

OFFICE OF GLOBAL PROGRAMS (OGP) SEPTEMBER 2018 REPORT

NEWS FROM OGP

A few updates have been done to the OGP website, particularly the sections on Funding Supports – Extramural Support for International Work, and AAES + Cuba Partnership Newsletter. Visit here: <https://agriculture.auburn.edu/academics/global-programs/funding-support-for-global-engagement/extramural-support-for-international-work/>

INTERNATIONAL ENROLLMENT IN THE COLLEGE AS OF FALL 2018

- Number of International Undergraduate Students – **16** (13 as of Spring 2018)
- Number of International Graduate Students – **128** (118 as of Spring 2018)
- Total Number of International Students – **144** (131 as of Spring 2018): **79** female; **65** male
- The breakdown by countries and departments/schools are:

Top 5 Countries	
China	48
India	10
Turkey	7
Brazil	6
Nepal	5
Programs/Departments	
Ag Econ and Rural Sociology	22
Animal Sciences	4
Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences	24
Entomology and Plant Pathology	28
Horticulture	5
Poultry Science	10
School of Fisheries, Aquaculture & AE	31
Biosystems Engineering	20
Undeclared	0
Grand Total	144

- Number of J-1 Visiting Scholars/Interns in the 2017-2018 academic year: **43**

STUDY ABROAD

- Calculated by **academic year**: **51** CoAg students enrolled in study abroad trips for the 2017 – 2018 academic year (44 for the 2016 – 2017 academic year)
- Calculated by **calendar year**: **40** CoAg students enrolled in study abroad trips in the year of 2018; Dr. Bill Daniels also has an estimate of 16 students who are in the process of enrolling in his Vietnam trip this winter (**42** CoAg students enrolled in study abroad trips in year 2017).

- Study Abroad programs offered for the 2017-2018 academic year include:
 - I. Vietnam (Daniels; December 2017) - completed with 11 students (2 UG, 9 G)
 - II. Peru (Molnar/Muntifering; March 2018) – completed with 19 students
 - III. China (Weaver; May 2018) – completed with 6 students
 - IV. England (Robinson; May 2018) – completed with 7 students
 - V. Orr study tour to Netherlands (Wells; May 2018) – completed with 8 students
- Dr. Bill Daniels took 11 AU undergraduate and graduate students to Vietnam for Aquaculture Production class from December 27-January 10th. They learned alongside 45 undergraduate students from the Advanced Aquaculture program at Can Tho University. Dr. Bill Daniels and his students later gave their York ISP seminar on Friday, March 9, 2018 from 12:00 – 1:00 in Comer 109. The seminar attracted more than 25 attendees who were undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, post-docs and administrators with the College of Agriculture.
- Dr. Russell Muntifering and staff Ashely Aston took 19 students to a Peru Study Tour to learn about International Research, Inca Heritage and Agriculture from March 10-18, 2018. The group later gave a seminar on April 25, 2018 from 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM in 207 Comer Hall. The seminar attracted more than 25 attendees who were undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, post-docs and administrators with the College of Agriculture.

FACULTY ABROAD

- Dr. Emefa Monu went to Ghana early this year to help the Ghana Food and Drugs Authority in their vision for a safer food supply through enforcement officer training. Dr. Emefa Monu later gave her York ISP seminar on Thursday, March 22, 2018 from 12:00 – 1:00 in Comer 109. This seminar attracted more than 20 attendees who were mainly department of Poultry Science and Animal Sciences.
- Horticulture professor Dr. Elina Coneva traveled to France from July 3-22, 2018 to develop networks with international colleagues, collaborate with colleagues in the field, and disseminate research outcomes originated from AU COA. Dr. Coneva also presented a research paper at the XII International Conference on Grapevine Breeding and Genetics <http://gbg2018.u-bordeaux.fr>, July 15-20, Bordeaux, France. Her presentation topic is “Growth and development of Pierce’s disease tolerant hybrid bunch grapes in southeastern U.S.”
- David Blersch presented his research at BioSC International Workshop on N/P/C Storage Pools in Algae and Cyanobacteria and Nutrient Uptake from Waste Streams, held Sept 6-7 at Bioeconomy Science Center, Forschungszentrum Julich, Germany.
- Dr. Puneet Srivasatava was invited to visit Zurich University of Applied Sciences (Switzerland) from Sep 8-13, 2018 to discuss international framework for setting up ecological engineering curricula.

3+2/3+1 PROGRAMS; COLLEGE-LEVEL GENERAL MOU(S)

- Auburn University College of Agriculture and Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA) have renewed their general MOU for another five years. The renewed MOU became effective on June 20, 2018.
- A general MOU between Auburn University College of Agriculture and The Federal Polytechnic, Ile-Oluji, Ondo State, Nigeria has been establishes and the effective date is August 16, 2018.
- A general MOU between Auburn University College of Agriculture and Management Center Innsbruck has been establishes and the effective date is October 25, 2018.
- A general MOU between Auburn University College of Agriculture and Hubei Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Wuhan, Hubei, China, has been renewed and signed on April 20, 2018. AU point of contact is Dr. James D. Spiers from the department of Horticulture.
- A general MOU between Auburn University College of Agriculture and National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA), Monrovia, Liberia has been signed become effective on May 22, 2018. AU point of contact is Dr. Joseph Tomasso from School of Fisheries, Aquaculture & Aquatic Sciences.
- Total number of 3+2 recruits since 2014: 20 (no admission in Fall 2018)

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

- **Summer student exchange** – A group of 15 people including 12 students and 3 teachers from China Agricultural University (CAU) visited the College from July 15 – 27, 2018. We greatly appreciate the contributions of each department to make this a successful visit and recruiting opportunity. OGP will be advertising a “May 2019 Agriculture Study Tour to CAU” soon.
- **Visit of Rector Emmanuel Fasakin of the Federal Polytechnic, Ile-Oluji, Ondo State, Nigeria (February 8-9, 2018)** – Dr. Fasakin was on an exploratory visit to Auburn and other universities in the United States to identify prospects in staff training, faculty and student exchanges, and other forms of collaboration. He met with three Auburn colleges (Agriculture, Business and Engineering) to explore opportunities for partnership. More specifically, Dr. Fasakin had a dinner meeting with Dr. Henry Fadamiro and toured our Fisheries facilities with Dr. Bill Daniels.
- **Delegation from Malaysia (April 16-19, 2018)** – CoAg SFAAS hosted a delegation from a Malaysian company called Dindings Soya & Multifeeds Sdn Bhd, which is a subsidiary of Malayan Flour Mills Bhd., April 16-19, 2018 focused on the topic of aquaculture, particularly fish feeds and production and shrimp/fish genetic improvement.
- **Delegation from Hubei Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China (April 19-20, 2018)** – OGP hosted five delegates from Hubei Academy of Agricultural Sciences on April 20, 2018 focused on the cooperation of kiwi fruit with AU Department of Horticulture and the Gold Kiwi group. A renewal general MOU was signed between Auburn University College of Agriculture and Hubei Academy of Agricultural Sciences on April 20, 2018.
- **Mr. Jose Miguel Cordero**, formerly the Dominican Republic Undersecretary of Research and Extension, and Randy Brown, owner of the Four13 Group, visited Auburn’s Fisheries Station. They were given a tour by Karen Veverica and met with Dr. Tomasso, Dr. Daniels, and Dr. Hanson to discuss potential collaboration in developing tilapia farming in the Dominican Republic (DR) and potential master-level training of students from DR.
- The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Igbekele Amos Ajibefunand, and the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of AAUA’s Council (Board of Trustees) from **Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba Akoko (AAUA), Nigeria** visited from August 13 - 15, 2018. To discuss collaboration in particular faculty and student exchanges. They also met with the College of Business and Department of Music.
- The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Adeola Fuwape, and the Director of the International Strategy Office, Professor T. I. Ofuya, from the **Federal University of Technology, Akure, (FUTA) Nigeria**, visited from August 5-7, 2018. To discuss collaboration in particular faculty and student exchanges.
- **Dr. Ying Zhang from China Agricultural University (CAU)** arrived on August 12th. She is hosted by Dr. Daniels and Dr. Fadamiro and will conduct a six-month visit. While here, Dr. Zhang’s study focus will be on academic program/project management, higher education administration, research proposals, and extramural funding. She will shadow our college leadership in international programs and research and the Graduate School and the Office of International Programs.

AAES-CUBA PROGRAMS

Six Cuba-AAES Grants were awarded for \$36,500 in year 2017. US policies are making these challenging to implement both for AU faculty getting academic visas and for visas for Cuban collaborators.

Project Name	Auburn PI	PIs Department/College	Amount Funded
Identification and Quantification of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes with Potential for Limiting Quality Turf in Cuban Golf and Tourist Facilities	Kathy Lawrence	ENTPP / CoAg	\$3,750
Vegetable Production and IPM Short Course for Sustainable Small-farm, Organic-based Systems	Edward Sikora	ENTPP / CoAg	\$3,750
Developing and Validating Functional Ice (FICE) to Reduce Food Waste due to Spoilage of Seafood and Poultry in the US and Cuba	Amit Morey	PS / CoAg	\$3,750
Evaluation of Agronomic Management on Soil and Environmental quality of			
Red Ferralitic Landscapes in Mayabeque Province, Cuba	Brenda Ortiz	CSES / CoAg	\$9,000
Developing Sustainable Organic Mulch Sources for Ornamental Gardens and Food Crops in Cuba	Adam Newby	HORT / CoAg	\$3,750
Discovery and development of innovative botanical pesticides for insect pest management	Arthur G. Appel	ENTPP / CoAg	\$15,625 (revised)

YORK ISP PROPOSALS

Six For the September 5th deadline, 3 proposals (Zamorano University, Honduras – Dr. Amit Morey and Dr. Wilmer Pacheco; Can Tho University, Vietnam – Dr. Bill Daniels; Aquaculture training in Myanmar – graduate student Morgan Cheatham) were submitted and approved for funding. Next deadline is November 5th.

USDA/NSF/USAID

- Dr. Mamta Mehar (India) arrived on June 25th and work with Dr. Conner Bailey under the USDA Borlaug-CGIAR project – “Adoption of Improved Tilapia” for about three months. She has departed the U.S. on September 10th.
- OGP worked with Dr. Christy Bratcher (AUFISI) in submitting a concept note (pre-proposal) for the new USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab on Food Safety. Partnerships included Mississippi State University, 100X Development Foundation (Montgomery), Zamorano University and many more. AU Collaborators will include several colleges and institutes, such as the Hunger Solutions Institute. Proposed countries included Cambodia, Honduras, Malawi, and Ghana. Concept note was not accepted.
- OGP worked with AUFISI on a USDA FAS notice of funding (\$150,000-1 year) on “Developing a system for identifying, evaluating, and controlling food safety hazards through Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) training to inspection officials and wet markets” for Bangladesh. Winrock International was a partner. This was not funded.
- OGP worked with SFAAS to submit a full proposal for USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab on Fish. This was awarded to Mississippi State University.
- OGP worked on 4 USDA’s Food for Progress proposals with 4 partners for work in 2 countries (Cambodia – 3 and Tunisia-1) with 1 approved at \$1 million.

CONTACT

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