



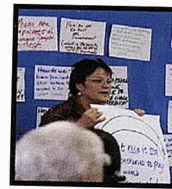
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Initiatives

Autumn 2010

Institute of Cultural Affairs in the USA. 4750 N. Sheridan Road. Chicago, IL, 60640. (773) 769-6363. www.ica-usa.org.

Message from the CEO



Dear Colleagues,

Dreams are powerful. They inspire us to create a better world and propel us into action. The Institute of Cultural Affairs-USA's dream of "releasing the capacity to create positive sustainable futures"

endures today as we strive to reaffirm and transform that dream in the coming decades.

This issue of *Initiatives* tells the story of many dreams. As you see the faces and read the stories of our colleagues, clients, tenants, partners and other members of the ICA community, I hope you'll be prompted to be part of our efforts.

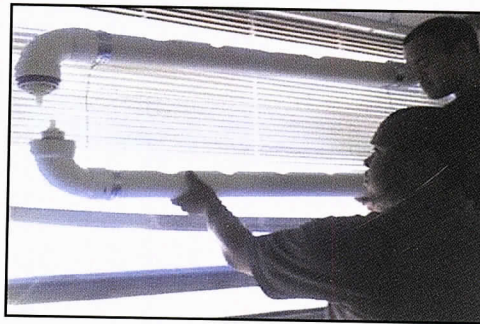
This year many more colleagues than in recent years wanted to be part of our emerging programs. Karen Snyder Troxel and Jan Sanders were facilitators for our Summer Youth Green Advocates Program. Chaired by Alan Gammel and Cheryl Kartes, the nine-member 50th Celebration Committee anticipates to electronically dialogue with 1,000 colleagues about visions for ICA's next half century. The renewed International Initiatives, spearheaded by Louise Singleton and Dick Alton, have connected with 14 ICA partners from other countries and Stanford University. The 38 Technology of Participation (ToP®) Certified Facilitators and 100 licensed ToP Trainers continue to use methods that are simple, elegant, flexible and profound. During the months of May through October more than 80 colleagues worked on the Global Archives project with Marge Philbrook, Pam Bergdall and David Dunn. In July more than 30 colleagues joined with students and faculty members of Oklahoma City University for an Oikos forum on Peace, Poverty and Planet Earth.

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ICA Launches Green Advocate Program

"The Earth is the only world known so far to harbor life. There is nowhere else, at least in the near future, to which our species could migrate. Like it or not, for the moment the Earth is where we make our stand." Carl Sagan

Saving the environment is a large task for anyone to take on, especially today's youth. Yet the Institute of Cultural Affairs's Summer Youth Green Advocates proved that they had a passion to do just that. ICA provided them with the skills, resources and relationships to lead effective green and eco-friendly campaigns and projects. They stepped forward, took the initiative and made their voices heard. In doing so, they helped to bring about change in the ICA building and in the Uptown community.



Hydroponics on the 6th floor

The eight youth participants, ages 18 - 21, were recruited by ICA-USA from the Put Illinois Back to Work Program in Chicago and the Jewish Vocational Services of Evanston, IL. The participants were involved 40 hours a week in projects such as: site visits to green environments, hydroponic window gardening, maintaining an urban garden lot, and performing green assessments in Uptown. Their text book was *The Transitions Handbook* by Rob Hopkins.

The Green Advocates were also trained in some of ICA's globally-recognized Technology of Participation (ToP®)

facilitative methods that helped them: 1) develop as strong community leaders and advocates, 2) build self-confidence and self-esteem and 3) develop entrepreneurial and facilitative skills that will carry on throughout their lives.



Cultivating seedlings

"How does one empower communities to be sustainable?" is one of the key questions of our times. The Green Advocates program is ICA's initial answer to the question. The concept for this program was developed in 2008 when ICA received its first grant for a summer youth program from the CNA Foundation. In 2009, ICA received support from the City of Chicago Department of Support and Family Services, Central State Services, 46th Ward Alderman Helen Shiller, 48th Ward Alderman Mary Ann Smith, 9th District Representative Jan Schakowsky, and the Uptown Chamber of Commerce to implement this youth program.

The 2010 youth program team was led by Walter Fisher with Pam Bergdall, Terry Bergdall, John Perkins, Jan Sanders, Lesley Showers, Karen Snyder and Nina Winn assisting as curriculum developers and facilitators.

This summer's Green Advocates are an inspiration to us all to do something to help our world. It doesn't matter how small the initial change is, it only matters that we all make the effort to bring about that change.



THE INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
IN THE U.S.A.

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James Addington has been creating a youth Service Learning Program that will collaborate with national and local universities and nonprofits. John and Lynda Cock's Profound Journey Dialog attracted about 100 colleagues and young adults who were interested in redefining their relationship with the multi-dimensional world in which we live. During the summer the Conference Center hummed with the energy of high school and college students on mission trips to Chicago.

If part of your personal dream is helping organizations increase their capacity to strengthen their communities and training individuals to lead in a complex and rapidly changing world...then I can pledge to you that your year-end gift to the 2010 Annual Fund will ensure a hope-filled tomorrow.

As I complete my first year as CEO, it is my pleasure at this season to extend heartfelt thanks for your support, friendship and goodwill.

Warmly,



Terry D. Bergdall, PhD
Chief Operating Officer

P.S. If you have included the Institute of Cultural Affairs in your estate plans, please let us know. We would like to invite you to be part of the *Legacy Society* that the Board of Directors will be initiating in 2011.

Board Profile: Elsa Batica



What first attracted you to EI/ICA- USA?

I was still in college when I was introduced to the EI/ICA. It was at the height of the student movement and I was in search of an effective participatory leadership model. I was invited to an "Ecclesiola" dinner where I recognized the value of the "Artform" conversation. From there I attended more courses and eventually facilitated LENS (Leadership Effectiveness and New Strategies) and many other courses.

What social issues are you currently most passionate about?

Access to quality healthcare for all and elimination of healthcare disparities.

What aspects of serving on ICA-USA's board do you find most satisfying?

I accepted the nomination because I believe it is time to give back full-circle to the organization that taught me many different methodologies or models of strategic thinking and community organizing. I hope to contribute the skills I've learned through my extensive management experience in all sectors – including private, public and nonprofit. I am pleased to be surrounded by dedicated staff and colleagues who are fiscally responsible and programmatically accountable.

How would you briefly describe ICA?

The ICA-USA enables people to respond strategically and comprehensively to the contemporary challenges in society through participatory and focused planning, and through the creation of clear, concise and innovative steps geared towards facilitating change.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs-USA and the Ecumenical Institute Plan For a 50th Celebration in 2012



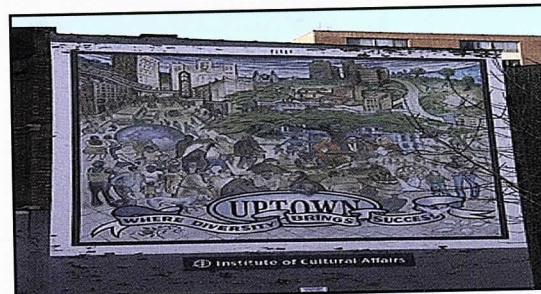
MOTIVATE!
CONGRATULATE!
APPRECIATE!

The 50th Celebration Planning Committee has been formed to honor the starting point of the Ecumenical Institute and the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA). The age of an organization says nothing about the strength of its origin, its vitality in terms of service innovation, or even its culture at any special moment in time. ICA is at the midpoint in a century of care. There is certainly much to consider when preparing for such a landmark occasion.

The committee members, chaired by board member, Alan Gammel, are Dick Alton, Cheryl Kartes, Judy Lindblad, Richard Sims, Jim Wiegel and Donna Ziegenhorn.

Planning strategies and celebratory events that might have been applicable a few decades ago would almost certainly be considered outdated in today's hi-tech world. Therefore, the committee intends to connect with 1,000 colleagues during 2011 through small group virtual meetings, social media and electronic focus groups. This is unprecedented for ICA. The real-time visual and interactive dialogues will illuminate and interpret the history and heritage of ICA.

Our "virtual wizard" for this process and the new variation of the methods will be board member and Technology of Participation (ToP®) Certified Facilitator, Cheryl Kartes. She has enlisted the help of other ToP trainers who have been developing virtual facilitation methods for several years.



Artist and colleague Paul Noah has been commissioned by CEO, Terry Bergdall, to design a celebration logo and paint a new 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. mural above the parking lot.

DO YOU KNOW that ICA-USA's historically significant building has many spectacular architectural design elements? Our beautiful and elaborately carved elevator doors were featured in the Uptown Chamber of Commerce's new marketing material.

Help for Recent Immigrants

The Lao American Community Services assists refugees and immigrants from Laos who reside in Illinois, especially those in metropolitan Chicago, to become self-sufficient, productive participants in American society. Its goal is to preserve and enhance the Laotian cultural heritage and to create an identity and sense of belonging to a community.



Credit "Countries and their Cultures"

Located in Southeast Asia, Laos measures approximately 91,400 square miles, making it slightly larger than the state of Utah.

The country shares its borders with Thailand in the southwest, Cambodia in the south, Union of Myanmar (Burma) in the west, China in the north, and Vietnam in the east.

Lao American Community Services has been a tenant in the 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. Nonprofit Center for 22 years. The Executive Director, Thavone Nyatso, said she loves her job because she "is always engaged by it and gains meaning from it. Our constituency isn't the largest Asian community in Chicago but it is a remarkable group of hard-working, tenacious and resilient individuals."

LACS provides citizenship classes, health care outreach and education, interpretation, and referrals/assistance with immigration applications at no-cost to the community. They have a satellite office at the Lao Community Alliance Church in South Elgin, Illinois.

Local ToP® Network Helps Arizona

The Central Arizona Project (CAP) is the largest water reclamation program in Arizona and one of the largest in the country. CAP is responsible for delivering central Arizona's share (approximately 1.5 million acres) of Colorado River entitlement to retail water providers who serve 4 million residents. Current supplies are expected to meet demands until sometime between 2040 and 2060. CAP and its customers are seeking to create a new water supply to meet the next level of demand in Central Arizona.



Project ADD Water (Acquisition, Development and Delivery of new Water supplies) is a public stakeholder process that resulted in a consensus regarding how new water supplies should be shared and paid for by water users in CAP's three-county service area. The stakeholders created a 35 page summary of the emerging consensus which was unanimously approved by the Board of CAP.

Technology of Participation (ToP®) Certified Facilitator, Marilyn Olyer, principal in Partners in Participation, LLC, and her team continue to work together with the Project ADD Water stakeholders to create the structures, policies, contracts and financial mechanisms to implement the project. They are now in the realization and achievement phase of the project with the continuing support of ToP methods.



Sheila Brennemann, Marty Rozelle, Marilyn Olyer and Terri Sue Rossi

Marilyn Olyer and her team of Courtney Geer, John Olyer, and Jim Wiegel have been on board with this project since 2008 and facilitated all the Project ADD Water stakeholder meetings. Jim Wiegel also assisted in the development of a survey and led CAP through their history with the Wall of Wonder method.

Three CAP employees completed the year-long ToP Mastery program. CAP's facilitation team of Sheila Brennemann, Tanya Luther and Terri Sue Rossi used the training to facilitate inter-departmental projects with the Water Information Finance Group (WIFG), the CAGR D Finance Coordination Group, the IT Department, and Resources Planning and Analysis. They have also used these techniques as a framework to create consensus for external projects like the CAGR D Plan of Operation, Project Wheel and Project ADD Water.

"I realized years ago that for decisions to be sustainable at CAP a collaborative process with all our employees and all our customers was needed, in many cases, to make those decisions," said Sheila Brennemann from the CAP team. "The only issue was how best to create a participatory environment. The ToP methods really opened up a whole new world for us externally and internally at CAP."

The stakeholders throughout this process have been individuals who represent large or small municipalities, water users, irrigation districts, Native American tribes, developers, private water companies, etc. from the three involved local counties.

When asked about the impact of the ToP process, Tom McCann, Assistant General Manager at CAP, explained, "We all like to think we are smart people. We can apply logic and reason to data and facts to determine the best solution to any problem. But no matter how good we think our solution may be, if it does not have stakeholder support it has little chance of succeeding. That's where the Technology of Participation facilitation techniques come into play. When we set out to develop a new water supply program for Central Arizona, we quickly learned that there were many different stakeholders with strong opinions on the topic. The ToP facilitation methods helped us understand and reconcile those competing interests and develop a solution that can be supported by all."

The Central Arizona Project was chosen as the ToP Champion in 2009.

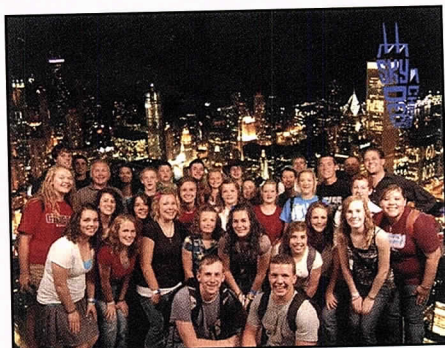


Stakeholders share ideas

Chicago or Bust!

It was a whirlwind of a summer at the Institute of Cultural Affairs' Conference Center at 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. One of the primary purposes of the Center is to provide space for education, inspiration and service. The newly decorated rooms, abundant meeting space and proximity to numerous social service learning opportunities made the building an attractive and convenient location for groups of young people traveling to Chicago.

The first (and last) group of the summer was Interfaith Worker Justice (IWJ). IWJ gives undergraduate, graduate and seminary students a variety of internship opportunities focusing on labor justice issues all over the country. The group came in early June for their orientation to the program and returned in August to reflect on their experiences. They held all of their meetings in the ICA's 6th floor conference room and enjoyed meals with the Keystone Ecological Urban Community.



First Baptist Church of Inola, Oklahoma

The remainder of the summer found the residential 8th floor of ICA looking like an urban summer camp. School and church youth groups, a total of 173 participants, traveled from as far away as Alaska to do mission work in the Uptown community. Two noteworthy groups were from Green Valley Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama and First Baptist Church of Inola, Oklahoma. Most had never been to Chicago but they left with a love for the city and a real heart for the diverse and needy people in Uptown. ICA's practical focus was giving these groups secure and comfortable lodging at affordable rates. Little did the staff realize the inspiration that they would receive in return.

Global Archives Sojourners Preserve ICA History

During the months of May and October, the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) was host to a total of 80 Sojourners who worked on the Global Archives Project. You can just imagine the uniqueness and variety of skills that were applied to this activity. All of those skills and talents were needed to organize the 170 filing cabinets filled with the documents, manuals, reports, course curriculum, letters, speeches, outlines, original songs/plays, publications, posters, pamphlets, meeting notes, photos, videos/audio tapes, and artifacts of ICA and the Ecumenical Institute

Every week was an adventure as dusty files were opened, sorted and the papers refiled into acid-free folders. The historical files contain the treasures of the 1976 Town Meetings and Global Community Forums; the New Social Vehicle and New Religious Mode materials, the Spirit Method papers; the core courses of the Academy; and the Band of 24 Human Development Projects, plus, the replication in communities' documents.

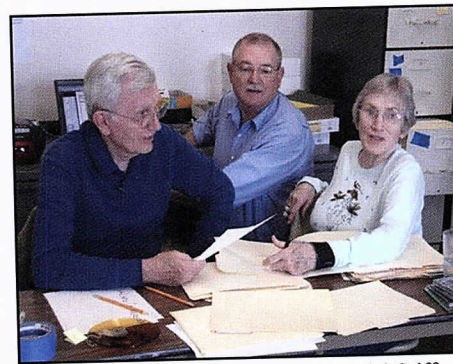


Files before and after

Each week a minimum of six people committed to seven days of work with team leaders Marge Philbrook, Pam Bergdall, David Dunn and James Addington. Beyond the archives work, the Sojourners connected to a rich community life consisting of discussion, study and celebration. They were housed on the newly renovated 8th floor of the 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. building and meals were shared with the Keystone Ecological Urban Community that resides on the 7th floor.

The volunteer archives work is critical for the ICA because there is a considerable amount of national academic interest in the archives collection.

The management field of Collaboration Engineering has indicated interest in researching the consensus-building outcomes and community development projects triggered by the 5,000 community reports on the Bicentennial Town Meetings held in every county in the USA. Another audience for the ICA/EI documents is social science educators who have an interest in the challenges and perceived strategic directions of our nation's modern historical times.



Charles Hahn, Doug Druckenmiller, Muriel Griffin

The historical significance of the collection is partially linked to the initial years of the ICA/EI in the 1960s and 1970s. In a world that was in social chaos and discord, bright young people thoughtfully created, fashioned and refined facilitation and community development tools and methods that brought consensus, compromise and agreement to local communities all around the globe. The roots of those methods initiated the ICA's Technology of Participation (ToP®) methods that are currently being used by facilitators throughout the world.

The ICA Sojourners came from 14 states, plus the Netherlands, Canada and Taiwan. The volunteers were joined by international interns from the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program at the University of Minnesota. The fellowship program is sponsored by the U. S. State Department and designed to bring mid-career professionals to the U.S. for ten months of leadership development work and study. Our two fellows were Todor Efremov and Eka Kvakhadze. Todor Efremov has worked for eight years in public administration as the head of the local economic development sector in the Municipality of Kavadarci, Macedonia. Eka Kvakhadze currently serves as a director of the Local Government Information Center in Rustavi, Georgia. Their short-term affiliation with ICA provided valuable professional development by giving them insight into the structure and function of nonprofit programs and projects in the United States. ICA Board member Elsa Batiga connected us to the program.

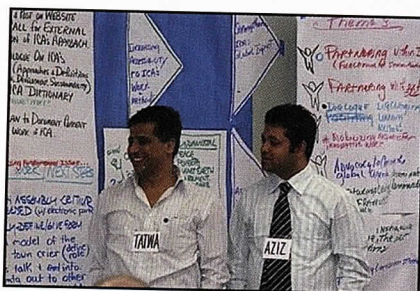
DO YOU KNOW that the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM) at DePaul University is one of the largest interdisciplinary colleges of its kind in the nation? ICA-USA was the beneficiary of two concurrent, website class projects during the school year.

ICA-USA Renews International Commitment

In June, the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) announced that it would be re-energizing its international program in response to dialogues and recommendations at the International Think Tank that was held in Chicago in the Spring.

Called the "ICA-USA International Engagement Task Force", the purpose of the meeting was to create a practical plan of action for connecting resources from the United States, both human and financial, with opportunities to address innocent suffering in developing countries.

The three-day event was attended by nearly 40 colleagues from around the world. It was especially heartening to have participants from Canada, Botswana, Bangladesh, Nepal and the United Kingdom join forces and collectively reflect on this topic. Friday's opening session featured a special celebration of the completed life of Dr. Don Elliott, a long-time colleague, advocate and supporter of ICA's international work.

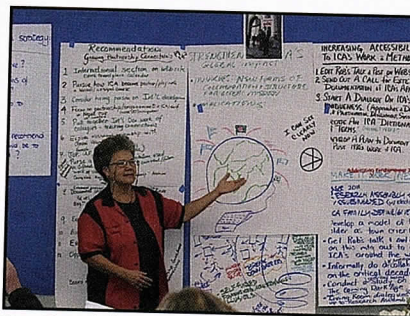


Tatwa Timsina and Aziz Rahman

Starting this summer, colleague Dick Alton and new part-time staff member, Seva Gandhi, have been working to reconnect with ICAs around the globe. In just a short time, they have begun to build relationships with ICA offices around the world, including Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, United Kingdom, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

ICA-USA now has had successful collaboration dialogues with the American Jewish World Service, UNDP Global Environmental Facilitate Small Grant Program (UNDP-GEF-SGP), Stanford University HIV/AIDS Positive Self Management Program (PSMP) and Rotary International.

The team is working on USAID registration and developing an HIV/AIDS report from data collected from specific African ICAs. A significant accomplishment is the establishment of a new consultancy contract with the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). Colleague Jan Sanders worked with ICA's CEO, Terry Bergdall, to complete the project on time.



Pam Bergdall

Thank you to the ICA donors that made the International Initiatives start-up possible. More than \$25,000 of the \$100,000 needed to sustain this effort over the next two years has been raised. It is projected that the long-term success of meeting this goal will lead to grant support for the global ICA network and fielding capacity building teams in six sites.



Sally Stovall, Mary Laura Jones, Judy Lindblad, Rosemary Albright and David Scott

There is also a new International Initiative section on ICA-USA's website. Go to www.ica-usa.org to follow the exciting updates there!

ICA-USA Signs Stanford University Contract

ICA-USA has signed a license agreement with the Stanford University Medical School to lead courses in Chronic Disease Self Management (CDSMP) and Positive Self Management Program (Living Well with AIDS) in the United States and Africa. Sandra True (ICA-USA board member), Meshack Mutevu (ICA-Kenya) and Gerald Gomani (ICA-Zimbabwe) attended the Trainer-of-Trainers course at Stanford in May of this year. Charles Wabwire (ICA-Uganda), Sally Stovall and Dick Alton have also attended the Master's training. They have trained 25 HIV positive leaders for Living Well with AIDS in Zambia and two sets of leaders in Zimbabwe.

ICA-UK introduced Living Well with AIDS four years ago with ICA-Kenya in a pilot project in Kenya and Uganda through the support of the Elton John Foundation. Living Well uses facilitated dialogue tools such as brainstorming, group problem solving and individual action planning. Sessions are highly participatory and offer mutual support. The success of the sessions builds the participants' confidence in their ability to manage their health and maintain active and fulfilled lives. The Kenya and Uganda pilots were assessed as being unquestionably successful.

Zambia OPAD has used the Living Well curriculum and now ICA-Zimbabwe is implementing the program. It will be followed by Self Help Groups (SHG) which will give HIV positive people long-term support. The Zimbabwe work is part of a three-year grant from the Rotary 3H Foundation. ICA-Zimbabwe will be a test of putting 1,000 HIV positive individuals through the seven-week, two-hour a week program. The Ford Foundation is considering a Living Well grant with ICA-South Africa.

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Planning Your Legacy to Provide and Protect

The Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) and its mission are thriving in an exciting renaissance begun in 2009 with the appointment of Terry Bergdall as CEO. There is a renewed sense of possibility throughout the organization that is guiding its efforts to uphold the vision of inspiring wisdom and commitment to the social fabric of our times.

ICA is striving to continue the foresight and leadership of the earlier generations into the future. The Board of Directors will be launching a *Legacy Society* that will enable ICA to expand social innovation, participation and community building in all sectors of society.

In considering your plans for the future, you may not only be thinking about how to help your family and save on estate taxes, but also how you might leave a legacy of service to the world. A simple cash bequest, IRA or insurance policy bequest permits you to leave a lasting legacy and can provide valuable tax savings.

If you have included the Institute of Cultural Affairs in your estate plans, please let us know. We would like to invite you to be part of the *Legacy Society* as it is launched in 2011. If you would like to speak to someone who can provide additional information about how to include ICA in your estate plan, please call Karen Sims, Director of Resource Development and External Affairs, 773-769-6363 x232.

OIKOS Conference Sparks Collaboration on Service Learning

The Institute of Cultural Affairs co-sponsored a research conference with Oklahoma City University and its Oikos Honors Program on July 12-14, 2010. The purpose of this collaboration is to develop curriculum, both for use in the classroom and beyond, to prepare university students, and others, to respond to the moral responsibilities and spiritual implications of twenty-first century global challenges.



Leadership teams



Peggy Rowe and Larry Ward

The event came about because of the university's interest in the 45+ years of social engagement symbolized by the EI/OE/ICA Archives. This is an opportunity for ICA constituents to ensure that the past institutional wisdom and experience is expanded upon and practically incorporated into new educational undertakings. There is a potential for ICA to be involved in virtual classroom courses, intern placement programs and academic research based on the Archives.