The Office of International Affairs and the Office of Outreach and Engagement awarded the inaugural International Engagement Awards to two exceptional international projects in a ceremony on Thursday, May 2 at 10:30 a.m. in the Great Hall Meeting Room in the Ohio Union. The ceremony was open to the public.

The Distinguished International Engagement Award was awarded to the U.S.-Indonesian Teacher Education Consortium, while the Emerging International Engagement Award was awarded to "Development of agronomy for sustainable food production in Senegal." These projects both demonstrate an outstanding commitment to international outreach and engagement, and have either a record of, in the case of the Distinguished Award, or potential for, in the case of the Emerging Award, long-term impact, achievement and scholarship.

The U.S.–Indonesian Teacher Education Consortium (USINTEC) is a partnership of three U.S. research universities and 13 Indonesian state universities working to improve Indonesian education, teacher preparation and teacher quality. The project has focused on the implementation of an international dual degree program, a three-month visiting scholar program at Ohio State's College of Education and Human Ecology for Indonesian doctoral and post-doctoral students, and the support of Fulbright scholarships to the U.S. and Indonesia. The consortium, established as a bi-national higher education consortium in 2006, builds on more than two decades’ worth of U.S.–Indonesian relationships. For more information, visit the U.S.–Indonesian Teacher Education Consortium.

"Development of agronomy for sustainable food production in Senegal" works to implement state-of-the-art agricultural academic, research and service programs at the University of Gaston Berger, focused on enhancing sustainable agriculture. The Ohio State University has collaborated on updating laboratories and established associate and BS degree programs in agronomy with coursework on agribusiness, soil and water management and crop production. The project also looks to
transfer the land grant model to the University of Gaston Berger, incorporating extension and research into the traditional teaching role of the university.

Participating units include the School of Environment and Natural Resources; Office of International Programs in Agriculture; Department of Horticulture and Crop Science; Department of Food, Agriculture, and Biological Engineering; Department of Animal Sciences; the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the College of Public Health, as well as Agricultural and Extension Education and OSU Extension. Learn more at the project's website.

The International Engagement Awards were established by the Office of International Affairs and the Office of Outreach and Engagement to recognize individuals and groups at The Ohio State University who have rendered exceptional community outreach and/or engagement with international partners. Awards are given to projects that are truly distinguished and sustainable. Recipients of these awards have provided a spectrum of international outreach to internationalize scholarship, learning or service that impacts Ohio State’s stature as a global university. For more information, please contact Esther Gottlieb.

View photos from International Engagement Awards ceremony on Facebook.