



IFYE Association of the USA, Inc.

Peace Through Understanding

IFYE UPDATE

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October 7, 2019

Program Update

Outreach to organizations and universities continue to gain momentum. Recently, National Program Director, Alan Lambert, traveled to Iowa State University to visit with faculty and students.

- New Iowa State University 4-H Director Debbie Nistler is enthusiastic about including IFYE back into the Iowa 4-H program in some manner. (Her son, Beau Nistler, was a 2015 IFYE to Thailand.)
- Iowa IFYE alumnus and Iowa State Professor Emeritus William Edwards joined Alan for conversations with Iowa State faculty on how IFYE can meet graduation requirements (international experiences) for students in the Global Resource Systems (GRS) major.
- Then, Alan presented IFYE to:
 - a senior level GRS class,
 - the International Ag Club (30 attendees and advisor),
 - FarmHouse fraternity (75 attendees and advisor) and
 - Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity (85 attendees).
- From this campus visit, one IFYE application has already been received and 4 more individuals indicated they will be submitting applications in the coming weeks

Marketing materials being developed by the IFYE Board will enable all IFYE alumni to be adequately prepared to share IFYE to a wide variety of youth and adult groups. This will help to dramatically leverage the efforts by IFYE staff to promote the program.

The IFYE Program Development Committee is developing point-of-contact information for additional universities, commodity groups and industry. Consistent and long-term marketing efforts will begin driving applicants to IFYE.

IFYE Board member Barb Batie, Nebraska to Germany 1980, participated in a meeting with professors and officials at the University of Nebraska regarding the opportunity for students there to receive course credit through participating in the IFYE program. Executive Director Ken Gordon joined by conference call and the positive reaction by the University officials is encouraging.

Executive Director Ken Gordon and IFYE Alum Roger Sherer, Indiana to Poland 1978, participated in the Purdue University Career Fair and received 35 résumés from students who showed interest in becoming IFYEs. Six of those who visited with Roger and Ken will graduate in 2020 and three of the six requested follow-up calls to help them with the application process.

The application process is being streamlined for the 2020 program and that process will be completed this month. An announcement will soon be issued to news media and agriculture associations alerting targeted audience groups that applications are being accepted for our 2020 program.

Executive Director Update (Ken Gordon)

August and September have flown by with many exciting happenings for IFYE. Those attending the National Conference in Lexington were treated to, what many may consider, the highest level of hospitality a person can experience. If you ask someone from Kentucky, they most likely will shrug it off and say, “that’s just how we are.” It will surely be a conference that people will remember for many years to come.

The biggest news in years for IFYE was announced at the National Conference when we were able to finalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Through the MOU, USDA has once again recognized the IFYE Program. The signing of this MOU is the culmination of a meeting some 10 years ago by IFYE to gain recognition from USDA. The process was renewed after a meeting between Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Stephen Censky, and IFYE leadership in December 2018. The Deputy Director is an IFYE alumnus who experienced the program in 1985 when he traveled to China. After many revisions, the final version was agreed upon during the conference. On September 6, a formal signing ceremony was held in Washington, D.C. You can read the MOU and about the ceremony on the IFYE website by clicking on the [News and Events tab](#).

As part of the effort to connect IFYE with USDA, I was invited to participate in a review panel for grants that were submitted to the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA). I, along with the other panel members, received 12 grants to review. Each grant was reviewed by four panel members, and once individual reviews were finished, a three-day panel review was convened to discuss and recommend those grants that were deemed appropriate for funding. This provided me with a deep understanding of the process and the components that result in a successful grant application. I plan to use that knowledge to develop an IFYE panel that will work together and produce a grant application in 2020 for our Association.

Please contact me (kgordon@ifyeusa.org) if you’ve had previous grant writing experience. I am looking for help in the various grant components such as research, narrative, letters of support, supporting documents such as CVs and résumés and finance. Once I have a team in place, we can begin the grant writing process. It was an honor and quite a learning experience to be a participant on the panel.

I am very excited about IFYE and the opportunities that are ahead for our Association. The alignment with USDA is a strong step toward solidifying the future for IFYE.

Financial Update

IFYE Now Aligned With Thrivent Charitable Giving Program

Great News! IFYE Association of the USA Inc. has been approved to participate in the Thrivent Choice® charitable grant program and has been added to the [Thrivent Choice online catalog](#). If you are a Thrivent member, you now have the choice of IFYE USA as an organization to which to direct your Thrivent Choice® dollars.

The Thrivent Choice® charitable grant program engages Thrivent members and Thrivent Member Networks in providing grants that support charitable activities, furthering Thrivent's mission and its purposes under state law. All grant decisions, including grant recipients and amounts, are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent. For detailed information, please visit the [Thrivent Choice](#) page on [Thrivent.com](#).

IFYE Legacy Program in Development

It has been mentioned on many occasions that IFYE does not have an annual giving campaign for members. The IFYE Marketing Committee is working on an annual Legacy fundraising program that should roll out at the end of October. This will give our membership an opportunity to plan for contributions.

Don't forget about Amazon Smile



You shop. Amazon gives. Signing up is easy. It will work the same as your regular Amazon account, but IFYE will receive a donation equal to 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. When you sign up, you will have an opportunity to select the charitable organization of your choice; so, just select IFYE USA. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support IFYE by shopping at smile.amazon.com.

Mark Your 2020 Calendars!

The 2020 IFYE National Conference will be hosted by Missouri, September 10-13. The event will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Branson, Missouri. More to come but mark your calendars now.



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Please check the appropriate box(es) for the support you wish to provide to the IFYE Association. Return the form and completed action(s) that you have selected to: **Don DeWerff, 29 Arrowhead Drive, Lyons, KS 67554**

PLEASE COMPLETE:

NAME _____ **EMAIL** _____

ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____ **STATE**__ **ZIP** _____

HOME PHONE _____ **CELL PHONE** _____

I wish to support IFYE in 2019 with the following: \$5,000 \$2,500
 \$1,000 \$750 \$500 \$250 Other Amount \$ _____

- I wish to support IFYE with an annual Membership fee. \$30 for 2019 annual membership**
- If you are a **life member**, you will always be a life member and do not need to pay the \$30 annual Membership.
 - **ALL life and annual members** have access to the Member area on the website.
 - You can be a member with your \$30 annual membership only, but all contributions (by non-life members) above \$30 membership will count as a general donation.

I wish to become a **Life member** _____ \$1000 paid in one sum _____ \$200 paid over each of the next five years

Enclosed is \$20 for the postal mailing of two IFYE NEWS and eight issues of the IFYE UPDATE published during 2019.

PAYMENT METHOD

I have enclosed my check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____ payable to **"IFYE Association of the USA"**.

I would like to pay the above amount on a payment schedule. Please contact me. Phone # _____

Please charge my credit card: MC_ Visa __ Discover _____ Amex _____ **AMOUNT \$** _____

CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE: __/____ Security Code: _____

SIGNATURE _____

I will pay online at <http://ifyeusa.org>

Please send me (by email) access information to the IFYE website "Paid Membership area".
My email address is: _____

I am unable to financially support IFYE at this time. Please discreetly remove me from the *contact for donation* list.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT of IFYE _____ 01/19