The education process in crop science is a topic of much international interest. With the opening of their national economies, developing countries urgently need to design, implement, and foster new technologies in crop production to improve their competitiveness in international trade as well as to cope with their own food needs. On the other hand, many developed countries would also benefit from the internationalization of their academic programs and direct involvement in international agriculture. Peter McGrath, President of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges of the United States, addressed the need for internationalization of education as follows:

"International involvement is not a matter of naive idealism of doing good because of some abstract idea... Unless students from other lands study with us and we with them in their countries and cultures, and unless we collaborate in international ventures, we impoverish our education."

Increasing crop productivity to satisfy future world demands must be accomplished in harmony with environmental preservation and conservation of the world's natural resources. This challenge transcends geographic boundaries. Sustainable development requires an emphasis on international technology transfer and research activities between developed and developing countries. From an international perspective, the education process should include short-term exchange visits at the undergraduate and graduate levels, formal and informal nondegree training, and longer-term scientist and postdoctoral exchange visits. These and other educational issues were discussed during the Working Group B open hearings and by panel members.