



## Global CALS

### Study abroad, war on hunger impact CALS students' views of the world

New programs offer fresh connections to the global marketplace for University of Idaho's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) students. During spring break in March, a dozen CALS students and faculty will fly to Mexico, an Idaho trade partner, to tour agricultural businesses and meet Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara faculty and students. They'll visit berry, cattle, egg, poultry, and tomato production systems.

"More students are willing to travel abroad for a short-term visit than for a semester abroad," said John Foltz, the college's director of academic programs, on the tour's purpose. A trip to Taiwan is planned in summer.

**World hunger** spotlighted at a fall 2005 conference for land-grant universities, so haunted Foltz and Nancy Wanamaker, head of the college's family and consumer sciences program, that both vowed to do something.

**The result:** A university-wide War on Hunger group led by dietetics professor Maddy Houghton, senior Mary Barstow, in plant soil sciences, and junior Chris Chandler, nutrition, attracted more than 60 UI students who raised awareness of the problem while collecting \$1,300 and 3,050 pounds of food for the Idaho Food Bank. "We were all set to combat hunger in other countries until we learned that Idaho was the 8th hungriest state," explained Barstow. Learn more at [www.uidaho.edu/waronthunger/](http://www.uidaho.edu/waronthunger/).

Idaho student commitment is so impressive that Esther Ngumbi, UI plant soils graduate student from Kenya, was invited to share the speaker's platform with United Nations leaders at the Academic War on Hunger Summit at Auburn University, Alabama Feb. 23 to 25, 2007. Her talk will help people understand human aspects of hunger and programs that she sees making a difference at home.

Contact John Foltz at [jfoltz@uidaho.edu](mailto:jfoltz@uidaho.edu).

### Six UI students in Kenya help Masai nomads purify polluted water so it is safer to drink

"If you want to make significant changes in world health, don't become an M.D. Become an environmental engineer and design ways to produce clean drinking water," says Tom Hess, UI professor of biological and agricultural engineering who, with other faculty, is helping University of Idaho students do just that.

In spring 2006 a student team designed a water bio-filter to provide clean water for Masai tribespeople in Kenya. The filter,

utilizing Kenyan Moringa seeds as a coagulant to reduce water pollutants, yielded promising results in field tests. Research and refinement continued on campus during summer and fall 2006.

Feb. 22 to March 6 another six university students raised their own support and won grants to work in Nairobi, Kenya, for further bio-filter field-testing and water containment systems development. Contact Becker Gutsch at [gutsch@uidaho.edu](mailto:gutsch@uidaho.edu).

## DID YOU KNOW?

**5%** OF STUDENTS at the University of Idaho—592 of 12,968—come from 84 foreign lands led by China, 70; India, 59; Canada, 44; Nepal, 37; and Japan, 34.

\*University International Student Enrollment Web site, Fall 2006  
<http://www.webs.uidaho.edu/ipo/>

### Sandpoint-India link a focus in textile tour

University of Idaho textile professor Sandra Evenson and Coeur d'Alene high school teacher Nichole Thiel now can provide their students first-hand observations about the global marketplace.

Selected as Fulbright scholars, the two joined a group of 20 touring India's textile industry from late December to mid January.

Evenson's first stop was the Coldwater Creek office in Gurgoan, which proclaims itself India's information technology city. The educators' visit also took them from a Mumbai slum to remote villages in search of India's kaleidoscopic array of textiles.

Lessons learned, such as an exercise in traditional textile dyeing planned by Thiel, will help Idaho students understand how an embroidered dress from India is designed and made-to-be-sold from a trend-setting merchandiser in Sandpoint, Idaho.

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