IU Seeks Students from Baltic and East Central European Nations for 1995-96 USIA Award Program

On behalf of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA), NAFSA: International Association of Educators is inviting applications from U.S. institutions of higher education for the 1995-96 Baltic/East Central European Assistance Awards Program (BEEP), subject to the availability of funds under the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) initiative.

The BEEP program provides supplementary grants of up to $10,000 each for an estimated 200 qualified students from Baltic and East Central European countries who expect to be admitted to accredited U.S. educational institutions to study in fields relevant to democracy-building, and who expect to be given substantial financial assistance by those institutions. BEEP awards function as “topping off” funds to support those students who can demonstrate additional financial need. U.S. institutions of higher education apply on behalf of specific students who, to be eligible, must come from the countries of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, or Slovenia.

Indiana University, through its Office of International Services, is once again submitting an institutional application to NAFSA for the 1995-96 BEEP Awards. Although the deadline for submission of applications has not yet been announced for 1995-96, it will likely be in early April 1995, once funding has been approved. David Lyman, OIS Assistant Director of Finances and Administration, is urging all IU faculty systemwide who know of qualified candidates from the above-named countries to contact him on the Bloomington campus so that these students’ dossiers can be included in IU’s application to NAFSA.

Eligibility criteria for students are as follows: Only graduate students and upper division undergraduates who plan to begin their U.S. studies at IU in 1995-96 are eligible. Individuals currently studying, conducting research, or teaching at IU are not eligible. The following fields of study are supported: (1) Democratic Institutions: public administration, public policy, political science, urban planning, architecture, education, teaching English as a second language, journalism/communications, and social sciences; (2) Economic Restructuring: economics, business, law, banking, energy, small business development, marketing, agriculture, computer science, mathematics, and environmental studies. Fields of study not supported under this program are fine arts, humanities, and the hard sciences. Students expecting assistance under the Edmund Muskie Fellowship, Fulbright, or other SEED or USIA programs are also not eligible.

For further information on the conditions of use of grant funds, selection criteria, and visa restrictions, contact David Lyman at the Office of International Services (dlyman@indiana.edu; 812-855-9088). Currently, three international Indiana University students are receiving BEEP and REAP (Russian-Eurasian) supplementary grants.

President’s Council on International Programs

On December 9, the Fall meeting of Indiana University’s President’s Council on International Programs (PCIP) took place at the Bloomington campus, with Patrick O’Meara, Dean for International Programs presiding as chair. PCIP is IU’s principal systemwide advisory body on international studies and projects. Members of the 1994-95 council were appointed by IU President Myles Brand. PCIP members include representatives from all eight campuses of IU, directors of IUB’s language and area studies programs, and representatives from the professional schools. Following the Dean’s report, the council was addressed by IU Vice President for Academic Affairs Kenneth R. R. Gros Louis.

Following the PCIP meeting, Kenneth Gros Louis (left) and Patrick O’Meara relax at OIP’s annual Christmas party.