From the Director’s Desk

The core faculty and staff of the Center for Advanced Study of International Development at Michigan State University are pleased to present the Fall 2008 issue of the CASID Update, a comprehensive newsletter on our programmatic activities.

CASID is a multidisciplinary unit housed in the College of Social Science and organized in cooperation with the Office of the Dean of International Studies and Programs. CASID promotes and coordinates the study of issues related to international development from the perspective of the social sciences and liberal arts. CASID and the Women and International Development Program at MSU have been designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a Comprehensive National Resource Center for Foreign Language and International Studies and receive funding under Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965. In addition to a wide range of Title VI-funded programmatic activities, CASID also provides assistance to College of Social Science and other core faculty seeking external funding for cross-unit, cross-disciplinary international development research and scholarship activities in collaboration with other international and area centers at MSU.

In this issue, we feature a wide range of international development-related teaching, research, and outreach activities that we have supported during the past year. We look forward to continuing our work in the coming year and the exciting opportunities ahead.

Robert S. Glew, Ph.D.
Director

Michigan State University

Strengthening Civil Society through Dialogue on Faith and Community: A U.S.–Mali Exchange Program

Dr. Stephen Esquith, dean of the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, and Dr. Robert Glew, director of CASID, are partnering with the University of Bamako to develop a program that strengthens institutional linkages between Mali and the United States. The program will provide opportunities to religious leaders, university faculty, and community leaders to learn about Islam and the lives of Muslims in the United States and enhance their knowledge of American society. This program is made possible by a grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State.

This collaboration seeks to foster ongoing dialogue, examination, and discussion among partners and participants on the compatibility of religious practice and democratic social and political structures; the social benefits produced by mutually respectful co-existence among religious communities; and the ways that Islamic practice in the United States functions in a multicultural and multireligious context.

Program activities will be implemented in two cycles over a two-year period, which began in fall 2007 and will conclude in summer 2009. Two delegations of 12 Malians will travel to the United States to explore how Islam and religious education is practiced and how diverse communities work together. In addition, two delegations of American clerics, scholars of religion, and community leaders will travel to Mali to learn about Islamic practice and culture and develop professional and personal linkages that will lead to sustained interaction between the United States and Mali. The program is being coordinated by Ann Allegra, CASID international program coordinator.

From left: Robert Glew, CASID; Yoby Guindo, CARE Mali; and Stephen Esquith, dean of the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, at the National Museum in Bamako, Mali.

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CASID Provides Support for MSU Initiative with Zhejiang University in China

CASID staff members are providing administrative support for an emerging set of scholarly activities between faculty at MSU and Zhejiang University (ZJU) in China in fields of environmental science and policy. ZJU, located in the city of Hangzhou in Zhejiang Province, is one of the top universities in China and a recognized leader in environmental science. The initiative includes collaboration among faculty from the College of Social Science, the College of Engineering, the College of Natural Science, and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The initiative also is being supported by the Office of the Dean of International Studies and Programs and MSU’s Office of China Programs.

Curriculum Development Grants Awarded for Enhanced Course Offerings at MSU

The following faculty received CASID and Women and International Development Program 2007–2008 curriculum development grants to create and revise undergraduate and graduate courses related to international development and/or gender relations with Title VI funds from the U.S. Department of Education.

Dr. Tracy Dobson, Fisheries and Wildlife
FW 858: Gender and the Environment and ANP 859: Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change

Dr. Elizabeth Drexler, Anthropology
ANP 436: Globalization and Justice and ANP 892: Violence and the State

Dr. Ken Harrow, English
IAH 211: Culture, History, and Society of Senegal and Nigeria

Dr. John Kerr, Community, Agriculture, Recreation, and Resource Studies
RD 826: International Development and Sustainability

Dr. Jason Merrill, Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian, and African Languages
IAH 241c: Understanding Eastern Europe through Literature and Film

Responsible Governance: A U.S.–Nigeria Exchange Program

During 2007–2008, CASID’s U.S. Department of State-sponsored program “Responsible Governance: A U.S.–Nigeria Exchange” was completed. The program was designed to strengthen institutional linkages between Nigeria and the United States, enhance the capacities of Nigeria’s democratic institutions, and promote consolidation of democratic governance. The program was developed in collaboration with MSU’s African Studies Center, the Women and International Development Program of the Center for Gender in Global Context, CASID, the University of Jos (UJN), Nigeria, and the Michigan Municipal League. The program was made possible by a grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State.

The Nigerian delegation visited MSU and Washington, D.C., September 7–30, 2007. The 17-member delegation included representatives from local government, universities, and nongovernmental organizations and represented Nigeria’s six geographic areas. Program activities included site visits, seminars with MSU faculty and public-sector experts, and short-term affiliations. Highlights of the program included a visit to Lansing City Hall to meet with the city’s department directors and Virg Bernero, mayor; a seminar with Samir Singh, former East Lansing mayor, and Ted Staton, East Lansing’s city manager; and discussions with MSU faculty.

The delegation also spent five days in Washington, D.C. Highlights included a visit with Common Cause, a nonprofit organization focused on citizen participation and empowerment, and a meeting with Jackie Byers, director of research at the National Association of Counties. The final phase of the program took place February 1–7, 2008. During the week-long trip to Abuja and Jos, a six-member U.S. delegation from Michigan conducted a full-day workshop in Abuja and participated in site visits and meetings in Jos. Members of the delegation included Dr. Rita Kiki Edozie, professor of international relations in James Madison College, Ted Staton, city manager of East Lansing; George Goodman, former mayor of Ypsilanti and former executive director of the Michigan Municipal League; Samir Singh, former president of the Michigan Nonprofit Association and former mayor of East Lansing; Dr. Robert Glew, director of CASID; and Ann Allegra, CASID international program coordinator. The delegation met with the vice chancellor of UJN, Professor Sonni Gwanle Tyoden, and visited the Centre for Research and Development, headed by Dr. Etannibi E. O. Alemika, one of the program partners from UJN. The team also visited the Institute for Governance and Social Research, a nongovernmental organization that promotes research on sociopolitical and economic issues in Nigeria and Africa.
Michigan State University Humphrey Fellows, 2007–2008

Ms. Josephine Ami-Narh, Ghana, the head of performance management unit and change team at the Bank of Ghana. Her responsibilities include seeking out new ways to improve the Performance Management System, monitoring and evaluating performance, fostering communication as a change manager, and collaborating with colleagues to set acceptable targets. Ms. Ami-Narh studied change management strategies that she can apply to raising productivity levels in her home organization.

Mr. Endrias Getachew, Ethiopia, head of risk management and monitoring services at the Bank of Abyssinia. His responsibilities include assessing risk areas that the bank faces and monitoring credit, foreign exchange rates, and operational risks. Mr. Getachew studied risk management and financial markets to develop a set of risk management tools that can provide a new perspective on and improve the performance of the financial sector in his home country.

Dr. Augustin Broh, Côte d’Ivoire, CEO, managing director, and vice president of the Daryung Corporation, a construction, trade, and industrial manufacturing organization. Dr. Broh’s role includes designing growth strategies, hiring and training employees, and engaging in negotiations with various governments in Africa for major contracts. Dr. Broh studied international business strategies, globalization, and public policy to prepare himself for a role in policy design and economic development in his home country.

Mr. Suhret Fazlic, Bosnia and Herzegovina, head of the Office of the High Representative’s Field Office. Mr. Fazlic’s duties include supervising the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement by monitoring the activities of the local administration, reporting on political and public activities, and identifying issues and opportunities related to economic sustainability. Mr. Fazlic studied human resource management and how theory is put into action in public service.

Ms. Kunduz Masykanova, Kyrgyzstan, national economist for the Asian Development Bank. Her responsibilities include preparing statistics, supervising data collection, economic and financial analysis, and monitoring and evaluating project impact. Ms. Masykanova studied agricultural economics and sustainable development to improve practices and preserve the interests of individual farmers in her home country.
**CASID/WID Co-sponsor Advanced International Business Institute for Community College Faculty**

The first Advanced International Business Institute (AIBI) held at the Michigan State University Center for International Business Education and Research (MSU-CIBER) on June 2–5, 2008. AIBI is a unique faculty development program designed for community college faculty who have previously attended international business faculty development workshops, seminars, or conferences; faculty who bring previous international business experience to their classrooms; and international business program administrators. For nearly two decades, MSU-CIBER has been a leader in faculty development programs on internationalization for community college faculty. AIBI has grown out of MSU-CIBER’s tremendously successful Biennial International Business Institute for Community College Faculty. AIBI was co-sponsored by centers for international business education and research at Texas A&M University, Michigan State University, University of Colorado Denver, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Memphis, University of Pittsburgh, University of South Carolina, University of Washington, University of Wisconsin, George Washington University, and University of Maryland. Michigan State University units co-sponsoring AIBI include University Outreach and Engagement, CASID, and the Women and International Development Program.

**CASID Awarded Fulbright–Hays Group Project Abroad Funding**

“Bulgaria: Understanding the Eurasian Frontier” is a Fulbright–Hays Group Project Abroad (GPA) for K–12 educators, sponsored by CASID and Linking All Types of Teachers to International Cross-Cultural Education (LATTICE). Funding was awarded by the U.S. Department of Education. In June 2008, Pamela Galbraith, CASID, and Margaret Holtschlag, LATTICE, took 14 K–12 teachers to Bulgaria for four weeks. Historically speaking, the area that is now Bulgaria has been at the crossroads of a number of empires and populations. The result has been a particularly rich and vibrant history, which can be seen in the country’s archaeological and historical sites, cultural customs, and artistic and musical traditions, as well as in the memories and identities of the population. It is this legacy the GPA aimed to explore. The majority of the program took place in and around Blagoevgrad, a major hub of southwestern Bulgaria and home of the American University in Bulgaria (AUBG). Professors from AUBG provided more in-depth information on the scope of Balkan history and current economic, social, and political issues in Bulgaria. Afternoons were spent at the many cultural sites nearby.

The program also involved overnight and weekend trips to important cities, including Varna, located on the Black Sea; Sofia, the capital; and Plovdiv, which contains many impressive archaeological sites. The group also visited the religious and cultural sites around Rila and Melnik, including the famous Rila Monastery and Rila National Park.

**LATTICE: Internationalizing the K–12 Curriculum**

Linking All Types of Teachers to International and Cross-Cultural Education (LATTICE) is an award-winning program that connects local K–12 teachers, international graduate students, and MSU faculty and staff to learn about global issues and bring global perspective to K–12 classrooms. The goal of LATTICE is to change teachers’ perspectives and support international teaching and learning through collective study and discussion. LATTICE participants meet monthly from 12–4:30 p.m. at Haslett High School for an interactive program that focuses on a global topic, often involving small-group discussions, panels, presentations, and personal stories. Wide-ranging social, cultural, economic, and political topics have been studied from international perspectives, including hunger, gender, environment, economic development, family rituals, schooling practices, and intercultural interactions. The theme for the 2007–2008 year was “Environment in a Global Context.” Monthly sessions focused on topics such as gender, environment, and poverty; human rights, conflict, and access to resources; and media, technology, and environment. K–12 teachers reported being affected profoundly by sessions and have revisited many ideas in their classrooms, often in collaboration with international students they have come to know. The 2007–2008 LATTICE leadership team included two co-directors who represented MSU and K–12 schools (Kristin Janka Millar, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and Margaret Holtschlag, elementary teacher, Haslett Public School District). A College of Education graduate student provided assistance. LATTICE sessions are planned by a team consisting of K–12 teachers, international students, and faculty and staff from MSU’s College of Education, African Studies Center, Asian Studies Center, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, CASID, and Women and International Development Program.

LATTICE was developed in 1995 as an international education partnership linking K–12 teachers from six school districts in mid-Michigan with international graduate students/scholars at MSU. Now, 13 years later, LATTICE includes teachers from 17 school districts, students from 65 countries, and 562 listserv subscribers. The program is supported by CASID and the College of Education, as well as the Office of the Dean of International Studies and Programs, the African Studies Center, the Asian Studies Center, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, the Women and International Development Program, the Graduate School, and 10 mid-Michigan school districts.
CASID Supports MSU Faculty Development

With support from Title VI funds from the U.S. Department of Education, CASID and the Women and International Development Program (WID) have allocated resources for faculty conference travel and International Development Research Initiation Grants (IDRIGs). The purpose of the IDRIG program is to stimulate innovative research proposals and to promote new knowledge about international development. CASID and WID also provide support to MSU faculty to present papers and serve as discussants or panel chairs on topics related to international development and/or gender relations at national conferences.

2007–2008 CASID and WID Travel Grant Recipients:

**Dr. Sheila Contreas, Writing, Rhetoric, and American Culture**
Traveled to Athens, Georgia, to attend a conference on indigenous studies.

**Dr. William Derman, Anthropology**
Traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.

**Dr. Ok-Seok Park, Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian, and African Languages**
Traveled to Chicago, Illinois, to attend the American Association of Teachers of Korean 12th Annual Conference and Professional Development Workshop.

**Dr. Catherine Ryu, Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian, and African Languages**
Traveled to New Jersey to attend the Annual Association of Japanese Library Studies Conference.

**Danielle Steider, Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian, and African Languages**
Traveled to San Antonio, Texas, to attend the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages conference and to Madison, Wisconsin, to attend the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages conference.

2007–2008 CASID and WID IDRIG Recipients:

**Dr. DeBrenna Agbenyiga, Social Work, and Dr. Reitu Mabokela, Educational Administration and Educational Policy**
Traveled to Ghana in June 2008 to explore the impact of social, cultural, and economic factors on educational access for girls in the Tema and Kumasi areas.

**Robert S. Glew Accepts CASID Directorship**

Following a search during 2007–2008, Dr. Marietta Baba, dean of the College of Social Science, appointed Dr. Robert S. Glew as director of CASID. Dr. Glew previously served as assistant director (1999–2002), associate director (2002–2006), and acting director (2006–2008) of CASID.

Dr. Glew is an anthropologist by training, earning his B.A. and M.A. at the University of Wisconsin in 1986 and 1989 respectively and his Ph.D. at MSU in 1997. Dr. Glew has 20 years of experience working on issues of international development in Africa; his areas of expertise include coping and livelihood strategies, health, education, religious change, social change, and identity politics. He has studied, taught, and conducted research in Africa, drawing upon his language skills in Hausa, Fulfulde, and French.

Currently, Dr. Glew is co-principal investigator of a National Science Foundation award for research in East Africa titled “Dynamic Interactions among People, Livestock, and Savanna Ecosystems under Climate Change.” In addition to his ongoing research agenda, he currently co-directs two U.S. Department of State-funded Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs grants for Mali and China. He has served as a supervisor for the Minority International Research Training program in the Republic of Niger and spent two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger.
CASID and WID Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships

CASID and the Women and International Development Program (WID) award graduate fellowships under the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships Program of the U.S. Department of Education. The FLAS Fellowships Program is designed to meet critical needs for specialists in American education, government, and other services of a public and/or professional nature who will utilize their skills in training others and developing throughout the United States a wider knowledge and understanding of other countries and cultures. CASID and WID FLAS fellowships are awarded to graduate students enrolled in programs that combine the study of a modern foreign language with advanced training and research in international development studies. Academic year fellowship support includes the payment of tuition and fees (up to $12,000 per academic year) and a stipend of $15,000 for the academic year. Summer fellowship support includes the payment of tuition and fees (up to $4,000) and a stipend of $2,500. For information and application materials, please visit the CASID Web site at casid.msu.edu/academic/fellowships.shtml.

CASID and WID FLAS Fellows, Academic Year 2007–2008

Charlotte Cable, Anthropology, Arabic
Andrea Freidus, Anthropology, Chewa
Lindsey Gish, History, Haitian Creole
Audrey Joslin, Geography, Portuguese
Rowenn Kalman, Anthropology, Quechua
Allison Locatto, Sociology, Swahili
Triliby MacDonald, Geography, Portuguese
Rebecca Meuninck, Anthropology, Portuguese
Nicholas Molen, Anthropology, Swahili
Joel Christian Reed, Anthropology, Portuguese
Peter Richards, Geography, Portuguese

CASID and WID FLAS Fellows, Summer 2007

Adrianne Daggett, Anthropology, Czech
Monica Evans, Education, Portuguese
Lisa Flagg, Anthropology, Portuguese
Audrey Joslin, Geography, Portuguese
Randall Juras, Economics, Spanish
Rowenn Kalman, Anthropology, Quechua
Nidal Karim, Psychology, Maya K’iche
Joel Christian Reed, Anthropology, Portuguese
Lumumba Shabaka, History, Portuguese

CASID Supports the Midwest Institute for International/Intercultural Education’s Summer Workshops

The Midwest Institute for International/Intercultural Education (MIIIE) 2008 Summer Workshops, “Human Rights and Cultural Diversity” and “Global Healthcare Issues,” offered faculty from post-second- ary institutions an intensive week-long learning environment to discuss ways to internationalize the curriculum at their home institutions. The workshop was supported by CASID, the Women and International Development Program, the African Studies Center, and the Asian Studies Center.

MIIIE is a self-funded consortium of two-year colleges based at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. Its primary objective is to support curriculum and professional development by organizing curriculum workshops, fall and spring conferences, overseas projects for faculty and students, assistance with grant development, faculty mentoring, and professional networking.

From left: Robert Glew, CASID; Assela Mehretu, Department of Geography; Sparty; and Bruce Bigelow, Center for Integrated Studies.

CASID at Homecoming

CASID Director Robert Glew shared a moment with Sparty at the sixth annual College of Social Science Alumni Homecoming Tent. CASID staff joined other social science units, alumni, students, faculty, and friends at the pregame festivities and stayed to cheer the Spartans to victory over Indiana.

Award Recipients

Congratulations to MSU’s Student Fulbright Award Recipients

Congratulations to the seven MSU students who were awarded Fulbrights in 2007–2008: Andrea Freidus, Anthropology; Leslie Hadfield, History; Lexine Hansen, Community, Agriculture, Recreation, and Resource Studies; Amy Jamison, Educational Policy; Dusty Myers, Anthropology; Alberto Nickerson, History; and Mita Sticklen, Interdisciplinary Studies.

Casid/Visitng Scholr

CASID and the Women and International Development Program hosted Dr. Patricia Repar as part of a Visiting Scholar Program. Dr. Repar was interested in developing similar programs at the University of New Mexico. She is hosted Dr. Patricia Repar as part of a Visiting Scholar Program. Dr. Repar is the director of the Arts-in-Medicine Program at the University of New Mexico. She is interested in developing similar programs in an African context. Dr. Repar was on campus November 27–30, 2007, to meet with MSU faculty and graduate students working on issues of health in Africa.

Muskogon Community College’s Global Awareness Festival: Focus on Asia

In February 2008, CASID participated in the Global Awareness Festival hosted by Muskegon Community College. The annual festival is designed to raise awareness of global issues and was attended by more than 200 local community members, students, and faculty. This year, events and lectures focused on Asia. CASID—in cooperation with the Women and International Development Program and the Asian Studies Center—organized a panel, and Dr. Amita Chudgar, Department of Educational Administration, and Marilyn McCullough, Asian Studies Center—organized and International Development Program—in partnership with MSU’s Lifelong Education Program—have organized the Evening College “International Issues Speaker Series.” The series, held at the Burcham Hills Retirement Facility, brought together MSU faculty and advanced graduate students with senior members of the community to examine how global and local systems interact and how the past shapes the present. Recent topics included orphan care in Malawi, domestic violence in Bulgaria, and the historical context of the Vietnam conflict.

CASID Organizes Evening College Lecture Series

CASID and the Women and International Development Program—in partnership with MSU’s Lifelong Education Program—have organized the Evening College “International Issues Speaker Series.” The series, held at the Burcham Hills Retirement Facility, brought together MSU faculty and advanced graduate students with senior members of the community to examine how global and local systems interact and how the past shapes the present. Recent topics included orphan care in Malawi, domestic violence in Bulgaria, and the historical context of the Vietnam conflict.

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important issues related to international development.

The 2007–2008 Friday Forum included presentations by MSU and visiting scholars on a number of

Dr. Cynthia Donovan, Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics

The Ones Left Behind: Rural House-

Dr. Joe Arvai, Community, Agriculture, Recreation, and Resource Studies

September 21

Environmental Journalism: Challenges and Missions

Dr. Eric Freedman, Journalism

September 28

Challenges in Reporting the World’s Most Important Story

October 5

A Maroon Legacy? Sketching the Historical Geography of Live Fences in Central America

Dr. Chris Duvall, Geography

October 12

Maoist Insurgency, Struggle for Democracy, Peace, and Human Rights in Nepal

Tulsi Bhandari, director of “Beneath Everest: Nepal Reborn”

November 2

Zimbabwe’s Fast Track Land Reform

Dr. Bill Derman, Anthropology

February 1

Urbanization and Health in Africa: Exploring the Interconnections between Poverty, Inequality, and the Burden of Disease

Dr. Jacob Songsoore, dean, School of Research and Graduate Studies, University of Ghana

February 8

The Future of Bosnia and Herzegovina: The States Which is not a State

Suhret Fazlic, Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow

February 15

Death by Myth! Climate Change, Politics, and Coping Strategies among the San of Southern Africa

Dr. Robert Hitchcock, Anthropology

February 22

Development Evolution and Contribution of NGOs in Bangladesh

Imul Muniruzzaman, Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow

February 29

Social Capital and Political Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa

Dr. Ravi Bhatnari, Political Science

March 21

Child Labor and Cocoa Farming: Sociocultural and Ecological Influences among Children in the Upper East Region in Ghana

Dr. Debreanna Agbenyiga, Social Work

March 28

The President’s Malaria Initiative in Malawi

Dr. Rebecca Malouin, Pedantics and Human Development, Family Medicine

April 4

Long-term Implications and Sustainability of Land Reform in India—Preliminary Evidence from West Bengal

Dr. Sengpipin Jin, Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics

April 11

Poststructural Development and the Role of SMOs in Approving Rural Livelihoods through Agrarian Reform

Dr. Cynthia Simmons, Geography

April 25

Does Adult Literacy Have a Role to Play in Addressing the Universal Elementary Education Challenge in India?

Dr. Amita Chudgar, Educational Administration

In 2001, Ms. Kendall held a three-year teaching position in Kuwait City, Kuwait, before coming to MSU in 2005. She is fluent in German and French and has received Foreign Language and Area Studies support for her Arabic studies at MSU.

Dr. Diane Ruonavaara is program manager for the MSU Tanzania Partnership Project and advises students in the international development graduate specialization.

Dr. Ruonavaara comes to CASID with 16 years of experience in international community development, participatory research, and evaluation of extension and rural projects. In her work, Dr. Ruonavaara is committed to the integration of theory and practice, sustainability, and participatory research and development approaches with marginalized groups of people, especially women and indigenous groups. She has studied, taught, and conducted research and evaluation in Tanzania, Mexico, Ecuador, Vietnam, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Argentina, and the United States. Dr. Ruonavaara was a co-principal investigator on the Bean Cowpea Collaborative Research Support Program, in which she did participatory plant breeding in Ecuador, and has lead a Fulbright–Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad award to conduct her research in Tanzania.

Ms. Stefanie Kendall, CASID outreach coordinator, will be coordinating K–12, post-secondary, and public outreach for CASID and the Women and International Development Program, working closely with other Title VI National Resource Centers on campus.

Ms. Kendall is a fourth-year doctoral student at the College of Education. She is studying conflict resolution and teacher education in conflict and post-conflict regions, specifically in Islamic areas. She has a master’s degree in education and a bachelor’s degree in comparative literature and has taught special education for five years and high school English and social studies for seven years.

Ms. Marita Eibl is the assistant conference coordinator for the Title VI 50th Anniversary Conference. The conference is celebrating 50 years of national support for international focused education. Ms. Eibl is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Anthropology at MSU. Her research focuses on antiretroviral medications for those living with HIV/AIDS through international programs in Tanzania and examines issues of development, gender, and governance. She has a master’s degree from MSU in anthropology and a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and environmental sciences from the University of Notre Dame. Ms. Eibl received Foreign Language and Area Studies funding for her study of Kwahali and a Fulbright–Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad award to conduct her research in Tanzania.
Thematic Initiative Awards, 2007–2008

The Global Area and Thematic Initiative (GATI) is an effort of five MSU international centers to foster comparative and thematically oriented multidisciplinary programs of research and undergraduate or graduate training likely to bring national prominence to MSU in international and area studies. GATI links MSU's faculty and material resources in innovative ways to continue national leadership in conceptualizing and acting on key transformations in international development. Initiatives funded by GATI for academic year 2007–2008 include:

Unprotected Childhood in a Global Context: Structural Challenges to Schooling, Health, and Well-Being among the World's Children, led by Dr. Debrenna Agbenyega, Social Work; Dr. Deborah Johnson, Family and Child Ecology; and Dr. Robert Hitchcock, Anthropology. The project used an interdisciplinary approach to examine the structural challenges facing children in international settings, focusing on education and health. Faculty experts conducted colloquia and presented research to undergraduate and graduate classes. A conference was held to examine barriers to education, health, and well-being affecting children's development.

Resource Scarcity and Abundance: Oil, Democratization, and Conflict in the Niger Delta, led by Dr. Ravi Bhavnani, Political Science; Dr. Rita Kiki Edozie, James Madison College; Dr. Jaguo Qi, Geography; and Dr. Jennifer Olson, Telecommunications. Though research has been conducted on resource abundance as a causal factor in civil conflicts, this research project focused on the conflict link of resource scarcity. The researchers focused on the Niger Delta region, which is characterized by resource abundance and resource scarcity. The project examined ways that resource abundance has driven resource scarcity, whether there are new social cleavages emerging from conflict in the Niger Delta, and whether there is a relation between democratization and conflict in the region.

Sustainable Planning, Design, and Construction: Collaborative U.S.–India Research and Outreach, led by Dr. Matt Syl, Planning, Design, and Construction; Dr. Alex LaMore, Planning, Design, and Construction; Dr. Timothy Mrozowski, Planning, Design, and Construction; and Dr. Maya Fischhoff, Environmental Science and Policy Program. Concerns about the negative impacts of buildings on the environment are forcing the construction industry to explore sustainable alternatives. Responding to this environmental imperative, the industry has introduced and implemented various “green” planning, design, and construction practices. This emphasis on sustainability and environment is taking place in the United States, but rapidly developing countries such as India are becoming aware of the benefits of new practices. MSU and Indian researchers collaborated to develop green practices in India.

Political Economy, Governance, and Security, led by Dr. Brian Silver, Political Science; Dr. Lori Post, Communication Arts and Sciences; and Dr. Carlos Pereira, Political Science. The project aims to develop an interdisciplinary initiative on international conflict and cooperation and political economy and governance, which will develop into a thematic center at MSU. This thematic center will focus on outreach and undergraduate training. Faculty have conducted colloquia and held conferences on such issues as global markets, corruption, foreign policy, and the new information society. These issues have been developed further for inclusion in undergraduate and graduate curricula.


Humphrey Fellows Visit the State Capitol

In addition to professional development that they engage in individually, Humphrey Fellows take part in local, statewide, and national site visits organized by CASID. In the 2007–08 academic year, the Fellows visited university officials, state representatives in the Capitol in Lansing, local business owners, chambers of commerce, and downtown development authorities in Grand Rapids, Detroit, and Frankenmuth, as well as financial markets in Chicago and local government and international trade representatives in Los Angeles.

Humphrey Fellows meet with State Representative Jeff Mayes.
Visit the CASID Staff in the International Center

CASID is located in Room 202 of the International Center. CASID continues to focus on its core missions of: (1) enhancing its leadership role (in partnership with the Women and International Development Program) as a U.S. Department of Education-designated and -funded National Resource Center for Foreign Language and International Studies; (2) diversifying and expanding the contract and grant portfolio of CASID, the College of Social Science, and MSU for cross-unit interdisciplinary international development research, teaching, and outreach; and (3) administering the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program at MSU.