

Developing Global Agricultural Initiatives

North Dakota citizens and its agricultural industry are increasingly engaged with in the global economy. Our students, graduates, and clients need to be well prepared to thrive in this global arena. Global knowledge should be an integral component of the programs of study for all of our students. Our faculty will need to collaborate with colleagues around the globe to successfully address crucial issues that are important to North Dakota agriculture, food systems, and natural resources.

Project: Promote and facilitate international activities in agriculture through collaboration with educational institutions, organizations and agencies throughout the world.

Goals:

- Engage faculty, staff and students in the international dimensions of their interests and create related opportunities in teaching, research and outreach.
- Inform faculty, staff and students with an interest in agriculture of international educational opportunities.
- Enhance recognition of agriculture related international programs and global initiatives among external audiences (other land grant colleges, aid agencies, and international universities).
- Assist faculty, students and staff in funding global activities.
- Provide leadership on campus for global and international agriculture initiatives, programs and opportunities.
- Ensure that global engagement well done is appropriately acknowledged and rewarded.
- Build and maintain linkages with key international institutions and individuals to promote collaborative research, teaching, and outreach activities as well as study abroad and exchange programs.

Strategies:

- Identify key international institutions that are compatible with research, teaching, and extension activities in agriculture due to similar climatic, regional, or economic conditions or opportunistic relationships.
- Develop incentives and rewards for faculty and staff to participate in collaborative international activities.
- Develop incentives for students to participate in study abroad and international exchange programs.
- Develop processes to identify funding sources for global activities.

Progress:

Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) have been completed with Lincoln University in New Zealand and China Agricultural University (CAU) in Beijing. Another MOU with Northwest Agricultural & Forestry University in Yangling has been signed by NDSU and is being forwarded to NAWAF for their signatures. Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJIU) has indicated that they are willing to sign an MOU following the visit by a ND trade mission and the Lt Governor. Opportunities for collaboration in Australia, India, and Kazakhstan are also being explored. Presentations have been made to undergraduate students to raise awareness about study abroad opportunities. An export management class has been developed and is being taught in collaboration with the ND Trade Office.

Impacts:

- Grant proposals being written that have an international dimension and include faculty from across the college
- MOUs developed and exchange activities are beginning

Funding Sources, Cooperators, Partners, etc.:

- Developed grant proposals to Gates Foundation and AFRI
- Collaborating on a USAID grant proposal in Africa
- Collaborating with faculty from agribusiness, food systems, crop sciences, veterinary sciences, and college of business

Mentors:

- Craig Schnell, Provost and VP of Academic Programs
- DC Coston, VP of Agriculture and University Extension

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