



A Message from AIARD's President



The year 2004 has been an exciting one. AIARD's annual "Capitol Hill

Forum" drew a record number of participants and supporters this year which included: Bread for the World, Chemonics International Inc., Congressional Hunger Center, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Development, Land O'Lakes, National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, Pioneer Hi-Bred International - a Dupont Subsidiary, and the World Council of Credit Unions. These organizations were all sponsors of the highly successful Forum that was held January 27, 2004 in the Caucus Room of the Cannon House Office Building in Washington, D.C. This year's theme was, "The Critical Role of International Agricultural Development in the Fight Against Under-nutrition and HIV/AIDS".

We are now in the final stages of planning and development for AIARD's 40th Annual Meeting scheduled for June 6-8, 2004. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Capitol Holiday Inn in

Washington, D.C. Dr. Tom Crawford, Jr., AIARD President Elect, has organized the meeting around the main theme of "Progress in International Agriculture and Rural Development". The meeting will examine progress in the following sub-themes: "Progress from Relief to Development", "Progress from AID to Trade", and Progress from Subsistence to Participation in Markets". We have an outstanding group of participating speakers and look forward to the June 7th luncheon speaker, Senator Chuck Hagel from Nebraska, who will make a presentation on "Update on the Millennium Challenge Account". All are strongly encouraged to attend this 2004 40th Annual Meeting. It will be a great opportunity to renew old friendships, to make new acquaintances, and to learn about the latest in different organizational experiences in making progress from Relief to Development, from AID to Trade, and from Subsistence to Participation in Markets.

John Yohe
AIARD President, 2003-2004

Spring 2004

Inside this Issue

- 1** A Message from AIARD's President – 40th Annual Meeting Gets Top Billing
- 2** The AIARD Capitol Hill Forum - 2004
- Crawford Meets with Intsormil Partners in Africa
- 3-4** AIARD 2004 Student Scholarship Award Recipients
- 5** Mike Deegan Leaves ACDI/VOCA
- AIARD Membership Promotion
- 6** David Sammons Selected for IPA to USAID
- Honors & Awards
S.K. DeDatta Honored

AIARD Capitol Hill Forum A Resounding Success

The 2004 AIARD Capitol Hill Forum was held in the Cannon House Building on January 27th and addressed “The Critical Role of International Agricultural Development in the Fight Against Under-nutrition and HIV/AIDS”. Ten other institutions generously sponsored and partially financed the event, including ACDI/VOCA, the Congressional Hunger Center, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, Land O’Lakes, the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, Pioneer Hi-Bred International and the World Council of Credit Unions. Five distinguished speakers made presentations and almost 250 people participated in this major policy event at the outset of the policy season

Following a welcome by AIARD President, John Yohe, U.S. Congressman Doug Bereteur (R-NB) of the House International Relations, Financial Services, Transportation and Infrastructure and Selected Intelligence Committees told the group, “We have learned that proper nutrition is needed to protect the immune system, help process medications and extend the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS. It is clear that a multi-pronged approach is needed. One way is to assist in the growing of crops which are not only nutritious but also easier to produce.”

USAID Administrator, Andrew Natsios, also spoke and said “The war on AIDS must be engaged on every front. It is critical that funding from agriculture and other sources are brought to bear on the fight against AIDS.” He cited Secretary of State Colin Powell, speaking before the UN General Assembly in June 2001, who said that “The war against AIDS has no frontline. We must engage it on every front, and only an integrated approach makes sense.”

Assessments received by the Association on the event indicates that the persons canvassed felt that the theme, presentations and discussions

will help promote the understanding that agricultural development is a primary tool for rural poverty alleviation.

A major outcome of this year’s Forum were the clear recommendations made to both national and international policy makers. While much remains to be done, it was proposed that State Department and USAID policy makers at the highest levels in Washington and at the regional and mission levels should promote cross-sector programs that support results-oriented collaborations among agriculture, health and nutrition activities relating to HIV/AIDS. AIARD proposed that a Fund for Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Collaboration be established so that projects, policies and strategies demonstrating the agriculture/nutrition/health connection would be rapidly funded and implemented. Benefits of these collaborative ventures should be much greater than the sum of their parts. Individual projects are to empower women, be sustainable and be accompanied by training.

Reed Hertford
AIARD Executive Committee

President-Elect Crawford Visits Africa

AIARD President-Elect Dr. Thomas Crawford, Jr. made a recent visit to Southern Africa to represent the International Sorghum and Millet Collaborative Research Support Program (INTSORMIL CRSP) at the Final Review and Reporting Workshop of the Sorghum and Millet Improvement Program (SMIP) in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Crawford also represented the INTSORMIL Management Entity in discussions with USAID/Mozambique, the Instituto Nacional de Investigações Agronômicas (INIA) and other groups at meetings in Maputo, Mozambique.

Dr. Crawford’s African visits were well worth the effort. “The agricultural information gleaned in Bulawayo will be useful in managing INTSORMIL’s activities,” he explained. “The trip to Mozambique gave me a chance to meet the managers of INIA and brief them on the progress of students in the INIA/Collaborative Research Support

Program's (CRSP) graduate degree program."

Dr. Crawford was scheduled to participate in the East and Central African Sorghum and Millet Research Network (ECARSAM) meetings in Nairobi, Kenya but did not attend because of security concerns in that country.

A long list of African government and agriculture officials took the time to meet with Dr. Crawford to discuss issues of agricultural importance.

For more information about the trip, contact Dr. Thomas Crawford, Jr. at INTSORMIL, 113 Biochemistry Hall, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-0748; phone (402) 472-6032.

2004 AIARD AWARD WINNERS

The AIARD Awards Committee chaired by David Acker, Iowa State University, has selected its 2004 award recipients. Winners will be announced at the annual AIARD Meeting on June 7, 2004. The awards for Distinguished Service (DSA), Young Professionals (YPA) and Special Service (SSA) recognizes exceptional services and contributions. The 2004 DSA award is given to recognize excellence in its own members. The YPA award recognizes early career contributions and achievement of AIARD goals and objectives. The SSA award recognizes special efforts or significant contributions to the achievement of AIARD goals and objectives.

The AIARD salutes contenders for the awards for their accomplishments, contributions and service to international agriculture and rural development.

David G. Acker
Chair of the Awards Committee

AIARD 2004 Student Scholarship Award Recipients



As part of this year's Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee has agreed to partially fund the attendance of four students. AIARD is providing a waiver of the registration fee and a \$200 stipend to help defray the cost of the student's attendance at the 40th AIARD Annual Meeting, as well as one year of student dues for June, 2004 through May, 2005, to encourage further participation of students in AIARD. The remainder of the costs of attendance of each of the four co-sponsored students, such as lodging, transportation, and incidentals is being paid by each student's institution.

The 2004 Selection Committee is pleased to introduce to the AIARD readership the recipients of this year's Student Scholarship Awards:

Roxanne Mitchell: Ms. Mitchell did undergraduate work at the College of Agriculture Science and Education in Portland, Jamaica, and at North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University prior to attending Purdue University. She will receive the M.S. degree in Agricultural and Biological Engineering this month from Purdue. Her goal is to promote environmental sustainability through the use of innovative technology and education. Her thesis title is *Prediction of Nitrate Losses in Drainage Water from the Smith-Fry Drain and Dreisbach Drain Watersheds Using GLEAMS-NAPRA*. Her previous employment includes environmental technician, laboratory assistant in a soil physics laboratory, and math and agricultural science teacher. She has been the recipient of numerous scholarships and her affiliations include American Society of Agricultural Engineers; Gamma Sigma Delta; National Honor Society for Agricultural Engineers; Minorities in Agriculture, Natural

Resources and Related Science; National Society of Black Engineers; and Black Graduate Association, where she serves as Awards Coordinator.

Tamra K. Reynolds: Ms. Reynolds will receive the Masters of Agribusiness degree in May, 2005 from Texas A&M University after graduating Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in Animal Science and Agricultural Economics in May, 2003, also from Texas A&M. She received numerous scholarships and is active in Gamma Sigma Delta, Alpha Zeta, and the Agricultural Economics Graduate Student Association. She has a teaching assistantship and wants to work for a multinational agribusiness firm in the sales and marketing division upon graduation. This summer she will work for Pioneer Hi-Bred International as an intern in the Global Sales Training and Development Division.

Brady Sidwell: Mr. Sidwell will graduate in May, 2004, with a B.S. in Agricultural Economics and International Marketing from Oklahoma State University. Upon graduation, he will work towards a Masters degree in International Relations at OSU as a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar in Shanghai, China. While in China, he will assist Oklahoma State University in developing academic relationships in area Chinese agricultural institutions as well as conduct research on a food demand project currently in proposition. He intends to pursue a career in international trade diplomacy while promoting the exchange of international agriculture education and English language proficiency. Mr. Sidwell has achieved many honors, scholarships, and international experiences, among which are: Golden Key International Honor Society; Omicron Delta Kappa; Phi Beta Delta; Phi Kappa Phi; Blue Key; Alpha Zeta; Alpha Kappa Psi; Alpha Gamma Rho; National Agri-Marketing Association; OSU Valedictorian Scholar; OSU Outstanding Senior Award; Global Agriculture Organization; Commodities Learning Institute; European Union Model Summit; Oklahoma International Congress; USDA fact finding mission to Burma; US

Embassy, USDA, Office of Agriculture Affairs in Thailand; and US Embassy, USDA, Office of Agriculture Affairs in South Korea. He served as an officer in many of these organizations and is studying Chinese. He has done study abroad programs in Mexico, Scotland, England, Vietnam, Brazil, Paraguay, Russia and Thailand.

James Wittler: Mr. Wittler graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in Soil and Crop Science from Colorado State University. He expects to receive the M.S. in Soil Sciences, also from Colorado State University, in May, 2005. During his senior year at CSU, Mr. Wittler spent a semester at the University of Tel Aviv and then worked the next two months on a kibbutz. He also spent time in Morocco during 2001 and in Jordan during 2000 on a tour speaking with college-aged youth about their life experiences, culture, and religious beliefs. His career goal is to be involved with international development, primarily focusing on the effect of agricultural development on economic development. He is also interested in how the implementation of government policies affects these sectors and the progress of their development. Upon completion of his M.S., he plans to pursue a Ph.D., specializing in international development with a focus on economics and the formulation of economic policies. Mr. Wittler is the recipient of many scholarships and academic awards including the Follette Award for Graduate Students, the Brewbaker Award for Outstanding Juniors in Plant and Soil Science and he is a Boettcher Scholar. He is a member of the Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD) and the American Society of Agronomy (ASA).

Joy Odom
AIARD Executive Committee

AIARD Distinguished Service Award Winner Moves On from ACDI/VOCA



Mike Deegan, 2002 AIARD Distinguished Service Award Winner, has moved on from his position as President of ACDI/VOCA to pursue other career opportunities. Mike's vision and energy resulted in the unprecedented growth of ACDI/VOCA for eight years and his positive leadership will be greatly missed.

Mike not only received our AIARD Distinguished Service Award, but saw to it that ACDI/VOCA supported AIARD in every way, including becoming one of AIARD'S first institutional members. Thanks to Mike, ACDI/VOCA has consistently supported the Capitol Hill Forum and was an important contributor to development. Mike understood and contributed in so many ways to the broader U.S. international agriculture community, supporting the efforts of Andrew Natsios and Peter McPherson to bring back agriculture and rural development as a focus area at USAID and working on behalf of international agriculture while serving on the Board of Interaction. He understood the value of NGO/university and private sector partnerships and their contribution to development.

Mike presently serves on BIFAD and has been a member of the Advisory Board of the Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa since its inception. During the formative days of the Partnership ACDI/VOCA opened its doors continuously for meetings and provided other support thanks to Mike.

AIARD wishes Mike the best in his new endeavors.

**Susan G. Schram, Chair
Membership Committee**

Membership Promotion Announced

The AIARD Membership Committee, in cooperation with the Executive Committee, has announced a special membership promotion, in this our 40th anniversary year. For every new member that a current member brings into the association, the current member will be given \$35 (cost of annual membership) off the price of registration for the annual meeting! **THAT'S RIGHT** -- if you bring in 5 new members, you could potentially get a \$175 rebate on your Annual Meeting registration.

The new members will have to be attending the Annual Meeting, or alternatively, the current member will need to have the new members' dues checks in hand at the time of registration so that we will be certain that they are joining.

As well, we are encouraging current members to send a focused invitation to attend the 40th AIARD Annual Meeting to other interested individuals in your institutions and organizations. Since calendars for June are filling rapidly, now is the time to act.

To assure that our organization has a vital future, please invite more good friends and colleagues to join.

**Sue G. Schram, Chair
Membership Committee Vice President**

Sammons Selected for IPA Assignment with USAID



David Sammons, a long time AIARD member and the Associate Dean for International Agriculture at Purdue University, has been selected by USAID for a one-year Inter-governmental Personnel Act (IPA) position as Senior Advisor for University Relations and Agricultural Research, Training and Outreach. David will start his new assignment late this summer and will work in the Office of Agriculture within the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade. The focus of David's assignment will be towards building stronger collaborations between USAID and the University community and consulting on USAID agricultural programs globally. "This opportunity comes at a good time in my career and I think that it is a good fit for my experience and interests", states Sammons. While the initial appointment is for one year, there is an option to extend the assignment for a second year based on mutual agreement.

The AIARD family wishes David all the best in his new post and we look forward to working closely with him and the Agency to strengthen the institutional capacity of the U.S. Land-Grant Universities' to improve rural agricultural development around the world.

**Harriett A. Paul, Chair
Information Committee**

Honors & Awards Philippine President Honors IPM CRSP Leader De Datta



Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo has honored S. K. De Datta of Blacksburg, associate provost for international affairs at Virginia Tech, with a Presidential Citation Award. The award recognizes De Datta's contributions towards eradicating hunger through improved agricultural productivity and food security, particularly for the production of rice. Since 1991, De Datta has served as director of Virginia Tech's Office of International Research and Development, which was expanded in 2003 to become the Office of International Research, Education, and Development. In this capacity, he has obtained approximately \$57 million in funding for 14 projects. The Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program (IPMCRSP), a decade-long project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and host country institutions, is the largest.

