

# regional offices

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CENTER

The terrorist attacks of September 11th brought the Institute's mission, "Opening Minds To The World," into sharp focus. Always important, it had suddenly become urgent.

In the aftermath, IIE soothed the nerves of international students worried about their status in a country suddenly at war against terrorists, some of whom looked like the students themselves. We helped create a series of public service announcements highlighting the presence of diverse populations in our midst and the need for tolerance and understanding. The Institute held a seminar featuring diplomats who brought their perspectives to the current crisis. IIE hosted a teleconference "Town Meeting" with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to discuss responses to the crisis. And it wrote to the local paper regarding why international education is one of the few long-term hopes for a world rife with misunderstanding and distrust.

Central to the mission of IIE and its Regional Centers is the creation of opportunities for the exchange of ideas and experiences among business, civic and academic leaders from around the world. The Rocky Mountain Regional Center created such opportunities for 3,000 of the region's residents in the last 12 months. Terrorist acts must not be allowed to disrupt an activity whose purpose is to support peace-making and international understanding through education. Seventeen days after the attacks, the Regional Center held a major international event in Denver, **The Diplomats Ball**, attended by 400 guests and official representatives from 33 nations.



On June 13, former Wyoming Senator Alan K. Simpson spoke at a luncheon celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Institute's Rocky Mountain Regional Center. Here he is pictured with, from left, Nancy Petry, IIE President and CEO Allan E. Goodman, and Rocky Mountain Regional Director Karen DeBartolomei.

As the U.S. Department of State's official host agency for international visitors to Denver, the Regional Center hosted 85 visits by 26 emerging leaders selected by U.S. embassies abroad during the past year. The Regional Center arranged meetings with local business and civic leaders for these visitors, and more than 100 visitors were hosted for dinner in homes of community volunteers in the Denver area.

The Regional Center also runs the **Denver World Affairs Council**, through which 14 leading experts last year presented their views on topics such as international journalism, Islam, globalization, U.S.- Russian relations, global warming, the European Union, Africa and the world economy.

In assembling the global coalition to fight terrorism, President Bush called over 100 world leaders, over half of whom had visited or been educated in the U.S. through one of the public diplomacy initiatives that IIE administers on behalf of the U.S. Department of State, including the International Visitor Program, the Fulbright Program, the Hubert Humphrey Program. All of these programs have a daily presence in Denver through the Rocky Mountain Regional Center; all help to create a safer, more secure world. For the past 50 years, IIE has helped the Rocky Mountain region's business and civic leaders build global connectedness.

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SOUTHERN REGIONAL CENTER

The Southern Regional Center, based in Houston, has promoted international exchange throughout the region by administering programs at the national, regional, and local levels since 1952.

In September, IIE/Southern honored longtime supporter Mrs. Eleanor McCollum at its International Gala. Mrs. McCollum's late husband, L.F. McCollum, played a central role in the inception of the Southern Regional Center fifty years ago.

This year, IIE/Southern was selected to administer the new Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program. The Gilman Program provides awards for meaningful international study to undergraduates with demonstrated financial need.

The program attracted nearly 3,000 applications from all fifty states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico in its first annual cycle and gave awards of up to \$5,000 to over 300 outstanding undergraduates.

Over 340 international Fulbright students, studying in programs at some 60 universities in the region, receive support and assistance from the Southern Regional Center. IIE staff travel to campuses across the region, visiting foreign Fulbrighters and promoting international exchange programs for U.S. students.

IIE/Southern is the Houston area facilitator in the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Program, which brings emerging leaders chosen by U.S. embassies to



Fulbrighters wearing Mardi Gras beads, with publisher Errol Laborde (in jacket and tie), who spoke on multicultural New Orleans at the Fulbright Enrichment Seminar. Over 130 foreign Fulbrighters visited public schools and met with leaders in education and government. New Orleans Mayor Marc Morial officially proclaimed a "Fulbright Day" in the city.

this country for professional, cultural, and interpersonal learning opportunities. This year the center designed over 90 programs for some 330 international visitors. Those visitors ranged from Russian theater directors, to African journalists and environmentalists, to rural mayors from Ecuador. Local volunteers are critical to the success of the International Visitor Program. Volunteers host visitors in their homes for meals and conversation, adding a personal touch to their experience of the U.S.

Thousands of Houston-area school children learn about the wider world through IIE/Southern's Educational Outreach Program, an International Speakers Bureau, which sends

trained volunteer speakers who can present a program on a number of different countries to a classroom. This year, Houston's school outreach efforts focused on teaching primary and secondary students about the Islamic World, a focus selected prior to the September 11 attacks. International Visitors and international graduate students also regularly visit classrooms to speak about their countries of origin, a valuable opportunity for both visitors and students.

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WEST COAST REGIONAL CENTER

**With support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, IIE's West Coast Regional Center is implementing a new Leadership Development Mechanism Program for reproductive health and population issues.**

The goal is to strengthen 300 established leaders and the next generation of emerging leaders to enable them to expand reproductive health choices and services in countries with some of the highest population growth rates and a growing HIV/AIDS prevalence.

West Coast corporations such as Levi Strauss & Co., Chevron, Raychem, Dole Food and LSI Logic look to the Institute to help them gain an edge in the exploding global marketplace. To meet their business and philanthropic goals around the world, IIE offers a range of professional management services, including Children of Employee Scholarships. Scholarships for international employees' chil-

dren and other family members are a key employee benefit that builds staff loyalty, morale and retention while contributing to host-country goodwill. One program participant, Kamonyi Katanga, a recipient of the Chevron Corporation REACH International Scholarship for Children of Company Employees from the Democratic Republic of Congo wrote to IIE:

"This is investing in people and in the future — like the Chinese say 'If you want one year of prosperity, grow grains; if you want ten years of prosperity, grow trees; if you want one hundred years of prosperity, grow people.' Chevron seems to understand this."

**The Cisco Learning Institute Scholarship Program** administered by IIE West Coast Center awards up to \$1000 per year to Cisco Networking Academy graduates around the world. The scholarships provide higher education opportunities in math, science or computer-related studies. Students apply for the scholarship online in French, Spanish or English. Since its inception just a year ago, the program has supported more than 250 young people in 12 countries.

Community and business leaders reaffirmed their commit-



*Linda R. Meier, Chair, Advisory Board, Barbara Barrett, Craig Barrett, CEO Intel, Fulbright Alum and recipient of the IIE Distinguished Service Award join Karin Eisele, Executive Director and William H. Draper, III, Chairman's Council, at the Annual West Coast Dinner.*

ment to international education at the annual gala dinner in San Francisco on November 19th. During the evening the IIE Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Craig Barrett, President and CEO of Intel Corporation, and a Fulbright student in Denmark in 1972.

The award citation noted that Barrett dedicates much of his personal and professional life to education and to forging partnerships between education, government and business. And Intel, a great advocate of education, shares a dedication to the exchange of ideas and knowledge around the world. In his remarks, Barrett noted:

"It is clear to me from the recent events that no nation can really stand separated from the rest of the world. It's also clear if you are in the business

area that no company or no business can stay separated from what goes on in the rest of the world...that you are integrally tied in the world's economy."

Each year IIE West Coast Regional Center student advisors visit campuses to meet with students and faculty as they supervise the nearly 400 Fulbright students in the region. In addition, the Center's staff conducts a variety of activities to enhance the Fulbright experience for both students and scholars. These include leadership convocations and roundtable discussions, enrichment seminars and a variety of cultural activities.