The Education Department of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa has invited Professor Harbans S. Bhola of the School of Education to consult with the Adult Basic Education (ABE) Working Group of the Center for Education Policy Development (CEPD) in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the forthcoming large-scale literacy program for independent South Africa. The program of mass Adult Basic Education is pivotal to the involvement of the previously disenfranchised populations of South Africa, and for their meaningful participation in the processes of transformation to bring about a new democratic order. During the past 25 years, Dr. Bhola has served as a consultant in education and literacy in numerous African countries, and will seek to provide the CEPD/ABE Group with the best of available international experience and expertise as the Group engages in the development of relevant policy frameworks for literacy promotion. Professor Bhola will be traveling to South Africa for two separate consultations, during the fall of 1993 and in the early summer of 1994.

During the previous summer, Dr. Bhola was invited as one of the special guests to the Second African-American Summit held in Libreville, Gabon, Central Africa, during May 24-28, 1993. The Summit is the brain-child of Rev. Leon Sullivan, developer of “The Sullivan Principles”—a set of principles meant to serve as a guideline for U.S. corporate behavior in South Africa in the 1970’s and 80’s. This year’s African-American American Summit was co-hosted by Rev. Sullivan and by the President of the Gabonese Republic, and was attended by several African presidents, politicians, intellectuals, and educators. Participants from the U.S. included Governor Douglas Wilder, Mrs. Coretta Scott-King, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Dr. Dorothy Height, and entertainer Dick Gregory, as well as several hundred African American lawyers, doctors, engineers, educators, and social workers. For the Summit, Professor Bhola’s presented the paper, “Policy Challenges of Literacy for Development in Africa: Building Pillars of Prosperity, Pyramids of Peace.”

In early August, Professor Robert Agranoff of the School for Public and Environmental Affairs traveled to Kwa Martine, Bophuthatswana, South Africa to attend the Joint Conference of the International Association of Centers for Federal Studies and the Research Committee on Federalism and Federation, International Political Science Association (IPSA). The meeting brought together 30 international scholars, as well as 20 South African scholars and constitutional negotiators involved in South Africa’s current transition to multi-racial rule. During the conference, Dr. Agranoff presented the paper, “Asymmetrical and Symmetrical Federalism in Spain: An Examination of Intergovernmental Policy.” Dr. Agranoff is chairing a Research Committee on asymmetrical federalism which involves Spain, South Africa, Canada, Switzerland, India, Germany, Belgium, and the United States, with the Committee’s findings to be presented at the 16th World Congress of IPSA in Berlin.

IU Faculty Assist Bolivian University

The Universidad Privada Boliviana (UPB) de Cochabamba inaugurated its first classes in Cochabamba, Bolivia on schedule in January of this year, with the help of three IU faculty and staff members. During 1991 and 1992, Randall Baker (SPEA), Edward Robertson (Computer Science) and Charles Reafsnyder (International Programs), all from the IU-Bloomington campus, travelled to Cochabamba and LaPaz to consult on the curriculum, staffing and material needs of the new private university. This activity was supported by funds from the Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities, Inc. (MUCIA) and the U.S. Information Agency, as well as the local sponsor, Fundacion Nataniel Aguirre. James Riordan, Associate Director of MUCIA, coordinated the program of exchange and consultation and also participated in the planning of the new institution. Robert Arnove (Education, IUB) subsequently visited the new university when he interviewed Fulbright candidates in Bolivia.

The new private university fills a need for technical and business management training programs in Bolivia not currently being met by the public university system. The Bolivian Executive Director of the project, Dr. Manuel Arellano, reports that 120 students enrolled during the first semester at UPB-Cochabamba, and that the Rector’s position has been filled by a Bolivian-American faculty member and former dean from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Reception of the new university’s programs has been good and enrollments are expected to double for the coming year.

Dr. Arellano, recently elected to the Bolivian Senate, is now working with the National Confederation of Private Businessmen in Bolivia to establish a second private university in LaPaz. This new university will be devoted to management training for both the public and private sectors in La Paz.