

Professional Exchange and Community Outreach

Over the past 32 years IIE's **Professional Exchange Division** has organized professional study tours for more than 12,500 International Visitors, traveling throughout the United States under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State. U.S. diplomats abroad hail the International Visitors Program as their most successful public diplomacy tool. This program relies on U.S. citizens to provide insights into professional fields and, most importantly, into American daily life.

Significant programs over the past year include one on NGO management for a group from South Asia which resulted in the creation of a legal framework governing NGOs by a visitor from the Maldives. Another, for Nurse-Educators from Kazakhstan, resulted in the creation and distribution of a 'best practices' newsletter throughout the country.

The **Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program** is a Fulbright activity supported by the U.S. Department of State and other sponsors. Humphrey Fellows are mid-career professionals committed to public service. They come to the U.S. for a year of study, leadership training and practical experience. The experience, plus the opportunity to network with other like-minded professionals, equips participants for growing leadership roles upon their return home.

Humphrey Alumni Impact Awards, with joint funding from IIE's Fulbright Legacy Fund and the Department of State, build on the skills acquired during the Humphrey Fellowship Year. Awards this year supported a study on the impact of new drug abuse regulations in Tajikistan; training for recyclable collectors in São Paulo, Brazil; a sensitization workshop in an HIV/AIDS-ravaged district in Kenya; and a survey on menopause related diseases in Southern China.

Humphrey alumni are taking up the cause of combating HIV/AIDS. Alumna Anastasie Kacou of Côte d'Ivoire was recently appointed Chief of Staff of the new Ivorian Ministry for the Fight Against AIDS. Halfway around the

world, Burmese alumna San San Min ran three Doctors without Borders AIDS clinics in the town of Hlaing Thayar, located in the outskirts of Rangoon.

The **Investing in Women in Development (IWID) Fellows** bring expertise in economic growth and agriculture, democracy and conflict prevention, global environment, and girls' education to USAID Missions and Bureaus around the world. These mid-career professionals develop tools to mainstream gender goals into all USAID programs.

The **Emerging Markets Development Advisers Program (EMDAP)** sent 13 EMDAP Advisers to assignments in Jordan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Armenia, Haiti, Mexico and Mozambique. Through EMDAP, U.S. MBA candidates with business backgrounds provide technical assistance to local businesses. EMDAP has supported USAID by assisting local enterprises involved in microfinance, conservation, entrepreneurship, financial services, and information technology.

IIE Regional Centers

IIE reaches across the U.S. through its four Regional Centers. The Regional Centers monitor Fulbright students and scholars studying in their regions, plan and execute Fulbright enrichment seminars, program International Visitors in their communities, conduct development and community outreach activities, and design and administer a variety of both domestic and international programs for sponsors.

IIE's Midwest Regional Center in Chicago partners with universities, public schools and community organizations throughout the Midwest. Its **Midwest Networkers Scholarship (MNS)** provides a link between the Midwest Regional Center and IIE member institutions. In nine years, MNS has provided study abroad scholarships to 190 U.S. undergraduates at IIE member institutions throughout the Midwest. Several past MNS recipients have combined volunteer work with their study abroad

Facing page: Judith Ayers, Assistant Administrator for International Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Dr. Plodprasop Suraswadi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Government of Thailand (on horseback.) Photo taken at Judith's ranch, Burkefield Farm, in California on August 24, 2003 during a program on "Institutional Capacity Building for Local Authorities" administered for the USAID U.S.-Asia Environmental Partnership.

programs making the experience even more meaningful. Cara Medbury, an Early Childhood Education major at Central Michigan University and MNS recipient in 2003, helped to establish a tutoring program for elementary school students in the Dominican Republic. She writes:

“I learned amazing lessons about working with children in other cultures as well as those living in poverty...Despite being one of the hardest things I’ve done in my life, it was another important step towards gaining cultural knowledge and resources to use in a diverse educational system.”

Fulbrighters and children in Chicago Public Schools will benefit from **International Scholars in Schools (ISIS)**, a new program to provide students the opportunity to learn

local organizations such as the International Visitor Center of Chicago and the Chicago Fulbright Association to provide enrichment activities for local Fulbrighters and the community at large.

IIE’s **Southern Regional Center** in Houston has responsibility for eleven states throughout the South and Southwest. During the course of the year, the Center assisted approximately 390 foreign Fulbright grantees from 81 countries, studying at 63 colleges and universities throughout the region.

Managed from IIE’s Southern Regional Center, the **Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program** is a vital source of funding for international exchange. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State,



about different countries and cultures. Fulbrighters from all over the world attending Chicago area universities volunteer their time and expertise, assisting local teachers in the classroom, preparing presentations on their countries and providing an international perspective on the subjects being taught. This will benefit Chicago students, as well as provide the Fulbrighters an insight into the U.S. educational system.

IIE/Midwest provides a study abroad resource center with information on study/teaching abroad programs as well as funding opportunities. In addition, it works with

the program provides grants for U.S. undergraduates with limited financial means who have been historically underrepresented in study abroad. In only its third year, IIE received 5,500 applications and has given 844 awards. Gilman Scholars come from all 50 states and have studied in 65 different countries. Upon return to the U.S., scholars complete a project to promote international understanding in their home community, which multiplies the impact of the scholarship.

This past year was one of the busiest for **International Visitor Program (IVP)** activities in the history of IIE’s

Gilman International Scholarship recipient Danielle Buttke, from the University of South Dakota, studied wildlife conservation and habitat management in Kenya. Her work provided the Maasai community with data and management strategies that have the potential to impact some of the most endangered species and habitats in the world. “There is no doubt that a semester studying in Kenya will assist me in obtaining any environmental position or internship, but the personal rewards have already been much greater than any potential career benefits.”

Southern Regional Center. In all, 338 visitors in 88 State Department delegations came to Houston during the year, including such high profile programs as the Harvard Fellows, who returned to Houston for the tenth consecutive year.

The IVP also received an unprecedented level of financial support from Houston corporations and corporate foundations, most notably ConocoPhillips and ExxonMobil. Southern Regional Advisory Board Members Kirk Heinritz and Tim Cejka were instrumental in introducing the IVP and other core programs at IIE's Southern Regional Center to their colleagues at those corporations.

Houston's Community Outreach Programs include the **Cultural Navigators Project** and the **Friends of**

Scholars Program (FISS) gives international graduate students opportunities to develop friendships with Houston area volunteers.

A particular strength of IIE's Southern Regional Center is its strong volunteer involvement. In FY 2003, volunteers provided nearly 7,000 hours of service to international students, international visitors, events planning, local schools and to the Southern Regional office.

In April 2003, IIE's Southern Regional Center co-sponsored a workshop entitled, "Teaching about the Arab World & Islam" with Aramco Services Company, the Arab American Educational Foundation, Baker Hughes, Inc. and the Middle East Policy Council. The highly successful program brought sixty teachers together to



International Students and Scholars Program, that benefit students from kindergarten through graduate school. The Cultural Navigators Project provides opportunities to Houston area teachers to strengthen their classroom curriculum with information and materials through teacher workshops and a mobile trunk-lending program. This pilot project is targeting sixth-grade World Cultures, ninth and tenth-grade World Geography, and eleventh-grade World History classes. Currently, trunks filled with modern and historical artifacts from Egypt and Saudi Arabia are being distributed in Houston area schools. *The Friends of International Students and*

examine the issues of culture, geography, history, and the role of the family and women in the Arab world. Topics relating to Islam, current events in the Middle East and other social studies connections were also discussed.

IIE's West Coast Regional Center in San Francisco established a new Population Programs Division that is currently implementing two major reproductive health and population projects. The goal is to foster leadership development among population leaders and create a profile of the geographic distribution of population expertise in selected developing countries.

Left: Audrey Shabbas, speaker for the Middle East Policy Council and expert teacher trainer on the Arab World and Islam, discusses western views of the Middle East and effective strategies for teaching about the culture, religions, and geography of the Middle East at a teacher in-service hosted by IIE's Southern Regional Center in Houston, Texas. Right: Fulbrighters from New Zealand, the Dominican Republic and Italy build shelving for donations at Sarah's Circle, a day shelter serving homeless women in Chicago. As a part of the 2003 Chicago Fulbright Enrichment Seminar, Fulbrighters had an impact in the local community through volunteer activities.

Supported by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the **Census of Human Capacity In Population Project** is conducting a global research survey of human capacity in the fields of reproductive health and population in at least 50 developing countries. To date, data have been collected from 650 experts representing 47 organizations in 80 developing countries. Preliminary findings, to be disseminated next year, will indicate a global picture of population expertise and help stakeholders to better target future training investments.

Since 2001, an international team has been implementing the **Leadership Development Program in Reproductive Health** to strengthen reproductive health and population leaders through training opportunities in Asia, Africa,

ChevronTexaco, Dole Food Company, LSI Logic and Raychem, IIE West Coast Center's Corporate Outreach division established a new scholarship program with Mattel Children's Foundation to assist children of non-domestic employees to pursue higher education in any country of the student's choice. The recently launched **Adobe Systems Multinational Scholarship Program** supports post-secondary education for students needing financial assistance in six communities where Adobe has offices.

Throughout the world, women's lack of skills in computing and information technology will lead them into low paying occupations with no opportunity for growth. In response to this gender gap in technology, an exciting



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Australia, Europe, Latin America, and the U.S. Supported by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the program has selected over 300 leaders from Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines and Sudan. These leaders play strategic roles in addressing issues such as reproductive health service delivery, adolescent reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS. The program also supports national meetings to facilitate networking among these leaders and awards grants to implement action-oriented projects.

In addition to their long standing programs with West Coast Corporations like Cisco Systems, Levi Straus,

partnership between USAID, Cisco Systems and IIE is underway. The program, under development in Bangladesh, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, equips women with marketable high tech skills essential to participation in the Internet economy. In so doing these women can contribute to the development of the IT sector in their countries and ensure their own economic security and independence.

In the past year, IIE's **Rocky Mountain Regional Center** hosted 556 individuals from 85 countries as students, international exchange visitors, and professional delegates. As participants in the Ron Brown and Fulbright

Dr. Judith-Ann Walker (standing in the center), Nigeria's Leadership Development Mechanism in-country coordinator, with other program staff and new LDM Fellows, at an orientation meeting for the program.

Exchange Programs, students have studied at 34 different institutions in the region, enjoying the specialties of the region's universities while enriching and internationalizing the learning experiences of their American classmates.

More than 25,000 American students from the Rocky Mountain region have had the opportunity to study abroad, some of them with funds raised at The Diplomats Ball or through IIE's extensive network of donors and supporters in the Rocky Mountain region.

The annual **Fulbright Enrichment Seminar** featured Richard H. Truly, Director, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.). 125 students from 56 countries paid rapt attention as Admiral Truly, a former astronaut who served as Associate Administrator

Twenty speaker programs were presented by the **Denver World Affairs Council**. Among the most popular was a talk by Jim Brooke, *New York Times* Correspondent for Asia, who shared his private views of the US-North Korea relationship. Total attendance at these events was close to 1200.

The **Diplomats Ball**, a signature fundraiser for IIE in Denver, raised nearly \$100,000 in support of local programs and scholarships.

CH2M Hill, an employee-owned, global engineering firm, received The Diplomats Ball International Corporate Leadership Award for its exceptional focus on the development of human resources globally. The award was presented to Ralph Peterson, the firm's Chairman and CEO.

impact

"People who come to the United States to study, like myself, are the link between the U.S. and other cultures — and in the end, educational exchange is the ultimate solution to global terrorism." — Mohammad al Kuhleel, Fulbright Fellow, Syria to U.S., 2001

for Space Flight at NASA in 1986 and led the investigation of the Challenger accident, spoke on "Energy and the Environment—A Global View" just days following the Columbia accident.

Denver hosted 329 State Department sponsored visitors on study programs with topics as varied as youth and gang violence, the economics of genetically modified food, and administration of universities. Denver's **International Visitor Program** staff scheduled 383 professional meetings, 52 evenings of home hospitality, and 23 cultural attractions.

Johnston R. Livingston was presented with The Diplomats Ball International Leadership Award for his lifelong commitment to international learning and cooperation. He joined the board of IIE's Rocky Mountain Regional Center in 1973 and served as its Chairman in 1988 and 1989. He is an Honorary Trustee of the Institute.

A retired manufacturer, Mr. Livingston was born in Foochow, China. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Air Force and returned to China with the O.S.S. Professionally, he worked for Honeywell, was a Vice President of Whirlpool Corporation, and founded Construction Technology, Inc.



impact "The knowledge I acquired has enabled me to participate more effectively in solving concrete problems impeding the economic development of Latin American Countries." — Andres Bianchi, Chilean Ambassador to the U.S., Fulbright, Chile to U.S., 1959