

## HORTiculture in EC and US “HORTECUS”

The program will establish academic links through student and faculty mobility among the members of the consortium in the fields of horticulture, including but not limited to floriculture, turfgrass management, public garden management, plant breeding, preservation of biodiversity, etc. Four European educational institutions (TEI of Crete in Greece, Hogeschool Delft in the Netherlands, KVL in Denmark, and the University of Hannover in Germany) and three educational institutions in the United States (Purdue University in Indiana, Alabama A&M University, and Oklahoma State University) will form the consortium. The participating universities on both sides of the Atlantic are all taking an active role in the internationalization of their curricula and seek to expand their horticultural contacts on a global scale. In addition to their combination of language and cultural diversity, the cooperating educational institutions' geographical locations provide a unique palette of horticultural industries, and thus experiential opportunities, for exchange students and faculty to interact.

Horticultural crop breeding, production, post harvest handling, processing, and marketing are increasingly important industries that have transcended national frontiers and become international businesses. With the removal of national trade barriers and the expansion of membership, the European Union has become a major economic force with community policies affecting this large horticultural market. Individual horticultural businesses are expanding their production centers into numerous member states with horticultural products marketed throughout the EU. A similar situation exists in the United States where, long before European member States opened their borders, the interstate cooperation has thrived in all areas of agricultural production and distribution.

It is with this background that the present consortium will provide ideal opportunities for young people majoring in horticulture to learn about horticulture on both sides of the Atlantic. This will be accomplished by the exchange of students among the participating Institutes of the consortium and by the work placements (practical training internships) in horticultural businesses or by participation in research projects at the host institution. Faculty with specific expertise or interest in another institutional member of the consortium will have an opportunity to guest lecture in the

classroom and/or organize short courses on horticultural topics of current importance. This will enable educationally diverse faculty members of the consortium to share their expertise with the place bound students of their host institutions.

The seven Consortium universities will jointly develop a web-based course on International Horticulture (3 credit hours). The course will be administered by one university in both the United States and Europe, and made available to all of the consortium partners via the WWW. Faculty members of the Consortium institutions will contribute course content and expertise from their respective areas of specialization. The course will be offered for a fee to students from universities not of the Consortium after the initial trial among the consortium partners during the grant period. The development of a course on International Horticulture is of great interest in our horticulture departments, and the expertise of this consortium group will be used to develop a course with content and delivery superior to that which could be developed by one institution, alone.

**US Lead:**

Dr. Paul Allen Hammer, Professor  
Purdue University  
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture  
1165 Horticulture Building,  
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-1165  
Telephone 765-494-1335  
Fax 765-494-0391  
E-mail pah@hort.purdue.edu

**US Partners:**

Dr. Douglas Needham, Professor  
Oklahoma State University  
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture  
360 Ag Hall, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-6027  
Telephone 405-744-6462  
Fax 405-744-9709  
E-mail needham@okstate.edu

Dr. Caula A. Beyl, Professor and Dr. Govind C. Sharma, Professor  
Alabama A&M University  
Plant and Soil Sciences  
Normal, Alabama 35762  
Telephone 256 858-4193  
Fax 256 851-5429  
E-mail cbeyl@aamu.edu

**EC Lead:**

Dr. Ioannis C. Vlahos  
Technological Educational Institute (TEI) of Crete  
Department of Horticulture  
Stavromenos, 71500, Heraklion, Crete  
Telephone +30 81 254103  
Fax +30 81 250548  
E-mail [yvlahos@lyttos.admin.teiher.gr](mailto:yvlahos@lyttos.admin.teiher.gr)

**EC Partners:**

Dr. Arne Skytt Andersen, Professor  
The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL)  
Agricultural Sciences/Section Horticulture  
DK-1958 Frederiksberg-C, Copenhagen  
Denmark  
Telephone +45 35 28 3403  
Fax +45 35 28 3400  
E-mail [Arne.Skytt.Andersen@agsci.kvl.dk](mailto:Arne.Skytt.Andersen@agsci.kvl.dk)

Dr. ir. H. W. M. Fuchs  
Hogeschool DELFT  
Horticulture  
Brasserkade 1, PO Box 3190, 2601 DD Delft  
The NETHERLANDS  
Telephone +31 15 215 02 15  
Fax +31 15 215 02 99  
E-Mail [hw.fuchs@hsdelft.nl](mailto:hw.fuchs@hsdelft.nl)

Dr. Hartmut Stuetzel, Professor  
University of Hannover  
Horticulture  
Herrenhauser Str. 2, D-30419, Hannover  
Germany  
Telephone +49 511 762 2634  
Fax +49 511 762 3606  
E-Mail [stuetzel@gem.uni-hannover.de](mailto:stuetzel@gem.uni-hannover.de)