it is professionally enhancing. At IIE, each program participant is far more than a name, or a statistic. Each is a future leader, with particular talents in his or her chosen field. And, unique as they all are, all share a common vision — to make a difference and build a better world.

LANGUAGE TEACHING

Interacting with native speakers enlivens language programs. Thanks to IIE, advanced students from nearly a dozen countries are helping American students move happily from conjugation to

conversation. These foreign students, who are themselves in academic programs in the United States, participate in the Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program. They help teach, organize trips,

run language clubs, share meals, and otherwise animate the curricula for students of French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, and Chinese at 57 U.S. educational institutions.

LEADERSHIP

■ To increase minority participation in study abroad, IIE is collaborating with the United Negro College Fund, a consortium of historically black colleges and universities. Six College Fund institutions were selected to receive reference materials and faculty training to create study abroad advocates on each campus. The six designated members are each paired with mentor colleagues at another College Fund institution that has been particularly successful in promoting study abroad among its students. This three-year project is funded by the Ford Foundation.



Richard Lord

Luz Paula Parra Rosales is a woman with a mission — to advocate for human rights in Mexico. “We want to change the country, but we need the tools, we need the skills.” To gain those skills Parra Rosales won a fellowship — one of 55 this year — funded by the MacArthur, Ford, and Hewlett foundations. She is attending Columbia University where she will earn her Master’s in International Affairs. Ms. Parra Rosales grew up in an activist household and proudly credits her mother, who is head of a Mexican human rights NGO, as her first inspiration. She wants to help small grassroots NGOs, groups that have tremendous energy and commitment, but often only extremely limited financial resources. She is developing methodologies to help these organizations improve individually, and become more effective collectively through better networking. Ms. Parra Rosales also plans to build relationships between local Latin American NGOs and international human rights organizations.



■ Integral to the Fulbright experience for foreign students are USIA-sponsored seminars designed to help students gain a clearer understanding of U.S. society. These IIE-arranged events — which receive significant private sector and community support — bring together first-year Fulbrighters and recent U.S. Fulbright alumni from many schools to explore a single topic over a three- to four-day period through workshops, formal presentations, and informal sessions. Pictured above are Fulbrighters at a seminar organized in April by IIE’s Chicago office on “Diversity in a Changing Urban Environment.” This year similar events were hosted by IIE offices in San Francisco, Denver, and Washington.

REGIONAL PROGRAM OF GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Luz Paula Parra Rosales



Just four years ago, Congress established the National Security Education Program (NSEP) with great expectations. It was the only large-scale, global U.S. government scholarship program benefiting American undergraduates. And not just any undergraduates, but those with a clear interest in internationalizing their education and an eye toward careers in the federal government. Funded by a trust fund established by Congress with Department of Defense resources, NSEP supports study in countries deemed vital to U.S. political and economic security such as China and Jordan, and emphasizes specific fields including international affairs and applied sciences. NSEP has already awarded almost 800 undergraduate scholarships. This year, however, NSEP faced its most daunting challenge from those who wished to restrict its intended wide benefits. At IIE, the consequences of jeopardizing such a program were instantly recognized. A groundswell of support for the program ensued, driven by board members in IIE's four U.S. regional offices — Chicago, Denver, Houston, and San Francisco. Their efforts did much to convince decision-makers of NSEP's merits. This, coupled with strong advocates in Congress, has now put the program on firm footing, ensuring public service-minded undergraduates a chance to pursue international careers in the U.S. national interest.

LEADERSHIP

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR MEXICO

IIE and CONACYT created a new U.S. training program for Mexican graduate students. CONACYT, Mexico's science and technology foundation, is a longstanding partner of IIE. This new program will complement other binational programs by supporting M.A. and Ph.D. students from Mexico studying applied science, natural science, and technology in the United States.

Pictured below are Dr. Carlos Bazdresch Parada, Director General of CONACYT (seated left), and Dr. Richard M. Krasno, President of IIE (seated right), after signing the agreement. With them are (left to right) Richard Dye, IIE Executive Vice President, Dr. Sylvia Ortega, Deputy Director of CONACYT, and IIE Vice President Tom Farrell.



Ken Levinson

■ University fairs, serving U.S. higher education and foreign students, are eagerly awaited annual events. This year the series, coordinated by IIE's office in Hong Kong, and sponsored by local and multinational corporations, included stops in Japan, Hong Kong, Thailand, Indonesia, and India. Altogether, nearly 10,000 students and parents met with representatives of 100 U.S. colleges and universities.

LEADERSHIP

A GE Fund scholarship program gave Lourdes Arellano the opportunity to attend the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, one of Mexico's best engineering schools. Her scholarship, administered by IIE's Mexico City office, enabled Ms. Arellano to translate a childhood love of math and science into a degree in electronic engineering. It also supported a visit to the United States for special workshops. IIE managed 15 GE Fund scholarships this year in Mexico, and oversaw similar programs in Korea and Malaysia.

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Peter Gregoire

CHILEAN TEACHERS

In Chile, strengthening the pivotal role played by primary and secondary school teachers in building national competence is a top priority — so much so that the Ministry of Education financed a new multi-year program for Chilean teachers to study U.S. models of teacher training and community involvement. This project's novel design resulted from the thriving partnership between IIE and the U.S.-Chile Fulbright Commission. In this, its pilot year, IIE placed 80 Chilean teachers at four U.S. universities for six weeks of professional training followed by specially-designed ten-day programs organized by IIE regional offices in Denver, Houston, and San Francisco, and a final workshop hosted by the Institute's Washington, DC office. To facilitate continued dialogue, as well as to track results, IIE developed an online forum for the Chileans and their U.S. hosts and colleagues.

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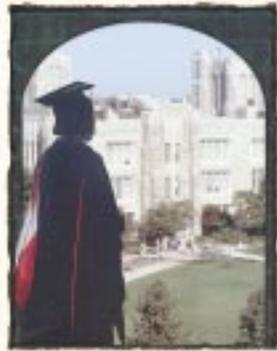
■ Students the world over are eager for information on educational opportunities in the United States, and USIA-funded educational advising centers are one important source of this information. IIE is assisting such centers in locations as far flung as Tijuana and Yekaterinburg, serving as USIA's Regional Education Advising Consultants (REAC). Staff in IIE's Moscow and Mexico City offices travel throughout their respective world regions — Russia and the other Newly Independent States (NIS), Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean — developing training materials and workshops to ensure the effectiveness of local advisers. Direct advising services are provided by IIE in Hong Kong, Mexico, and Bangkok.

REAC

■ Sharing a continent is an educational advantage for students in the North American Regional Academic Mobility Program (RAMP), a pilot project supported by the Department of Education's Fund for Improvement of Postsecondary Education and the GE Fund. In just four years, 250 students have participated in exchanges among more than 50 universities in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. RAMP students are chosen from three fields — engineering, business administration, and environmental studies — that will be substantially affected by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).



STUDY AMERICA



Educational advising and placement through America's premier international educational exchange agency

- INCLUDES A BROAD EDUCATIONAL SPECTRUM
- ENROLL STUDIES IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & OTHER PROFESSIONAL
- OFFER SPECIAL NEEDS
- COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES
- OVER 1000 STUDENTS OF U.S. INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE
- FULL PLACEMENT & FOLLOW-UP SERVICE

LEADERSHIP

Study America

Applications, examinations, deadlines. There is no question — pursuing higher educational opportunities in the United States can be a daunting experience. IIE created Study America to help students from all over the world navigate this sometimes mystifying process. IIE's education professionals help match students' career plans with appropriate institutions. Study America's many benefits include identifying relevant departments, advising on testing requirements, helping with language needs, reviewing applications, and following up with admissions offices.

COLFUTURO

More than 100 young Colombian professionals received English-language training this year through a new program IIE designed and manages for COLFUTURO (Foundation for the Future of Colombia). Through its longstanding relationships with many U.S. academic institutions, IIE was able to place participants in some of the best language study programs in the country. This intensive program — twenty hours of instruction a week for 8-10 weeks as well as academic and professional skills workshops — is tailored to the needs of professionals who plan to use English in their jobs or to pursue U.S. graduate studies. A second program for COLFUTURO will benefit Colombian undergraduates who will have a semester of U.S. study in 1997.

LEADERSHIP

UNESCO

Teacher trainers from the People's Republic of China got a first-hand look at various aspects of the U.S. educational system. The Chinese were especially interested in distance learning, science education, and bilingual and multicultural education. Their study tour took them all over the country, from New York to California, with stops in North Carolina and Pennsylvania. They met with educators and others at universities, teacher training facilities, school boards, public schools, and state education agencies. IIE organized this tour on behalf of UNESCO, and manages all UNESCO training programs in the United States.



Richard Lord



To formulate and implement sound economic policy is a crucial task for any government. Under the Mandela Economics Scholars Program, a highly select group of historically-disadvantaged South Africans are being trained in economics in the United States. This initiative, sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), was established by a U.S./South Africa binational commission chaired by Vice President Al Gore and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. Upon completion of their training, Mandela Scholars will return to pivotal postings in South Africa to influence the country's public economic policy. Administered by IIE, the Mandela Scholars Program builds upon the Institute's successful South African Education Program, a ground-breaking effort that was developed in 1979 to counter some of apartheid's most egregious educational inequities. Over its history, SAEP enabled 1,500 black South Africans to study in the United States. Pictured above are IIE Trustee Wayne Fredericks and South African President Nelson Mandela.

“Coming to the United States has changed my life by opening up a world of opportunities to me. I firmly believe in cooperation between nations, and it was a joy to realize that I was part of an exchange where I learned from others and others learned from me.”

Encyclopaedia Britannica Scholarship Program alumna from El Salvador