

## MSU Receives 2006 Simon Award for Campus Internationalization

We're striving to play a leadership role nationally in re-imagining global engagement at U.S. colleges and universities.

—Jeffrey Riedinger  
ISP Acting Dean

Michigan State University's efforts to expand international research, teaching, and outreach activities in East Lansing and abroad have earned the university the Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization. The annual prize is named for the late Senator Paul Simon (D - Ill.), who identified international education as an issue of crucial importance for the future strength and security of the United States. Other 2006 winners are Arcadia University (Pennsylvania), Concordia College (Minnesota), Earlham College (Indiana) and Purdue University (Indiana). NAFSA: Association of International Educators, a worldwide association that advances international education and exchange, administers the award.

"We're honored by this award, which recognizes MSU's long history of international engagement and leadership and comes as we begin to address new challenges associated with global competitiveness in our increasingly interconnected world," said MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. "Continuing to expand our international reach is essential, as we apply MSU's land-grant tradition and values to being not only the leading land-grant university in the world, but the model for 'world-grant' by 2012."

The NAFSA selection committee, made up of senior administrators from five colleges and universities, looked for examples of international education

being broadly infused across the fabric of the institution. The committee considered several criteria, including curricular initiatives; education, teaching, research, and work abroad by U.S. students; and international development projects.

"The award is special because it's an acknowledgment by our peers in education, both at home and overseas, of our commitment to internationalization," said Jeffrey Riedinger, acting dean of International Studies and Programs. "We're striving to play a leadership role nationally in re-imagining global engagement at U.S. colleges and universities."

Along with other winners and honorees, MSU will formally receive the award at the NAFSA annual conference, scheduled for May 21-26, 2006 in Montreal, Canada. Additionally, MSU will be profiled in the report *Internationalizing the Campus 2006: Profiles of Success at Colleges and Universities*, which will be published later this year on the NAFSA website ([www.nafsa.org](http://www.nafsa.org)). Intended to present an agenda for action, the report will contribute to the dialogue about the development of a strong U.S. international education policy, one of NAFSA's goals. The case studies and campus models will highlight not only sound educational practice but also the value to society that derives from effective international education.

## College of Education Recognized for International Initiatives

The American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE) honored MSU's College of Education with its Best Practice Award for Global and International Teacher Education on February 1, 2006.

The award, sponsored by AACTE's Committee on Global and International Teacher Education, recognizes exemplary practice in preparing education professionals for work in intercultural, global, cross-cultural, and international settings. The award was presented at AACTE's 58th Annual Meeting in San Diego, January 29–February 1. The College of Education has had a longstanding commitment to international education with projects throughout the world and among the most comprehensive study abroad programs in education in the country. "The AACTE Award for International Education is a wonderful honor for the College of Education and Michigan State University," said Carole Ames, dean of the College of Education. "We have a long history of international involvement, and we have placed a substantial emphasis over the

years on the international dimensions of K-12 teaching and learning.

"We have forged strong ties to the Office of International Studies and Programs here on campus and we have developed innovative programs that link our students and Michigan teachers to educators around the world. In an increasingly interconnected world, these linkages are more important than ever, and recognition by AACTE is an indication of the outstanding work by our first-rate faculty and staff." AACTE, based in Washington, D.C., is a national, voluntary association of colleges and universities with undergraduate or graduate programs that prepare professional educators. The 785 AACTE member institutions graduate approximately 90 percent of the nation's new teachers and other educators each year. Previous institutional recipients of the international award include Indiana University, Ohio State University, and Ball State University.

—Victor Inzunza



From Left to Right: Dr. Eden Wells, Richard Fulton, John Kaneene, Robert Root-Bernstein and moderator Teresa Wehrwein.

## International Education Week Panel Discusses Bird Flu Threat

MSU has a wealth of expertise relevant to the understanding of avian influenza

A panel of MSU faculty experts was joined by Dr. Eden Wells from the Michigan Department of Community Health for a November 17, 2005 panel discussion of the emerging concerns about a possible avian influenza pandemic. The most recent version of the avian influenza virus, H5N1, is a subtype of Influenza A. Although it occurs mainly in birds, it has been contracted by humans, making it what scientists call a "zoonotic" disease. There are currently no proven cases of human-to-human transmission of H5N1, but the extremely high mortality rate among affected humans and the relative ease with which viruses mutate in ways that allow such transmission have led many experts to believe that this virus is almost certain to result in a major worldwide epidemic.

The International Education Week panel "Bird Flu: The Next Pandemic?" was moderated by Teresa Wehrwein (right), MSU College of Nursing, and featured, from left to right, Wells, who is charged with developing Michigan's influenza preparedness plan; Richard Fulton, Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health, an expert on avian diseases, particularly in poultry; John Kaneene, Epidemiology and Veterinary Medicine, director of the Population Medical Center and an expert in infectious disease epidemiology with emphasis on zoonotic diseases; and Robert Root-Bernstein, Physiology and Lyman Briggs School of Science, a physiologist and medical

historian who challenges, from a scientific perspective, prior assumptions about pandemics and other medical phenomena.

MSU has a wealth of expertise relevant to the understanding of avian influenza, such as health of animals (including fowl), biosecurity, control of infectious disease in animals and humans, communication about infectious diseases, and the relationship between human medicine and other fields, such as veterinary medicine and wildlife biology. Much of this work is centered in the College of Veterinary Medicine, which is why Dean Lonnie King participated in MSU Provost Kim Wilcox's recent delegation to Thailand, where cases of bird flu have been reported. (See separate story in this issue.) King is one of the nation's experts on biosecurity, zoonotic diseases, and the ways in which human medicine and veterinary medicine merge.

In addition to the Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health and the Population Medical Center, mentioned above, MSU is also home to the Center for Advancing Microbial Risk Assessment, the Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases, and the Health and Risk Communication Center.

MSU University Relations has posted a news release on MSU experts on issues related to avian influenza at <http://newsroom.msu.edu/site/indexer/2531/content.htm>