Award for Internationalization Dr. Steven Russell

Convocation May 7, 2010

The recipient of Nova Scotia Agricultural College's Award for Internationalization for the year 2010 is Dr. Steven Russell, Department of Business and Social Sciences.

Dr. Russell's work has made a substantial contribution to NSAC's internationalization efforts on campus since his arrival at NSAC in 1988. He has participated in over 60 missions to 25 different countries in Africa, Europe, Asia, South America and the Caribbean and has contributed to international projects worth more than \$4 million to NSAC. Following a successful project in Agri-Entrepreneurship Training in Northern Ghana which finished in 2002, Dr. Russell conceptualized and worked with NSAC International to develop an unsolicited proposal to the Canadian International Development Agency. That project, Developing Rural Entrepreneurs, which included six partners in Ghana and a Canadian private company partner, has just been completed. In the words of the Ghanaian National Coordinator of the project, Dr. Russell's "outstanding leadership skills kept the team effective even in difficult times." In 2005, Dr. Russell was honoured for his work in the Caribbean and Ghana and awarded the title Bipola Naa (Youth Chief) by the Village of Chegili, Ghana.

Dr. Russell has also been instrumental in supporting student internationalization activities. The projects in Ghana included NSAC students as interns and as an offshoot of the project activity with the College of Agriculture, Science and Education in Jamaica in the late 1990s Dr. Russell negotiated an agreement to offer the Tropical Food Systems course on the CASE campus. Ninety-five NSAC students took advantage of this course. Last year Dr. Russell developed the Canada/European Mobility project in International Entrepreneurship, which will allow student exchange with the Netherlands and France. He led the development of the unique International Food Business program with Dronten in the Netherlands which has nine Canadian students completing the first year of the program this spring.

Dr. Russell states that 'Internationalization is a shared commitment requiring the efforts of partners and teams to be successful". He practices this commitment, as he has been and remains involved administratively in internationalization and actively encourages faculty, staff and students across the campus to develop and take advantage of opportunities.

In consideration of his dedication and effectiveness in promoting internationalization at NSAC, the 2010 Award for Internationalization is presented to Dr. Steven Russell.