

Contact: Aimee Clayton

### **IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION**

**Action Requested:** Adopt a resolution, included as attachment A, providing for the following:

- 1) Authorizing the establishment of a branch office under the management and control of Iowa State University of Science and Technology Global Programs (ISU Global Programs);
- 2) Authorizing registration of the branch office as a non-governmental organization in Uganda; and
- 3) Delegating authority to ISU Global programs to take actions necessary and proper to manage and operate the programs and maintain registration in conformity with Ugandan law.

**Executive Summary:** International study, research and outreach have been a continuing priority for Iowa State University since the adoption of its strategic plan in 1995. As international programs have expanded, ISU has reviewed whether operations require registration in foreign countries. Using a joint Request for Proposals, the three Regent institutions secured the assistance of High Street Partners, a consulting firm in the area of international operations.

High Street Partners advised on the need to register programs with a permanent presence in foreign countries. While not all international operations require registration, activities involving hiring of international employees, ownership or leasing of real property, and other indicia of permanent operations can trigger the requirement to register. High Street Partners advised ISU that the work plan for activities in Uganda conducted by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods (CSRL) requires registration with the Ugandan government.

ISU created an oversight board under the title "Iowa State University of Science and Technology Global Programs" to oversee international activities, especially with respect to determination of when registration is required. It is expected that additional programs will require registration in the future. Iowa State University's intent is to return to the Board of Regents with a request for authorization to operate in those foreign countries as registration is required.

#### **Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods Program in Uganda**

CSRL operates a variety of programs in Uganda, primarily in the Kimuli District. The key programs include:

- **ISU Faculty-Led Service Learning Programs.** Each year, ISU faculty lead a study/service abroad program entitled, "Creating a School Garden: Service Learning in Uganda." Uganda provides our students who have an interest in global agriculture a way to understand and experience a broad range of issues in the developing world. CSRL maintains the housing facilities for the students in Kamuli and supports a full-time Field Operations Manager to coordinate this and other in-country programs.
- **ISU Faculty-Led Outreach.** ISU faculty work through CSRL to conduct outreach programs aimed at transforming lives of small landholder farm families through participatory training and education programs. CSRL works in conjunction with its

partners in Uganda to expand crop and animal production to overcome malnutrition. CSRL addresses the broad array of challenges to achieve food security and economic stability of rural households.

- ISU Faculty-Led Agricultural Research Projects. Several ISU faculty members are Principal Investigators or co-PIs on research projects with major activities in Uganda and the region with local partners. These projects include public and private grants to:
  - Increase nutritional value, yield and marketability of crops
  - Improve soils through improved nitrogen fixation and use of novel biological inoculant, together with dissemination of information and technologies of soil improvement;
  - Promote production and utilization of grain amaranth to contribute to alleviation of malnutrition, food insecurity and poverty of resource poor farmers; and
  - Increase the competitiveness of Ugandan women farmers in the marketplace.
- Internships and Collaborative Efforts. A number of students from ISU and other Universities have embraced study abroad and service learning opportunities at ISU to work in nations such as Uganda through an internship or with the student organization Engineers Without Borders.

Funding of the Uganda Program is provided through a combination of donated and grant funds. Currently, CSRL operates through its in-country partner, VEDCO, a non-profit organization making critical contributions toward overcoming the distressingly low levels of food security, agricultural productivity, and low incomes among rural farmers. However, because of the growth of CSRL programs, ISU needs to establish its own base of operations for its work in Uganda. In addition to the local oversight, the ISU Global Programs Board will provide oversight and senior ISU administrators will periodically visit the site to review the activities, local relationships and monitor progress.

According to the university, creation of this branch office in Uganda will not affect either the institution's or the college's accreditation.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRANCH OFFICE AND  
REGISTER AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN UGANDA**

WHEREAS, increasing the range of global programs has been an element of Iowa State University of Science and Technology's strategic plan since 1995; and

WHEREAS, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences desires to establish a long-term learning, teaching, research and outreach program in the country of Uganda through its Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods (CSRL); and

WHEREAS, the scope of CSRL's programs requires registration in Uganda;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Iowa State University of Science and Technology (ISU) be authorized to establish a branch in Uganda as a Non-Governmental Organization to serve as the local office of ISU's activities in Uganda. The name of the branch in Uganda will be: "Iowa State University Uganda Program."
2. That Senior Vice President for Business and Finance, Warren R. Madden be delegated the authority to take the actions necessary and proper to:
  - a. Pursue registration of a branch of ISU as a Non-Governmental Organization in Uganda; and
  - b. Subdelegate to the various University Officials the power to take actions for registration and maintenance of registration of the branch in Uganda.
3. That Iowa State University of Science and Technology Global Programs be delegated the authority to approve and supervise the program and operation of the branch, assuring compliance with US and Ugandan law, and manage risks associated with operations of the branch in Uganda.
4. The authority granted herein shall include the following subjects:
  - a. To act as the legal representative of the branch in Uganda;
  - b. To open one or more bank accounts in Uganda, establishing protocols for the protection of public funds;
  - c. To enter into contracts for operation of the branch, excluding the purchase of real estate, which still requires approval of the Board of Regents;
  - d. To hire professional services to cover accounting, auditing, legal and other required functions to maintain compliance with registration requirements in Uganda; and

e. To hire and compensate employees in conformity with Ugandan law.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

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Bruce L. Rastetter  
Interim President  
Board of Regents, State of Iowa

[Notary Seal]