

ESP Global Relations/International Committee Minutes
November 3, 2006 WisLine

Present: Arlen Albrecht, Rob Burke, Chad Cook, Mary Crave, Andrew Dane, Marty Halovic, Joann Hinz, John Preissing, Tom Syverud, Kris Tiles

- 1) Welcome and Introductions – Tom Syverud, Chair
- 2) Recent Trip Updates

FTF September assignment in Jamaica working with small-scale organic vegetable producers – Tom Syverud

UWEX Diversity Professional Development trips to Mexico in November and February. Linked to the partnerships developed in western WI with Puentes, Mexico. The goals of building relationships and understanding of cultural and community life, and includes a language component. Seven Coop Extension employees will participate in November and 6 will participate in a MSU lead trip in February – Joann Hinz

- 3) Report on the October WI/NICA Partners Conference in Managua – Arlen Albrecht, Rob Burke and Marty Havlovic. The boards of both partners and participants from partner cities attending the 2 ½ day workshop. Some goals were to bring better understanding and communication between the two cultures, identify areas of future work together, to strengthen bonds, and improve and increase cultural exchanges. Refer to the Stevens Point Journal for photos and daily articles.
- 4) Review of website and recruitment; discussion and ideas;
 - When announcing international opportunities include contact information.
 - The multi-cultural diversity work and international activities should be blending together over time.
 - All Extension staff can participate in international opportunities, including WNEP and program support areas.
 - The Dean and administration support and promote new approaches to professional development opportunities, including international work.
 - Have a current list of opportunities and ‘talking points’ available for district or program area WisLines, may be delivered by a District contact person.Develop an information sheet to answer common questions or assumptions.
- 5) Discussion of the Email from Erin Means, Program Officer, Farmer to Farmer Program exploring the possibility of working with UW Extension on an assignment to modernize the extension service in Guyana. After discussion a committee will be formed, volunteers include Arlen Albrecht, Andrew Dane, Joann Hinz, Marty Halovic, John Preissing and Tom Syverud. Contact Tom

Blewit about previous similar CRD work in Russia. Syverud will contact committee members for an acceptable WisLine meeting time. Previous discussions will be send to committee members. If interested in participating contact Tom Syverud

- 6) Next ESP Global Relations/ International Committee meeting;
WisLine date and time: Friday December 22, 2006, 11:00 AM