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News from the Dean for International & Border Programs

NMSU, NAFSA, International Education and Exchange: The Time is Here!



NMSU, NAFSA, International Education and Exchange: The Time is Here! I thought it appropriate to share with you a part of NAFSA's latest policy statement (March 2008) regarding international education since it parallels what International Programs at NMSU, and its Advisory Committee, has advocated for many years. The entire NAFSA policy statement (available online at WWW.NAFSA.ORG) has been framed in the context of President Obama's global agenda as outlined in his inaugural address. The portion reprinted below focuses on international educational exchange. I am a fervent believer in the well-known adage that it is best to "think globally and act locally." In promoting international education exchange by facilitating study abroad for our students and expediting international students' and scholars' access to our NMSU, International Programs is doing what we do best to promote international peace and security through international understanding.


Regarding the national scene, what's different between now and a year ago that might influence the current administration's view of international education? We have a president who is the son of a foreign student; we have a president who has spent more time living abroad than any previous U.S. president (and has traveled to and lived in lesser developed countries); and we have a president who has made a point of appointing officials who share his view that we need to renew America's constructive leadership role in the world.

The statement follows:

NAFSA's Agenda: the Role of International Education

We believe that constructive U.S. global leadership is served by fostering an America that knows, understands, and is able to communicate with the world, and by strengthening the relationships through which the American people and the world's people can relate to, interact with, and understand each other. We believe that it is through international education that we can, as a country, grow our capacity to listen, understand, and communicate with the rest of the world and be part of advancing a shared future of peace, security, and well-being.

We imagine an America in which, from the smallest communities to the largest cities, we are all connected to the global community in meaningful ways and benefit from a dialogue that includes a diversity of voices and experiences.



We imagine an America in which a strong capacity for international collaboration, discovery, and partnership underpins our efforts to pursue responsible stewardship of the planet's resources, the imperative of nonproliferation, the eradication of disease, the marginalization of extremism, and other great challenges of our time.

We imagine an America in which the mantle of global citizenship is a shared national compass that guides us in reaching out in friendship and aid to those less fortunate around the world.

We imagine an America in which educating future generations for life and leadership in a global community is a national priority.

NAFSA dedicates itself to being part of creating this America, through our work to advance international education. Specifically, we believe that:

- ◆ Everyone who graduates from college in this country should have a basic understanding of the world beyond our shores and be proficient in a foreign language;
- ◆ At least one million American college students – four times the current number – should study abroad each year in high quality programs across the globe and for academic credit;
- ◆ International students and scholars who wish to pursue their academic objectives in our country should be able to do so, and we should ensure that they feel welcome in our midst;
- ◆ International exchange and volunteer-service programs should be significantly increased, and Americans should be challenged by renewed calls to international service for the sake of their country and the world, as President Kennedy did nearly 50 years ago.

This would be a revolutionized America, connected to the world as never before, competitive in the global economy, and prepared to exercise wise and constructive international leadership. Yet this America would not be difficult to achieve; it is attainable within ten years. Most if not all of the necessary policies are already known—indeed, some have long been known and need only to be rediscovered. The cost would be minuscule in comparison with the sums that are discussed in today's political debate.

Can we at NMSU buy into this agenda? Why not? All the pieces are in place—a vibrant study abroad office, a forward looking and internationally-focused administration, an outstanding and large cadre of faculty who possess a sophisticated “worldview” and understand “global issues,” and outstanding programs—undergraduate and graduate—that are attractive to potential international students around the world. So let's work together to make it happen.

Erin Egginton

Confucius Institute Activities

The Confucius Institute at New Mexico State will be hosting the latest in its Speakers Series on **Thursday, April 16, at 7:30 pm in Hardman Hall room 212**. Dr. Sarah Schneewind of the University of California at San Diego will be speaking about **Confucian education in the Ming and Qing dynasties**. The talk is free and open to the public. For more information please contact Ken Hammond, 646-1818 or khammond@nmsu.edu.

Center for Latin American and Border Studies Activities

The Center for Latin American and Border Studies, in collaboration with the Colonias Development Council, the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business and the NMSU Library, will host the showing of a new documentary, **"Paying the Price: Migrant Workers in the Toxic Fields of Sinaloa"** (Chiapas Media Project/Promedios, 2008; Spanish with English subtitles, 35 mins). The film examines the impoverished lives and inhumane working conditions of migrant workers from the town of Ayotzinapa, Guerrero, in Mexico, who pick exotic Chinese vegetables for export to North America. A discussion will follow, led by Melody Gonzalez, International Coordinator with the Chiapas Media Project. This event will be held on **Monday, April 20, 2009, 6.00 - 8.00 pm, Hardman 104**. For more information on this event, please go to: <http://www.chiapasmediaproject.org/> or contact Lydia Herrera, 646-6814.

A New Bi-National Energy Future: Biofuels and Solar Policy Summit

This summit which was intended to look at a new bi-national energy future in the U.S.-Mexico border region and scheduled for April 30th has been postponed for sometime in the fall of 2009 or the spring of 2010. If anyone has any questions, please call the Office of International & Border Programs at 646-7506.

International Travel

Tom Winfree, Criminal Justice, will give an invited talk at the University of Tuebingen's Institute of Criminology on offender reentry programs in the United States. He will also go to northern Germany, where he will deliver a short course on the same topic to social work students at Kiel University of Applied Sciences. After teaching in Kiel, Tom will journey to Croatia, where he will present an invited lecture at the 25th Annual Course on Victims and Victimology held at the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik. In late 2008, an article co-authored by Tom appeared in the University of Sarajevo's law school journal. The article addressed the nature and extent of youth gangs, an emerging phenomenon in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Since 2006, Tom has collaborated on this topic with faculty at the University of Sarajevo's law school and Portland State University's school of social work. Tom is spending most of May in Germany and Croatia, as part of a sabbatical leave.

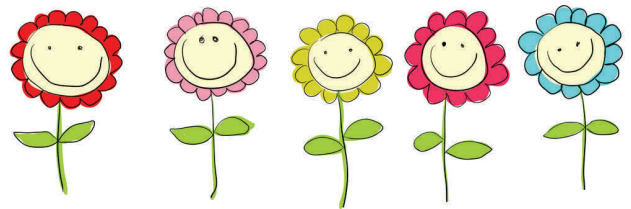
Visitors on Campus

- 1) A delegation of **Vinh University administrators, Vinh City, Vietnam**, will be on campus April 9-12 to meet with NMSU and College of Education administrators and Department of Educational Management Development faculty to discuss specific details of the cooperative agreement between NMSU and Vinh University, which was signed during the fall of 2008 and to negotiate and hopefully finalize a Masters in Educational Management Development degree program to be offered by NMSU at Vinh University through a combination of face to face and distance education courses. The delegation from **Vinh University, will consist of Rector Nguyen Ngoc Hoi; Vice Rector Pham Minh Hung; Dean of IT,**

Nguyen Trung Hoa; and Pham Thi Thanh Hai, Project Staff member. For more information on this visit, please contact Charles Townley at charles.townley@gmail.com.

- 2) A visit between the **Cónsul General de México, Roberto Rodríguez Hernández** with Interim President Wadad Cruzado is scheduled for **April 14th from 11 am to 1 pm**. The visit is scheduled to discuss collaboration between NMSU and the Mexican Consulate General's Office in El Paso, Texas. For further information on the visit, please contact the Office of International & Border Programs at 646-7506.

Hope your Spring season
is off to a great start!!



EDITORIAL NOTE:

THIS NEWSLETTER IS RELEASED THE BEGINNING OF EACH MONTH. THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF NEWS ITEMS IS THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH. PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS WHICH ARE PLANNED AND/OR ARE SCHEDULED FOR SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE. THIS NEWSLETTER IS INTENDED TO SHARE INFORMATION AND TO INFORM OTHERS ON CAMPUS OF UPCOMING AND PENDING ACTIVITIES, TRAVEL, VISITORS ON CAMPUS, ETC. FOR THIS REASON, ITEMS WHICH ARE SUBMITTED FOR ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE WILL ONLY BE UTILIZED IF THEY HAVE SOME RELEVANCE TO FUTURE ACTIVITIES. PLEASE MAKE SUBMISSIONS TO CIP-ADM@NMSU.EDU. IF YOU WISH TO REVIEW OLD ISSUES OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS ISSUES FOR THE LAST 12 MONTHS CAN BE FOUND ON THIS SITE.

Office of International & Border Programs
New Mexico State University
MSC 3567
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001