

ESP/UWEX International Committee Meeting Notes November 18, 2003

Present: JoAnn Hinz; Rob Burke; Mary Crave; Have Hinds; Paul Ohlrogge; Mary Ellen Bell; Aliesha Crowe; Dave Muench; and John Preissing.

We updated the progress on our two mini-grants, upcoming Wisconsin activities, and our goals.

- 1. Farmer to Farmer:** Rose Skora's trip to Nicaragua was mentioned. She was probably the final participant in the Farmer to Farmer project.
- 2. Capacity Building Project Mini-grant:** JoAnn updated the group on the progress of the grant. A conference is planned in the Spring, Summer, or early Fall to bring together up to 50 people from UWEX and UW to examine relevant strategies to internationalize UWEX with curriculum and resources.
- 3. International Study Trip to Costa Rica Mini-grant:** John described this project, actually submitted by Iowa State University Extension, but with our collaboration. May 11 – 24, 2004 is the planned date to lead a group of Extension professionals from the North Central Extension services on this study trip. It would be preceded by a two day training session in Madison April 18 – 19, 2004. We are in the recruiting stage and need 11 participants from the 12 twelve states.
- 4. Winrock:** The group discussed WINROCK opportunities. There has been no response to Arlen Albrecht's letter of inquiry as of November. We will work with Arlen Leholm to see if his connection will be helpful with WINROCK.
- 5. JACEP Conference:** The ESP/International Committee has been selected to make a presentation at the upcoming JACEP conference. It is set for April 14, 2004 from 3:30 – 4:30 PM. Four items were included in the proposal, which takes its bearings from our retreat goals: 1) Update on Capacity Building Mini-grant; 2) Update on Costa Rica Study trip mini-grant; 3) Discussion or sharing of international skills assessment tool; 4) Preliminary findings from Aliesha Crowe's scholarship work on international exchange work.
- 6. Department Head Conference:** The International Committee was asked to share resources and materials on international work. Ideas discussed were the Farmer to Farmer Case study; Winrock opportunities; the report from our Penn State Outreach Scholarship Conference; reports from the Internationalization of Extension Conference attended by John and JoAnn, our Goals and Strategies; and opportunities. John will staff the booth along with others Aliesha Crowe and Kristin Hill.

The next meeting was set for January 9, 2004 at 12 noon [post-script, this meeting did not occur].

International Committee Strategic Goals: Each goal from our planning retreat results and how to proceed ahead with them was discussed. When people were identified to assist with the goal it was noted. Dave Hinds reminded the group that more strategic thinking and acting could help this process. The subcommittees will review their task and developed a more detailed work plan to make progress on it.

Goal I – Create Team International with designated leadership. The group outlined a number of ways that we can try to fulfill this goal. First, though, its importance was recognized. It can provide training resources, a place to report our work, and bring the work inside to UWEX rather than as an add-on. To assure this the following strategies were agreed to:

- Develop an overall website for UWEX CES International work. It would contain policies, reports, minutes of the group, plans of work, tools, opportunities and links, resources, and a listing of members. A subcommittee will examine exactly how to put the information online and what information it should be. Mary Lucas will be a resource for this subcommittee. **Subcommittee members: JoAnn Hinz; Aliesha Crowe; Dave Williams; John Preissing; and Mary Lucas.**
- Develop a team plan and evaluation plan in line with the statewide planning and reporting process. We will draw heavily from our retreat strategic planning process to develop this. It will also be based on the criteria established by the program planning sessions to be held March 11 & 12, 2004. Larry Jones and the PD&E unit will be resources for this group. **Subcommittee members: Arlen Albrecht; Rob Burke; and John Preissing.**

Goal II – Develop and Maintain a Scholarship Context for International Programs. It was recognized that a number of scholarship and sharing activities have occurred in the past three to five years. Many of these items can help us better understand the impact of our work and the value of analysis. We will also be participating in two minigrants which will have an evaluation component and will be shared. Last, Aliesha Crowe will be completing her Masters Degree work soon. Her thesis focuses on the experiences and applications of findings by the UWEX Agriculture Extension Agents. Tasks for this group were identified.

- Identify the items to collect and collect them in a usable/accessible digital format..
- Place all materials and presentations from the past three to five years on our website under a scholarship area. Consideration should also be made for non-UWEX material on international work which displays good scholarship as a link.
- Encourage sharing of Aliesha's thesis in the future. **Chair: Aliesha Crowe.**
- Explore metrics or measures of success in scholarship and encourage more forums. **Subcommittee: Mary Crave has indicated she will assist with this point.**

Goal Three – Develop Institutional Capacity to carryout international programs and to support staff in this work. A variety of tasks were outlined for assisting our staff in two programmatic roles, for our domestic one and for occasional international work. In house training, the mini-grants, web site materials, and the development of materials was mentioned. Task that were identified include:

- Participate in the mini-grant project on curriculum development for international experiences as home, first within an agricultural context. **Subcommittee Chair: JoAnn Hintz;**
- Review MSU's pages for their capacity building and materials that are available and look for links. **Subcommittee members: Mary Ellen Bell, Karen Early, and Paul Ohlrooge.**
- Develop an assessment tool on identifying your assets for doing international work. **Subcommittee members: Mary Ellen Bell, Karen Early, and Paul Ohlrooge**

- Progress in this area will be made by working in the other goals. **Subcommittee members: Mary Ellen Bell, Karen Early, and Paul Ohlrooge**
- Generate discussion on balancing the giving and receiving issues within the context of fulfilling Extension's mission. **Subcommittee members: Mary Ellen Bell, Karen Early, and Paul Ohlrooge.**
- Offer training session on using the assessment tool perhaps at JACEP conference.

Goal IV – Provide Staff Training Related to International Work. Some of this is already taking place within the context of the other goals and both grants. But it should be documented. Also, offering a possible training at the district level was discussed, using our staff or locally based nonprofit organizations. A couple of newer requests have surfaced too. Tasks identified to date:

- Implement the internationalizing curriculum project. This targets our staff and their potential to use new materials for working with local audiences. **Chair: JoAnn Hinz, working with local contributors.**
- Implement the internationalizing extension training project – EAGLE. This targets past NELD members and is to be financially supported by participants or their institutions or local support. **Chair: John Preissing working with local contributors and Glenn Easter, from Iowa State University.**
- Operate an orientation booth at the Department Head training program, launching the web site and draft assessment tools. We have been asked to assist already.

Goal V- Develop Evaluation Instruments that tout the Benefits of International Work or at least speaks to its benefits. This goal was seen as quite important and in fact needed as part of the other goals. Specific tasks were not outlined:

- Attend the program planning workshop to work on these measures.
- Identify our measures for all the goals. **Work with Mary Crave and Ellen Taylor Powell.**

Conclusion on this assignment. We spent a lot of time and energy on this topic but have not systematically reviewed these goals and tasks. This could occur in a face-to-face meeting or separately by subcommittee. To be discussed.

3. New Dean: John Preissing reported that the new Dean is very much interested in our work and in international programming efforts. He spent an hour with JoAnn Hintz and John Preissing reviewing our work. We look forward to working with him on issues.

4. Next meeting date: The next date was set for Tuesday November 18th at 11:00 AM until 12 Noon.