

# FY 2009 Project Abstracts

## U.S.-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program

**P116M090001**

**Iowa-Midwest Brazil Exchange in Business and Agriculture**

**U.S. Lead:** University of Northern Iowa

**U.S. Partner:** Hawkeye Community College, Kirkwood Community College

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade Federal de Goias

**Brazil Partner:** Universidade de Brasilia

The proposed project will provide the foundation for long-term, productive relations between the partner institutions towards the shared goal of expanding international education opportunities for students early in their academic careers. The fields of Business and Agriculture will be the central focus, with an emphasis placed on enhancing curriculum, implementing student and faculty exchanges, adopting technology-based distance learning and establishing practicum opportunities with businesses in both Iowa and Brazil. Partner institutions will: provide scholarships; incorporate respective language training; identify mutually-agreed upon curriculum; and establish a seamless mechanism for credit transfer between the participating community colleges and universities.

**Total FIPSE Funding: \$228,240**

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**P116M090003**

**MAGNETS (Music Abroad Generating New Experiences for Talented Students)**

**U.S. Lead:** Marshall University Research Corporation

**U.S. Partner:** Morehead State University

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade de Federal de Goias

**Brazil Partner:** Universidade do Estado de Catarina

This project will develop and implement a model international undergraduate program in music utilizing an integrated curriculum with the strengths of each of the four universities and will promote multicultural and multinational awareness. The project consists of planning and development activities, student and faculty exchange, evaluation and dissemination. 18 students from the United States will study in Brazil for one semester or one academic year, and 18 students from Brazil will spend one semester or one academic year in the United States.

**Total FIPSE Funding: \$250,000**

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**P116M090004**

**Legacies of the African Diaspora in Brazil and the United States: Persistent Inequalities**

**U.S. Lead:** University of North Carolina at Charlotte

**U.S. Partner:** Winston Salem State University

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

**Brazil Partner:** Universidade Federal de Pernambuco

This project will examine twentieth- and twenty-first century legacies of slavery and the quest for inclusion. It will also support exchanges between Brazilian and U.S. institutions, one of which is a historically black university, in order to increase the participation of underrepresented minorities in international studies. An intensive pre-semester Portuguese language program for United States students is built into the exchange. The target population is advanced undergraduates and, in the United States, M.A. students specializing in the social sciences or humanities with an interest in the following areas: African American/Afro-Brazilian history, literature and culture; comparative race relations; civil rights; history of race and ethnicity; and public policy regarding questions of race. In both countries, optional internship opportunities in museums and other local cultural institutions can be arranged for participants who have specific professional interests.

**Total FIPSE Funding:** \$249,896

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**P116M090006**

**Providing Education in Face of Climate Change, Food and Energy Scarcity**

**U.S. Lead:** Kansas State University

**U.S. Partner:** Mississippi State University

**Brazil Lead:** Federal University of Santa Maria

**Brazil Partner:** Federal University of Mato Grosso

This project involves the exchange of students, faculty, and ideas as to how best to care for soil and other vital natural resources at a time when demands placed on global agricultural resources are growing dramatically. Students will be immersed in an exchange of language, culture, and agricultural stewardship practices. The outcomes of this project serve as a model for necessary refinements to postsecondary agricultural education in a rapidly changing world.

**Total FIPSE Funding:** \$252,293

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**P116M090009**

**The U.S.-Brazil Environmental and Business Cross Cultural Initiative: Sustainability Challenges and Attractiveness of Investments in Bio-Fuel Production**

**U.S. Lead:** University of West Florida

**U.S. Partner:** Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade Federal de Viçosa

**Brazil Partner:** Universidade Federal do Ceará

This project will utilize cross-national curriculum development and student/faculty study abroad experiences to bring necessary internationalization to the areas of Environmental Studies and Agribusiness as it relates to the project's theme of Sustainability Challenges and Attractiveness of Investments in Bio Fuel Production. The joint project will also promote new knowledge about the impact of cultural, social, and political dynamics.

**Total FIPSE Funding: \$255,968**

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**P116M090010**

**Urban Planning and Sustainability Project**

**U.S. Lead:** California State University, Northridge

**U.S. Partner:** University of Massachusetts, Amherst

**Brazil Lead:** Federal University of Goiás

**Brazil Partner:** Federal University of Uberlandia

This consortium will offer to United States and Brazilian students and faculty the opportunity to study and conduct research abroad in subjects such as transportation, environmental policies and projects, energy and technology, housing and urban life quality, comprehensive and participatory general plan, migration flow impacting cities and geographic information systems. Central objectives of this program are the application of knowledge in bilateral curriculum development and the promotion and advancement of global citizenship.

**Total FIPSE Funding: \$249,994**

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**P116M090018**

**Comparative Environmental Issues - Diverse Study Solutions**

**U.S. Lead:** Colorado College

**U.S. Partner:** Carleton College and eleven other members of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest [ACM] (Beloit College, Coe College, Cornell College, Grinnell College, Knox College, Lake Forest College, Lawrence University, Macalester College, Monmouth College, Ripon College, and St. Olaf College)

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora

**Brazil Partner:** Universidade de Brasilia

**Subject Areas:** Natural sciences, social sciences, humanities

This four-year project builds on a seven-year exchange relationship between Colorado College and the Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora (UFJF), which has been extended to include the Associated Colleges of the Midwest and the Universidade de Brasília (UnB). Over the course of this project, twelve students from the ACM colleges will exchange with twelve students from UFJF and/or UnB for one semester, providing an opportunity for each student to focus on environmental curricular study, examining how environmental issues are defined, analyzed, and addressed in foreign contexts.

**Total FIPSE Funding:** \$264,707

**Contact:** Professor Michael Taber, Director of Environmental Science, Colorado College, 14 East Cache La Poudre Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903; (719) 389-6026; [mtaber@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:mtaber@coloradocollege.edu)

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#### **P116M090021**

#### **Bioenergy and Biological Systems Engineering: An Educational Consortium for a Sustainable Agriculture**

**U.S. Lead:** University of Illinois

**U.S. Partner:** Universidade de São Paulo – Pirassununga

**Brazil Lead:** Purdue University

**Brazil Partner:** Universidade Federal de Viçosa

This consortium will develop internships with United States and Brazilian companies and exchanges of undergraduate, graduate students, and faculty between the four partners. Curricular development in Agricultural and Biological Engineering appropriate to the core competencies and needs of partner institutions will be a major ongoing activity of the faculty co-project directors. Outcomes include joint curricular development to accommodate both semester-long exchanges and formalized international internships.

**Total FIPSE Funding:** \$250,000

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#### **P116M090022**

#### **PRIMER Alliance for Environmental Biotechnology and Sustainable Development**

**U.S. Lead:** Universidad del Turabo  
**U.S. Partner:** Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade de Sao Paulo  
**Brazil Partner:** Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense

This project will develop a training partnership in environmental biotechnology for sustainable development, allowing ample opportunities for collaboration among scientific and social studies. Each partner represents different levels of academic development and expertise relevant to the development of their communities. Rutgers' global placement in sciences will facilitate the advances of fellow partners as a mentor. The focus areas within the proposed Alliance are biodiversity, industrial microbial genomics, and applied microbial physiology and biochemistry into bioprocesses. The Alliance will foster integrative perspectives through an international education and training program in biotechnology for sustainable development among teams of each partner institution.

**Total FIPSE Funding:** \$239,910

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#### **P116M090024**

#### **Food and Energy Production: Internationalized Agricultural and Engineering Programs**

**U.S. Lead:** University of Kentucky  
**U.S. Partner:** Iowa State University

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade of Vicosa  
**Brazil Partner:** Universidade Federal de Campina Grande

This consortium aims to strengthen student and faculty global competence in food and energy production and environmental stewardship. This goal will be accomplished by capitalizing upon the existing academic and professional collaborations in biosystems and agricultural engineering and developing new college-wide collaborations to support student and faculty exchanges. One of the key unique features of this project is the upfront inclusion of international corporate stakeholders with core business interests in food, fiber and energy production systems to strengthen recruiting efforts and develop meaningful educational and internship activities.

**Total FIPSE Funding:** \$239,967

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#### **P116M090026**

#### **Consortium for Promotion of Understanding of Environmental and Public Health Issues**

**U.S. Lead:** Michigan State University  
**U.S. Partner:** University of Georgia

**Brazil Lead:** Universidade Federal Santa Maria

**Brazil Partner:** Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul

In this four year program, student exchanges will focus on zoonotic diseases and public health issues. “One World, One Health” will be taught at all four institutions through asynchronous learning modules and synchronous webinars. Externship experiences will be geared toward emerging diseases and public health and may include such diverse experiences as teaching about zoonotic diseases in inner city classrooms, controlling vampire bat-transmitted rabies in the Pantanal, exploring quality control program for milk producers, conducting surveillance for Bird Flu in wild birds, and monitoring food safety in a chicken processing plant.

**Total FIPSE Funding:** \$247,110

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