

*Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication  
Department*

*AgLEC Department Materials and History*

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University of Nebraska - Lincoln

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## Self-Study Report: International Programs

**INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**

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**INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION**

**INTRODUCTION**

Agricultural Education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, has had a long history of involvement in improving education in agriculture throughout the world. Agricultural education faculty have an important role to play in helping developing countries to develop their educational systems, especially in faculty development, Curriculum and organizational leadership.

**DEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

**A. Intermediate and long term assignments**

**James Horner** was the first of current staff to hold an intermediate assignment. The agency for International Development (AID) in concert with UNESCO, assembled a three-member team to consult with the Minister of Education, Columbia, South America related to the development of twenty "Comprehensive" secondary schools across the country. The World Bank provided up to \$15,000,000 to establish the schools. The team consisted of a school administrator, a vocational education supervisor and James Horner, as an agricultural education curriculum specialist. The initial 12 week, on-site study and report with recommendations occurred January-March 1967. A three-year follow-up indicated that 17 of the schools were indeed operational, with a unified, comprehensive curriculum.

**Osmund Gilbertson** has held the longest (1 year) international assignment of current staff members. He took a 1 year sabbatical leave at Edgerton University, Njoro, Kenya; August 1987-August 1988. He was assigned to the Agricultural and extension department with teaching and development activities.

Teaching responsibilities involved:

1. Group Dynamics: 65 students enrolled in the Farm Management program, preparing to become "County Extension Agents."
2. Agriculture Visitation Seminar: 63 education students involved in weekly visits.
3. Introduction to Curriculum and Methods in Agriculture: 64 2nd year education students preparing to become teachers.
4. Teaching Practicum: Visitation and supervision of 31 of the 63 students participating in their Student Teaching equivalent, throughout western Kenya.
5. Adult Education: A 4-week course for the returning student teachers'; preparing them for work with adults in their school system.

Developmental Activities Included:

Contact was made with a private agricultural high school operated by the Dominican Brothers which included a 4.2 acre school farm which provided 90% of the staples for the 160 students enrolled in the program.

Word recently received indicates that not only is Egerton University now regularly utilizing the school, but the Kenya Department of Education has also identified them as a model school with frequent government dignitaries visiting the school.

He also had the responsibility for developing a 4-Year Prospectus for degree programs in Mathematics Education and Science Education, two projects requiring much coordination. Prior to his departure he turned over the initial draft and computer disks identifying 2 tracks in Mathematics Education, and 4 tracks in Science Education.

**B. Short term involvement**

= The majority of faculty involvement in short term assignments has been as consultants to specific projects or leaders of educational tours.

**Leverne Barrett**

- 1984** Studied spanish in Campéche, Compéche, Compéche, Mexico and visited universities and technical institutes for 2 weeks.
- February 1989** Consulted with institutes of Agriculture at Los Angeles and Chillian, Chile. Inspected livestock and crop management practices in a study tour from Santiago to Porta Monte, Chile.

**Dr. Lloyd Bell**

- April 1983** Dr. Bell was a member of an International Rotary exchange team from the Nebraska Rotary district. The purpose of this mission was a cultural exchange of young professionals from Nebraska, U.S.A. and Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Brazilian team visited Nebraska and the U.S. in the fall of 1983.

This opportunity allowed for the creation of an appreciation of cultural differences between countries. Team members lived with private citizens, toured educational facilities, health facilities, industries and spoke to civic groups within the state of Sao Paulo. Time was also allowed to visit the governmental headquarters of the country in Brazilia.

During a debriefing period of several months following the exchanges, many presentations were made explaining and clarifying the culture of the Brazilian people.

**Gary Bergman**

- January 1990** Organized, developed, planned and conducted a three week Study/Travel Seminar to South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore.
- January 1989** Organized, developed, planned and conducted a three week International Study/Travel Seminar to Argentina, Brazil and Peru for a group of thirty Nebraskans.
- January 1988** Under direction and council of Allen G. Blezek, developed, planned and conducted a three week International Study/Travel Seminar to France, Switzerland, Togo, Ivory Coast and Ghana for a group of thirty Nebraskans.
- January 1987** Participated in a three week study and travel seminar to Belgium, East and West Germany, the Soviet Union and Poland under the direction of Allen G. Blezek.

### Allen Blezek

- January-February 1980** "Rotary International Group Study Fellow" to India. (Six weeks)
- January 1983** "University of Nebraska Fact Finding and Developmental Visit to The Peoples Republic of China."
- June 1989** "Kent State University lecturer and consultant to Italy and Malta. (Two weeks.)"

As Director of the Nebraska LEAD (Leadership Education/Action Development Program), he has both made and assisted with the arrangements and planning for six international study/travel seminars, three weeks each, for thirty LEAD "fellows."

These study/travel seminars focus upon an intensive schedule of activities and events, including the areas of: culture, economics, fiscal and monetary policy, business, industry, religion, political systems, governments, living conditions, the environment, and agriculture. His involvement in this program includes:

- January 1985** Morocco, Egypt, Israel
- January 1986** Taiwan, Hong Kong, India
- January 1987** Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany, West Germany and Belgium
- January 1988** France, Switzerland, Togo, Ivory Coast, Ghana
- January 1989** Brazil, Argentina, Peru
- January 1990** Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, South Korea

### Roy Dillon

- May-June 1983** Professional/Personal Growth time spent in the countries of England, France, Germany, Denmark, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Greece, Yugoslavia, Holland, Netherlands, Liechtenstein, and Belgium.
- December 1989** While on professional leave, visited Caribbean islands and observed crop and animal production practices.

### C. Miscellaneous involvement of faculty

Faculty have been involved in writing project proposals, developing courses, training U.S. faculty and many leadership roles in furthering international agricultural education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**D. Faculty expertise**

Curriculum development

Program development

Youth organizations

Staff training

Teaching improvement

Organizational dynamics

= Leadership/administrative development

**E. Departmental goals in International Education**

1. Increase the number of foreign students enrolled in the undergraduate and graduate agricultural education programs.
2. Fully implement the International Education Option within the departmental graduate program.
3. Increase faculty development opportunities that would increase international agricultural education involvement, i.e. language training.
4. Develop additional undergraduate courses in selected areas of international study. (i.e.; six week modules on international issues in agriculture, workshops, seminars, etc.).
5. Encourage (or require) agricultural education majors to enroll in international agriculture classes to improve their global perspective and cultural sensitivity.
6. Work with other academic units in the college to obtain, staff, and present the World Game simulation to the adults and youth of Nebraska in an effort to increase global awareness and cultural sensitivity.

**Richard Foster**

- January-March 1990** Consultant, USAID Costa Rica Project for the Development of the School for Agriculture in the Humid Tropics. Curriculum development and faculty orientation and training activities. University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- November 1-17 1989** National Kellogg Fellowship Travel: "Investigation of conflict resolution and peace negotiations in the middle east." A two week travel seminar throughout Egypt and Israel.
- July 1989** Participant, Institute on Conducting Research in Africa. University of Wisconsin, Madison. Sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation.
- May 24-June 6 1989** National Kellogg Fellowship Travel: "Investigation of development issues in Africa." A two week travel seminar throughout Kenya, East Africa.
- March 5-21 1989** National Kellogg Fellowship Travel: "Investigation of development issues in Africa." A three week travel seminar throughout Sierra Leone and Morocco.
- October 1-17 1988** National Kellogg Fellowship Travel: Participant, two week travel seminar studying the social, cultural, and political perspectives of Brazil.

- May-June 1988** Participant, two weeks intensive Spanish training in Antigua, Guatemala. Sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- March 29-31 1988** Participant, Fifth International Conference on Technology and Education. Edinbaugh, Scotland.
- Summer 1987** Delegation member to the People's Republic of China, a 21 day tour of agricultural colleges, extension services, universities, and agricultural production sites.

**Osmund Gilbertson**

- July 17-August 7 1987** Led a 15 member People to People Citizens Ambassador Program delegation of Agricultural Educators to the People's Republic of China.

Tour sites and delegations met include:

Beijing:

Central Agricultural Broadcasting School  
China Agricultural Film Studio  
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences  
Biotechnology Research Center  
Institute of animal Sciences Laboratory

Yangzhou:

Jiangsu Agricultural College  
Yangzhou Agricultural Research Institute  
Yangtse River Water Conservation Project

Changsha:

Hunan Provincial Academy of Agricultural Science  
Hunan Agriculture College  
Chunhuashan Township

Cuangzhou:

South China Agricultural University  
Zhonchun Dairy Farm  
Zhongkai Agricultural College  
Xinjiao Rural District

**James Horner**

- 1983 & 1984** Conducted a 23-day Study Travel Seminar for thirty young (age 25-40) Nebraska agriculturalists in china (PRC) Taiwan and Japan in 1983. The focus was on "Contrasts and Commonalities," (international inter-dependence) economic, political, religion, education, social and cultural. Various in-country U.S. Consulates and business organizations, along with local governmental agencies, such as Ministers of Agriculture and Defense were utilized in the study Programs. A similar Study Travel Seminar was conducted in 1984 in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico.

**July &  
August 1988** During July and August 1988 he visited Lesotho working with a doctoral student on his dissertation research. Thrusts included on-site development/refinement and translation and piloting of the interview instrument along with training of interviewers and data collection.

Dr. Horner has spent shorter periods of time in personal/professional growth, at least twice in each of the following countries: Austria, Canada, England, France, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Italy, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.