



NEWSLETTER

Association for International Agriculture & Rural Development

May 2006

A MESSAGE FROM AIARD'S PRESIDENT

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Mike McWhorter, Ph.D.

I believe every person that serves as the President of AIARD gains a great appreciation for the efforts of our colleagues that facilitate the activities and innovations of our Association. I certainly recognize and commend the contributions of Tom Crawford who served as our Association President in 2004/2005. Tom's leadership resulted in an excellent annual program and he has been the driving force behind the development and maintenance of our Association's website. Likewise our Association has benefitted from the leadership of individuals that chaired our committees during Dr. Crawford's Presidency. So our thanks to Harriett Paul (Communications), Susan Schram (Membership), Terry Tucker (Finance) Arlen Etling (Awards) and Reed Hertford & David Hansen (Education & Advocacy). We also appreciate the efforts of our members that served on committees. Joy Odom is a constant blessing to our Association and as Secretary/Treasurer, (Continued on Page 5)

U.S. GLOBAL LEADERSHIP CAMPAIGN TRAVELS BEYOND THE BELTWAY

The Ohio State University hosted a meeting of the Global Leadership Campaign on its campus on May 10 of this year. Over 20 interested citizens of Central Ohio attended this luncheon meeting and heard Jason Gross, Director of Business and Government Affairs, and Alison MacDonald, Field Director, discuss the current budget for international affairs activities; they also shared with the audience the Global Leadership Campaign's effort to enlist grassroots support for key U.S. budget lines that support these international affairs activities. Equally important, many of those attending offered to take the message to the groups that they represent. The high cost of the war in Iraq and other reconstruction in Afghanistan have resulted in great pressures in Congress to reduce the level of funding proposed by President Bush for the International Affairs Budget. The Congress needs to hear repeatedly from us about why we consider adequate funding for the International Affairs Budget to be a high priority.

AIARD is an organizational member of the Global Leadership Campaign. Our legislative educational activities tend to focus more on those items of direct interest to our constituency, namely, the development assistance budget. The Global Leadership Campaign provides information about all dimensions of the International Affairs Budget. A description of the impact of this budget on the economy of Ohio and the activities of Ohio constituencies was of particular interest to those attending the meeting. Gross and MacDonald also took time to describe in detail the budgeting process and the key points of intervention in it.

They encouraged us all to be involved in the congressional education process on June 8. The Global Leadership Campaign is looking for additional opportunities to meet with grassroots representatives throughout the U.S. We should all take the time to meet with Gross and Mac Donald at the Annual Meeting in June, especially to discuss with them how we can help in this educational process. Outreach is a high priority for the Global Leadership Campaign this year. Please take the time to contact Alison Mac Donald or Sue Schram, if you are interested in exploring the possibility of hosting a similar meeting at your university.

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Alison Mac Donald and Jason Gross

A U.S. - AFRICA RESEARCH COLLABORATION FOR CONTROLLING PREHARVEST AFLATOXIN CONTAMINATION OF MAIZE

For the last seven years, my lab in New Orleans at the Southern Regional Research Center (SRRC), of the Agricultural Research Service, USDA, has been involved in collaborative research with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), a CGIAR institute, in Ibadan, Nigeria. My IITA collaborator is Dr. Abebe Menkir, a maize geneticist. Our goal is to control preharvest aflatoxin contamination of maize in West and Central African nations and in the U.S.

Aflatoxins are toxic secondary metabolites produced by fungi, *Aspergillus flavus* and *A. parasiticus* and are potent carcinogens. They pose serious health hazards to humans and domestic animals because of their frequent contamination of agricultural commodities, such as cottonseed, peanuts, tree nuts and, of course, maize. Due to these potential hazards, aflatoxin levels in food and feed are regulated by a large number of nations worldwide; in the U.S. aflatoxin levels are regulated by the FDA.

Our collaboration began in 1998 when Dr. Menkir sent me a number of maize lines which had been selected in West and Central Africa for moderate to high resistance to maize ear rot under conditions of severe natural infection. Kernels of these lines were subjected to a laboratory-based kernel screening assay (KSA) at SRRC which determined several of them to accumulate aflatoxin at levels as low, or lower than U.S. aflatoxin-resistant lines. Dr. Menkir and I then established a formal collaboration with the objectives of: 1) breeding aflatoxin-resistant inbreds in commercially-useful agronomic backgrounds from crosses between U.S. resistant and African resistant maize lines (heretofore U.S. lines were in poor agronomic backgrounds and with less resistance than desired); and 2) developing markers that will assist breeders in transferring resistance to commercially-useful lines using marker-assisted breeding strategies. Our research was originally funded by competitive grants from the USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service Scientific Cooperation Program, and recently by an ARS-USAID collaborative grant and a USAID linkage grant. Excellent progress has been made thus far. Initial crosses were made which generated materials that were either 50% tropical background or 75% temperate background.

Materials were then selfed and selected based on resistance to various foliar diseases and ear rots and on agronomic traits. Starting at the S4 generation, seed were sent to SRRC for KSA determination of aflatoxin levels. KSA results along with field results determined which breeding materials were selfed and carried forth to the next generation.

Presently, we are completing final resistance confirmation tests on S7 and S8 materials (inbreds for all intents and purposes); evaluations for agronomic performance in hybrid combinations are also being conducted at IITA. After evaluations are complete, the best lines with resistance and good agronomic features will be released as sources of resistance genes to breeding programs. To identify traits in resistant lines for use as markers in marker-assisted breeding, lines identified by the KSA as near-isogenic, but varying in aflatoxin accumulation, are being subjected to comparative proteomics at SRRC. Maize kernels are separated into embryo and endosperm and the protein of each whole tissue extracted and then separated using 2 D gel electrophoresis. Gels are then analysed using state-of-the-art software and proteins of interest sequenced and compared to protein databases for identification.

Thus far, we have identified several proteins (and corresponding genes) associated with resistance representing different protein categories: storage, antifungal and stress-related. Several of these are being characterized to determine function and to confirm a role in resistance. One confirmation method being used is RNAi technology which facilitates determination of gene function by silencing the gene. Both Dr. Menkir and I are very hopeful that our U.S.A. - Africa collaboration will have a profound effect on a very serious worldwide problem.

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Maize

NEWS FROM MEXICO

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland continues its goal of being a world-class college. Recently in Villahermosa, Mexico, Bill Rivera addressed a conference of representatives from a relatively newly designed research and extension institution. In 1997 Mexico initiated the development of Producer Organizations in each of its 31 states and organized a coordinating body known as COFUPRO to help advance this institutional innovation. Bill spoke on “Agricultural Knowledge and Development in a New Era and a Different World.” The talk, translated into English will appear in the 2006 summer issue of The Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education. During the past decade, Mexico has been experimenting with reform of its extension system. The present participatory and demand-driven Producer Foundation model is in full swing. Created, led, and administered by producers, these Foundations allocate funds and are administered under a government program called “Alliance with the Rural Sector.” Their motto is “Linkage—Innovation—Progress.” The Foundation approach, based on research and technology transfer as a critical element in diffusing new technology, focuses on end-users, decentralized decision making, and access to funding from various sources. It will be interesting to follow the development of this institutional innovation as its progress will have significant implications for agricultural development both there and in the United States.

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THE MICKEY LELAND INTERNATIONAL HUNGER FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows Program offers an excellent opportunity for recent graduates of master's degree programs in international agricultural development, agricultural economics, nutrition and related fields to gain valuable experience both overseas and in the Washington, DC policy arena. This two-year service/learning program begins with a one-year field placement in Asia, Africa or Latin America. Partner organizations include both local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private sector entities and bi- and multi-lateral aid organizations. Fellows spend the second year of the program assisting with policy formulation either in the headquarters of the organization where they served during their field placements or in complementary policy organizations. This gives the fellows the opportunity to apply lessons learned from the field to programming, advocacy and policy decisions that address the root causes of hunger and poverty. The International Hunger Fellows program was named for former Congressman Mickey Leland of Texas, who led the House of Representatives Select Committee on Hunger until his untimely death in 1989 in a plane crash in Ethiopia while on a relief mission. Hunger Fellows embody the ideals of Mickey Leland, who once said “I cannot get used to hunger and desperate poverty in our plentiful land. There is no reason for it,

there is no excuse for it, and it is time that we as a nation put an end to it.” The program is designed to develop a cadre of future leaders in the fight against hunger. Over 800 million people around the world suffer from chronic hunger today. So far, 25 fellows have completed the program and 17 fellows are currently serving countries such as Bolivia, Honduras, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, Uganda, Cambodia and Mongolia. The program is administered by the Washington, DC-based Congressional Hunger Center, a non-profit organization founded in 1993. The Center also operates the Bill Emerson Hunger Fellows program, which focuses on domestic hunger issues. To read profiles of the current group of fellows, please visit our website at www.hungercenter.org. Recruitment for the fourth class of Mickey Leland Fellows will begin in the fall. Details about the application procedure and the placements offered will be posted on the website. For further information, please contact Jose Ravano, director of the program, at jravano@hungercenter.org.

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A MESSAGE FROM AIARD'S PRESIDENT

she facilitates our conference calls, maintains our minutes, pays our bills and manages all the local arrangements associated with our annual meetings. So thanks to all who work on behalf of our Association! Although it's hard to believe, we are half way through the first decade of the "New Millennium". You'll recall that only a few years ago we were all fretting about Y2K and the potential disruption of our computer systems that have become so important to global function. I encourage our members to reflect on the over four decade history of our Association and the important work that lies ahead of us. Over the last several years, the membership of AIARD has continued to increase. This is the direct result of the recruiting efforts of Sue Schram and our Membership Committee. I'm also aware that many of our current members are encouraging colleagues to join AIARD. I believe membership in AIARD provides a variety of benefits. In my opinion, the opportunity to establish and maintain relationships with like minded colleagues is important. I also have opportunities to gain "strategic world view" information on issues and events that are critical to my professional growth and perspective as I continue my career. The "character and capabilities" of our Association are manifested in the professional skills and experiences of our members. I'm excited, gratified and humbled to witness the missionary zeal and humanitarian concern of our membership. Our core values and passion are reflected in our Mission Statement: "to improve the quality of life for all people by improving and developing global capacities to respond to new challenges and opportunities in helping to eliminate poverty, improve food security, and conserve and protect the environment in order to stimulate broad-based economic growth and sustainable development". It's noteworthy and commendable that our membership composed of research scientists, educators, program leaders/administrators and entrepreneurial consultants affiliated with universities, government, non-government, faith based and private sector entities can all work together to address critical issues that impact the lives of so many people around the world. Most of our current members are mid to senior career professionals. We need to continue to "tell our story" and encourage young men and women to come and join us. Last year we launched the AIARD Future Leaders Forum. The objectives of the Forum are to: a.) Identify, nurture, facilitate and engage U.S. and foreign undergraduate and graduate students in experiences that enhance their understanding and appreciation of international agriculture

and rural development issues through a competitive scholarship program, b.) Facilitate student attendance and participation in all Association activities, including its mid-year Annual Meeting and c.) Introduce student future leaders to professionals and potential career opportunities affiliated with universities, NGO's, congressional offices, governmental agencies, international financial institutions, and multi-national corporations active in international agriculture and rural development initiatives. We want to again acknowledge USDA/CSREES for appreciating our vision and supporting our objectives by providing a grant that made it possible to have 12 students from seven different universities participate in our 2005 Forum. Several of the students indicated the Forum experience was a "life changing event." I know our Texas A&M student participant has decided to join the Peace Corps after completing her Master's Degree. We are committed to enhancing the financial support for the Future Leaders Forum and encouraging more diverse university representation. Finally, our AIARD leadership keeps our Association "relevant". Our Executive and Education & Advocacy Committees are constantly reviewing and discussing issues that are consistent with our Mission Statement and Objectives. For example, we continue to explore the relationship of HIV/AIDS and the interconnected complex of rural poverty, agriculture and nutritional deficiencies in white papers, annual meetings and Capitol Hill Forum events. In addition, we know the welfare of people around the world is threatened by diminished agricultural productivity caused by natural disasters and deficient rural infrastructure systems. Hunger, civil strife and the potential for terrorist related activities often manifest from these desperate circumstances. As we move toward the date of the 42nd Annual Meeting of AIARD, June 4 - 7 2006 in Washington DC, let me be the first to invite members and all interested parties to join us! Please visit our web site for details for this year's event.

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THE AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND HIV/AIDS CONNECTIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

In early 2004, an AIARD paper on “The Agriculture, Nutrition, and HIV/AIDS Connections in Developing Countries” (<http://aiard.org/communications/HIV-AIDS.htm>), was published by USAID. It created an awareness of the connections between rural poverty, under-nutrition, and HIV/AIDS in developing nations. It also concluded that an important investment priority is to encourage nutrition-health components in existing and proposed agricultural projects—agricultural projects that have really good prospects of raising food production, nutrition among the poor, and rural incomes.

AIARD argued that a strategic framework was needed which could ensure the success of agricultural development projects and also show how HIV/AIDS interventions could be effectively made an integral part of them. It was anticipated that such a framework could be applied in particular country situations by adapting it to local conditions and adding implementation details to accelerate the fight against HIV/AIDS. The Association later concluded that IFDC had a strategic framework already available, which could form the basis for what it was looking for. A partnership was explored for this purpose with the Center, and in September of last year a first exploratory meeting was held between AIARD and IFDC. This meeting led to an AIARD-IFDC workshop in Washington, D.C. in December, which was designed to guide the development of a meeting in Africa later this year that will include stakeholders from the Region and lead to an agriculturally-led action program to battle HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa. About a dozen professionals attended from the fields of agriculture, nutrition, and health shared their extensive experiences with HIV/AIDS at the local-level in Africa. This workshop in Washington, D.C. led to important conclusions. Participants were sympathetic to the need for action projects that integrate agricultural and health-oriented activities to combat HIV/AIDS and lead to better sharing of evidence concerning “lessons learned”. Stand-alone workshops and meetings on HIV/AIDS were considered to be surplus commodities today in Africa. But using the proposed workshop on agriculture and health to develop a strategic framework and spawn action projects was thought to be a reasonably fresh approach and a sensible way for AIARD and IFDC to proceed. Other main conclusions of the workshop fell into two areas: first, substantial importance was attributed to the roles of agriculture, markets, and gender in the fight against HIV/AIDS and, secondly, major knowledge gaps were identified which need to be filled with commissioned papers/studies that can more thoroughly inform participants in the proposed meeting in Africa about HIV/AIDS, health and agriculture.

Don Crane (IFDC) and Reed Hertford (AIARD) are now cleaning up and fine-tuning a proposal which is based on the conclusions of the December meeting. It is currently envisaged that the proposed project will include (a) some baseline studies; (b) a few commissioned papers on critical issues; (c) a regional workshop in West Africa with stakeholders; (d) technical cooperation with four communities (in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Uganda, and Malawi) to implement a community-driven approach to fighting HIV/AIDS; and (e) careful monitoring of results and lessons learned. Although IFDC will probably serve as the lead institution/team leader and fiduciary for the project, there is room for AIARD participation in all five of the areas of activity.

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FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY'S SCHOLARS STUDY IN GERMANY

Three International Agriculture and Business majors traveled to Europe to participate in an international study program through the Center for International Agricultural Trade, Development Research and Training (CIATDRT) in the Florida A&M University (FAMU) College of Engineering Sciences, Technology and Agriculture (CESTA).

FAMU junior Kelley Scavella, along with Thaddeus Payton and Eboni Stephens (both seniors), will participate in the international program as part of a U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education - European Union (FIPSE-EU) grant. This grant was awarded to a consortium of six universities, including: Florida A&M University, the University of Georgia, and the University of Minnesota in the U.S., as well as Boku University, Austria; University of Hohenheim, Germany; and the University of Udine, Italy.

FAMU's first students participating in the FIPSE-EU Exchange Program will attend the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart, Germany, from March 1 - June 24, 2006, to study agriculture, improve their knowledge of German language and culture, and promote the U.S. - E.U. dialogue on food safety and trade issues relative to food products developed using biotechnology.

Over the next three years of the program, the FAMU CIATDRT will send seven students to three European partner institutions in Germany, Austria, and Italy to study for a semester. Three faculty members will also participate in the exchange for the purpose of developing collaborative research activities.

As part of this grant, the FAMU Office of International Agriculture Programs has also developed a new international course entitled, "Global Seminar." This course is taught utilizing a case study approach and incorporates traditional lectures, electronic chat sessions for course participants through Blackboard, and international video conferences with the U.S. and E.U. partner universities. The Global Seminar course offers students from the four countries involved an opportunity to examine, discuss, and formulate positions on biotechnology, food safety issues related to the consumption of products produced using genetically modified organisms, and the international regulatory policies that govern the trade of these products in the U.S. and E.U. The course will be offered again during the Spring semester, 2007 and will be marketed on a broader scale to attract students in public policy, biological sciences, economics, and other related fields. For additional information, contact: Harriett A. Paul, Director of International Agricultural Programs at (850) 599-8867 or **Email:hapaul585@aol.com.**



Harriett A. Paul, Director,
Kelly Scavella, Thaddeus Payton and
Eboni Stephens

WORLD BANK PURSUES STUDY OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

PS-AET - The World Bank is currently pursuing a study of post-secondary agricultural education and training (PS-AET) in sub-Saharan Africa. Bill Rivera recently initiated the study by undertaking a nine-day mission to Uganda during which he examined a number of recent official documents (e.g., The National Agricultural Education Policy, 2004; The National Agricultural Education Strategy and Investment Plan, 2004; the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture, 2005; the Poverty Eradication Action Plan, 2004; and other official documents). Bill says that the mission was critical to observe "on the ground" the situation of post-secondary agricultural education and training (PS-AET) in a country currently undergoing political, institutional and program system reforms. The mission made clear the areas of interconnection in the AKIS system and what key informants considered AIS in Uganda. The mission also provided useful insights into the problems of a country whose reform agenda affects the present and future development of the AKIS institutions, their proposed relationship to private sector, especially agricultural producers, service providers and agri-business marketing enterprises, and the advancement of an AIS system for poor and subsistence farmers. Second, it furnished some preliminary perception into ways in which this reform might be enhanced, and resulted in a number of suggestions included at the end of the mission report. Third, it provided confirmation of the conceptual and practical approaches Bill expects to pursue, and set the stage to prepare the TOR which he will be sending out to (CONTINUED on Page 9)

SEED SYSTEMS AT THE CENTER OF AGRICULTURAL RECOVERY FROM DISASTER

SANREM CRSP AWARDS FIVE LONG-TERM RESEARCH PROJECTS

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and CARE/Norway (CN) have a new publication entitled “Seed Aid for Seed Security—Advice for Practitioners: Ten Practice Briefs”. There is consensus that seed aid needs to be improved. Case studies show seed-based agricultural recovery is more complex than commonly assumed. These Briefs offer advice on how to sustain and strengthen seed systems during disaster response and recovery periods. Up-to-date technical information addresses issues such as introducing new varieties, protecting agrobiodiversity, and exploiting market opportunities during periods of acute and chronic stress. Specific aid-response tools are also offered, including methods for assessing seed system security, guidelines for learning-focused evaluations, and checklists to ensure quality in seed-aid proposal development. The briefs were prepared by CIAT and CRS, with CARE®-Norway (CN). You can download the complete set of Practice Briefs at http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/africa/practice_briefs.htm

1. Who are we and what do we do?
2. Overview of seed systems under stress project case studies
3. Understanding seed security
4. Agrobiodiversity and seed relief
5. Using seed aid to give farmers access to seed of new varieties
6. Understanding seed systems used by small farmers in Africa: focus on markets
7. Assessing seed system security
8. Seed relief responses: an overview
9. The power of evaluation
10. Developing a seed-aid proposal: a rapid review checklist for practitioners

For further information please contact Louise Sperling (l.sperling@cgiar.org) and Tom Remington (tremington@crsearo.org)

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The Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Management Collaborative Research Support Program (SANREM) is sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development’s Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade Bureau (USAID/EGAT) and participating U.S. and host country institutions around the world. Virginia Tech’s Office of International Research, Education, and Development is the management entity for the project. The objective of the SANREM CRSP is to support Sustainable Agriculture & Natural Resources Management (SA&NRM) decision-makers in developing countries by providing access to appropriate data, knowledge, tools and methods of analysis, and by enhancing their capacity to make better decisions to improve livelihoods and the sustainability of natural resources. SANREM CRSP activities will result in the development, cataloging and transfer of technologies for increased income generation, stakeholder empowerment, enhanced resource management, strengthened local institutions, improved market access for small-holders and communities, and sustainable and environmentally sound development. Integrated research programs will be conducted by a consortium of universities, IARCs, NGOs, and host country institutions led by a U.S. university. A participatory approach engages stakeholders in research problem formulation within priority areas of inquiry. Up to 90 percent of available research funds will be distributed on an open, competitive basis. All activities link sustainable natural resources management with the economic concerns of local populations and promotion of good governance. The SANREM CRSP recently awarded 5 long-term research projects. Project Title: Decentralization Reforms and Property Rights: Potentials and Puzzles for Forest Sustainability and Livelihoods Principal Investigators, Indiana University Project Title: Developing A Participatory Socio-Economic Model For Food Security, Improved Rural Livelihoods, Watershed Management, & Biodiversity Conservation In Southern Africa Principal Investigators, Cornell University Project Title: Watershed-based Natural Resource Management in Small-scale Agriculture: Sloped Areas of the Andean Region Principal Investigators, Virginia Tech Project Title: Adapting to Change in the Andean Highlands: Practices and Strategies to Address Climate and Market Risks in Vulnerable Agro-Eco Systems Principal Investigators, University of Missouri-Columbia MU Project Title: Agroforestry and Sustainable Vegetable Production in Southeast Asian Watersheds Principal Investigators, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

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WORLD BANK PURSUES STUDY OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (continued)

colleagues in Africa for subcontracting country case studies. The study will cover ten countries: Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Cameroon, Malawi, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Ghana, Benin. Any contacts for Bill would be greatly appreciated; send to wr@umd.edu.

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CARIBBEAN SCHOOL MODELS PROGRAM AFTER TUSKEGEE

Tuskegee, Ala. — Tuskegee University welcomed international visitors recently to discuss a collaboration that would build on the school's already worldwide legacy. Officials from American University of Antigua including University President Neal S. Simon and former Tuskegee University professor Dr. Olusegun Dipeolu visited the College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health to develop ideas to incorporate a school of veterinary medicine at American University of Antigua.

Still relatively new, American University of Antigua College of Medicine was first initiated in 2001 and began offering classes two-and one-half years ago. This was be an important educational step for the school since there is a dire need for veterinarians in the Caribbean, according Dr. Dipelou. "About 50 to 60 percent of the veterinarians that are in Antigua now are from Tuskegee," Dr. Dipelou said. "When our college decided to get into veterinary medicine, we needed a university that had been active in developing other areas of the world such as Africa and Asia."

American University of Antigua's proposal explores the possibility of a joint effort between the school and Tuskegee to develop programs in veterinary medicine, nursing, allied health and liberal arts at the Caribbean institution.



International Program Director Eloise Carter, center, gives American University of Antigua President Neal S. Simon, right, a view of the campus during his visit with former Tuskegee Professor Olusegun Dipeolu.

Eloise Carter, Ph.D.

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AIARD ANNUAL MEETING

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

The Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD) is pleased to invite you to participate in our 42nd AIARD Annual Meeting scheduled for June 4-6, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street SW, Washington, DC. This event will provide an excellent opportunity for all participants to interact with policy makers, academicians and leaders of the private and public sectors who are actively addressing global poverty and hunger.

The theme is: "Cultivating Peace: Agriculture in a World of Conflict and Violence".

The three primary program modules will be:

Session I: A Prospective New Agenda for Long-Term, Conflict-Sensitive Development - Moving from Anecdotes to an Analytical/Predictive Framework

Session II: Agriculture and Rural Development During Active Conflict

Session III: Post Conflict Reconstruction and Rural Recovery
To register, please visit the AIARD website at:
<http://www.aiard.org>

We sincerely hope you will be able to attend and participate in the 2006 AIARD Annual Meeting. Please join us!

Robert J. Haggerty, Director

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President Mike McWhorter and Joy Odom, our Secretary/Treasurer, are pleased to announce the 2006 recipients that have won a scholarship to this year's Annual Meeting. The students are encouraged to take this opportunity to visit selected agencies and places of business related to international agriculture in Washington, D.C.

FUTURE LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Hermann Pascal Andriamanambina (Cornell)

John Boateng (Penn State)

Alex Dos Santos (Mississippi State)

Driss Eannaanay (Minnesota)

Alexis Jones (UC Davis)

Kenya Konno (Cornell)

Kraig Kraft (UC Davis)

Todd Rosenstock (UC Davis)

Sarah Madeline Walker (Vermont)

Lydia Pettit Young (Georgia)

Cody Silverberg (Texas A&M)

Heather Zornetzer (UC Davis)

See you there everyone! We are 200 strong and 42 years old (the Association, that is). Let us keep the tradition going!

SCHUH RECEIVES BRAZILIAN ORDER OF SCIENTIFIC MERIT

Ed Schuh has been honored by the Brazilian Government for his lifetime contribution to Brazilian agriculture. In an April 2005 ceremony, sponsored by the Brazilian Academy of Science and presided over by the Minister of Science and Technology, Schuh was acknowledged for his outstanding scientific contributions to the agricultural sector. In a separate event at the Palacio da Alvorada, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva presented Schuh with the Order of Scientific Merit medal and again praised his accomplishments.

Congratulations to Ed on his outstanding achievement!