

Program provides travel, study opportunities

By Kim Mitchell
Emerald Contributor

The Institute for International Cooperation and Development, an independent educational organization, is now recruiting for its travel/study and solidarity programs to begin in August, September and January of the 1989-90 academic year.

The IICD, founded in 1986, offers courses in and has sent delegations to Mozambique, Nicaragua, Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Europe, and the Soviet Union. It is now developing a solidarity program in Angola.

"The purpose of the programs is to find new ways to educate, learn, and work together," IICD Programs Director Eric Newman said. He added that students make contacts with all sectors of society, including teachers, government officials, farm workers and priests.

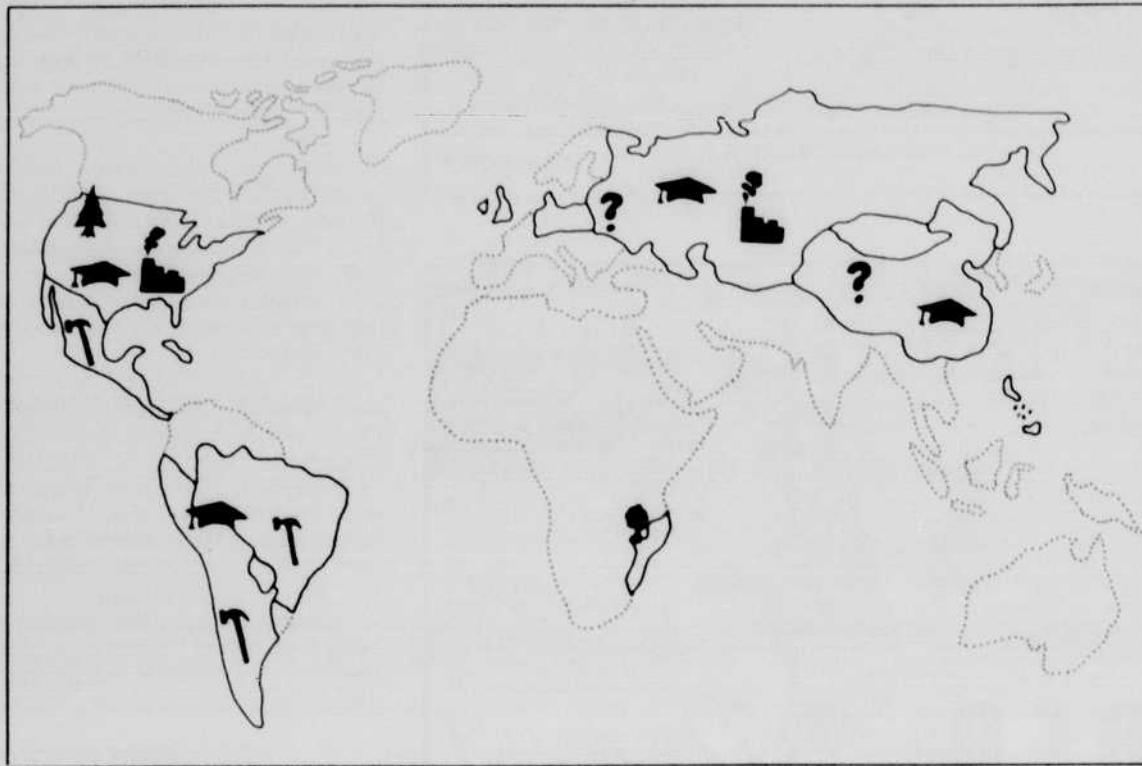
Both the travel/study and solidarity programs consist of three parts. The first two months are spent in preparation at the institute in Goshen, Mass. During this time, students participate in intensive

language study, courses in history and culture and, in the case of the solidarity programs, technical training for specific work projects.

The preparation period is followed by five months of travel or work in the designated country or countries. Last year a group of seven participants helped to plant 200,000 seedlings for an agro-forestry project in the Maputo province of Mozambique. This year the IICD will work with Architects and Planners in Solidarity with Nicaragua in a hospital wing construction project in Matiguas, in the department of Matagalpa, Nicaragua.

The final two-month segment of the program is dedicated to sharing documented materials with diverse audiences such as public schools, prisons, civic groups, churches, and trade unions throughout New England and the mid-Atlantic states.

Tuition ranges from \$4,000-8,000 and covers all expenses including room and board, travel expenses, vaccinations and health insurance for the travel or work period abroad.



Graphic by Mike Templeton

Independent fund raising is an integral part of the program. No specific experience or academic requirements are called for, but applicants must be 18 and over.

Although the IICD is a non-accredited organization, credit and financial aid have been made available in the past through participants' respective institutions.

For more information, write or call the Institute for International Cooperation and Development, P.O. Box 1063, Amherst, MA 01004, telephone (413) 268-9229.



Photo by Christopher Blair

'Wheat for Peace,' a mural depicting Nicaragua in more peaceful times, is on display in the EMU Art Gallery through July 29.

'Wheat for Peace' aids Nicaragua

By Frank Byers
Emerald Contributor

To show how Nicaragua looked in calmer times is the intent of Chilean artist Pancho Letelier, who designed the "Wheat for Peace" mural now on display in the EMU Art Gallery.

The mural was painted by Eugene residents in 1987 during Nicaragua Friendship Day, an annual event to raise funds for humanitarian aid to the Central American nation, Ruth Wilks of the Council for Human Rights in Latin America said.

Letelier's parents are human rights activist Isabel Letelier and former Chilean ambassador to the United States Orlando Letelier, who was assassinated by the Chilean secret police in 1976.

Wheat for Peace is a project in which Eastern Oregon wheat growers donate a portion of their crop to help feed Nicara-

guans who have suffered food losses because of Hurricane Joan, raids by contras and American export restrictions, Wilks said.

Besides harming recent crops, "the hurricane has destroyed a good part of the land on the east coast" of Nicaragua, Wilks said.

The donated wheat is delivered to private mills in Nicaragua, which will distribute flour to supermarkets and bakeries, Wilks said. Proceeds from the sale of the donated wheat will help finance community vegetable gardens.

The 1989 Nicaragua Friendship Day will be held Thursday, July 27 from 4 to 9 p.m. at Skinner Butte Park. Musical groups will include Grupo Experimental from Costa Rica and Eugene marimba band Shumba. Latin American food, beer and crafts will be available, and a children's area will feature pinatas, clowns and jugglers.

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