

MSU President Meets with International Development Partners



President Lou Anna K. Simon (right) hosted a reception for MSU's international development partners and others during a summer trip to Washington, D.C. Among those attending were Ambassador Abdoulaye Diop of Mali (left) and Julie Howard (center), executive director of the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa. Simon serves on the Partnership's executive committee, and MSU has served, at the executive committee's request, as the administrative home for the organization since its founding in 2001. The Partnership recently moved to International Studies and Programs at MSU, whose professional staff will assist with administering the Partnership's growing portfolio of projects. The Partnership receives funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the State Department.

MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon held two days of meetings in Washington, D.C. with a number of MSU's international development partners in June 2005, reasserting the university's institutional commitment to making its international teaching, applied research, and extension a priority in her administration. The trip was organized by MSU's Office of International Development (OID), an office that has helped the university secure millions of dollars in international development project funds since it was organized in 2000.

Other meetings involved representatives of two development firm partners, International Resources Group and Development Alternatives, Inc. She also met with former Michigan Governor John Engler, currently president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

Simon hosted an evening reception that was well attended by a diverse group, including a dozen ambassadors from African countries, their U.S. government counterparts, MSU's education and

development partners, and MSU alumni, friends, and retired faculty living in the area.

Simon said she reflected during her flight back to Michigan on "how well our thinking on a new land-grant model positions MSU to engage the challenges and opportunities of economic development, educational advancement, environmental protection, and health improvement, in Michigan and around the world. Our faculty play a crucial role in providing leadership in each sector."

In addition to Simon, the MSU delegation included ISP Acting Dean Jeffrey Riedinger, Bean/Cowpea Collaborative Research Support Program Director Irv Widders, Institute of International Agriculture Director Dan Clay, Institute of International Health Director Michael Kron, OID Managing Director Mary Anne Walker, and Jon Lacey, who manages several OID projects. Julie Howard, executive director of the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, and Howard Gobstein of MSU's Washington Governmental Affairs Office also participated.

Simon Also Met With:

- U.S. Agency for International Development Administrator Andrew Natsios and members of his senior leadership team to discuss MSU's ongoing programs in agriculture, environment, education, democracy, and governance
- U.S. Department of Agriculture/CSREES (Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service) Administrator Colien Hefferan to discuss ideas for a new land-grant model
- National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center Director Sharon Hrynkow to discuss MSU's leadership in malaria and river blindness research and ongoing work in biodiversity and natural products
- Department of Education International Education Programs Service Director Ralph Hines on MSU's Title VI programs and leadership in the teaching of less commonly taught languages
- Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrator for International Activities Judith Ayers on MSU's tremendous strengths around the world and potential partnership opportunities to build on educational and applied research programs
- Felipe Manteiga and other key staff of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) on MSU's poverty reduction programs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and how valuable MSU's expertise could be in assisting the MCC with due diligence in reviews of draft compacts from countries selected to receive development assistance

International Business Forum Becomes Global Business Club of Mid-Michigan

Since 1990, a consortium of organizations has offered a luncheon speaker series under the auspices of the International Business Forum (IBF) aimed at local academics, public policy makers, and the local business community. The IBF has now become the Global Business (GB) Club of Mid-Michigan, with a newly developed focus on global issues of interest to the mid-Michigan business community.

The GB Club is dedicated to supporting global business growth tied to Michigan and its diverse corporations. The club continues the luncheon speaker tradition, with the series cosponsored by MSU's Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), the Greater Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, Lansing Community College, the MSU College of Law, the MSU Center for Advanced Study of International Development (CASID), and the MSU Women and International Development (WID) Program. Providing insights on relevant global business topics as well as networking opportunities for mid-Michigan's global business executives, the luncheon events are open to the general public. For more information, visit the website at: <http://ciber.msu.edu/events/GBClub/>

Journal of International Business Studies Rates MSU as Top School with International Business Orientation

A recent study published in the *Journal of International Business Studies* ranked MSU as the top school with an international business orientation, as measured by the number of faculty represented on the 30 top international business journal editorial boards. The study showed that MSU had 28 faculty members holding 67 different positions on 17 international business journal boards during the years 1990, 1994, 1998, and 2002. Tamer Cavusgil, CIBER's founding executive director and holder of the John William Byington Endowed Chair in Global Marketing, is listed as having the third highest international business journal representation, with 18 memberships on eight journals.