

Selections from the International Affairs Special Interest Group Sessions, ACE '84

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Abstract

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At the 1983 National ACE Conference in Madison, Wis., the International Affairs Special Interest Group offered an additional day of programming for its members. Also at that meeting, this SIG gave itself an additional title—the Organizing Council for International Agricultural Communicators—and set out to fulfill a 3-year mandate to look for common interests among agricultural communicators working abroad as well as those working solely within their own countries. The goal is to support, strengthen, and develop production capabilities, training, and academic programs so that these professionals can do the best possible communications job for agricultural development around the world.

The lessons learned in international communications work probably hold insights for all of us. Is it only overseas that communicators are set apart from the mainstream of an institution, that scientist-communicator interaction is weak, or that the boss wants a brochure when what he or she needs is something quite different?

Since many ACE members may not have been able to stay the extra day to attend the International Affairs/OCIAC SIG program at the conference this summer in Washington, D.C., this issue of the *ACE Quarterly* carries a selection of the presentations that were given. We also hope that the example of what this SIG has set out to do will be an energizer for all ACE members in their SIG affiliations.—Ed.