



# UNAI MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORTS 2013-2014

## Cornell University

### United States of America

During the 2013-14 period, Cornell University has upheld its strong commitment to the promotion of core UNAI principles. Of particular note are the following projects:

In February 2014, Cornell faculty and students discussed the transformative potential of educational and research experiences abroad—as well as global-oriented learning goals—during a daylong symposium. The event was entitled “What Constitutes a Meaningful International Experience?” and drew from 31 case study reports of selected meaningful international experiences and programs across campus. In particular, this symposium and the ideas discussed therein indicate a commitment to UNAI’s global citizenship through education principle.



Students within Cornell’s newly designed International Architecture and Rural Development (IARD) major tackle the unique and interdisciplinary issues associated with food systems and rural development in emerging nations. IARD majors have the opportunity to gain meaningful, on-site experience by participating in projects and research all over the world. Students acquire valuable insight and skills while working within rural communities to: address poverty and hunger through innovation in agriculture, increase food security, advance science and policy related to sustainable development, and contribute to the economic development of emerging economies by strengthening private strategies and informing public policies. Thus, the existence of the IARD major further underscores Cornell University’s commitment to UNAI’s poverty- and sustainability-related principles.



Finally, a cohort of Cornell students associated with Engineers for a Sustainable World (ESW) recently traveled to Nicaragua to build solar ovens with a local women’s collective. The students lived with the women’s families for a week, communicating only in Spanish while designing and constructing solar ovens with them and assisting with household tasks.

**Links:** [Engineers for a Sustainable World, Cornell Chapter Homepage](#)  
[Videos from Cornell’s “What Constitutes a Meaningful International Experience?” Symposium](#)  
[Cornell’s IARD Major Homepage](#)